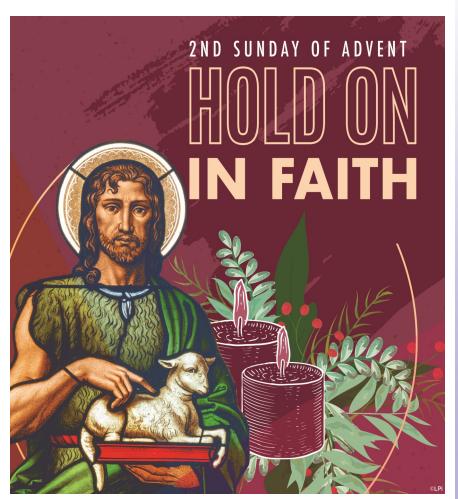


December 10, 2023

#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Julie Billiart is a welcoming Roman Catholic community that deepens our personal relationship with Jesus Christ by worshiping together, reaching out to others and building up the Kingdom of God.



Pastor: Rev. Robert Franco
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Isidore Munishi

Deacons: Rev. Mr. John Rivera

Rev. Dr. Ken DeLuca, Retired

PSR Principal: Kelly Reed

#### LITURGY SCHEDULE

For updates check St. Julie's Website

#### **CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays......3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

In the Church

## PSR - PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades 1 - 8: 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Sunday (check PSR website for information)

RCIA & RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children)

#### **BAPTISMS**

1st & 3rd Sunday by appointment

#### MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance

#### **NEW PARISHIONERS**

You are welcome to call the office or register on line.

## From the desk of Fr. Bob...

Dear Parishioner,

Advent is the time to prepare for the coming of the Lord. And how is that preparation done? Well, according to the advertising barrage we experience at this time of the year, preparation means spending. The truth is that the word "spending" only captures the fact that an exchange of material goods is transacted. The real preparation for this season comes, not through spending, but through giving. The act of giving involves a decision of love to bless the other, whether that be God or other people.

I am grateful for the many people who give at this time of the year, materially or otherwise. I am grateful for those:

- who give of their time and talent to bless others at our Crock Pot Community Meal, in particular Joanne Pogros who organizes it every month.
- who helped out with the St. Julie's Christmas Craft Bazaar, especially Joe Kotarsky and the St. Julie Craft Bazaar team.
- generous donors of St. Julie Billiart Parish to the Retirement for Religious collection that will be taken up this weekend here throughout out our nation.
- who bring the mercy of God to us through the Sacrament of Penance, which will be celebrated this Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. at St. Julie Parish.
- give of themselves to bring peace to the souls of sinners, especially my brother priests.

This is the season, not so much for spending but for giving.

Last Monday, Fr. Isidore and I visited PSR classes at St. Peter Parish after their Penance Service. In one of the younger grades I asked, "Whose birthday are we preparing for?" One little girl said, "Mine!" Her birthday is at the beginning of January. I congratulated her and told her that I too had a January birthday. However, seeing this as a teachable moment, I reminded the class that we are really preparing to celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ, our true hope.

As we journey through this Advent Season, I encourage you to give yourself to the Lord. Some of this giving may be spending time in prayer. Some of this giving may be cheerfully attending your child's Christmas concert. Some of this giving may be expressed in supporting a local charity. Some of this giving may be expressed in supporting St. Julie Billiart Parish.

Our gospel reading from the beginning of the Gospel of Mark focuses on John the Baptist. His mission is described by quoting Isaiah the prophet: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Our first reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah elaborates what it means to make straight. It involves filling in valleys, leveling mountains, straightening crooked ways and

smoothing rugged land.

Isaiah reminds us that we are all "works in progress". When we recognize this about other people we will be more inclined to treat them with compassion. God is doing some construction in their lives: leveling pride, building up confidence, straightening out wayward manners. We need to treat others with understanding more than with judgement. We also need to acknowledge this for ourselves. God is at work in us. Besides having a measure of gentleness towards ourselves, we can recognize God's work in us and willingly cooperate with his transformative work.

As we prepare for the coming of the Lord, may our giving open ourselves up more deeply to the Gift of Gifts, Jesus Christ.

In Christ, Fr. Bob Franco

## Mass Schedule for Christmas and New Years

Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8, 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

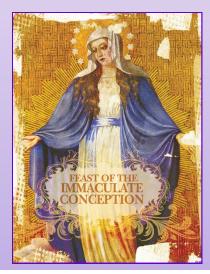
Communal Penance Service Sunday, December 10, 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

New Year's Day - Monday, January 1 11:00 a.m.



## Religious Education

### PSR-Parish School of Religion

Sunday: Grades 1-8, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 9	Saturday	5:00 p.m. Charles Smick, Sr. (Chuck Smick)
Dec. 10	Sunday	9:00 a.m. Marty Mahoney (Bill & Kathy O'Malley)

11:00 a.m. St. Julie Billiart Parishioners

Dec. 11 Monday 5:30 p.m. All Souls

Dec. 13 Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Harry McLaughlin (Loving Wife)

Dec. 15 Friday 5:30 p.m. Nick Arguello (Barb Arguello)

Dec. 16 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Kay Galik (Richard & Elaine Galik)

Dec. 17 Sunday 9:00 a.m. St. Julie Billiart

11:00 a.m. Jim Purcell (Prayer Group Friends)

## The Week Ahead

Sun. Advent Penance Service,

3:00 p.m. at St. Julie's

Mon. Following Christ, 7:00-8:30

Wed. Rosary, 1:00, Church

Sat. Men's Breakfast, St. Julie's

## Pen Pals - A Prison Ministry

Pen pals are needed for correspondence with residents of Ohio correctional institutions. Many of these men and women are estranged from their families, depressed, and lonely. We write letters of encouragement and share prayer requests using "pen names" and the parish office as our mailing address. For more information, call George Scherma (440) 465-8944 or email Ted Lapponi

<u>TedLapponi@gmail.com</u>. Currently, we have seventeen residents waiting for pen pals. "For I was ... in prison and you visited me." Mt 25: 35-36.

## Mass for Immaculate Conception

The Mass on Friday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. will be recorded.

## Eucharistic Ministers Please Volunteer

We desperately need volunteers to do home Communion calls on Sundays. After the first of the year, we will be down to two volunteers. We take Communion to six very grateful people each week. Won't you volunteer for this very rewarding ministry?

#### 2024 Calendars

You can pick up a calendar for 2024 in the vestibule complements of the Bogner Family Funeral Home.

#### Advent Booklets

There are Advent Booklets in the vestibule for you to take. If you would like to leave a donation please use the envelope in the box.

#### the health of, and caregivers of:

Jeff Kohl, son of Mary Anne Schwarzwalder, Emily Jirousek, granddaughter of Bob & Mary Ann Jirousek, Marian Kessler, Carter Evard, grandson of Jim & Joanne Carter, Christian Hoffman, nephew of Pat, Cathy Sliter, Daniel DeLaat, Tom Kubiak, Mae Preiss, mother of Sandy Zanick, Paul & Ana Kovacs, Dolores Rivera, Bob Jirousek, Fr. George, Debijo Lamb, June Kearney, Barb Vrtachnik, Jim Carter, Lola Cook, Mary Lee, Terry Flanagan, Carol Polak, Jean Rasmussen, Kathleen Sobczak, JoAnne Bellomo, and the Regula family; for our men & women in uniform; our firefighters, police, doctors & nurses; for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life.



John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me."

- Mk 1:4, 6-7a

#### Gifts for Baby Jesus

In support of Birthright of Lorain
County please see the Flyer in the
bulletin for gift suggestions. Bring to
church Christmas Eve and Christmas
Day. "NEW" You can use: linktr.ee/
birthrightloraincounty for the Amazon
wish list, donate button, and learning
more information about everything
Birthright does.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to the winners of our raffle baskets at the Saint Julie Christmas Craft Fair. Linda Przybysz won the Pots and Pans Basket and Chris Laforet won the Free Raffle Basket. Thank you to Barb Pavelschak for donating the baskets. We are all winners when we help our education ministry to flourish.

## Parish Stewardship

1 4,1011 b co cod, do 1116				
Dec. 3:	\$6312			
Faith Direct:	\$0			
School Subsidy:	\$35			
Capital Improvement:				
Net Offertory:	\$6362			

In Person Mass Attendance: 408

Thank you for sharing your Blessings.

Ministers Schedule					
Sat, Dec 9,5:00 Rec S-Beth Paoloni L-Terry Flanagan EM-Beth Paoloni Greg Dubecky Not Filled	Sun, Dec. 10, 9:00 Kathleen McWeeny Linda Vasiloff Ray Sharron Kathleen McWeeny Jim Livingston	Lisa Palazzo Joe Kotarsky Mike Yarosh			
Ushers U-Nick Guerrieri U-Sue Dybowski	<u>Ushers</u> <u>Not Filled</u> Hung Lee	<u>Ushers</u> Gene Morrison Gene Schwarzwalder			
Sat, Dec 16,5:00 Rec S-Not Filled L-Kelly Reed EM-Agnes Kl. Not Filled Ted Lapponi	Sun, Dec. 17, 9:00  Not Filled  Barb Arguello  Gretchen Bulan  Tom Lamoda  Jim Livingston	11:00 Not Filled Not Filled Leslie Rozman Not Filled Larry Rozman			
Ushers U-Hung Lee U-Agnes Klimkowicz	Ushers Not Filled Nick Guerrieri	Ushers Not Filled Not Filled			

#### **UKRAINIAN WELCOME CIRCLE UPDATE**

We recently got news from the Prymachovs. They are safely out of Ukraine. Unfortunately, they will not be coming to the US.

While this is sad news for us, our focus is on the Prymachovs. They are safe in Europe rebuilding their lives. We are blessed to have been a part of that journey.

We have already reached out to the resources we previously used and a number of new resources to find another family to sponsor. We will keep you updated on our progress.

**Donations:** If you are able to support us financially, use one of the following options: The envelopes at the doors

of the church for cash or checks made payable to "St. Julie & St. Peter UWC", FaithDirect or GoFundMe (Help A Young Ukrainian Family to Start a New Life ). Won't you consider sharing the

GoFundMe on your personal social media sites? More Info: www.stpeternr.org/ukrainian-welcomecircle or submit your questions to welcomecircle23nr@gmail.com. Thank you for your

prayers, labor, monetary support and other donations.



## News & Events

## Rosary for the Holy Land

All St. Julie and St. Peter parishioners are invited to pray for an end to the war in the Holy Land and for peace in the world. It is



our hope that the Rosary will be prayed continuously all day on Tuesdays. All 20 minute time slots will need to be filled. You can pray wherever you are: at home, at Church, or in your car. To select your time slot, go to the parish website and click the link that will take you to the sign up page or scan the QR Code. Choose your designated time and submit. Then all you need to do is pray the Rosary at that time each Tuesday. If you prefer, you can call the parish office to get registered. If you have any questions, please call Cheryle, 440-327-2201.

#### Men's Breakfast

Please join us for the St Julie & St Peter Men's Fellowship breakfast on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:20 a.m. Breakfast will be served at St. Julie's in the Church. Open to men of any parish in the Diocese, come and enjoy a hearty, hot breakfast followed by a short video and discussion. We will end promptly at 9:45 a.m. So we have an idea of how much food to prepare please RSVP by sending an email to <a href="mailto:sjspbreakfast@gmail.com">sjspbreakfast@gmail.com</a> by December 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Book Study**

The second of our book studies during this year of the Parish Eucharistic Revival begins January 6<sup>th</sup> and will run for 5 weeks. It will be held at St. Julie's at 10:00 a.m. We will be reading the book Real Presence - What Does It Mean and Why Does It Matter? by Timothy P. O'Malley. We have books available for \$15 each unless you prefer to order your own. For more details and to register, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.stpeternr.org/eucharist-book-study-real-presence">https://www.stpeternr.org/eucharist-book-study-real-presence</a>. The reading plan will be provided at a later date.

#### Attention PrimeTimers

It's time to reserve your spot for our Annual Holiday Luncheon at Mahle's Restaurant located at 24945 Detroit Rd. In Westlake on Wednesday, December 20, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is \$21 per person which includes your choice of entree (Turkey Croissant with Fries & Slaw, Eggplant Parmesan with Pasta, Breaded Pork Chop with Mashed Potatoes & Vegetable or Chicken Marsala with Mashed Potatoes & Vegetable), cake for dessert and gratuity. Please contact Sue Dybowski at 419-350-1164 or sadybowski2@gmail.com by Friday,

<u>December 15</u>, to reserve your spot.

Hope to see you there!



## Remember Loved Ones at Christmas (Living or Deceased)

Names of loved ones will be printed in the Christmas bulletin.

Please Print. 1.				
2				
3				
Name of Donor				
Envelope #D  If you've donated for flowers on Faith Direct	onation \$ and would like a loved one re	membered, check here:		

Return to the rectory by Noon on Monday, December 18



## Gifts for Baby Jesus in Support of Birthright of Lorain County

In our continuing support of Birthright of Lorain County, St. Julie's Respect Life and Rosary groups will sponsor our annual "Gifts for Baby Jesus" at all masses Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Birthright uses these items to make up layette sets that are given to mothers to take their babies home from the hospital. These mothers have decided to give their babies the greatest gift of all, Life! We like these items to be new.

## Requested items include:

Diapers (all size)
Wipes / Ointment
Outfits (Boy/Girl 3-18 Mth)
Formula
Onsies (3-18 Mth)

Receiving Blankets
Baby Wash/Shampoo
Hooded Towels / Wash Cloths
Bottles (4 - 8 oz)
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> 8:30-5:30 Tues., Wed., Thur. & Fri. 8:00-2:00 Sat.



Meikle Parishioner Real Estate Agent 440-506-1574 Let Me Take You To Your Next Home



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