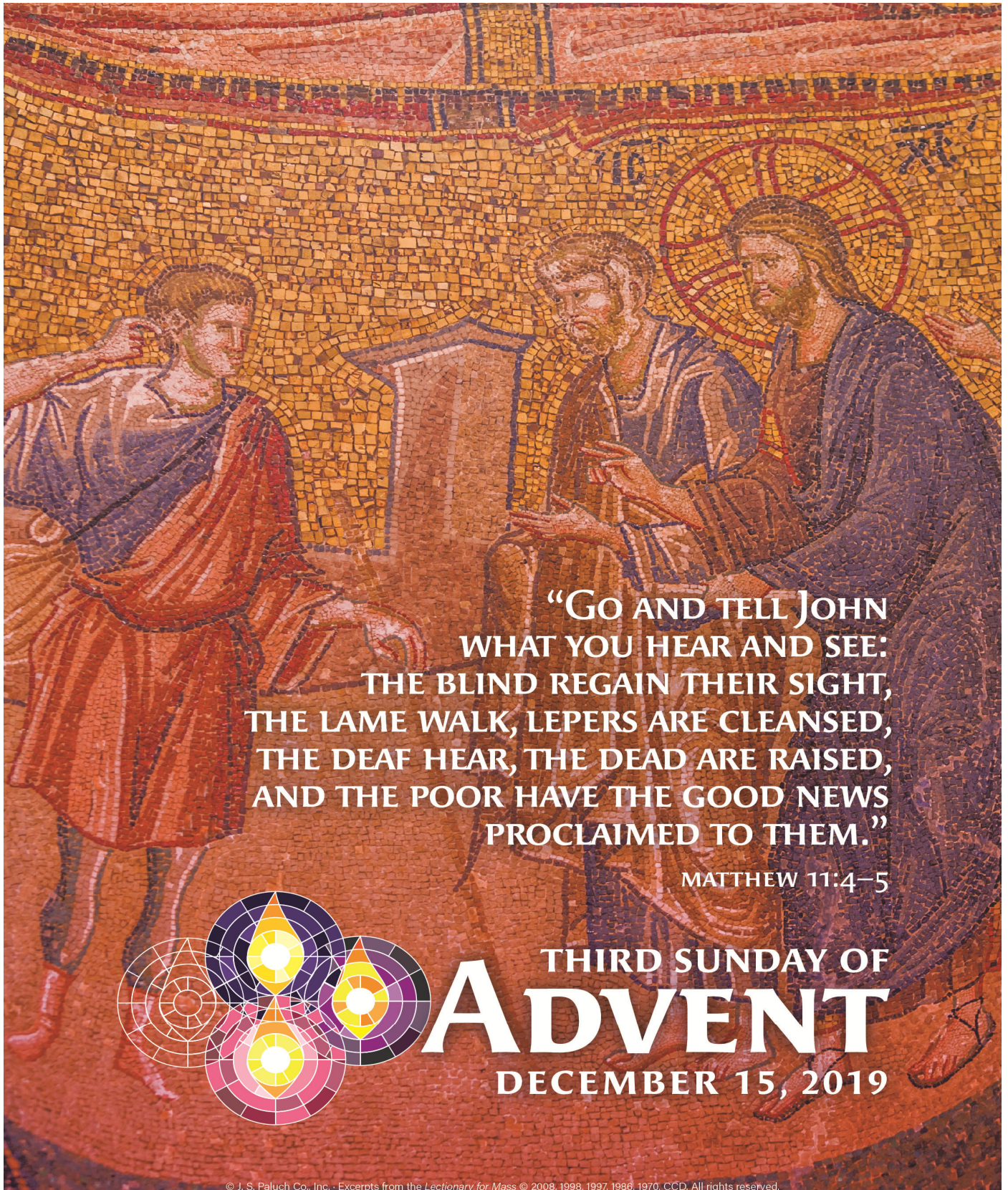


St. Teresa of Avila Parish

1878 Abbe Road Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054



“GO AND TELL JOHN
WHAT YOU HEAR AND SEE:
THE BLIND REGAIN THEIR SIGHT,
THE LAME WALK, LEPERS ARE CLEANSED,
THE DEAF HEAR, THE DEAD ARE RAISED,
AND THE POOR HAVE THE GOOD NEWS
PROCLAIMED TO THEM.”

MATTHEW 11:4-5



THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2019



Established 1845

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH is handicap accessible.

STAFF

Reverend Edward J. Smith, Pastor

Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Fr. Thomas Sanders, OSB,

Weekend Associate

Debbie Wehler, Sue DiVaccaro,

Secretaries

Lou Varos, Finance Council Chairperson

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. Arrangements should be made shortly before or after the birth of the child.

COMMUNION CALLS: Please call the Rectory to schedule.

MATRIMONY: At least one member must be a parishioner and be active for at least six months prior to calling. Couples need to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date. No date may be reserved until discussed with the priest of the parish.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Call the Rectory to register.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION: Interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church? Call the Rectory for more information.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy. — Isaiah 35:10a

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 14 St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church
4:30 p.m. +Rafael Morales and +Jose Morales by family

Sunday, December 15 Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. +Tom & George King by Tom & Peg
11:00 a.m. +Martin Yonkof by family

Monday, December 16
NO MASS

Tuesday, December 17
NO MASS

Wednesday, December 18
8:30 a.m. +Robin Bring by Jungbluth & Fulmer families

Thursday, December 19
NO MASS

Friday, December 20
8:30 a.m. +Pat Chozinski by the Andorka family

Saturday, December 21 St. Peter Canisius
4:30 p.m. Kordich grandchildren

Sunday, December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. +Jean Ackerman by Bob & Marilyn Rumph
11:00 a.m. deceased of the Valdez & Pham families



| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Weekly Goal | \$4,000.00 |
| December 8 | \$2,956.25 |
| Children's | \$5.20 |
| Immaculate Conception | \$533.00 |

Please keep St. Teresa Parish in mind when making out your will.



MASSES

Sunday Vigil - Saturday 4:30 PM **Sunday - 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM**
Wed & Fri - 8:30 AM; Holy Day Vigil, Holy Day and Civic Holidays - Watch Bulletin

CONFESSIONS

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30 - 4:00 PM or by appointment.

CONTACT US

Rectory Office.....(440) 934-4227 **Office Hours**.....Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Fax.....(440) 934-4500 **E-mail**st.teresa.church@neohio.twcbc.com
Website..... www.stteresaparish.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

John the Baptist’s disciples came to Jesus and asked him if he was the anticipated Messiah (Mt 11:2-11). Why did he just respond with another question (i.e., “What did you go out to see?”)?

Several times Jesus used this questioning or “Socratic” method, and this is one of them. He asked a question not because of an inability to answer the original question, but rather to lead the questioners to discover the truth for themselves. It is on this “journey of discovery” that one understands, through a personal encounter with reality.

“What did you go out to see?” This is a great question to open the minds of the listeners. Jesus is saying, “look at my works – what do you see?” Still another way to ask the question is: “Who do you say that I am?” Actions speak louder than words, and the measure of a man can be obtained, in part, by observing those actions. If the blind are healed, cripples walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised, those very works point toward the Messiah – the One who came to fulfill the scriptures (in this case, the words of Isaiah 35:1-6, our First Reading).

One of the great seventeenth century saints said that “it is our works, whether good or bad, that form us, and it is by them that we ought to be recognized.” There comes a necessary time that we cease observing the good works of others and begin to emulate and practice those virtues. This is how one becomes formed or molded into a true disciple and discovers the presence of Jesus in those he/she encounters.

The Reverend Edward J. Smith, Pastor

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9;Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17;Mt 1:1-17
 Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;Mt 1:18-25
 Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a;Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
 Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7;Mt 1:18-24



FATHER BECHERER 65TH JUBILEE!

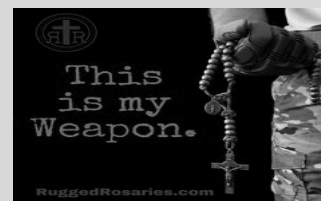
Let us thank our Lord for the dedication shown by Fr. James Becherer throughout his Priesthood of 65 years!
 Let us join together and thank Fr. Becherer, by sending cards of appreciation, prayer and joy. Send cards to his address:
 4963 E. Lake Road, Sheffield Lake, Ohio 44054.
Let us keep Fr. Becherer in our prayers every day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Confirmation | Sun, Dec 15 | 8:30 a.m. | Church/PLC |
| PSR | Tues, Dec 17 | 6:00 p.m. | PLC Classrooms |
| Eucharistic Adoration | Wed, Dec 18 | 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Church |
| Bible Study | Thurs, Dec 19 | 7:00 p.m. | St. John Room |

TOGETHER - LET US PRAY ... PARISHIONERS:

Luz Villanueva, Eleanor Rieth
 Loretta Forthofer, Dorothy Tomshe
 Gladys Mackert, Eva-Maria Peters
 Charlotte Joherle, Amy White
 Kathleen Brezinski, Anna Joseph
 Patricia Welsh, Maebelle Fill
 Marty Lima, Marianne Rieth
 Ruth Bistak, Arlene Flynn
 Neva Young, Bernadette Mack
 Mike Gall



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, Justin Callison, Quinn Rambo
 Capt. Shelby Stratton, Grant Bartlett, Sgt. Tyler Corwin, John McGlynn, Cpl. Andrew Edwards, Justin Brown, Michael Garba
 SSgt. Leo Ostrolencki, Dustin Moorman, Cpt. Matt Terrigno
To add names call 934-4227.

HOSPITAL CALLS

Please request the services of the Catholic Chaplain at the hospital for a patient. Notify the parish office so that the sick will be remembered in our prayers and Masses.



ST. TERESA OF AVILA PRAY FOR US!

“There is every reason to be conformed to the will of God.”
 St. Teresa of Avila



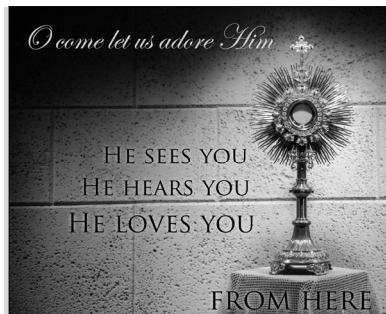
CATHOLIC PROGRAMMING



He is the Light of the World! The celebration of the birth of Christ is global, and EWTN brings you special programming throughout the season. Experience Mass in Italy at the Vatican, enjoy concerts from Europe, and visit sacred sites in the Holy Land. Tune into EWTN this Christmas season! Visit ewtn.com for programming details.

PRAYER TO SAVE THE WORLD ONE BABY AT A TIME

"Jesus, you gave us your mother as Our Mother. Send Our Mother, who had an unplanned pregnancy, to her daughter who is considering an abortion. Tell your daughter that she is greatly loved by her Mother in heaven, her baby, and Jesus. Then ask her to CHOOSE LIFE for the sake of her baby, herself and the world." **Hail Mary,**



Seek Jesus by spending time with Him in the Eucharist.

Every Wednesday at St. Teresa Church 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Keep up to date with current happenings in your parish! Visit www.stteresaparish.com. Scroll to the bottom of the homepage for current events and other information.



THANK YOU TO...
...to Bonnie for donating the First Aid Kits for Valor Home.

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR LOVED ONE IS SICK

If a family member is sick or hospitalized we welcome a phone call at the parish office so their name can be put in the bulletin for prayers. Not all hospitals in the area notify churches that a parishioner has been admitted.

PARISH CLUSTER CORNER

St. Thomas the Apostle
www.saintthomaschurch.net

St. Anthony
www.stanthonylorain.org/our-parish/

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

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.

Pray this Novena from November 30 through Christmas Eve. Tradition says to say this prayer 15 times per day. May your Advent be a true preparation for the coming of Christ in your heart!

PLEASE TURN IN YOUR CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION ENVELOPES BY NEXT WEEKEND, DECEMBER 22, 2019.



ST. ELIZABETH OVERNIGHT SHELTER SENDS "THANK YOU"

St. Elizabeth Overnight Shelter in Lorain has sent a "Certificate Of Appreciation" to St. Teresa of Avila Parish for all the help we've given in the form of contributions of food and clothing. See the certificate hanging on the bulletin board in the rear of the church.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION - DECEMBER

"That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering."



HOW TO HELP OUR PARISH FAMILY

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE NEWS



“Gifts for Baby Jesus” to benefit Birthright of Lorain County

Takes place during Advent, through **December 22, 2019.**

This year Birthright’s greatest need is diapers (newborn – size 6), formula (Gerber or similar), and cotton & fleece sleepers (up to size 5). Gifts can be wrapped or unwrapped and placed near the tree at the front of the church.

ITEMS NEEDED: Geber formulas (or similar), Bath items, Blankets/afghans, Gently used clothes (newborn – size 12), Gently used or new coats, boots, & gloves, Gently used maternity clothing, and money to replenish needed items.

Donations for Mother Cabrini Food Pantry

Our next collection will be the weekend of January 4 & 5, 2020.

Leave donations of non-perishable food in the tub in the vestibule of the church.

THE ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Our next Altar & Rosary Society Mass will be **Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.**

The Rosary will be said at 8:00 a.m. prior to Mass.

All Ladies are welcome to all events & meetings! You do not have to be a member.



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24
4:30 and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25
8:30 a.m.

Christmas Office Hours

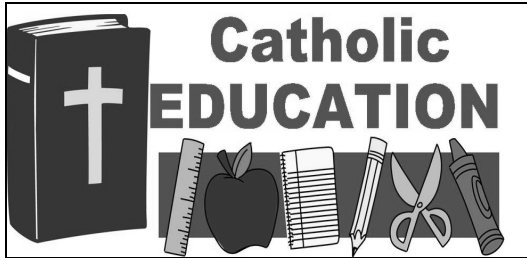
The Office will be closed December 24 - 26, 2019, and
January 1 & 2, 2020.



Oh Holy Night

ST. TERESA’S HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

We visit Parishioners who are in nursing homes or who are homebound because of age, illness or recovering from surgery. If you know a Parishioner who would like a visit please call the church office at 440-934-4227.



Parish School **PSR** of Religion

PSR classes are on Tuesdays from 6 – 7:15 p.m.
for students in grades 1st – 8th.
Call the Office at 440-934-4227 with questions.
If the Sheffield schools are closed on Tuesday because of bad weather, PSR will be cancelled that night as well.



ST. TERESA'S BIBLE STUDY

We meet on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
Join us in December on the 12th & 19th.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Classes are held on Sundays at St. Teresa of Avila Church/Parish Life Center from 8:30 a.m. (with Mass) to 11:45 a.m. **December classes are the 8th and 15th.** *There are no classes on December 22nd and 29th.* Class resumes on January 5th, 2020.

STAY ROOTED IN THE ADVENT SEASON!

"... it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed..." (Romans 13:11)

Prioritizing the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an important part of Advent. Confession wakes us up from our slumber, our laziness, and our complacency. It reminds us that our salvation is near! It also cleanses our souls and creates a welcoming place in our hearts for the Newborn King to rest His head on Christmas Day.

St. Teresa has confession every Saturday, from 3:30 - 4:00 p.m., prior to 4:30 p.m. Mass

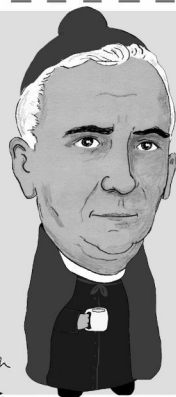


In your home, place your Advent wreath in a central location. Make it the focal point of your home's décor, during the Advent season.

Bless your wreath, and light it at the same time each day, perhaps during personal or family prayer time. Especially on these dark winter nights, ponder the meaning of Christ as the light of the world, and how "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)

Please take a "Word Among Us" booklet from the rear of the church as an aid to your Advent prayer time.

saint snippets



Mudra

December 17

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with you.
-St. Josep's last words

St. Josep Manyanet i Vives
19th-century Spanish priest who founded religious communities that spread devotion to the Holy Family around the world

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TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS

ch8 at 6:00 a.m. WUAB ch43 at 8 a.m. WMFD ch68 at 9:30 a.m.
Online video Mass from *Heart of the Nation, Catholic Mass*, with Fr. Mark Payne at www.HeartoftheNation.org

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Eucharistic Ministers

Sat, Dec 14
4:30 p.m.
Frances Geiger
Joan Gigliotti
Debbie Korce
EM Needed

Sun, Dec 15
8:30 a.m.
Bill Bistak
Kathy Cunningham
Aaron Davis
Sue DiVaccaro **

Sun, Dec 15
11:00 a.m.
Marty Yonkof
Carol Yonkof
Marci Matsamas
Debbie Brady

Sat, Dec 21
4:30 p.m.
Daniel Bryda
Joan Gigliotti
Tom Pienoski **
Ann Glime

Sun, Dec 22
8:30 a.m.
Barb Eifel **
Greg Smail
Bill Bistak
Aaron Davis

Sun, Dec 22
11:00 a.m.
Fred Courtright
Don Kirchner
Carol Kirchner
Trish MacDonald

Lectors

Sat, Dec 14
4:30 p.m.
Phil Gigliotti

Sun, Dec 15
8:30 a.m.
Andrew Augustine

Sun, Dec 15
11:00 a.m.
Gene Welsh

Sat, Dec 21
4:30 p.m.
Larry Durica

Sun, Dec 22
8:30 a.m.
Adam Smail

Sun, Dec 22
11:00 a.m.
Lou Varos

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Be patient until the coming of the Lord

Altar Servers

Sat, Dec 14
4:30 p.m.
Bill Brock **

Sun, Dec 15
8:30 a.m.
Frank Lanza

Sun, Dec 15
11:00 a.m.
Server Needed

Sat, Dec 21
4:30 p.m.
Ray Fitzwater

Sun, Dec 22
8:30 a.m.
Frank Lanza

Sun, Dec 22
11:00 a.m.
Dave Griffith

Around the Town

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

The next meeting will be **December 27, 2019 from 6 - 8 p.m.**
Amherst Beaver Creek: Visitor Center, 913 N. Lake St., Amherst.
For information call Kathy at 440-823-6177. Visit:
www.lorainadas.org.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The next monthly breakfast will be on Saturday, December 21st. So please join us at St Julie's for breakfast from 8:30 am to 9:45 am. Meet new friends and strengthen your relationship with Jesus. Please try to give an RSVP to Tom Fumich (6106604 or sjspbreakfast@gmail.com) to attend. To car pool from St. Teresa's parking lot meet at 7:45 a.m.

"BREATH OF HEAVEN" LIVE NATIVITY PRESENTATION

22nd presentation at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 15617 Mason Rd., Vermilion. Join us Sun, Dec. 15 from 4 - 8 p.m. Free! Bring a non-perishable food item for the local food bank. Walk-through presentations every 15 minutes.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Join us at St. Joseph Cemetery at 3 p.m. Topic will be: Emmanuel/God With Us: You are not alone.

CURSILLO (Spanish for "short course")....

.....is a movement deeply rooted in Catholicism. The mission of Cursillo is to provide adult men and women a method to come to know Jesus Christ in a more intimate way through prayer, fellowship and working together. The Diocese of Cleveland has scheduled Cursillo Weekends for the following dates: **Men's Weekend - January 16th - 19th, 2020; Women's Weekend - February 20th - 23rd, 2020.** If you would like more information about Cursillo or would like to registrar for one of the above scheduled weekends, please call Joe Perez 440-915-4886 or Lisette Gracia 440-308-7006.

FEED NEIGHBORS & ENJOY A CAVS GAME!

The Cleveland Cavaliers have teamed up with the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Hunger Centers to help feed the hungry this Christmas season. The CAVS are offering discounted tickets to the **Friday, December 20th home game at 7 p.m. against the Memphis Grizzlies.** In addition to your ticket purchase benefiting our hunger centers, all attendees will receive a Whammer Bobblehead. The fun-filled evening includes a free throw on the court after the game - great photo-op for all. Order tickets at svdpcle.org or <https://go.rallyup.com/svdp-cavs>. Ticket sales end December 19, 2019 at 5 p.m.

MEN'S FIRST FRIDAY LUNCHEON

Join us at St. Clarence Church, 30106 Lorain Rd., N. Olmsted, on **Friday, January 3, 2020.** Registration begins at 11:15 a.m., followed by luncheon, then an inspirational talk, and concludes with Mass. Cost is \$10. RSVP to George at 440-937-6606 by Monday, December 30.

PRO-LIFE DOCTORS LIST

A list of local Pro-life doctors, who do not practice abortion nor support its use, is available. Call 440-322-0076 or visit www.loraincountyrighttolife.org under Resources and Issues tab.