

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

1878 Abbe Road Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054

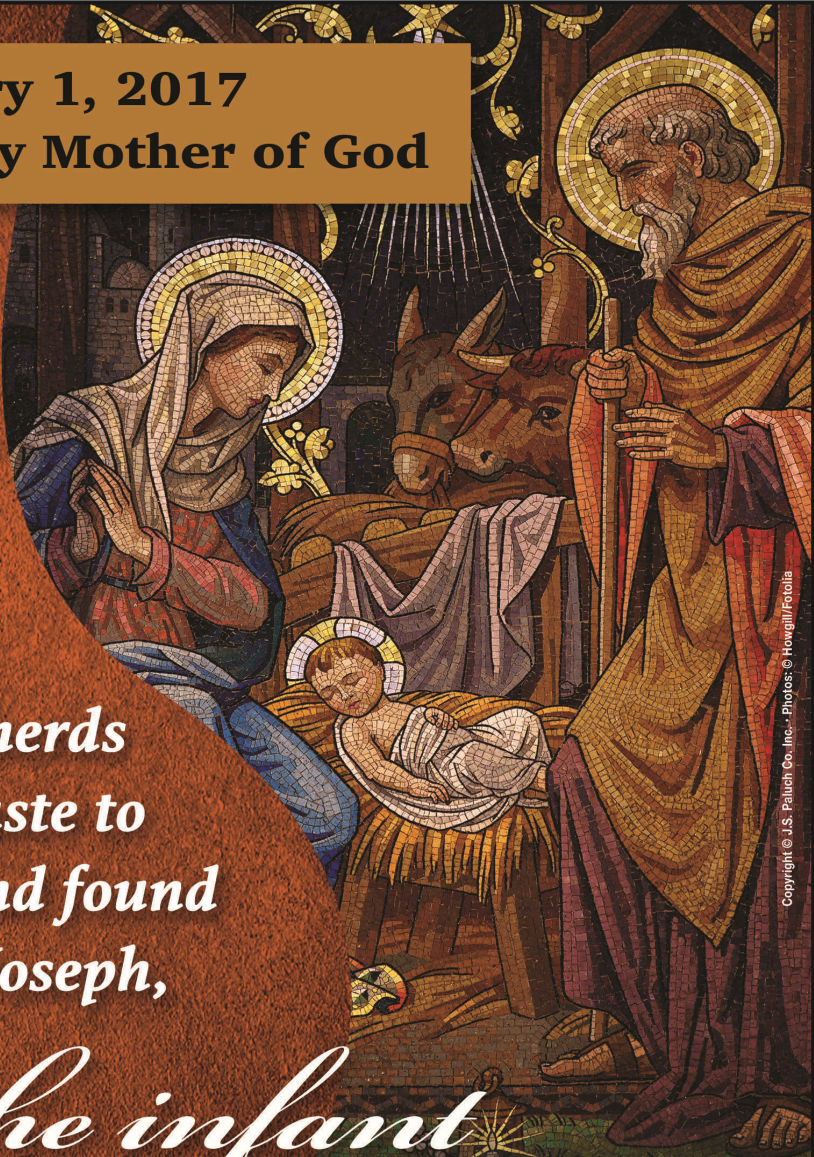
January 1, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

*The shepherds
went in haste to
Bethlehem and found
Mary and Joseph,*

*and the infant
lying in the manger.*

Luke 2:16



MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**JANUARY 1, 2017**

Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. — Luke 2:19

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Christmas Offering will be in next week's bulletin.

*Please keep St. Teresa Parish in mind when making out your will.***KEEP THESE PARISHIONERS IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Joan Hensley, Luz Villanueva
 Pat Chozinski, Marty Lima
 Richard Forthofer, Gladys Mackert
 Gladys Wisnieski, Elizabeth Hickey
 Kathleen Brezinski

MONTHLY SPIRITUAL MAXIM

Interior mortification makes everything else more meritorious and perfect, and afterward enables us to do the other things with greater ease and repose.

St. Teresa of Avila

ANOIDING OF THE SICK

For those advanced in age, sick, or undergoing surgery. Administered upon request. Contact the Rectory.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

If you know a parishioner who is homebound or in a nursing home and would like a visit of fellowship and prayer, call the church office.

JOIN ST. TERESA OF AVILA PARISH

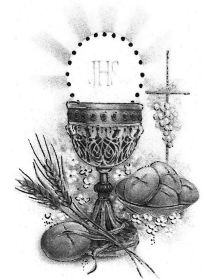
Registration forms are available in the rear of the church or in the church office.

VISIT www.clevelandrighttolife.org**THERE WILL BE NO PSR CLASS ON JANUARY 3, 2017.**

Classes resume January 10, 2017.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, December 31 4:30 p.m. +Paul & Ruth Smith by children	St. Sylvester I
Sunday, January 1 8:30 a.m. People of St. Teresa Parish	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Monday, January 2 NO MASS	St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen
Tuesday, January 3 NO MASS	
Wednesday, January 4 8:30 a.m. deceased of Lamb/Zytkowski families	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Thursday, January 5 NO MASS	St. John Neumann
Friday, January 6 8:30 a.m. +Gus Wehler by Marianne Bays	St. Andre Bessette
Saturday, January 7 4:30 p.m. +Emily Fabanich by Bop & Marilyn Rumph	St. Raymond of Penyafort
Sunday, January 8 8:30 a.m. living/deceased members of the Altar & Rosary Society 11:00 a.m. People of St. Teresa Parish	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

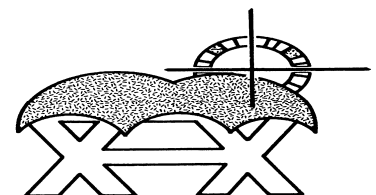
The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 2, 2017.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

>Our next Altar & Rosary Society Mass will be Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. The Rosary will be said at 8:00 a.m. prior to Mass.

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATIONConfirmation preparation will be combined with St. Anthony of Padua Parish this year and will begin with a Student/Parent Meeting on Sunday, January 8th @ 11:00 (right after Mass) at St. Anthony Church. Any student in the 8th grade or older, who wishes to receive this sacrament, is invited to this preparation program. If you have any questions, you may contact Dean Robinson, in the parish office, at 440-934-4227.**DONATIONS FOR ST. FRANCES CABRINI FOOD PANTRY**Please bring your donations the weekend of January 7 & 8, 2017. All nonperishable food items can be placed in the tub in the vestibule of the church. *Thank you for your continued support.***MOTHER CABRINI FOOD PANTRY - VOLUNTEERS**Adults and teens interested in helping can meet at St. Frances Cabrini Church, Lorain in the brick building at the rear of the parking lot. The food pantry is open the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. *Many thanks to all those who support this ministry financially and with their time!***ST. TERESA'S BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. John Room in the Parish Life Center. *Studying the Bible is not boring!***"THE EDGE" YOUTH MINISTRY**"The Edge" Youth Ministry will be having a "Youth Night" Sunday evening January 8th at 7:00pm in the Holy Spirit "Youth Room". Any and all teens (grades 8-12) are welcome to join us, as we explore our Catholic Faith in a unique way, often with a fun or crazy activity. "Youth Nights" are a great way to draw closer to God, in a relaxed environment, while meeting other youth. Please feel free to join us for any and all the events and to invite a friend to come along. Hope to see you there!**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

For years the Church calendar celebrated the octave of Christmas as the feast of Our Lord's ritual circumcision according to Jewish law (Lk 2:21). After Vatican II had devoted special praise to Our Lady under the title "Mother of God", Pope Paul VI authorized those who were revising the liturgy to change the name of the January 1 feast to "the Solemnity of the Mother of God".

The Council itself expressed joy that not only the Roman Church but the Eastern Church separated from Rome continue to honor Mary by the title "Mother of God". The Greek Orthodox use the word "Theotokos" to express the title: (this Greek word means "She who gave birth to God.") It must be pointed out, of course, that "Mother of God" does not mean "Mother of the Blessed Trinity". What it does mean is that the person to whom Mary gave birth was truly the son of God and second person of the Trinity, who assumed a human nature in Mary's womb. As St. John says, Jesus is "the Word... made flesh". We are dealing here with a divine mystery that we cannot ever fully understand, so even today some people misunderstand the meaning of "Mother of God".

If, to the pleasure of the Fathers of Vatican II, most of the Eastern Churches staunchly call Mary "God's Mother", there was unfortunately one Eastern Church that long refused to use the title, and broke away from the universal Church on that basis. This was the Nestorian Church, today more commonly called the "Assyrian Church". Its members are called Nestorians because they followed the theology of Nestorius, a fifth-century Patriarch of Constantinople. Although Nestorius agreed with the definition of the first ecumenical Council of Nicaea (A.D. 325) that, as the Creed says, Jesus is "one in being (consubstantial) with the Father", he warned his faithful against calling Mary the "Mother of God". This was because he tended to think of Jesus as having not only two natures, the divine and the human, but ALMOST as having two persons, the divine and the human, so that (in his thinking) Mary could be called the mother of Christ, but not the mother of God.

To address this situation, an ecumenical council was therefore held at Ephesus, Asia Minor, in 431 to clarify the issue raised by Nestorius. The result was a joint declaration that it is correct to call Mary the "Mother of God", for God the Son is "consubstantial with the Father in his divinity and consubstantial with us in his humanity." Nestorius was hence condemned to exile, and a large following of his Christian devotees from Syria and Persia broke off unity with the rest, and thenceforth refused to call Mary "Theotokos".

In the Middle Ages this Nestorian Church, strongly missionary, spread Christianity southeast into India and east into China. But when, in the 14th century, the Mongols under Timor Leng swept across Asia, they decimated the Nestorian Christians. After that, the Nestorians remained a small denomination dwelling in and around Iraq, although a fair number came to the United States. Meanwhile a group of them reunited with Rome, and are called the "Chaldean Catholics". They have their own Catholic patriarch, and one diocese in the U.S., with 55,000 members.

All along, the Nestorians had been more confused than heretical in their beliefs about Jesus' two natures and his Mother's right to the title "Mother of God". In fact, a great event took place in 1994. On November 11, 1994, Pope John Paul II and the "Assyrian" Patriarch Dinkha IV signed a pact agreeing that he to whom Mary gave birth was "the Son of God himself", so Mary is his Mother. This has not meant instant reunion for the 400,000 "Assyrians" with the Catholic Church. It was, however, a happy beginning. How gratifying it was that on January 1, 1995, Catholic, Orthodox, and Assyrian alike, after 1,500 years, could at length agree in calling Mary "the Mother of God".

Merry Christmas to you and your family!

The Reverend Edward J. Smith

PRO-LIFE

"The experience of the people of the Covenant is renewed in the experience of all the "poor" who meet Jesus of Nazareth. Just as God who "loves the living" (cf. Wis 11:26) had reassured Israel in the midst of danger, so now the Son of God proclaims to all who feel threatened and hindered that their lives too are a good to which the Father's love gives meaning and value." Pope John Paul II - *EVANGELIUM VITAE, March 1995*, To the Bishops, Priests and Deacons, Men and Women religious, Lay Faithful, and all People of Good Will on the Value and Inviolability of Human Life

Happy New Year!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

New Year's Eve Mass	Sat, Dec 31	4:30 p.m.	Church
New Year's Day Mass	Sun, Jan 1	8:30 a.m.	Church
NO PSR this week	Tues, Jan 3	Have a Blessed	New Year
Eucharistic Adoration	Wed, Jan 4	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Church
Bible Study	Thurs, Jan 5	7:00 p.m.	St. John Room
PSR Class	Tues, Jan 10	6:00 p.m.	PLC Classrooms

LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OUR GOD FOR THOSE AMONG US:

Thank You to our Social Concerns Committee for once again organizing the "Gifts for Baby Jesus" collection. Many thanks to all parishioners and friends who generously donated.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Charles Godles, Christopher Barnhart, Jason Bender, Thomas Daley, Capt. Richard Robinson, Tom Fisher, Anthony Burns, Michael Naughton, Allen Fish, 2nd Lt. Louis Rios, Michael Krivas, Justin Callison, Capt. Shelby Stratton, Grant Bartlett, Sgt. Tyler Corwin, John McGlynn, Cpl. Andrew Edwards
To add names call 934-4227.

PARISH CLUSTER CORNER

St. Thomas the Apostle

www.saintthomaschurch.net

St. Anthony

www.stanthonylorain.parishesonline.com

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND AND THE ILL

If a parishioner is homebound, ill, or recovering from surgery and would like to have The Holy Eucharist brought to them, please call the church office.

HOSPITAL CALLS

Every hospital has an appointed Catholic Chaplain. Please request his services for a patient. Notify the parish office so that the sick will be remembered in our prayers and Masses.

TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS

Sunday Mass is aired on Channel 8 on Sundays at 6:00 a.m.

CLUSTER PARISH MASS TIMES

St. Anthony of Padua

8:30 a.m. Monday & Tuesday
4 p.m. Saturday & 10 a.m. Sunday

St. Thomas the Apostle

9 a.m. Monday - Saturday
4 p.m. Sat. & 9 & 11 a.m. Sunday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Teresa's: Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

St. Anthony's perpetual Adoration Chapel is behind the church.

Around the Town

A MARATHON OF ROSARIES TO SAVE THE UNBORN

The First Saturday of every month from 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 1339 E. Erie Ave., Lorain, in the "Eucharistic Adoration Chapel". Rosaries are said every half-hour on the hour. Call Hilaire at 288-0416.

SOLACE OF LORAIN COUNTY - ADVOCACY FOR FAMILIES COPING WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The next meeting will be **January 11, 2017 from 6 - 8 p.m.** at the LCCC CARE Center (BU 113D), 1005 N. Abbe Road, Elyria. For information call Kathy at 440-823-6177.

BUS TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C. - MARCH FOR LIFE

The Knights of Columbus Father Ragan Council 3269, Avon, is sponsoring a bus trip to **Washington DC on Jan, 26 to Jan 27 for the annual Rally and March for life event.** The Bus will depart from Fr. Ragan Council Hall, 1783 Moore Road, Avon on Thursday Jan, 26 at 8 pm and return by Friday Jan 27 at Midnight. The trip will include a morning visit and mass at the Basilica of Immaculate Conception. From the Basilica the bus will go to the National Mall for the rally, speakers and march to the Supreme Court Building. The bus will depart DC by 4 pm for the return trip to Avon. Cost is \$80 per adult and \$25 per H.S. or College student. For information or making reservation please call John at 440-725-7369, Kevin at 440-930-4740, or Bob at 330-225-7155

LIVING BREAD RADIO NETWORK

The Bishop's Corner live call-in radio program on-air Wednesdays at 11 a.m. on Living Bread Radio. Listen on AM1060, FM94.5 (Canton vicinity) or online at livingbreadradio.com.



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Sunday, January 1, 2017

CATHOLIC RENEWAL MINISTRIES - HOSTS CHARISMATIC MASS

Join us on **Friday, January 6th at 7:00 p.m.**, at St. Peter Parish, 35777 Center Ridge Rd., North Ridgeville 44039. Fr. Bob Franco will be the celebrant. Praise and worship will begin at 7:00 and the liturgy will start at 7:30. Healing prayer teams will be available after Mass for individual prayer, and there will also be a social after mass. For more information, please contact Fr. Franco at 440-327-2201 or CRM at 440-944-9445.

THANK GOD IT'S FIRST FRIDAY - WEST

An inter-parish men's group will meet at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Road, N. Olmsted, on **January 6, 2017**, for a First Friday luncheon, beginning at 11:30 a.m., followed by a talk by Rev. Fr. Jeffrey Barnish, and concluding with Mass. Cost is \$10. Please call George Perz at 440-937-6606 to make *reservations by Tuesday, January 3, 2017.*

ST. MARY OF THE FALLS & ST. MARY BEREA - COMBINED CONCERTS

Combined Hymn Festival **Sunday, January 8 at 3 p.m.** at St. Mary Berea, 250 Kraft Street. Call 440-465-1195.

PASTERKA - TRADITIONAL POLISH CHRISTMAS LITURGY

Takes place **Sunday, January 8 at 3 p.m.** at Nativity Church, 418 W. 15th St., Lorain. Prelude with Polish Kolendy (carols) followed by Mass with homily in Polish and English. Free admission. Everyone welcome Call 258-5231.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers

<p>Sat, December 31 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Theresa Gillotti Debbie Korce Bob Schloss Francis Geiger</p>	<p>Mary Mother of God</p>	<p>Sun, January 1, 2017 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Don Kirchner Carol Kirchner Bill Bistak ** Sue DiVaccaro</p>
<p>Sat, January 7 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> John Katricak Bob Schloss Jean Ackerman Frances Geiger</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Marty Yonkof Carol Yonkof Greg Smail Sue DiVaccaro **</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Carol Kirchner Norman Novak Susan Novak Trish MacDonald</p>

Lectors

<p>Sat, December 31 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Dan Gillotti</p>	<p>Mary Mother of God</p>	<p>Sun, January 1, 2017 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Bruce DiVaccaro</p>
<p>Sat, January 7 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Mary Kay Buckley</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Larry Durica</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Tom Parkey</p>



Altar Servers

<p>Sat, December 31 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Dan Huczko</p>	<p>Mary Mother of God</p>	<p>Sun, January 1, 2017 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Aaron Davis</p>
<p>Sat, January 7 <u>4:30 p.m.</u> Ray Fitzwater</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>8:30 a.m.</u> Aaron Davis</p>	<p>Sun, January 8 <u>11:00 a.m.</u> Mikey Griffith Dave Griffith</p>