

Our Lady of Grace Church

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First Sunday of Advent—December 3, 2017

ADVENT—CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation

December 19 * 7 pm—Service at St. Albert the Great

December 23 * 2-3:30 pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23 * 4 pm Mass

December 24 * 8 am (NO MASS)

11 am Mass

Christmas

December 24 * 4 pm & 10 pm Mass

December 25 * 8 am (NO MASS)

11 am Mass

Solemnity of Mary

January 1 * 8 am Mass



OLOG MINISTRIES

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 Bereavement—Women of Hope—Pastoral Minister
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Dear OLOG Family,

Happy New Year! This Sunday, the first Sunday of the season of Advent, is also on the first Sunday of the new year of grace 2018. We begin the B Cycle of Sunday readings which are taken principally from the Gospel of Saint Mark. Saint Mark's Gospel is the shortest of the four Gospels and, therefore, the church supplements the schedule of readings by inserting the great Bread of Life discourse from the sixth chapter of Saint John's Gospel in the middle of the summer. Let's open our hearts anew to God's Word and God's grace in this great new year.

The season of Advent is likewise a preparatory season for the great celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. Next to the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter these Advent days and Christmas celebrations are the highest feasts of our liturgical calendar. As a preparation season our minds might be turned to the notion of repentance, renewal, conversion, and confession. Please put on your calendar the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation that will be hosted at Saint Albert church on Tuesday, December 19th at 7pm. Many guest confessors will be available for this beautiful prayer of the church.

Also in this season of Advent our hearts are turning toward the needs of the poor. Many of you have generously participated in the Giving Tree ministry providing holiday gifts to those most needy in our midst. May God bless you for your generosity and return it to you 100-fold.

Next weekend, Saturday, December 9, at the 4:00 PM Mass we have the special privilege of welcoming Bishop Nelson Perez, our diocesan bishop, for his first visit to Our Lady of Grace. Please plan to arrive early for mass and to greet the bishop after Mass in the parish hall for a reception.

Finally, please do not forget to complete the survey from the Clergy Personnel Board as they discern our next pastor. Your input is important. Simply log on to the link provided in the bulletin and complete the survey. I filled it out and it only takes about 15 minutes.

Again a blessed and happy new Year of Grace AD 2018.

Peace,
 Fr. Estok

 November 12....\$4,337.00
 Envelopes used...163
 Thank you for your generosity!

| MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 9 & 10, 2017 | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| 4:00 pm | Reader: EOMOHC: Servers: | G. Faciana, C. Cook T. Smith, A. Chesnick, B. Faciana, Deacon B. Dobbins S. Lekan, E. Medwid, Cerrito Family |
| 8:00 am | Reader: EOMOHC: Servers: | R. Manley, E. Majestic, D. Holztrager Deacon B. Dobbins J. Pesarchick, L. Smith, Deacon |
| 11:00 am | Reader: EOMOHC: Servers: | C. Zaverl A. Antonius, N. Gaj Deacon B. Dobbins K. Hrics, H. Tramonte, Deacon |

SURVEY FOR PASTOR
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QWKD87G>

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Christmas Decorating Fund



Donations are being accepted for the Christmas Decorating Fund
 Deadline is December 15th

Donated by: _____ \$10 _____

In memory: _____ Other _____



PSR NEWS

- *Advent Play, December 17th at 3 pm. Olympia Holiday Nuts will be available for purchase.
- *Sunday, December 4th is PSR Family Mass. Donuts will be served after Mass in the church hall.

- *First Confession is December 7th at 7 pm. Please arrive no later than 6:45 pm.
- *Remember it is very important that your children come to PSR class. Thanks!

FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

Advent reminds us to be watchful and alert for the Lord in our life *now* and to be ready for His promised return. Prayer is necessary to do this. Weekly Mass keeps families centered in the Lord and ready for anything. Carry this attentiveness into family meals and daily prayers. Practice mindfulness of the Lord's presence by thinking of Him throughout the day whatever you are doing. Pray—*Maranatha!* Come Lord Jesus!

OPLATKY

Christmas wafers are available in the sacristy or through the church office. Any donation given is appreciated.

2018 CALENDARS

Carlson Funeral Homes has been kind enough to provide our parish with 2018 calendars. Be sure to pick up a calendar for your family; they can be found in the church vestibule.

VESPERS

To provide an opportunity for spiritual growth this Advent, *Vespers* will be led by Deacon Bruce every Tuesday evening at 7 pm in the church. Join with fellow parishioners, as we offer together this ancient prayer of the church. Consider introducing a new Advent tradition in your family and prepare your hearts for Christmas. Vespers will be held on December 5, 12, and 19 at 7 pm.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



The feast of the Immaculate Conception, on Friday, December 8th is a holy day of obligation. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the patroness of the United States. Mass will be celebrated only at 7 pm on December 8th.

GIVING TREE

All Giving Tree gifts need to be returned by next weekend, December 9/10. Please do not wrap gifts but you may include wrapping paper or gift bag with gift.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT & CHRISTMAS PLAY

A big thank you to all the brave men of the parish that came to sing on Thanksgiving Day for 9am Mass in the Fr. Mac Memorial Men's Choir! He was most certainly smiling down on all of us as we sang together giving thanks to God before spending the day with our families. Thank you so very much for making this such a beautiful tradition in our parish as we honor the wish of such a special priest who simply wanted a men's choir sing at his church!

The Music Ministry invites everyone to attend our Third Annual Family Christmas Concert on Friday, December 15th, at 7pm in the church. The adult choir has been practicing some of their music since late spring preparing for the Christmas season so there will plenty of great music for everyone to enjoy. The Traditional Choir and Youth Choir, and several soloists, under the direction of Mary Gabriel, will offer a selection of contemporary and traditional, Advent and Christmas carols. An old fashioned sing-a-long will conclude the concert as always.

On Sunday, December 17th at 3pm, the PSR program will present its FIRST EVER Christmas play presented by grades pre-K through 5th grade. The Youth Choir will provide the music for the play. Please plan on spending Friday evening and Sunday afternoon with your family and friends to enjoy the sounds of the season presented in the true spirit of Christmas! The concert and play are free and all are welcome! Bring your family and friends!

JOIN US IN WELCOMING BISHOP PEREZ

We are blessed to have Bishop Nelson Perez celebrate Mass with us on December 9th at the 4 pm Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for our parish! A reception will follow in the hall.

We still need people to help set up for the reception and to bake Christmas cookies to serve. There are sign-up sheets in the church vestibule, for anyone willing to help.

PRAYERS WORK WONDERS

Please remember the sick and suffering of parish family especially: Blanche Bieda, Barb Blake, Claudia Bulkowski, Colleen Darabant, Arthur DePiero, Elaine, Frygier, Chris & Kitsa Fuciu, John Hanna, Cheryl Henderson, Linda Joseph, Megan Keefe, Debbie Klein, Kathleen Klosinski, Betty Kmiecik, Richard Konnerth, Jeanne Krywicki, Carl Lemke, Carmello Leo, Nick Piro, Norma Reynes, Lois Rhodes, Dennis Rogozinski, Susan Shah, Braidyn Schneid, Jim Steed, Michelle Trisk, Derek Vitas.

FIRST CONFESSION

Please keep in your prayers our 2nd grade PSR students and their families as they make their First Confession on Thursday, December 7th.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Our Lady of Grace parishioners are invited and encouraged to join St. Albert the Great for their Penance Service on Tuesday, December 19th at 7 pm. There will be several priests assisting with the Sacrament of Confession.



A special thanks to our PSR students, their parents, and members of the choir for taking time from their busy schedules to change out the missalettes!

‘TIS THE SEASON

Don't let this be just another Advent where you get distracted and busy. Rediscover the joy in the season with *Best Advent Ever*, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a way that will allow you to have a Christmas as memorable and joyful as when you were a child. Sign up at dynamiccatholic.com/advent and receive short inspirational videos, practical tips and real-life stories of hope.

THE ROCK AM 1260

Need some practical advice and counsel on your personal, family and professional life? Clinical psychologist Dr. Ray Guarendi answers your questions on *The Doctor Is In*, Monday-Friday at 1 pm on Cleveland Catholic Radio, AM1260 The Rock, WCCR Cleveland, where you hear rock solid truth. Or listen live at www.am1260therock.com.

MARCH FOR LIFE

Save the date—January 19, 2018. The Knights of Columbus Brunswick Council 4847 is hosting a bus trip to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. Save your seat today by contacting Marty at mshaw603@gmail.com or 216-533-7737.

If you say the holy rosary every day, with a spirit of faith and love, our Lady will make sure she leads you very far along her Son's path.

St. Josemaria Escriva

| UPCOMING EVENTS | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Dec. 5 | Vespers | 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 6 | Youth / Adult Choir | 6 / 7 pm |
| Dec. 7 | Moms' Prayer Group | 10:30 am |
| | First Confessions | 7:00 pm |
| | Rosary for Peace | 7:00 pm |
| | MMP Cenacle | 7:30 pm |

MASS INTENTIONS**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2**

4 pm Mr. & Mrs. John Mikolajski / Pat & Gloria

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 *First Sunday of Advent*

8 am Living & Deceased of our Parish Family

11 am Kevin & Nathan Barnett / Kibler Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

8 am Special Intention / Kopowski Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 TO THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

8 am (No Mass)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 *The Immaculate Conception*

7 pm Camila Caluya Ponferaba

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

4 pm Richard Smith / Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 *Second Sunday of Advent*

8 am Living & Deceased of our Parish Family

11 am Fred Lorenc / Daughters

OUR FRIENDS THE SAINTS

St. Ambrose— Ambrose is one of the four original doctors of the Church. He was Bishop of Milan and became one of the most important theological figures of the fourth century.

Ambrose was born around 340 to a Roman Christian family. He and his siblings grew up in present-day Germany. Ambrose's father died while Ambrose was still a child. Educated in Rome, he studied law, literature and rhetoric. Like his father, Ambrose was made governor of Liguria and Emilia around 372. He lived in Milan and was unexpectedly acclaimed as bishop by the people of the city in 374. However, Ambrose was neither baptized or trained in theology so he refused. Within a week's time, Ambrose was baptized, ordained and consecrated as bishop of Milan on December 7, 374.

As bishop, Ambrose donated all of his land and gave his money to the poor. This made him very popular and often times more politically powerful than even the emperor. In 385 he refused to surrender a church for the use of Arian heretics. In 390 he excommunicated the emperor Theodosius for the massacre of 7,000 people.

By his sermons Ambrose gained his most notable convert, Saint Augustine. Ambrose's literary works have been acclaimed as masterpieces of Latin eloquence. His musical accomplishments are remembered in his hymns. In his later years, Ambrose retired to Bologna. He died on April 4, 397.

