



# ST. LOUIS CHURCH

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### December 20, 2009



#### Daily Mass Readings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Next Sunday
Micah 5:1-4	Song of Songs 2:8-14	1 Samuel 1:24-28	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16	Isaiah 9:1-6	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59	1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
Psalms 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19	Psalms 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21	1 Samuel 2:1, 4-8	Psalms 25:4-5, 8-10, 14	Psalms 89:2-5, 27, 29	Psalms 96:1-3, 11-13	Psalms 31:3-4, 6, 8, 16-17	Psalms 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10
Hebrews 10:5-10					Timothy 2: 11-14		1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
Luke 1:39-45	Luke 1:39-45	Luke 1:46-56	Luke 1:57-66	Luke 1:67-79	Luke 2:1-14	Matthew 10:17-22	Luke 2:41-52

#### What is Lectio Divina?

While reading sacred scripture, read the words with a love and sense of discovery until something seems to strike home. Sit with the passage as one would with a good friend- not just thinking or analyzing, but instead remaining in a quiet, listening spirit, so the word can nurture and challenge you.

#### Call to Prayer

"Let us take a moment in the midst of all our activity to prepare ourselves for prayer."

Excerpts from SNOW FALLING ON SNOW  
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#### The Word of God

Choose one of next Sunday's readings. One person reads the scripture aloud as others are attentive to a word, phrase, or theme that is meaningful to them. Allow for a minute of silent reflection. Have another person read the same scripture a second time.

#### Faith Sharing

Begin with an open ended question such as "What strikes you from this reading?" and/or you can use the "Reflection Question" found on our website or bulletin. Allow time for reflection & sharing.

#### Closing Prayer

At the end of the faith sharing, invite participants to pray aloud for any particular petitions or praises they may have. Feel free to close with: The Lord's Prayer or Spontaneous prayers or a faith-based song.

#### Reflection Question for Next Sunday, December 27, 2009

Have you ever worried about your child? Your parents? Your spouse? Imagine 'misplacing' your son or daughter for 3 days! Being full of grace did not make Mary and Joseph immune to the anxieties of life. Even when they found the pre-teen Jesus in the Temple, they did not understand him. Talk with them when life in your own holy family seems too chaotic to bear. They know what it's like.

#### MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Men's ACTS Monday Small Group	Monday, December 21, 2009	Room 303	7:00 PM
Novena	Monday, December 21, 2009	Chapel	7:30 PM
Women's ACTS retreat team	Tuesday, December 22, 2009	Room 301/302	7:00 PM
Playgroup	Wednesday, December 23, 2009	Room 301/302	9:30 AM
Young Adult Bible Study	Wednesday, December 23, 2009	Room 303	7:30 PM
Charismatic Prayer Group	Wednesday, December 23, 2009	Room 306	8:00 PM



Dear Parishioners:

*Some last minute Christmas gift suggestions:*

For your enemies – forgiveness

For a friend – your heart

For family – your love and caring

For all – charity

For yourself – respect

*Merry Christmas to you all...*

Msgr. Luca

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*How many observe Christ's birthday—how few his precepts! O! 'tis easier to keep holidays than commandments.  
--Benjamin Franklin—Poor Richard's Almanack*

**GOOD DEEDS OF THE CHILDREN:** Matthew played with Abuela; Tori took down the dirty clothes and hangers; Vito helped his dad in the yard; Sheila helped her brother on the computer; Zachariah cleaned the bathroom; Anja cleaned the bathroom; Sarah helped with chores around the house and made her bed; Campbell picked up litter around the neighborhood; Andrea shoveled the driveway at her house and for her neighbors; Grant cleaned the picnic table; Garrett helped with the laundry; and Samantha helped her sister.

**HOWARD COUNTY HOSPITAL CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN**

In order to better serve Catholic patients at Howard County General Hospital, the Catholic parishes in Howard County are sponsoring a priest to offer pastoral care to patients at the hospital—especially in times of emergency. **Father Edward Szymanski** will be the first priest called in cases of emergency. In a day of more Catholics and fewer priests, Saint Louis is happy to sponsor this effort to provide priestly care for Catholic patients.

**CHURCH LINENS:** Altar linens are to be picked up this week by Ms. Justice and next week by Ms. Tranchitella.

# WORSHIP

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Next Saturday, December 26th by Monsignor Luca and Father Peridans.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel is canceled on December 27 & 28 and January 3 & 4. Adoration will resume on January 10 & 11.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES:**  
Please continue to remember the following service members in your prayers: Cpl. Dan Haack, Cpt. Joseph McDonald, Cpt. Brendan Gallagher, PFC Joseph Henry, Lt. John Ryan, Lt. Denise Recardi, USNR, Major Chaplain Father Tyson Wood, Cpt. Brian Green, PFC Patrick Bacon, LCP Daniel Smith, LCP Larry Draughn, Ensign Kelly McLin, CH (Captain) Arek Ochalek, CPL James Parquette, Cpt. Steven Cooper, LCpl Dane Joyce, LC Christopher Holly, Major Will Fenwick; Cmdr. J. Patrick Madden, PFC Patrick Steckman, 1st LT Vincent Paul Rubbo, SR Mark Mangus, Jr.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE

Jeffrey Farris and Kelly Sulkowski, December 12, 2009

**PLANNING YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM?** The next Baptism Preparation Session will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 in Room 301 of the Pastoral Center from 7:15 PM to 9:00 PM. Please call the Parish Office at 410-531-6040 to register.

## PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Aubrey O'Brien, father of Jean Medlar.

**SICK LIST:** If you would like to have a name put on our Sick List, please call the parish office at 410-531-6040. Names on the Sick List will be included for three months. If you would like your name to be listed after the three month period, please call the Parish Office at that time. Thank you.

## PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, ESPECIALLY:

Josephine Adamsky	Leo Mortimer	Teagan Price
Joan Brannan	Nancy Mortimer	Nick Riccio
Drena Cunningham	Peggie Murray	Nelson Rinehart
Mitchell Cupps	Matthew Norwic	Kathryn Rosewag
Mary Dauer	Stephanie Norwic	Lori Ryan
James Edmonston	Isabella O'Rourke	Martine Mary Schwarts
Jim Haig	Lori Olivi	Steve Scott
Sue Hall	Brendan Pegg	JoAnne Simmons
Karen Hutson-Botler	Leah Pegg	Doris Slack
Shirley Ingraham	Kelli Penn	Claudia Smallwood
Shannan Machado	Emanuel Picek	Richard Tobin
S.A. McClain		

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2009

Sunday	6:45am	Joseph Piehuta and Carol Ludwig, SI
	8:00am	Jane Gossage and Michelle Rice
	9:30am	John Evans and Diana Carr
	11:15am	Donald V. Friert, Sr. and John Evans
	12:45pm	Mara Bochniewicz and John Evans
Monday	7:00am	John Evans and Mary Kay Martin
Tuesday	7:00am	Michael J. Hudgins and Buzz Wiedel
	9:30am	Paul Kelley and John Evans
Wednesday	7:00am	Ed & Barbara Briskie and Buzz Wiedel
Thursday	7:00am	Jamie H. Loiacono and Tran Van Phuong
	Church 4:00pm	Ascension Jacques and John Evans
	Gym 4:00pm	Parishioners
Ten Oaks	4:00pm	Bill Glover, Jr. and Bill Glover, Sr.
	Church 6:00pm	John Albanese and Joseph Licata
	Gym 6:00pm	Parishioners
Ten Oaks	6:00pm	Evelyn and Mel Ford
	Church 8:00pm	Robert Reed and Lucy Mattiucci
	Church 12:00am	Nicholas Baker and Steven Dankos
Friday	8:00am	Doff Fleshman and Buzz Wiedel
	9:30am	Victoria Rhoades DuBois and John Evans
	11:15am	Michael and Marie Albanese
	12:45pm	Maria Bochniewicz and Tran Van Phuong
Saturday	8:00am	Buzz Wiedel and George Steinman
	4:00pm	Kevin Lynch and Tran Van Phuong
	5:30pm	Bill Line (SI) and Eleanor Crane

## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve Masses

Thursday, December 24, 2009

4:00 p.m. Mass – Church (Folk Group); Children's Mass - Auditorium; and Ten Oaks Ballroom

6:00 p.m. Mass – Church; Children's Mass – Auditorium; and Ten Oaks Ballroom

8:00 p.m. Mass - Church

11:30 p.m. Carol Service - Church

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass - Church (St. Louis Choir)

### Christmas Day Masses

Friday, December 25, 2009

8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; 11:15 a.m.; 12:45 p.m.  
All Masses in the Church

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses

Thursday, December 31, 2009

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass—Church  
10:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. Midnight Exposition  
Of the Blessed Sacrament— Chapel  
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass following Exposition  
In the Chapel

Friday, January 1, 2010

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and Noon  
All Masses in the Church

## FELLOWSHIP

**UPCOMING WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT:** Ladies, do you find church boring? Do you feel somewhat disconnected? Are you looking to energize your spiritual life? Do you want a more personal encounter with Jesus? Join us for a *dynamic* women's retreat! It is led by a team of fellow parishioners, along with Fr. Dominique. Do not miss this opportunity: **Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> (5pm)—Sunday, January 31st (11am)**. For more information, contact: Patricia Dutko at 410-507-9873 or [actspd@gmail.com](mailto:actspd@gmail.com); Stephanie Nucci at 443-794-8502 or [smnucci@comcast.net](mailto:smnucci@comcast.net); or Fr. Dominique at [dperidans@stlouisparish.org](mailto:dperidans@stlouisparish.org) or 410-531-6040.

**PLEASE COME HOME! AN INVITATION . . .** Ever wonder why church is so full at Christmas? Besides visiting family and children home from college, we are blessed each year with folks wanting to reconnect, if only for a little while. People yearning for a relationship with the Church that somehow has gotten broken over the years. But the longing is there: they find their way home at Christmas. If this sounds like someone you know, please tell them we love them, we miss them, we want to welcome them home. Please join us on Monday night, January 4 beginning at 7:00pm for an informal, low-key get-together with the priests and other members of the Pastoral Staff and Council. We would love an opportunity to mend what's been keeping them away. Questions? Contact Marianne Faulstich, Pastoral Associate, in the parish office at 410-531-6040 or [mfaulstich@stlouisparish.org](mailto:mfaulstich@stlouisparish.org).

**SAVE THE DATE:** The 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clarksville Picnic will be Saturday, June 26. That's a mere six months from now! So, if you are already planning your vacations for next year, please keep our Picnic Day in mind.

## EDUCATION



Ho-Ho-Ho! Is everyone ready for the holiday? This week we celebrated with our annual Christmas Program and were entertained by our Kindergarten Angels, our primary and middle-school choruses, and our 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. It was a fantastic show topped off by the performance of the Nativity by our 8<sup>th</sup> graders -- reminding us all of the true and blessed meaning of Christmas. Congratulations to all of our "performers", to our Music teacher **Ms. Kate Douglas**, and our 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, **Mrs. Eileen Markert** and **Mrs. Maribeth Riser** who worked so hard to make this program truly special. A special thank-you to our Art teacher, **Mrs. Michele Ruppert**, who, along with our talented Art Club students, "deck the halls" from top to bottom for all of our special events.

Our week was full of rehearsals, Christmas celebrations, Buddy Bingo and finalizing our collection of books for Sarah's House, a supportive housing program for homeless families sponsored by Catholic Charities. Our teachers and staff celebrated the break for the holidays with a lovely luncheon hosted by Monsignor Luca on Friday afternoon and we are thankful to have this time off to prepare for the holiday and celebrate with family and friends.

Please accept our wishes for a wonderful Christmas holiday -- Merry Christmas!

# STEWARDSHIP

December 13, 2009

632 Envelopes: \$23,780.00

Loose: 4,845.00

Total Collection: \$28,625.00

Electronic Funds Transfer Recap for December 2009

307 gifts totaling \$ 27,693.00

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 26/27 Building Fund

## STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love to others as well.

## PLANNED GIVING

As parishioners of Saint Louis Church, old or new, we are all beneficiaries of more than 150 years of service and parishioner generosity. A planned gift to Saint Louis Church, will sustain this good work for generations to come. For more information on making a planned gift to Saint Louis Church, contact Mary Helfrich, Parish Development Director at 410-531-6040 or [MHelfrich@stlouisparish.org](mailto:MHelfrich@stlouisparish.org).

## Preserving our Treasured Legacy Campaign:

### Parish Mortgage:

As of April 1, 2007.....\$ 3 million  
As of April 1, 2008.....\$ 1,478,322  
As of October 1, 2009.....\$ 791,735  
Balance of Ten Oaks Property....\$ 452,708  
New mortgage..... \$ 1,244,443

As of December 1, 2009..... \$ 1,197,021  
(Beginning on November 1<sup>st</sup> our monthly mortgage payment will be \$27,342 for 48 months)

Please consider making a sacrificial pledge to this campaign that will enable us to bring down the mortgage of our new Church and Pastoral Center.

1. If you gave to the Heritage of Hope Campaign, which ended in 2001, consider making a pledge to the Legacy Campaign. Or...
2. If you are nearing the end of your payment to the Legacy Campaign, consider extended your pledge for another year or two. Or...
3. If you are new to the parish or were unable to make a pledge in the past, consider doing your part now by making a pledge now.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to support and participate in this important time in the life of our parish. For additional information contact the parish office at 410-531-6040.

Thanks sincerely to all who have been supportive.

**LOOKING AHEAD – OPEN HOUSE** Have you ever visited the school “across the parking lot”? If not, please mark your calendars for **Sunday, January 31st, from 10:30 – 2 p.m.**, and plan on attending our **Open House** for Prospective Students and their families. Visit our website at [www.stlouisparish.org/school](http://www.stlouisparish.org/school), or pick up a brochure in the tower in the Narthex to learn more about your parish school and what we have to offer your family for an excellent academic education in the Catholic tradition. Don't forget we also have a fantastic **Preschool program** for the littlest angels in our parish!!

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### SATURDAY MORNING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

are off to a great start. Please mark your calendars with the following important dates: (For more info on any event, please call 410-531-6688)

December 26: No Class/Christmas break

January 2: No Class/Christmas break

January 9 Religion classes 9:00am

## YOUTH MINISTRY

*The Advent journey is an invitation to climb the mountain of the Lord. The journey consists of a slow, gradual ascending up the mountain path. As with all uphill climbing, there are certain dangers along the way, but also the joyful expectation of one day reaching the mountaintop that is the house of the Lord.*

- Brother Victor Antoine D'Avila-Latourrette

Oh, I have climbed some mountain trails in my day! The ones that I (and my legs and lungs) remember the most are any part of the Appalachian Trail in Maryland or Pennsylvania or Sugarloaf Mountain! I love the scene that awaits when I get to the top, but the going there is pretty cool too! AS WE QUICKLY APPROACH THE SUMMIT OF THIS MOUNTAIN CALLED ADVENT AND MARVEL AT THE SCENIC OVERLOOK OF CHRISTMAS, I'LL BE PRAYING FOR YOU.

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY:

Dec. 20: College Ministry Retreat Day

Dec. 28: MS & HS CYM Snow tubing Trip

Jan. 8: MS CYM Dance 7-10pm TICKET SALES BEGIN 1/4

# OUTREACH

The Howard County Pregnancy Center would like to thank everyone who supported our **Baby Bottle Fundraiser**. Thanks to your generosity we raised \$9,361. We are most grateful for your continued support which makes it possible for us to assist women in a crisis pregnancy and protect those most vulnerable.

**WHAT WILL I EXPERIENCE PRAYING AT HILLCREST ABORTION CLINIC IN CATONSVILLE?** We do not speak to anyone entering the building. Sidewalk counseling is done at the entrance to the clinic by trained people. Our ministry is a ministry of prayer; we do not pray at the entrance – we pray on the opposite side of the building on Rt. 40; from the Rt. 40 side so you won't encounter women going into the clinic; the clinic is located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of a 7 story office building 30 ft from the sidewalk; prayer is usually private and silent...you may choose to hold a sign, walk along the sidewalk or kneel while praying; you won't be harassed...this is safe, non-confrontational, peaceful prayer; you won't see graphic photos...people and families of all ages are welcome; we pray the first Saturday of each month between 9-11am. Join us for ten, twenty or thirty minutes of prayer! For more info call Grace Kissane at 410-730-0201.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP SEW BAPTISMAL BIBS?

St. Louis has a team of wonderful volunteers who share their time and talent sewing Baptismal Bibs for the babies and children who are baptized. The bibs represent the white garment put on when they become a new creation in Christ. It is an outward sign of our Christian dignity. If you would like to help sew bibs call Julie Farmer at 301-854-1223 or email farmertake-sawife@aol.com. Directions and materials are provided.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:** If you have a clothing donation, you may drop your items into the blue St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Bin located in the rear of the parking lot by the Maintenance Barn. If you need to obtain a receipt for your clothing donations, you need to call St. Vincent de Paul directly at 410-276-7600. **Clothing items should be placed in sturdy plastic bags and tied securely and then placed in the bin, making sure that the bags are pushed up and over the inside ledge.** 15 gallon trash bags fit well in the clothing bin drop slot. This is a wonderful opportunity for used clothing in good condition to be distributed to the poor. It would be regrettable should there be the need to remove the bin from the St. Louis Campus. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

# COMMUNITY

## SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY

### RECURRING EVENTS:

- Daily Mass, Monday thru Friday, 12 noon (Tuesday Mass includes the Novena to St. Anthony)
- First Friday Healing Mass, 7:30 PM
- Third Sunday & Last Sunday Healing Mass, 3 PM
- Confession, Wednesday, 4 PM-5 PM

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**December 24th:** 9:30 pm, Christmas Eve Mass & Caroling. Reception to follow in the Papal Dining Room.

**December 31st 9pm.-1:30am.** New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil: We invite you to join us for a New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil as we reflect on the past year, seek reconciliation, and offer thanksgiving. Fr. Bart Karwacki, OFM Conv. will present "Grieving the Past and Embracing the Future with Hope." Following the presentation, there will be Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Mass at Midnight, and then breakfast in the Papal Dining Room. There is no charge for this event.

**January 13th:** 12 Noon - 3:00 pm: Christmas Open House for Seniors: Join us for noon Mass followed by Christmas caroling, and a complimentary lunch in the Papal Dining Room. See the Christmas creches and decorations and receive a guided tour through the Shrine. All are welcome.

**CHRISTMAS VILLAGE TRAIN GARDEN:** In the Manor House, weekends from 2-5pm. (Dec. 12 & 13, Dec. 19 & 20, Dec. 26 & 27, and Jan. 2 & 3.) Br. Gerry Seipp, OFM Conv., one of the Franciscan Friars at the Shrine of St. Anthony, has been collecting trains and train accessories since he was a child growing up in East Baltimore. Bring your family and friends to the Manor House and enjoy an old-fashioned train garden and the chance to talk trains with Br. Gerry. There is no charge for this event.



### TRAVELERS LOOKING FOR MASS TIMES:

To find church locations and Mass schedules nationwide, call 1-410-676-6000 or go to [www.MassTimes.org](http://www.MassTimes.org).