

“And the
Word
became flesh and
dwelt
among us.”

- John 1:14

CHRISTMAS 2024



MARY, QUEEN OF ANGELS FAMILY OF PARISHES

ST. MARY OF THE WOODS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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*Following in the footsteps of Our Lady, we will welcome and adore the abiding presence
of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and bring Him with joy to those we encounter.*

MASS INTENTIONS/LITURGIES

DECEMBER 21-29, 2024

Saturday, December 21 | 4:00 p.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Mary, Queen of Angels Parishioners

6:00 p.m. Mass (SMOW)

Willie & Nancy Dearwester by Jeff & Donna True

Sunday, December 22 | 8:00 a.m. Mass (SMOW)

Bob Meier by The Meier and Watercutter Families

10:00 a.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Rosemary Sullivan by Lorraine & John Tucci

Tuesday, December 24 | CHRISTMAS EVE Masses

4:00 p.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Mary, Queen of Angels Parish Staff by Anonymous

6:00 p.m. Mass (SMOW)

Mel & Kate Warnecke by The Warnecke Family

10:00 p.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Mary, Queen of Angels Parish Priests by Anonymous

Wednesday, December 25 | CHRISTMAS DAY Mass

9:00 a.m. (SMOW)

Mary, Queen of Angels Parishioners

Thursday, December 26 | 6:15 p.m. Mass (SMOW)

6:45 p.m. Adoration/Confession

CANCELLED

Friday, December 27 | 8:00 a.m. Mass (SMOW)

8:45 a.m. Confession

CANCELLED

Saturday, December 28 | 3:00 p.m. Confession (ST. PAT)

4:00 p.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Romaine & Roman Lokai by Ann & Shane Lokai Owens

6:00 p.m. Mass (SMOW)

John Keating by Karen BURGEL

Sunday, December 29 | 8:00 a.m. Mass (SMOW)

Betty & Gene Schmerge by The Schmerge Family

10:00 a.m. Mass (ST. PAT)

Mary, Queen of Angels Parishioners

YOUR TITHE TO GOD

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 14/15	ST. MARY	ST. PATRICK
MASS COUNT:	276	415
SUNDAY COLLECTION:	\$ 2,678.50	\$ 4,144.00
ONLINE COLLECTION:	\$ 1,345.00	\$ 561.38
OTHER COLLECTIONS:		
BUILDING IMPROVEMENT:	\$ 530.00	\$ 835.00
ADVENT:		\$ 896.00
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:		\$ 225.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:	\$ 200.00	\$ 235.00
RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT:	\$ 1,250.00	
CHRISTMAS:	\$ 2,000.00	
OTHER:	\$ 350.00	\$ 190.00
TOTAL TITHING:	\$ 8,353.50	\$ 7,086.38

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 28, 2024-JANUARY 1, 2025

ST. MARY OF THE WOODS

6:00 P.M. SATURDAY

SERVERS: Eli Baughman, Corbin Wilson,
Ash Wilson

READER: David Goff

USHERS: Volunteers

CANTORS: Deb Ulrey, Kathy Robinson

SACRISTAN: Donna Hesser

8:00 A.M. SUNDAY

SERVERS: Ezra Winner, Micah Winner,
Jase Thompson

READER: Jan Knight

EEM: Kevin Knight

USHERS: Alan Winner, Shawn Bihn, Ed Fisher,
Jeff Codora

CANTOR: Mary Kuba, Donna True, Rebecca Bihn

SACRISTAN: Renee Winner

7:00 P.M. - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

SERVERS: Orville Winner, Isaac Dillon,
Henry Dillon, Josiah Dillon

READER: Nancy Nolan

EEM: Jim Thiel

USHERS: Alan Winner, Dave Shoffner,
Fred Wheeler, Mike Reichert

CANTOR: The Winners

SACRISTAN: Lee McCarty

ST. PATRICK

4:00 P.M. SATURDAY

SERVERS: Matthew Dearwester,
Naomi Dearwester,
Olivia Dearwester, Mason Marcinko

READERS: Wendy Miller, Cathy Dinovo

EEM: Mike Dinovo

10:00 A.M. SUNDAY

SERVERS: Sennett Stolly, Sloan Stolly,
Spencer Stolly, Patrick Stolly

READERS: Bob Rhoades, Mindy Bailey

EEM: Catherine Oder

9:00 A.M. - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

SERVERS: Mason Marcinko,
Matthew Dearwester,
Naomi Dearwester, Olivia

READERS: Theresa Dunn, Brant Dunn

EEM: Sharon Hess



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

OF DECEMBER 22, 2024

- Sunday:** Micah 5:1-4a
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:38
Luke 1:39-45
- Monday:** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24
Psalms 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14
Luke 1:57-66
- Tuesday:** Second Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalms 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29
Luke 1:67-79
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18
- Thursday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Psalms 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17
Psalms 118:26a, 27a
Matthew 10:17-22
- Friday:** First John 1:1-4
Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
John 20:1a and 2-8
- Saturday:** First John 1:5-2:2
Psalms 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8
Matthew 2:13-18
- Sunday:** First Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
Psalms 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
First John 3:1-2, 21-24
Colossians 3:15a, 16a
Luke 2:41-52

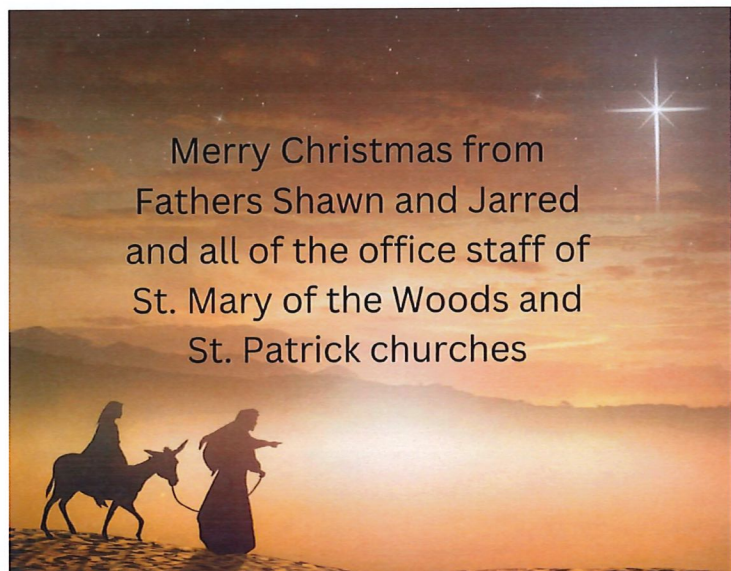


If you wish to receive a Statement of Parish Contributions for the year 2024 for tax filing purposes, please complete the form below and place it in the offertory basket.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Registered at SMOW or St. Patrick (circle one)



MASS INTENTIONS:

Currently, St. Patrick Church is accepting Mass Intentions for **August-December, 2025**. Please fill out this form and bring it to the Church Office or drop it into the offertory basket. There is a \$5.00 stipend for each Mass requested. Each family is allowed 12 requests per calendar year. Only three requests may be submitted at one time. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!**

Intention: _____

Offered by: _____

Date requested: _____

Mass time requested: _____

of Masses you are paying for: _____

Every attempt will be made to schedule the date and Mass time requested; however, funerals and prior requests may prevent this.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Currently, St. Mary of the Woods Church is accepting Mass Intentions for **July-November, 2025**. Please fill out this form and bring it to the Church Office or drop it into the offertory basket. There is a \$5.00 stipend for each Mass requested. Each family is allowed 12 requests per calendar year. Only three requests may be submitted at one time. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!**

Intention: _____

Offered by: _____

Date requested: _____

Mass time requested: _____

of Masses you are paying for: _____

Every attempt will be made to schedule the date and Mass time requested; however, funerals and prior requests may prevent this.

He Has chosen Us

His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure. Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

Based on Ephesians 1:3-14 (NIV)



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 E N D R A E Q M R D T U L F A
 D G U A R A N T E E R T C Y O
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PRAISE	FAMILY	TRUST	SPIRITUAL	GUARANTEE
PURCHASED	PROMISED	CHOSE	INHERITANCE	KINDNESS
BELONG	ADOPT	FREEDOM	WISDOM	HEAVENLY

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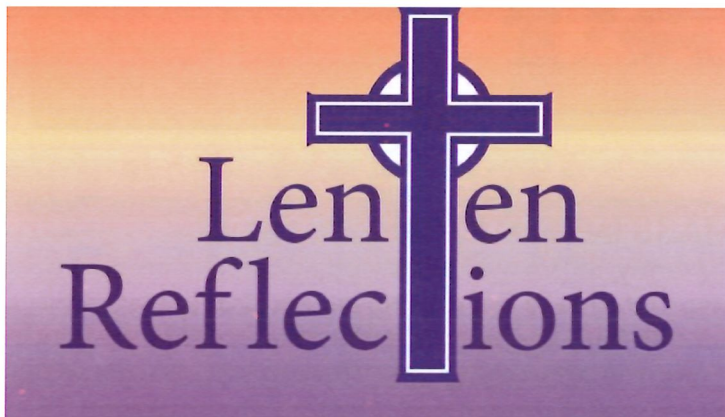


UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/24 St. Patrick Adoration from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- 12/24 Parish Offices close at noon
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Masses:
 - 4:00 pm St. Pat
 - 6:00 pm SMOW
 - 10:00 pm St. Pat (Choir begins @ 9:30 pm)
- 12/25 Christmas Day Mass:
 - 9:00 am SMOW
- 12/25 Parish Offices closed
- 12/31 Solemnity of Mary Vigil:
 - 7:00 pm SMOW
- 12/31 Parish Offices close at noon
- 01/01 Solemnity of Mary Mass
 - 9:00 am St. Pat
- 01/01 Parish Offices closed



"Our Father, who art in heaven,
 how did You know
 my name?"



The 2025 Women's Lenten Day of Reflection, sponsored by St. Mary Ladies' Sodality is scheduled for Saturday March 22, held at St. Mary Church, Urbana in St. Joseph Hall (the church basement). We are fortunate that Mary Garrison has agreed to be featured presenter. The program will include song, prayer, presentation composed of a combination of related scripture quotes, writings, personal experiences and small group discussion. The program will begin at 9:00 a.m. followed by a light lunch with time for fellowship. More details to come.

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Whether you recently moved here or are just visiting, we are happy to have you here with us. If you would like to join one of our parishes, please contact the Parish Office for a registration form.

St. Mary of the Woods
 464 Madison Avenue
 Russells Point, OH 43348
 937-843-3127
 saintmaryofthewoods.com

St. Patrick Church
 320 East Patterson Avenue
 Bellefontaine, OH 43311
 937-592-1656
 queenofangelsfamily.com



JANUARY 1 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD - THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. ~ Luke 1:31-33

Reflection: Only a mother could begin to understand the great mystery and beauty of motherhood. But only one mother could begin to understand the unfathomable beauty of being the mother of the Son of God. After the birth of Jesus, the shepherds came to adore her Child and recounted how a multitude of heavenly hosts appeared to them, revealing that Mary's Child was the Messiah. As Mary heard those words, she pondered them, reflected upon them, and kept them in her heart. This was but the first time we are told of Mary's pondering heart after the birth

of her Son, but we can be certain that she pondered Him over and over, entering ever more deeply into the mystery of her motherhood of the Son of God.

As the Mother of God, Mary's prayerful pondering was beyond our comprehension. The bond she shared with her divine Son far surpassed a mere human bond. Jesus was not only her Son, He was also her Savior. Therefore, she adored Him as a mother loves her child, but also as a servant worships her God. The relationship between this unique mother and Son is infinitely awe-inspiring.

Our Blessed Mother is given the unique title of "Mother of God" first and foremost to express our faith in the divinity of Jesus. Jesus was both human and divine, but in Him these two natures were perfectly united. Therefore, one cannot say that Mary was only the mother of the humanity of Jesus, she was the mother of the Person. And that one Person was, at the same time, God and man.

Recall that once Jesus began His public ministry and was teaching, there was a woman in the crowd who cried out, "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed." Jesus corrected her by saying, "Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it" (Luke 11:27). At first read, one could conclude that Jesus was downplaying the role of His own mother, but He was actually doing the opposite. Jesus was actually highlighting the most unifying aspect of His relationship with His mother. Mary was not His mother only in a biological sense. She wasn't blessed only because she bore Him in her womb. Rather, her deepest union with her divine Son came from her spiritual union with His will and that of the Father in Heaven. She said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). She heard the word of God and observed it perfectly. She did that at the Annunciation, she continued to do so as she raised her Child, and she did it most perfectly as she stood before the Cross, offering her dying Son to the Father for the salvation of the world. Mary's motherhood was one that encompassed her whole being. It was one that united her to her Son in ways we will never fully comprehend.

Mary is the Mother of God and, therefore, is the mother of all of God's children, including you. Honor and love your heavenly mother today and rejoice as you reflect upon this glorious queen and holy mother. As we celebrate this greatest saint in the history of the world, ponder the ponderer. Ponder her love for her Son. Ponder her obedience to His divine will. Ponder Him as her Savior. Ponder every human and divine aspect of their loving relationship.

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