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PREPARE



“Prepare the way
of the Lord.”

MARK 1:3

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2020

SUN 12/6	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
MON 12/7	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
TUE 12/8	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
WED 12/9	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30
THR 12/10	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
FRI 12/11	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
SAT 12/12	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/
SUN 12/13	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2020

Sunday:	2nd Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday:	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday:	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Friday:	St. Damasus I, Pope
Saturday:	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Next Sunday:	3rd Sunday of Advent

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.



Quiet
your
heart.

Masses For The Week



Monday - 12/7 - St. Ambrose
 9:00 a.m. - Mary & Bob Kring (52nd Wedding Anniversary)
 7:00 p.m. - LIVING Wendy Carrothers (Margaret Carrothers)

**Tuesday - 12/8 - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
 Noon - Mary Delores Maier

Wednesday - 12/09 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtloatzin
 9:00 a.m. - Helen Halter (Ray & Pat)

Thursday - 12/10
 No Mass

Friday - 12/11
 9:00 a.m. - All Souls

Saturday - 12/12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
 4:30 p.m. - People of Our Parish

Sunday - 12/13 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 8:00 a.m. - Peter W. Eaglowski
 (Nina Eaglowski & family)
 10:30 a.m. - Thomas Joliat (Soehnlén family)

Lector workbooks are here and available for pick up in the sacristy.

The Sanctuary Candle – is prayerfully lit in memory of Antoinette Unklesbay from Dan & Susie Unklesbay.

In Memoriam: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Linda Pape, wife of Joe Pape, mother of Vincent (Chris) Pape of our parish, beloved parishioner who passed away last week. Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord, and may she rest in peace.

Flowers on the Altar – are for Mary & Bob Kring in honor of their 52nd Wedding Anniversary.

Newly Baptized - Jonah Charles Seifert received new life in Christ through the waters of baptism on November 29th. Congratulations and God's blessings on little Jonah, his parents, godparents, and grandparents.

Lectors - Saturday/Sunday

4:30 p.m. - 12/12 - S. Hall
 8:00 a.m. - 12/13 - D. Anderson
 10:30 a.m. - 12/13 - PSR & SBS

Sacristans - Saturday/Sunday

4:30 p.m. - 12/12 - S. Ziegelhofer
 8:00 a.m. - 12/13 - J. Wyman
 10:30 a.m. - 12/13 - B. Fath

Vocations:

God calls us to proclaim the Good News. How do you share that Good News? Pray for the grace to be a faith filled witness of God's love. (Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11). If you think God is calling you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, call Father Scott Kopp at (330) 744-8451 or email skopp@youngstowndiocese.org.

November 28-29, 2020

Weekly Budget	\$ 12,621.00
Needy	\$ 237.00
Reg. Collection	\$ 5,176.00
Mail-in	\$ 4,032.98
On Line	\$ 3,335.00
Total	\$ 12,543.98
Deficit	(\$ 77.02)

Mass Attendance

215 - 4:30 - 76; 8:00 - 63; 10:30 - 76

Envelopes 74

Online Viewers: 645

LITTLE BLUE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BOOKS

The Little Blue Advent/Christmas books may be found in church beside the collection boxes and also at each end of the narthex. You may pick up a copy to take home and read the daily 6 minute reflections.

Office Closed - The rectory office will be closed on Tuesday, December 8th for the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Bingo:

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at Bingo, which is currently the ONLY fundraiser we can have for the school and the parish. If you are able to volunteer, your help would be greatly appreciated! NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Areas to help could be anything from working the kitchen (taking money and serving food/coffee) to walking around selling instant tickets to players during the game and breaks (\$1.00 per ticket, you take the money and hand them the tickets). If you are able to help, please call either Jennifer at the parish office at (330) 833-6898 or Lisa at the schools office (330) 833-9510. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Mass Intentions:

Mass Intentions are available and may now be scheduled through June of 2021. If you would like to schedule a Mass for a loved one, please call the rectory office at (330) 833-6898 and speak with Jennifer.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

SATURDAY - 4:30 p.m. - SUNDAY - 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
 HOLYDAY VIGIL - 7:00 p.m. - HOLYDAY - 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 WEEKDAY - Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 9:00 a.m.
 Wednesday, 8:20 a.m. (School Mass)
 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - SATURDAY - 3:30 p.m.

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St. Barbara invites everyone to celebrate Bambinelli Sunday!

This wonderful tradition originates in the papacy of Pope St. John Paul II and is celebrated when the children of Rome and their families fill St. Peter's Square on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, for the blessing of the Gesu Bambino, the 'little baby Jesus.' On this day, the children bring from home their Christ-child figures, their bambinelli, in hands, in pockets, in backpacks, from their own family nativity scenes. Some will even bring the bambinelli of friends and neighbors unable to attend. Then, during the noontime Angelus address, the Holy Father invites all to hold up their bambinelli for a special blessing of the Christ-child figures, the children and their families.

Upon returning home the figure is set safely out of sight for the remainder of Advent until happily placed in the creche with the arrival of Christmas. What a beautiful, tangible way to keep the anticipated coming of the Lord Jesus into our homes and hearts central to our holiday preparations.

Bring your own Christ-child figures to Mass next weekend, December 12th and 13th, the Third Sunday of Advent for this beautifully memorable blessing!

A suggestion is that following the blessing of your 'bambinelli', it's taken home, put in a gift box and wrap or placed in an unseen place of honor to await Christmas. Let this be the first gift your family opens on Christmas as together you place the blessed Christ-child figure in the manger and welcome Christmas into your home.

Pope Benedict's Blessing:

God, our Father you so loved humankind that you sent us your only Son Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to save us and lead us back to you.

We pray that with your Blessing these images of Jesus, who is about to come among us, may be a sign of your presence and love in our homes. Good Father, give your Blessing to us too, to our parents, to our families and to our friends.

Open our hearts, so that we may be able to receive Jesus in joy, always do what he asks and see him in all those who are in need of our love.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your beloved Son, who comes to give the world peace.

He lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

With Love,
Fr. Brian

WHAT THE CARES ACT MEANS FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act creates two temporary changes to the tax treatment of such donations. One is a universal deduction targeted primarily at the 90+% of standard deduction taxpayers, and the other is meant to incentivize the remaining high-income givers and corporations.

\$300

Universal Deduction for Donations Up to \$300

For the 9 out of 10 people who no longer itemize their charitable giving, the CARES Act will allow these individual taxpayers to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction. Married-filing-jointly taxpayers will get an above-the-line deduction of up to \$600.

For those donors who are still able to itemize their deductions, and therefore directly write off gifts to charity, the current deduction cap is 60% of adjusted gross income. Corporations are able to deduct charitable donations up to 10% of taxable income.

60%

*The 60% of AGI limit is for giving to 501(c)(3) public charities. The deductibility of gifts to 501(c)(3) private foundations is capped at 30%, and was not included in this legislation.

WHAT ABOUT THE IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)?

The CARES Act did not change the rules around the QCD, which allows individuals over 70½ years old to donate up to \$100,000 in IRA assets directly to charity annually, without taking the distribution into taxable income.

However, remember that under the CARES Act an individual can elect to deduct 100 percent of their AGI for cash charitable contributions. This effectively affords individuals over 59½ years old the benefits similar to a QCD; they can take a cash distribution from their IRA, contribute the cash to charity, and may completely offset tax attributable to the distribution by taking a charitable deduction in an amount up to 100 percent of their AGI for the tax year.

Source: Fidelity Charitable



GUIDANCE IN GIVING, INC.
Stewardship, Development & Campaign Consultants

Our Lady of Guadalupe - CANCELLED

Due to Stark County being moved to Level 4 (Purple) we have decided for the safety of everyone we will cancel our celebration.

Giving Tree

Thanks to the generosity of our St. Barbara parishioners, all of the tags from the Giving Tree were taken last weekend! Remember that they are due back by Sunday, December 13th, following the 10:30 am Mass. Don't forget that some angels are labeled "DO NOT WRAP" and some ask for activation slips. Thank you for making Christmas merrier for those in need! If you have any questions, please call Karen Cox at (330) 830-9620.

NOTICE

Due to the rising number of cases of COVID-19, and in an effort to keep our staff and parishioners safe, the parish office will be closed to visitors. The staff will still be available to answer phone calls and assist with any questions. If you need to drop something off for a staff member, please do so in the locked mailbox next to the front door. We apologize for the inconvenience, but safety must be our priority during these uncertain times.

Office Hours:

Monday	8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	10:00 am - 4:30 pm

Youth Ministry Fundraiser

Is there anyone on your holiday shopping list that is difficult to buy for? With all of the anxiety and stress from 2020, consider giving your loved ones a gift that promotes hope and encouragement. Shop for Catholic books and resources online at avemariapress.com with our unique code STBARBARA and we'll earn 30% of the proceeds on each purchase (and you'll get FREE SHIPPING!). Ave Maria Press is a non-profit Catholic book publisher serving the mission of helping people know, love, and serve God.

Shop avemariapress.com now through December 31, 2020, for Christmas gifts or a personal read to help encourage your faith. Be sure to use our code, STBARBARA, at checkout!

**DISPENSATION FROM THE OBLIGATION
TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS**

The Catholic faithful who reside in the Diocese of Youngstown and all other Catholics in the diocese and especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick continue to be dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice. The Easter Duty obligation is extended for a period of one year from the end of the Easter Season 2020.



~ A Prayer for Our New Bishop ~
 BISHOP-ELECT REVEREND DAVID J. BONNAR
 Almighty God, eternal shepherd and guide,
 in your love for us,
 You have blessed the Diocese of Youngstown
 with a shepherd to lead us to be Christ's heart of mercy,
 voice of hope, and hands of justice.
 May Bishop-Elect Bonnar fill our minds and hearts
 with the truth of the Gospel,
 the power of the sacraments
 and the desire to build up your holy Church
 so that "All May Be One."
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen

Reconciliation

With Communal Penance being cancelled this year, each of the parishes in our region are offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation at different dates and times. Below is a list of what we have so far and we will update this information as we receive it.

St. Barbara

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:30 pm
 Monday, December 7th from 6:00 - 6:50 pm
 Tuesday, December 8th from 10:30 - 11:50 am
 Friday, December 11th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

St. Joseph, Massillon

Saturday, December 19th from 11:00 am - Noon & 2:30 - 3:30 pm
 Monday, December 21st from 11:00 - 11:30 am
 Tuesday, December 22nd from 1:00 - 1:30 pm
 Wednesday, December 23rd from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

St. Mary, Massillon

Saturdays at 11:00 am
 Wednesday, December 9th from 7:00 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, December 18th from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Stewardship:

Today's readings speak to us about the pace the Lord will bring when he comes to us. We know that Christian stewardship involves sharing of our material resources, but Christian stewards are also called to share peace, truth, and kindness, as mentioned in today's Responsorial Psalm. As the psalmist states, "The LORD himself will give his benefits." We know the Lord will make good on His promise; what can we do to follow his example?

Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for the Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.



Come Support St. Barbara Parish and



LET US COOK YOUR FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER!

Drive-thru Pick Up between 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Friday, December 18, 2020 behind the Parish Life Center.

Homemade Lasagna, tossed salad, and garlic bread only \$10.00 per meal!

Orders due by Wednesday, December 16, 2020. Pay by cash, check, or credit card. Money due at time of order. Phone orders may be taken with credit card purchase.

ORDER FORM

(Please return to office with payment by Wednesday, December 16, 2020)

Print Name: _____ Phone _____

Number of Dinners: _____ Total Amount Due: _____

Payment Method (Please circle one): cash check credit card

Credit Card Information:

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Billing Address: _____ CVV Code: _____

**YEAR-END
GIVING**



**Remember
Our Parish Family
When Considering
A Year-End Gift.**

**As the end of each year approaches,
we reflect upon the many blessings God has
bestowed on us.**

This is the season we give thanks to God for all He has done for us this past year and throughout our lives. It is also a good time to begin considering how we might give back some of our wealth or assets to Him with a special year-end gift. **Giftng is a great way to thank God for these blessing. We hope that you will consider St. Barbara as a beneficiary.**

Take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for gifts made before December 31 (benefits of income tax deductions, capital gains savings, and other financial benefits), and consider the variety of gift options available to you. Your gift to your parish can make a great difference.

There are a variety of ways you can contribute a gift. The easiest and most direct methods are donations of cash, stock and IRA Charitable Rollover.

For more information on how you can help make a difference by contributing a year-end gift to our parish, please contact Jennifer Harrison-Cox.

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity
to St. Barbara Catholic Church
throughout this past year!**

**This support allows you to help our church family
and spread God's Word throughout the world!**

Important Note:

Please consult with your tax adviser before making any major decisions that may impact on your tax liability. This information is not to be taken as advice for financial or tax purposes.

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