

Purple and Pink or Violet and Rose

Call the three candles on the advent wreath – and the vestments, hangings and flowers “purple” or call them “violet.” Call the third candle, the middle strip of cloth or the priest’s garment “pink” or “rose.” Just know that this Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday, taken from the first three words in Latin of the entrance antiphon, the beginning song-prayer of the liturgy of the day, which is taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Gaudete in Domino semper” (“Rejoice in the Lord always”). We have passed the midpoint of our preparation for Christmas

God Prepares Us for Christmas

Every Sunday when we gather for Mass, God prepares us to receive the Word and to receive Eucharist, by giving us an experience of mercy in the penitential rite with its “Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.” We like those moments of grace and preparation. They help us to calm down, to focus on God’s presence and blessings. They prepare us to receive the good that God is ready to give us. What that penitential rite does for us at the beginning of every Mass, a good confession before a priest before Christmas does in a fuller, sacramental way. Join with others at 7:00 p.m. at St. Andrew on Monday, December 14 for a Penance Service. There will be a number of priests available. The lines and the wait will not be long. The benefits will be long-lasting.

Making Room in the Inn

Did anyone practice for Christmas Eve this weekend? Did you make room in your pew for someone coming into church after you, looking for a place to sit? Arriving and finding the church somewhat full, was your finding your desired “place for four” a challenge for you and for those who were already seated? Being asked to scoot in from the end of the pew – or finding yourself butting up against that two inch “divider” in the middle of the pew, and having to make a split second decision to hop over or not hop over that “wall” – in order to make room for someone arriving late or at least a little later than you arrived, can be felt as an annoyance and an imposition. Looking for a place to sit in a church that is filling up quickly can have its own anxieties, and can rightfully and apologetically accompanied by, “Please. I’m sorry. Thank you.” Thankfully, our Masses are getting fuller each Sunday. My mom used to say that there was always room for one more at the table, especially if it were someone that no one was expecting to come or was with us for the first time.

As Jesus, with Priests, for the Parish

This coming week I will be pray for households #99-127, every day for the next seven days, from December 14-20, and I will take their names with me in my “heart pocket” when I go to the altar for Mass next Sunday, December 20: Henson, Benkner, Collier, Brockman, Chandler, Hittle, Chrin, Stahanczyk, Clark, Christoff, Emerson, Lux, Berns, Peterson, Edwards, Blang, Listerman, Farlow, Anderson, Blasiak, Curless, Tenhunfeld, Cervený, Buening, Hughes and “all the good people of our St. Andrew parish.”

Father Rob Waller

Mass Intentions for the Work

Monday, December 14, St. John of the Cross

7:00 p.m. Penance Service

Tuesday, December 15

7:30 a.m. Donald Wesoloski, Birthday Remembrance (Karen & Mark Olszewski)

Wednesday, December 16

7:30 a.m. Mary Kemen (Carolyn & Paul Richards & Family)

Thursday, December 17

7:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

Friday, December 18

7:30 a.m. Special Intention (Mary Burrus)

11:45 a.m. Catherine Armstrong (Gene & Betty Miller)

Saturday, December 19

7:30 a.m. Jamie Smyth, Anniversary of Death (Family)

5:15 p.m. People of St. Andrew Parish

Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Wayne Birkle, Anniversary of Death
(Allen & Marilyn Birkle)

9:30 a.m. Cheri Schneider (Evelyn & Charlie Saffin)

11:00 a.m. Grandpa Justinas (Krempasky Family)

SEM Villa

10:00 a.m. Louis & Martha Kneipp

SEM Terrace

11:00 a.m. Richard Vonderheide (Ralph & Lenora Covert)

Altar Flowers



The flowers gracing our altar this weekend were donated by Jill, Gayle & Drew Rothmeeler in memory of Susan Wenstrup. Thank you.

Poinsettias for Christmas

The St. Andrew Ladies Sodality decorate our Church with poinsettias during the Christmas season. Help beautify our church by donating to the Christmas Flower Fund. Place your donation (suggested amount: \$8.00) in a “Holiday Flower Offering” envelope located in the vestibule. Include the names of those to be remembered/any special intentions. Place your envelope in the collection basket or bring to the Parish Office by Monday, December 21. Your name and intention will be listed in the December 27 bulletin.

Altar Flowers for 2010

There is a new Flower List for 2010 in the vestibule. Many put flowers on the altar a particular weekend during the year in memory of a deceased family member or to remember a special occasion (anniversary, birthday). If you have any questions, please call Jane Kneipp, 683-0054.

Please Pray For

PLEASE
PRAY

all the sick of our parish, our shut-ins, nursing home residents, recent hospitalized parishioners and hospitalized:

Bethesda North: Catherine Bateman

Pray for our deceased family members, especially for Carl Stalzer, whose funeral Mass was Saturday, December 12, and for Rosemary Bootes’ father, Joseph Denig who died November 17. May our ever-loving God grant them eternal peace.

Serving in the Armed Forces

Let us offer our prayers and our care now, and work to bring all military personnel of all nations back to their families safe and sound and whole. This week we feature: Paul & Mary Lou Benkner’s grandson who is in the Army and stationed in Iraq: AUAB – PFC Shawn Thompson – HHB1-43ADA – APO AF 09309. If your son, daughter, grandchild, niece, nephew or any

family member is serving in the military, please call the Parish Office.

St. Andrew Giving Tree

Giving Tree gifts are due today, December 13. If you forgot your gift, please bring it to church by 1:00 pm. St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks you in advance for your generosity, traditionally so evident at this special time of year.

Penance Service

Joint Advent Penance Service with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, to be held at St. Andrew on **Monday, December 14** at 7:00 pm. There will be a number of priests available, so there will not be long lines

Holy Name Meeting

Attention all men of the Parish: Please join us for a short meeting and our traditional Italian feast on Monday, December 14 beginning at 7:30 pm in the Church Hall. A special feature; Ted Ringwald's homemade wine. We would like to have as many men as possible for good Christmas cheer.

Seniors Advent Gathering

Tuesday, December 15 in the Parish Center - Lunch at 12:30 pm. Please bring a dessert to share. We will provide the lunch and refreshments. We will be entertained by the SASEAS School 7th grade students, directed by Dana Braun. For reservations or transportation, please call Metchy Hance, 831-5383, Bernie Mulligan, 831-7278 or the Parish Office.

Bingo Parent Team #7 Workers for December 15

Chandler, Christoff, Galvin, Loxterkamp, Mueller, Riley, Smith, Stanford, Thaxton, Vilardo & White
Bingo Caller: Terri Morrison

Dine to Donate

Dine at Applebee's (5980 Meijer Drive, Milford) and 10% of your bill will be donated to SASEAS School. Go to the school website: www.saseasschool.org and find the flyer there to print. Steps: Organizations PTO Restaurant Coupons Applebees. The next opportunity will be Wednesday, December 16 from 11 am to close. Thank you

Healing Touch Ministry, Saturday, December 19

The Parish Healing Touch Ministry is inviting parishioners to receive a powerful healing experience of mind, body or spirit. It also can be helpful just to maintain wellness. Healing sessions are scheduled for Saturday, December 19 in the Church Hall at 9:30 am, 10:10 am, and 11:00 am. Come and bring a friend or family member. We will start on time so be a few minutes early.

Holiday Bulletin Announcements

Notices must be to the parish office by the following deadline dates for publication in the bulletin:
for Sunday, December 27 bulletin: noon on Friday, December 18
for Sunday, January 3 bulletin: noon on Monday, December 21
You can e-mail your information to: standy@cinci.rr.com

Save this Date

**Friday, June 11, 2010 for the
Annual SASEAS School Alumni Gathering
More details in 2010.**

St. Andrew Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will close for Christmas at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, December 22 and reopen at 8:00 am on Monday, December 28. For New Year's the office will close at 4:30-pm on Tuesday, December 29 and reopen Monday, January 4, 2010.

Available in the Parish

Office

St. Andrew T-Shirt - \$8.00

- St. Andrew Blankets - \$40.00
- Sweet Memories Cookbook - \$7.00
- Entertainment Books - \$20.00
- The St. Andrew Church Porcelain Ornament - \$8.00
- "Cat's Meow Village" wooden keepsake of St. Andrew - \$18.00

Smile News

The Youth Group is looking for a family who is willing to help with the cleanup of the luminaries on December 26. Without help with this, we will not be able to do the Luminaries. Please Call the Youth Office if you are interested, 831-8318.

Christmas Outing: The Youth Group will be going to Holiday Fest at the Beach Waterpark on Sunday, December 20. We will meet at 2:45 pm and will return for pizza around 6:00 pm. The cost is \$10 and this includes admission and dinner. Call the Youth Office for more information or to sign up. Chaperones will be needed to help with transportation.

SEM Villa Game Night: Join us on Thursday December 17 for a Game Night at SEM Villa. We meet there at 6:30 pm and play games until about 8:00 pm. Call the Youth Office for more information or to sign up.

Sharing God's Gifts:

"We need to average \$14,500 in the Sunday collection to make budget"

- December 6 Envelope Collection (375).....\$12,637.70
- Sunday Loose Collection.....\$309.12
- Dimes Collection.....\$6.70

Winterfest was a huge success thanks to the many, many volunteers, donors, and participants. Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who participated. The winners of the money raffle were Ed Kneipp, \$1000; Spencer Cormier, \$500; and Sondra Niemann, \$250. Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following students who achieved honors the first quarter of the 2009-2010 academic school year

Moeller High School

First Honors: Jacob Heuker, Lawrence Sherman, Michael Periaatt, Ryan Rinn & Joseph Veneziano

Second Honors: Ricardo Berns, Maxwell Heiremans, Bryan Bain, Tyler Mercurio, Gregory Leksan & Alexander Lilly

Congratulations to Claire Redington who received First Honors the First Quarter of the School Year at McNicholas High School. Her name was inadvertently left off the list published earlier

Reborn in the Waters of Baptism

During November the following children received the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Andrew

Addison Marie Diepenbrock

Daughter of Matthew & Sara

Taylor Elizabeth Wellman

Daughter of Shane & Angela

Anna Grace Woeber

Daughter of Joseph & Sarah

Hailee Marie Van Vleet

Daughter of Paul & Susan

Rafael Christopher Richey

Son of Thomas & Pilar

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE, Wednesday, December 24

3:30 p.m. (2 Masses: 1 in church and 1 in the Parish Center)

5:15 p.m.

CHRISTMAS Day, Thursday, December 25

Midnight Mass, 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

2010 Church Calendars

are now available in the Church vestibule. Evans Funeral Home has provided the Catholic Art Calendars. We greatly appreciate their generosity.



Thank You to the Sponsor of the Week

CAPlus
John & Nina Villano, 340-4915

Vocation Views

"What ought we to do?" Let joy and gladness show forth in you.
You are called to be the presence of Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18)

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH



Monday, December 14

6:30 pm SMILE Youth Game Night at The Saul House
7:00 pm Advent Penance Service
7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
Parish Library
7:30 pm Holy Name Meeting
Church Hall

Tuesday, December 15

Seniors Gathering in Parish Center at 12:30 pm
5:00 pm Children's Choir Practice
Church
7:00 pm BINGO (Team #7)
Parish Center
7:00 pm Christ Renews His Parish Women's Team #7
Andrew's H

Wednesday, December 16

9:30 am Wednesday Bible Study Meeting Room,
Parish Center
7:00 pm Toastmasters Meeting Room,
Parish Center

Thursday, December 17

6:30 pm SMILE Games Night at SEM Villa
7:00 pm Choir Practice
Church
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
Parish Library
7:00 pm Christ Renews His Parish Men's Team #8
Andrew's House

Friday, December 18

7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
Parish Library

Saturday, December 19

9:30 am Healing Touch Sessions
Church Hall

Sunday, December 20

9:30 am PREP Family Day
Church Hall
9:30 am RCIA Meeting Room,
Parish Center
2:45 pm SMILE Youth Outing to Holiday Fest at the Beach
Waterpark

