

ST. JOSEPH

PARISH

Vanderburgh County

www.stjoeco.org

*A community of joyful, active,
faith-filled people who give thanks to
God by generously sharing their
individual gifts and talents to serve the
needs of all.*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—5 PM

Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM

SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

PARISH OFFICE

6202 W. Saint Joseph Road
Evansville, IN 47720

SCHOOL

6130 W. Saint Joseph Road
Evansville IN 47720

Parish Office: 963-3273

School: 963-3335

School Fax: 963-3335

Prayer Chain: 963-3149

Parish Staff

Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor

E-mail gschroeder@evdio.org

Julie Kempf—Secretary

E-mail jkempf@evdio.org

Sharon Vogler—DRE

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Kristan Gilles

Director of Liturgy

E-mail kgilles@evdio.org

Melba Wilderman—

Principal

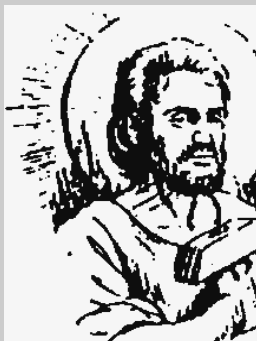
E-mail mwilderman@evdio.org

Mrs. Becky Doshier

School Secretary

E-mail bdoshier@evdio.org

Mrs. Amy Meyer



December 18, 2011 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Dear friends,

Christmas is upon us once again. The good news of Christmas is that the Word became Flesh and continues to make his dwelling in the lives of all Christians today. Thank you for sharing your gifts—of leadership, service, faithfulness and prayerfulness. Thank you for sharing yourself with the people of St. Joseph Parish. May peace, joy and goodness fill your life at Christmas and in the New Year.

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us in prayer. A complete Christmas mass schedule is listed below. *Fr. Gene Schroeder*

P.S. In this Christmas time of giving and receiving gifts, don't forget about your gift to God. Our weekly collections need to average \$18,400 per Sunday in order to meet our budgeted needs. Since we have not been meeting this amount, your special gift at Christmas can help us catch up. If you have been thinking about making a large gift to the parish, this can be a great opportunity to do so. This time can also be an opportunity to "make up" on our giving for the year. Your love for our parish has always seen us through in the past and so I place our present financial needs in your hands confident that you will do your fair share in providing the money needed to do God's work!

Dear friends,

It has come to my attention that many of you are upset that folks are taking My name out of the Christmas season. How I personally feel about this celebration can probably be most easily understood by those of you who have been blessed with children of your own. I don't care what you call the day. If you want to celebrate My birth, just GET ALONG AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Now, having said that let Me go on. If it bothers you that the town in which you live doesn't allow a scene depicting My birth, then just get rid of a couple of Santa's and snowmen and put in a small Nativity scene on your own front lawn. If all My followers did that there wouldn't be any need for such a scene on the town square because there would be many of them all around town.

Stop worrying about the fact that people are calling the tree a holiday tree, instead of a Christmas tree. It was I who made all trees. You can remember Me anytime you see any tree. Decorate a grape vine if you wish: I actually spoke of that one in a teaching, explaining who I am in relation to you and what each of our tasks were. If you have forgotten that one, look up John 15: 1 - 8. If you want to give Me a present in remembrance of My birth here is my wish list. Choose something from it:

- Instead of writing protest letters objecting to the way My birthday is being celebrated, write letters of love and hope to soldiers away from home. They are terribly afraid and lonely this time of year. I know, they tell Me all the time.

- Visit someone in a nursing home. You don't have to know them personally. They just need to know that someone cares about them.

- Instead of giving your children a lot of gifts you can't afford and they don't need, spend time with them. Tell them the story of My birth, and why I came to live with you down here. Hold them in your arms and remind them that I love them.

- Pick someone that has hurt you in the past and forgive him or her.

- Did you know that someone in your town will attempt to take their own life this season because they feel so alone and hopeless? Since you don't know who that person is, try giving everyone you meet a warm smile; it could make the difference.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM Christmas Mass
with Children

9:00 PM Christmas Midnight Mass
(Choir Prelude at 8:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 AM—Christmas Day Mass
FEAST OF MARY

THE MOTHER OF GOD
NEW YEAR'S EVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

MASS at 5 pm
NEW YEAR'S DAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

MASS AT 8 AND 10:30 AM

A note from Jesus

(Continued on page 3)



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 PM Arnetta Straub, Charlotte Weiss, Mary Rexing, Paul E. Horak, Dennis Dossett, Francis Goebel (1869), Mary Hovals (1913), Augustus Recker (1935), Felix Preske (1978), Marion Tieken (2000)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM Darren Drone, Carolyn Seib, Fr. Bob Wannemuehler, Alice Keil, Joe Elpers, Leland, Leo, Houda Hasselbrinck, Jerome Schneider, Lawrence & Elizabeth Luigs, Bernadette Jean

10:30 AM Michael Genet, Pat Koch, Bette Duncan (2005), Robert Stevens (2007)



MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Late Advent Weekday

6:30 PM Betty Englert (1980), Bernie Scheller (2001), Alice Keil (2009)



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Late Advent Weekday

7:30 AM Catherine Swain, Peter Elpers, Anthony Releke (1868), Christina Voelker (1994), Marie Wallenmeyer (1996)



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS Infant Sebastian (1862)



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS Georgium Wolf (1878), Sr. Felicitas O.S.F. (Frances Gumbel, 1887), John Bender (1908), Magdalen Baumgart (1918), James Pauli (1973), Louis Folz (1975), Sylvester Will (1989), Herman Ritter (1989)

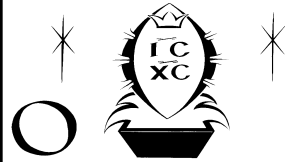


KING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Late Advent Weekday

NO MASS Michael Baumgart (1856)



EMMANUEL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

4:00 PM CHRISTMAS MASS
WITH CHILDREN

Christmas Flower Memorials

9:00 PM CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS
Christmas Flower Memorials



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

9:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY

MASS Christmas Flower
Memorials

STEWARDSHIP: *The Lord's Way*

In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" - "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." - that the promise finds fulfillment



DECEMBER 11, 2011	\$ 16,878.00
DECEMBER 15, 2011 Auto Debit Collection	\$ 5,500.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 18,400.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 403,642.08
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 441,600.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$ 92.00
CHILDRENS COLLECTION	\$ 21.75

YOUNG STEWARDS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE COLLECTION LAST WEEK: Allyson & Nicholas Angermeier, Melissa Blythe, Connor Brown, Joshua Clem, Paige, Kurt & Trent Denning, Finely & Piper Fehrenbacher, Sierra Heldt, Jessica Kelley, Ethan & Hannah Kissel, Isabella Lagunzad, Madison, Dillon & Mason Mossberger, Natalie, Isaac & Zackery Schneider, Maisy Seib, Elijah Turner, Nathan & Vanessa Vanbibber, Lauren Voelker, Nicholas Will, Christiana Wolfe

RAISING THE ROOF FUND

DECEMBER 11, 2011	\$ 98.00
DECEMBER 15, 2011 Auto Debit Collection	\$ 64.00
TOTAL TO DATE	\$ 362,171.18

MISSION OUTREACH

HAITI	\$ 305.00
HAITI HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECT	\$ 1,000.00
HAITI STUDENTS	\$ 1,507.00
NEEDY FUND	\$ 200.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$ 10.00
RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION	\$ 351.00

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOMES

DEACONESS GATEWAY: *John Bergwitz*

HERITAGE: *Myrna Craney*

WEST RIVER: *Larry Ubelhor*

PINE HAVEN: *Brenda Koester*

SOLARBRON TERRACE: *Valeria Elpers, Clarence and Mildred Rexing,*

NORTH PARK NURSING CENTER: *Norm Moutoux*

BRENTWOOD: *Edgar Hartz*

CYPRUS REHABILITATION CENTER: *Larry Hoefling*

WOODRIDGE HEALTH & REHABILITATION: *Joan Roberts*

Dec. 18: Patrick McDonald, Ashley Pankey, Chris Scheller, Isabella Vickers

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 19: Mike Ennis, Alec Freeman,

Jacob Tison



Dec. 20: Joshua Baehl, Lance Bruk, Andrea Jarboe

Dec. 21: Ellie Bishop

Dec. 22: Braydn Jones, Aira Pankey

Dec. 23: Tyler Bruk, Henrietta Happe,

Joann Muensterman

Dec. 24: Jack Fleegeer, Paul Schapker, Matthew Watson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dec. 18: Paul & Chris Schapker

Dec. 19: Barry & Kim Bruk

Dec. 20: Rob & Dana Grasso



HAITI WATER PROJECT MATCHING GRANT UPDATE

MATCHING GRANT	\$5,000
RAISED TO DATE	\$2,308

Help us meet our goal by acting now. All contributions will be matched 100%. Put your contributions in the collection or send them to the parish office.

MONDAY: 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration
7 pm Men's Club Meeting
TUESDAY: 6 pm SPRED Catechists
7 pm Choir Practice
WEDNESDAY: 7 pm Marian Prayer Group
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Haiti & Food Pantry Collections

**THIS
WEEK**

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

(EM=Eucharistic Minister, S=Servers, L=Lector, GB=Giftbearers, G=Greeters)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 & 25

4:00 PM CHRISTMAS MASS WITH CHILDREN Special Assignments
9:00 PM CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS Special Assignments
9:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY MASS Special Assignments

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SKI TRIP--JANUARY 13

Information and permission forms have gone home. If you did not receive information, contact Sharon Vogler 963-3273 or email svogler@evdio.org.



--Buy SCRIP after Mass--

SCRIP WORKER SCHEDULE

Sat. 12/24: Sun. 12/25: NO SALES

Weekend sales will resume on 12/31/11 & 1/1/2012

2012 CALENDARS Once again this year, the folks at PIERRE FUNERAL HOME have provided each of the families in our parish with a Catholic Calendar for 2012. Be sure to pick up a copy for your family.

(Continued from page 1)

- Instead of nit picking about what the retailer in your town calls the holiday, be patient with the people who work there. Give them a warm smile and a kind word. Even if they aren't allowed to wish you a "Merry Christmas" that doesn't keep you from wishing them one. Then stop shopping there on Sunday. If the store didn't make so much money on that day they'd close and let their employees spend the day at home with their families

- Here's a good one. There are individuals and whole families in your town who not only will have no "Christmas" tree, but neither will they have any presents to give or receive. If you don't know them, buy some food and a few gifts and give them to the Ozanam Family Shelter or some other charity which believes in Me and they will make the delivery for you.

- Finally, if you want to make a statement about your belief in and loyalty to Me, then behave like a Christian. Don't do things in secret that you wouldn't do in My presence. Let people know by your actions that you are one of mine.

Don't forget; I am God and can take care of Myself. Just love Me and do what I have told you to do. I'll take care of all the rest. Check out the list above and get to work; time is short. I'll help you, but the ball is now in your court. And do have a most blessed Christmas with all those whom you love and remember:

I LOVE YOU , JESUS

SUNDAYS OF ADVENT: Advent Evening Prayer at St. Benedict Church **AROUND TOWN** beginning at 5:30 pm
Dec. 31: St. Wendel Knights of St. John New Year's Eve Dance, doors open at 8 pm, \$15 /couple, \$10 /single reservations call Gregg Kissel at 499-8531
Dec. 31: St. James (Haubstadt) New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance, \$50/couple, \$25/single, call 205-9500
FRIDAY NIGHTS BEGINNING JAN. 13: Beginning Square Dance Lessons with the River City Square Dancers, 7-9 pm, ages 13 and older, for full details call 812-567-4485

IT'S GOOD TO DO BUSINESS WITH OUR BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER ADVERTISERS

Fifty-five area businesses support our parish each week by taking an ad in our bulletin and newsletter. Their generosity enables us to publish our bulletin each week and publish and mail our newsletter each month.

As we get ready to renew our ads for the new year, it's a great time to say "thanks" to them and to support them by taking advantage of the services they offer!

IT'S LOTTERY TIME St. Joe Monthly Lottery Tickets are **48 CHANCES** now available. \$16,200.00 to be **TO WIN \$16,200** given away next year. Cost is \$75. If you haven't purchased a ticket in the past and would like to do so this year, contact the parish office. (963-3273). Check the mail also for a for a chance to buy a lottery ticket.

Tickets are now on sale for the **Mater Dei/Memorial** annual "Buy a Ticket for the Tradition" Lottery Each ticket is \$100. For tickets call St. Joe School Office at 963-3335, or **TRADITION** Parish office at 963-3273.



CREATING A LIVING LEGACY FOR OUR PARISH

Normally, a distribution from your IRA is taxed as ordinary income. However, tax legislation just enacted extends the opportunity throughout 2011 for individuals 70½ or older to make a direct distribution from your IRA to a qualified charity, such as your parish or an endowment. Such qualified direct distributions to charity from your IRA are not subject to income tax! For information on how to add to an existing endowment or if you are considering creating your own Catholic Legacy, please contact the Parish office (963-3273)

Please remember in your prayers *Val Pfaffman and Betty Horek*, both of whom died this past week. Many of you will remember Val, who with his wife, Carolyn, were long time members of our parish. He is the father of Jim Pfaffman who is a member of our parish. Betty was a member of Holy Redeemer Parish but often came to mass here on Saturday with her daughter and son-in-law Neal and Peggy Dossett. May they both know the fullness of life and peace in God's kingdom and may God's peace be with all the members of their family and friends.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL NAMES AND CONTRIBUTIONS NEED TO BE INTO THE PARISH OFFICE BY MONDAY, DEC. 19.

