

ST. MARY CHURCH

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Franklin, Ohio 45005
937-746-5404

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D.R.E.: Tom Cox
937-746-1404
tomcox@stmaryfranklin.org
Youth Minister:
937-746-8709
Music Minister: Vicky Brooker
937-748-0947

Council President: Mary Steed
937-746-6571
Stephen Ministry: Barbara Abney
937-748-9479
St. Vincent de Paul Helpline
937-746-1355
Prayer Chain Ministry: Louise Kohl
937-746-4050
Office is open 8:30-4:30, Mon.-Fri.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2006

DAILY LITURGIES AND INTENTIONS:

Monday	December 25	The Nativity of the Lord Connie Burns
Tuesday	December 26	Stephen, first martyr Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wednesday	December 27	John, apostle, evangelist Charles F. Mentrup
Thursday	December 28	Holy Innocents, martyrs Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Friday	December 29	Fifth Day in Octave of Christmas Mary and Joe Whitacre
Saturday	December 30	Sixth Day in Octave of Christmas Jim Ryan
Sunday	December 31	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Deceased of the Foley Family Paul Deger Bea Skinner St. Mary Community



"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb."

Luke 1:39-45



Next weekend's Mass schedule will also vary from the usual. There will be no 6:30 p.m. Mass. We will have a noon Mass on December 31. We will cancel the noon Mass with the beginning of the new year. It was an experiment and a was well received by over 100 people but the total weekend attendance is down about 200 from October. Since we are getting outside help with our Masses one fewer Mass means one fewer priest to find. Thank you for bearing with us during this time of mourning and transition.

OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GENEROSITY: The collection last weekend was \$9,138.50 (257 envelopes); children's offering \$1.00 (1 envelope); and the Retirement Fund for Religious received \$55 (5 envelopes). **Thank you for your generosity** and continued support. Thank you for using your offering envelopes. Your dedication to the continued fiscal health of the parish is very appreciated. Those who have used their contribution envelopes may request a statement of 2006 contributions in January by calling the parish office at 937-746-5404.



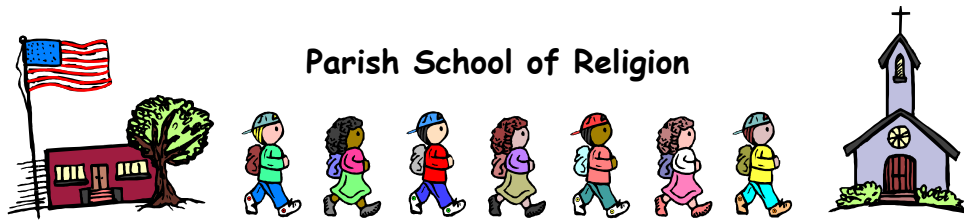
IN OUR PARISH

WELCOME INTO THE CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY: Mallory Anne Wuellner daughter of Michael and Bethany Wuellner joined the Catholic Christian Community through baptism on December 17, 2006.

MAY GOD BLESS Scott Adkins and Lauren Wilburn, as they exchange their solemn marriage vows on December 16, 2006.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Weekend	No PSR
Tuesday	Round Dancing at 7 p.m.
Wednesday	No RCIA
Thursday	Square Dancing at 7:30 p.m.
Weekend	No PSR



Parish School of Religion

PSR CHRISTMAS BREAK NO CLASSES CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24 OR NEW YEAR'S EVE, DECEMBER 31, 2006. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

EPIPHANY PARTY! COME CELEBRATE THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS DURING THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS. On Sunday afternoon, January 7, 2007 at 4:00 p.m., we will have our traditional Christmas Season potluck, Christmas carol songfest, and performance of the Christmas Pageant by our young PSR students. Think about that special dish you want to share with us; the parish will supply the main course and drinks.

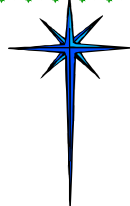
FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION! Springtime, Easter; seems funny to be thinking of these at this time of the year but if we want our second grade students to receive their First Eucharist then we need to begin to prepare now. **Parents, we will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 14, 2007 in the Parish Hall.** We will introduce you to the preparation program, to our process of First Communion at St. Mary, and try to answer any questions you may have.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION, THE FINAL SACRAMENT OF INITIATION. Junior high and a few high school students, it is time to begin your immediate preparation for Confirmation, where you receive the gifts of the Spirit enabling you to assume responsibility for the mission of the Church. Bring your parents and your sponsor to an important meeting at **7:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 14, 2007 in the Parish Center.** We will talk about the meaning of Confirmation and its implications for you and begin the preparation.

RITE OF ENROLLMENT AND BREAKFAST FOR CONFIRMANDI, THOSE ABOUT TO BE CONFIRMED takes place at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 14, 2006 following the Mass breakfast will be served in the parish Center. We pray for you and celebrate with you.

Come Celebrate with us Come Celebrate with us

Christmas Eve Masses
Sunday, December 24
3:30 p.m. at Franklin High School
10:00 p.m. at the church



Christmas Day Mass
Monday, December 25, 9:00 a.m.

FINDING THE WAY TO FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL:

From the east (Interstate 75) on St. Rte. 73 turn left on Conover Drive (first traffic light past I-75). Take Conover to the end at Fourth Street, turn right. The high school is on the left.

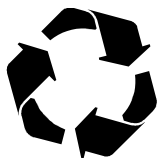
From the west (downtown Franklin) Take Fourth Street to the high school on the right.



RCIA

DISMISSAL OF THE CATECHUMEN AND CANDIDATES AFTER THE LITURGY OF THE WORD. You may have noticed that a few people are dismissed from Mass on Sunday after the Liturgy of the Word. These are those who are preparing to enter the Church. They are not yet full members and, therefore, are not yet permitted to partake of the Eucharist. Please, welcome them and pray for them as they make their way to full membership in the Church on Holy Saturday night.

YOUR TRASH IS WORTH MONEY! Recycling your trash can help the environment while helping our youth.



We have several ways for you to recycle things you might just be throwing away.

Empty inkjet cartridges: There is collection box in the Parish Hall for recyclable inkjet cartridges. (no Epson, laser or already recycled cartridges)

Newspapers and Aluminum cans: There are two recycling dumpsters in the parking lot.

Campbell's Labels for Education: There is a giant soup can waiting the Campbell's UPCs in the Parish Center. **Remember the rules have changed:** the front panel is no longer accepted; clip the UPC with Label for Education logo. Proceeds from these go to the PSR.

YOUTH UPDATE

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR. May this Christmas break renew you in Body, Mind and Spirit.

AMONG OTHER GIFTS CHRIST GAVE US HIS BODY AND BLOOD AS FOOD AND TOLD US TO DO AS HE DID. We need you to be a part of feeding the hungry in this area of Warren County. Can you come help us 'Feed the Hungry'? We need your help at the **Food Pantry at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 3, 2007.**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2007 IS OUR FIRST YOUTH NIGHT OF THE YEAR. Come and join us for fellowship and teaching.

BOWLING, ANYONE? Mid-January seems like a good time to go bowling. What do you think? Would you like to go bowling Sunday evening, January 14, 2007?



No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family and marital situation, no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc., no matter what your own self-image; you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here at St. Mary Parish.

PARISHIONERS HAVE ID NUMBERS!! When you registered you received contribution envelopes with a number. This is your parish ID number. Each year new boxes of envelopes are distributed. If you do not pick up the new envelopes we are forced to question if you left the parish. We have too many unclaimed boxes of envelopes in the room off the entrance of the church. If you have not taken your envelopes since October please pick them up, use them, and let us know you are still a parishioner. We will be checking the census next month and removing those we have not heard from.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS OR SERVICE in our weekly bulletin. Let our parishioners know what you can do for them. Let us help you grow your business through your faith community by placing an ad in our parish bulletin. Parishioners are always looking for help and would appreciate knowing that you have the skills they are looking for. For more information please contact Anne or Karen in the parish office at 937-746-5404

MERRY CHRISTMAS, SANTAS!! The St. Mary St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank everyone in the parish for their help and support of the Giving Tree and the Gift Fair. We were able to help 41 of our neediest families. We received a call on the morning of the Gift Fair; a member of our parish needed our help. Because of the gifts of your food, presents and money, each family received a very generous Christmas. We were able to take the money and buy milk, bread, buns, cereal, eggs, and hamburger patties for each family. Each basket also included hams from the Ladies Society and 20 of our food baskets were donated by Eaton Paper. One mom was so overwhelmed she began to cry because without you she would not have had Christmas. Her youngest of four saw her crying and was very afraid. He could not believe that there were happy tears as well as sad tears. May God bless all of you as you enjoy this Christmas season.

PROBLEMS CAN BECOME OVERWHELMING DURING THE HOLIDAYS: If you are under stress or are facing personal problems there is help available for our parishioners through the Pastoral Counseling of Miami Valley Hospital. They provide counseling based on the belief that life's crises and transitions are best met by both the wisdom of religious teaching and the knowledge and skills of professional training. Their services are available to parishioners at a 50% reduction in price. In addition, most insurance plans are accepted. Use of this service is strictly confidential and is available to parishioners of all ages. The Pastoral Counseling Center is located at 409 E. Monument Ave., Dayton. Call 937-208-6606 for information or to make an appointment. Over the years our parishioners have taken advantage of this service and have found it helpful.

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTRY SCHEDULES:

December 30-31	4:00 p.m. Sat.	7:30 a.m. Sun.	9:00 a.m. Sun.	10:30 Sun.	12 Noon
Servers	Katelyn Thomas Aileen Duckett Bevin Duckett	Claire Brownfield David Brownfield	Peter Schaaf Jack Schaaf	Kyle Kennedy	Marisa Werling
Eucharistic Ministers	D Ambach D Ambach Betty Reznor Sandra Traud	Kristine Brown L. Brownfield Tim Cable	Doug Schaaf Paul Schwab Cathy Zaenglein David Potts	Judy Beatty Walt Beatty Teresa Knapke Judy Martin	Ashley Calvert Karen Streit Connie O'Neill
Lectors	Mark Givens	Mike Hutchinson	Walter Mauck	Walt Beatty	Tim Werling
Gift Bearers	Traud	Duckett	Williams		

PARISH LIFE INFORMATION

Office Phone No. 937-746-5404

Office Hours 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday

Anointing of the Sick: Call immediately in case of a serious illness. Hospitals can no longer call for you.

Communion to the Homebound: Call the rectory to arrange a visit.

Reconciliation: Call the rectory for an appointment.

Matrimony: Call the rectory for an appointment before setting a date. Six months of preparation are required.

Baptism: Preparation is required before Baptism, preferable during pregnancy. Call the rectory to make arrangements.

Bulletin Deadline: noon the Tuesday before the weekend. E-mail notices to Annelpasmf@sbcglobal.net.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Lonnie Acree	937-748-2960	Andrea Dapkus	937-885-0487	Pat Monnin	937-885-1630
Rocky Adams	937-743-0226	Dan Fedders	937-746-4123	Roger Stebelton	937-855-6897
Eileen Avellano	937-748-0043	Mark Fields	937-743-9077	Mary Steed	937-746-6571

BEYOND THE PARISH

IS YOUR MARRIAGE HURTING IN ANYWAY?

Has your marriage grown cold, distant, unloving or uncaring?? Then please consider Retrouvaille (ret'ro-vi) - a program designed to help heal and renew marriages. It is for marriages that have lost some of their spark or having difficulties in communication and even for marriages on the edge of separation or divorce. Next program begins January 19-21, 2007. For information call 513-398-3137.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT – Are you as a young adult living the life you always wanted? For many of us that quality of life escapes us. We search for it through people, work and material possessions, yet we never seem to find satisfaction. Join Fr. John Ferone, SJ, and Al Cucchetti January 19-20 at the Jesuit Spiritual Center as we learn to tap into the one true source of happiness. For more information, call 513-248-3500, ext. 10.

ONE-DAY RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS:

Fr. Michael Sparough, SJ will be presenting: *Teach Us to Pray—A Day of Reflection for Young Adults* At the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford, OH January 27, 2007, 9:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; \$45 per person. For information and registration, visit www.catholiccincinnati.org/yamin

FENWICK'S ANNUAL REVERSE RAFFLE:

Only 450 tickets to be sold! On Saturday, January 20, 2007, Fenwick High School will host an evening of chance and entertainment. Tickets are \$50 (1 adult) or \$60 (2 adults) The last ticket drawn takes home the \$5,000 grand prize. Drinks, appetizers and dancing included. Contact Samantha Palmer at 937-746-7903 for tickets or more details. Sponsored by the Fenwick Booster Association. Winners need not be present to win.

Thought for today

God continues to send messengers to announce good news. Listen so you can tell the story to others. (Luke 2:15-20)