

# SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## DECEMBER 10, 2017



***"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"***  
*Isaiah 40:3*

104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902  
419.524.2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

### **Mass Schedule:**

Saturday: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am  
Monday & Friday: 5:30 pm  
Tuesday - Thursday: 7:00 am

### **Spanish Mass:**

*Resurrection Parish, Lexington*

Sunday: 6:00 pm

### **Parish Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm  
Friday: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

### **Pastoral Care Contacts:**

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572  
*Hospital & Follow-up  
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &  
Prayer Pipeline*  
Deacon John Reef 419.529.3694  
*Shut-ins/Homebound*

### **Sacrament of Baptism:**

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 pm  
Other times by appointment.

### **Sacrament of Marriage:**

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

### **Sunday Nursery:**

Sunday Nursery is temporarily unavailable until further notice.

### **Bulletin Deadline:**

Friday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email and must receive prior approval.

### **Parish Administrative Assistant:**

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572 ext.2122

### **Pastoral Staff:**

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*  
Fr. Austin Ammanniti, *Parochial Vicar*  
Mr. Bill Johnson,  
*Director of Music & Liturgy*  
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*  
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of  
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

### **Deacons:**

Mr. John Reef  
Mr. Dennis Striker

### **St. Peter's School:**

Ms. Tammy Haus  
*High School, Jr. High School*  
Mrs. Madalyn Bauer  
*Elementary School*  
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer  
*Montessori*

### **Parish Business Manager:**

Mr. Evan Mumea

### **Director of Development:**

Mr. Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

**MASS INTENTIONS****Monday, December 11, Advent Weekday**

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm North Central Ohio Vocations

**Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe**

7:00 am Harold Phalor

9:15 am Mary Anne Voytko, All School Mass

3:15 pm Liberty Nursing Center

**Wednesday, December 13, St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

7:00 am Stephen Wiecher

**Thursday, December 14, St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of Church**

7:00 am Donald Chambers

**Friday, December 15, Advent Weekday**

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Marilyn Mertler

**Saturday, December 16, Vigil of The Third Sunday of Advent**

5:00 pm Charles Koehler

**Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent**

7:30 am Mary Foltz

9:30 am Parish

11:30 am Richard G. Hite

**LECTOR/COMMUNION MINISTER****Saturday, December 16**

5:00 pm L C Taddeo, B Schartl

D D Falquette, B Nihei, D Hipp, T Hipp, V Zack

**Sunday, December 17**

7:30 am L M Santoro, D Bessemer

D L Danuloff, B Danuloff, A Holloway,  
K Reindl, K Reindl, M Collet, K Randall

9:30 am L B Rader, A Seiss

D D Dreskler, B Genter, T Baker, J Brennan,  
M Riggleman, S Weber, S Weitzel, R Sliney

11:30 am L F Leitenberger, C Mears

D K Yockey, J Liston, C Mears, H Deel

**MASS SERVERS****Saturday, December 16**

5:00 pm L Rhodes, S Putt, C Putt

**Sunday, December 17**

7:30 am G Farragher

9:30 am A Saltzgiver, B Ball

11:30 am L Stewart, A Pindel, D McGinty

**THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD****Sunday, December 17**

9:30 am Marcy

11:30 am Sarah

The hustle and bustle of today's society make the holiday season a real challenge for many families. It seems like yesterday my kids were picking out Halloween costumes and I'm sure I will be boxing up the Christmas decorations for another year before I can blink twice. Somewhere in that span, we fit in all the parties, concerts, baking, decorating and traveling. Plus, the usual work, school, practices, games, and meetings that come normally.

However, there was always one moment where we took time to pause – a family tradition that is decades old – praying the rosary in front of the Advent Wreath at my grandparents' house. I'll admit, it was a tradition I did not keep up with when I moved away from Mansfield, but when we moved back home, we knew where we needed to be at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoons.

It was 15 minutes of quiet family prayer or as quiet as the grandkids or great-grandkids would allow. Grandpa Nick is starting the next Hail Mary before we finished with the last one – reading from the same well-worn prayer card that had been used for years. Then when finished praying, the battle royale among the younger kids began to see who would get to blow out the candles.

A small, but important moment to pause and remember what Christmas was really all about. It was more than just presents and cookies. None of that could happen anyway until we went to Mass on Christmas Eve.

Last Sunday, that didn't happen. Both Grandpa and Grandma Schemine are in a nursing home now, and that family tradition is not going to happen as it once did. Even though I managed to find my grandparents' Advent Wreath among the boxes of their things that made their way to my attic, we celebrated the birthdays of our two boys on Sunday. After an afternoon full of eight-year-olds and three-year-olds running around our home, the kids were too wound up, and mom and dad were too exhausted.

We did make time on Monday to stop and pray the rosary as a family.

As I was looking for inspiration for this column, trying to find the direction, two themes kept coming back. Advent is a challenge. Unlike Lent, it's not a challenge of sacrifice, but a challenge of hope. The challenge of preparing for the real reason for Christmas – the birth of Jesus.

Advent isn't about an Elf on a Shelf, which we thankfully have avoided in our house. It's a season where we should be preparing for the joyful celebration of Christmas.

I know that I need to set a good example for our family and find that 15-20 minutes of quiet family prayer on Sunday evenings – even if it is just for four weeks. It's a start. An important tradition that hopefully will continue in our house for many years to come.

Which will be followed by the battle over which child will get to blow out the candles.

I hope you all have a Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas Season.

--Jason Crundwell  
Director of Development

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**



Rose Mary Lang-Martin, Gwen Yockey, Bill Martin, John & Rose Anne Henney, Debbie Ashley, Eliana Nelson, Mike Payton, Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Ken Kayden, Krista Marshall, Colleen Behr, Aaron Blank, Don Blank, MaKaya Butler, Amy Foust, Joan Phalor, Julie Krous, Barb Riley, Florence Brothers, Laura Demarest, John Ziegler, Adam Freiheit, Marilyn Williamson, Leslie McIntosh, Patrick Leach, Mary Gassaway, Alex Porter, Ben Hahn.

**Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at 419.524.2572.**

**IN GOD'S ARMS....**

Frank E. Dewiel                      Joseph John Adamescu, Jr.  
 Frederick "Pete" Godfredson      William Esposito

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH ...**

... in your **estate planning or will**. It is easy to do. Either contact your financial planner or attorney – OR – contact our parish Development Office. We are happy to assist you! Your gift can be either "restricted," meaning to be used for a particular purpose and that purpose only, OR "unrestricted," which means it can be invested and used to support our day to day expenses in the parish. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

**PRISON MINISTRY CORNER**



As mentioned in last week's bulletin, during Advent may we ask you to include in your daily prayers our brothers and sisters who are incarcerated? This week let us pray for prisoners' relationship with God, that they would:

- Experience God's love
- Unite their loneliness, alienation, and struggles with our Lord's redemptive suffering;
- Allow God to work in them and accomplish His purpose in their lives;
- Earnestly seek God and stay-or get- involved with religious services in prison;
- Respect the authority of prison staff, respect other inmates, respect themselves and see themselves as sons and daughters of God;
- Experience genuine remorse for the harm they have caused others and seek to make amends as appropriate and possible;
- Pray to be filled with and to demonstrate the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

**SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS' RETIREMENT**

Our priests have made a gift of their lives in service to the Church, and we are grateful for their many years of priestly ministry. In the United States, half of all the U.S. diocesan priests are expected to retire by 2019.

Please express your appreciation for those who have faithfully served in the Diocese of Toledo by making a gift to **Perpetuate the Gift Appeal**. Once a priest retires, he is responsible for his own personal expenses such as housing, clothing, and food. Your gift benefits our diocesan priests, retired diocesan priests, and your parish. The Perpetuate the Gift appeal also helps retiring priests with the cost of healthcare by providing a Medicare supplement. All funds contributed between October 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017, help reduce the amount the parish contributes to the fund. A gift of cash or check can be sent to Perpetuate the Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH, 43697 or placed in the parish collection. A gift may also be made online at [www.toledodiocese.org](http://www.toledodiocese.org).

**NOVEMBER BAPTISMS**



Jameson Michael Ball, Son of Matthew and Casey Ball  
 Sylvia Rainier Mumea, Daughter of Evan and Kara Mumea

**NOVEMBER NEW PARISHIONERS**



Eric and Jill Kocher and family  
 Tom and Cheryl Dix and family  
 Evan and Kara Mumea and family

**SUNDAY OFFERING**



Year to Date  
 through 11-24-2017

<i>Sunday Collection</i>	
Total Sunday Collection To Date:	\$333,553.00
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$341,311.76
<b>Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$7,758.76)</b>
<i>School Collection</i>	
Total School Collection To Date:	\$74,231
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$69,288
<b>School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$4,943</b>

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL UPDATE**



<b>Total Pledged:</b>	<b>\$2,612,388</b>
Amount needed to reach challenge goal:	\$387,612
Payments to Date:	\$1,714,835

As of November 27 2017

**2018-2019 ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN**



<b>Total Pledged:</b>	<b>\$47,242</b>
Payments to Date:	\$41,038
Amount needed to reach goal:	\$52,758

As of December 5, 2017

**DIOCESE OF TOLEDO SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH USCCB NORMS**

Each year, the Diocese of Toledo is required to undergo an audit to ensure that it is in compliance with the articles of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Chart for the Protection of Children and Young People. Bishop Daniel Thomas is pleased to announce that, for the fiscal year 2016-2017, the Diocese was found to be in full compliance with the requirements in the Charter.

The Diocese of Toledo remains committed to ensuring the protection of children and providing a safe environment for all young people. If you have any knowledge of abuse that has been committed by a cleric, or any employee or volunteer of the Catholic Church, please report the abuse to your local police department, Child Protection Services, and Mr. Frank DiLallo, Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator. Mr. DiLallo can be reached at 419.214.4880 or by mail at 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604-5360.

**TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST**

Applications for TEC or Teens Encounter Christ are now available in the parish office. Ladies' TEC is taking place February 17-19, March 10-12 and April 7-9. Men's TEC is taking place January 27-29, February 24-26, and March 17-19. If you are a junior or senior in high school or post high school by one year, consider taking a TEC retreat!

**ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS...**

The St. Peter's Music Ministry will offer a Service of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 17 at 3:00 p.m. in the Church. Featuring the St. Peter's Traditional Choir, Hand Bell Choir, and Chamber Orchestra, our Lessons and Carols are a wonderful and prayerful way to prepare for the coming of our Lord in the mystery of the Incarnation at Christmas. Please join us in this beautiful celebration of the hymns, carols and scriptures of the Advent season. You will have the opportunity to take part in singing carols and will enjoy the wonderful, music. Please join us for the wonderful service. Call the Parish Center for additional information.

**STEBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE**

If you are in 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grades, this opportunity is for you. We will once again be attending the Steubenville Youth Conference June 15-17. This is a dynamic retreat weekend full of world renowned speakers, bands, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and so much more! If you are interested please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org no later than December

**SAVE THE DATE FOR**

**"AN ENCHANTED AFTERNOON"**

On March 11, 2018 from 1pm—4pm in the Church Basement, join us for an afternoon of magical fun, food, fellowship and fairytale dreams coming true for the Father-Daughter/Mother-Son Dance.

Bring your daughter(s)/son(s) and create memories to last a lifetime. Cost will include a light lunch, music, dancing, a souvenir picture and much more. Special guest appearances by the St. Peter's Department of Theatre and Performing Arts Cast Members of the 2018 Spring Musical "Cinderella." All proceeds will benefit the St. Peter's Department of Theatre and Performing Arts. Stay tuned for ticket sale information.

**END-OF-YEAR CHARITABLE GIFTS**

If you are looking to take advantage of an end-of-year stock transfer as a charitable gift to St. Peter's, please be sure to initiate the transfer before December 22, to guarantee the transfer will be completed before the end-of-the-year. Gifts of stock that have been held for a year or longer—and you itemize deductions—can have a charitable deduction for the stock's fair market value on the day you gave it away. You will also avoid paying capital gains taxes on the increased value.

You can also make an IRA Charitable Rollover if you are 70 1/2 years or older of up to \$100,000 and have that money excluded from your gross income. Consult your tax professional for more information.

Any cash donation must be postmarked on or before December 31, 2017, to be credited towards your 2017 giving.



**J & B ACOUSTICAL**  
**2750 Lexington Ave. 419.884.1155**

**CHRISTMAS IS ON MONDAY!**

**What does this mean?** You've probably noticed that the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve both fall on Sunday December 24. When those two days coincide, is there an obligation to attend Mass twice? The answer is yes. The Fourth Sunday of Advent, because it is a Sunday, is a holy day of obligation, as are all Sundays of the year. We also have an additional but separate obligation to attend Mass on Christmas. That obligation is satisfied by attendance at a Mass on Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day. Please make plans to join us for Mass for both of these holy days!



**PLEASE NOTE THAT INCENSE WILL BE USED AT THE 7 PM AND MIDNIGHT MASSES IN CHURCH**

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



We want to recognize and say a special prayer for the parishioners celebrating birthdays in the month of December, especially the sixteen people who are 85 and above:

Richard Studer, William Majors, Jacquelyn Reindl, Margaret Fallerius, Mary Bartley, Margaret Ferguson, Richard Cummins, Bertha Lambert, Anton Kleinguetl, Thomas Castrataro, Barbara Studer, Raymond Jasinski, Marilyn Williamson, Marian Eilenfeld, Harol Stupanski, Michael Krebs.

**BOY'S TENNIS COACH NEEDED**



Mansfield St. Peter's High School is in need of someone to fill the position of the Boys Tennis Coach for the 2018 Season.

Interested candidates can apply to the Athletic Director, Annemarie Mauric, at [mauric.annemarie@myspartans.org](mailto:mauric.annemarie@myspartans.org). You must have a current PAP or be able to obtain one, as well as fulfilling the requirements regarding Child Safety through the Diocese of Toledo.

**ST. PETER'S RESPECT LIFE CHAPTER**



Please check out new CDs in our kiosk in the main vestibule. We are blessed to have such talented apologists that can educate us in our Catholic faith. Most are only an hour in length and are very nicely done. The Pillar of Fire, Pillar of Truth is a pamphlet that explains what we believe as Catholics and why we believe it. So stop by and shop.

**THANK YOU!!**

***"A huge thanks to the marvelous potica, kieffel, and butter ring bakers!"***

You worked so hard and did an outstanding job. Your generosity and dedication are a constant reminder of what makes this such a special community and you truly inspire with your love.

We had our largest group ever of both ladies and gentlemen. Our wonderful ladies are very grateful for the great help we received from our hardworking gentlemen. You helped make this project such a great success. Thank you so much and may God bless you all.

***And a big thank you*** to Brenda and staff for their amazing cooperation with this project!

**GIVING TREE**



Gifts this year benefit families from St. Peter's Church and School, and Salvation Army programs, Angel Tree (prison families) and Project Bethlehem organized through Catholic Charities and St. Vincent de Paul.

Our Parish's support and generosity has continued to bless many needy individuals and families with Christmas joy. Please remember to fasten ornament tags securely to your gift and return to the church **NO LATER THAN THIS WEEKEND AT THE 11:30 MASS** as gifts will be distributed shortly thereafter. Thank you for the care, kindness and blessings you give to families this Christmas!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**



The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast in the church basement after all Masses today (Sunday).

Enjoy a great meal and fellowship with friends and family!

**RCIA**

Our RCIA class will be at the Pancake Breakfast in the church basement after 9:30 Mass today. Come by our table and say hello to our catechumens, candidates, and sponsors.

**RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: JANUARY 12, 2018**



**10:00 am—11:00 am & 2:00 pm—4:00 pm**

(Every 2nd Friday of the month) in the Franciscan Activity Center parking lot

**BLUE BARRELS: January 13-14**

**A Wish for the New Year:** The New Year is often a time of reflection, re-examining, setting goals, & looking ahead. It is the perfect time to reflect on your marriage relationship as well. If one of your goals is to deepen your love & enhance your marriage, a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend may be just what you're looking for. Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are for married couples with good, great, and even so-so marriages who want to enrich their marriages, & are designed to expand & deepen the joys of married life. Weekends are a time to concentrate exclusively on one another, giving you the opportunity to enhance your communication, develop a deeper appreciation of each other & strengthen your bond. The next weekend being offered within the Diocese is scheduled for January 12-14, 2018 in Perrysburg OH. For more information or to register for an upcoming weekend, please contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at 419.538.7210 or bcschroeder@bright.net.

**Senior Citizen Luncheon at St. Mary's School**, Ashland Road on Tues. Dec. 19 at 12:15pm. Cost is \$3, pepperoni pizza, salad, carrots, mixed fruit & beverage. Reservations required please call 419.589.2114.

**March for Life** bus trip January 2018 is being hosted by Immaculate Conception Parish, Port Clinton. The theme for the march is "Love Saves Lives". Come join us to show the world how much we love babies, moms, and families! Please contact Judy Geiger at jgeiger747@gmail.com or Carol Fox at gcfox@cros.net for more information.

**The Culture Project** is returning to the Diocese of Toledo! Five missionaries from the Culture Project will be staying in the Diocese of Toledo October 2017, through May 2018 and are available to give presentations on human dignity and living the virtue of chastity. They are available to speak with your high school, junior high school, youth group, or homeschooling group. To learn more, email Peter Range at prange@toledodiocese.org. Join the movement and let's help restore a culture of life! The Culture Project is an initiative of young people set out to restore culture through the experience of virtue. They proclaim the dignity of the human person and the richness of living sexual integrity, inviting our culture to become fully alive. You can learn more about and schedule the Culture Project at [www.restoreculture.com](http://www.restoreculture.com).

**Seeking Volunteers for Our HOPE Food Pantry in Mansfield**, Volunteers will be assisting guest check in, stock shelves, sort donations, and various other tasks. We are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30—3:30 pm. Please contact Byron Wynn, Volunteer Coordinator 419.214.4950 or email him at bwynn@toledodiocese.org.

**Office Volunteers needed in Mansfield & Norwalk**, Catholic Charities is seeking office volunteers to join our teams in Mansfield and Norwalk. We need individuals to answer phones, file, and support Catholic Charities mission to help people of all faiths by providing assistance, information and referrals, and demonstrating God's love. Contact Byron Wynn, Catholic Charities Volunteer Coordinator: 419.214.4950 or bwynn@toledodiocese.org.



## NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;  
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

**Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54;  
1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feeling which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness. ~ by Bud Ozar

*This week's cover art::*



# 776400      **1200** bulletins  
please

St. Peter Church

104 W First Street

Mansfield, OH 44902-2199

419-524-2572

Attn: Joyce/Renee/Claudia