

DECEMBER 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION THIS WEEK
THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH!

To obey (from the Latin ob-audire, to "hear or listen to") in faith is to submit freely to the word that has been heard, because its truth is guaranteed by God, who is Truth itself. Abraham is the model of such obedience offered us by Sacred Scripture. The Virgin Mary is its most perfect embodiment. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #144)

When we think of being obedient to someone our immediate response can be "what?, I have to give up my own freedom to choose and conform my life to someone else's power!" This understanding of obedience can leave a sour taste in our mouth and make us want to run away from what will seem to restrict us. When it comes to our faith, we need to move towards a deeper understanding of obedience. In the second reading for this final Sunday of Advent, St Paul opens his letter to the Romans telling us that, through Christ, *we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith* (Romans 1:5). God became a human being to make it possible for all human beings to have eternal life and perfect happiness in Him! A life that is being formed in all of us at this very moment and that will come to fulfillment in a new eternal reality when Christ comes again at the end of time. This is the faith we are called to be obedient to. A faith freely given to us by God Himself, in His Son Jesus, and through the working of the Holy Spirit in our families, our community, and our Church. We simply need to listen and submit ourselves to *the word that has been heard* (CCC, 144), following in the footsteps of Abraham, Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, blessed St Joseph, and all those who have walked in faith before us. Our revivalist, Fr. Roy Lee, reminded us this past week to *order our steps* to the coming of the Lord this Christmas and every day of our lives. In this last week of preparation for the coming of our Lord, we can make a simple act of faithful obedience today by saying "YES, Lord, *order my steps*, to walk in the way of holiness you have made for me!"

-Fr. David Domanski, OFM Cap.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24th

Vigil Mass: 7PM
 Midnight Mass: 11:45PM

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25th

Masses: 8:30AM and 10:30AM

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

(NEW YEAR'S DAY)

Saturday, December 31st

Vigil Mass: 5PM

Sunday, January 1st

Masses: 8:30AM and 10:30AM

NOTICE: 5PM SATURDAY MASS To Be Suspended

Beginning in January, the **Saturday 5PM Mass will be suspended indefinitely** due to low attendance. On certain holydays, parish feasts and celebrations [Easter, Pentecost, Confirmation, etc.] when deemed necessary a Mass on Saturday may be scheduled.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Come and prepare your hearts for Christmas by celebrating the **Sacrament of Penance/Confession on Wednesday, December 21 at 7pm.** Let every heart prepare Him room!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2022

Once Again, Thank You to all who contributed to our Christmas Giving Tree this year. Your stewardship and love for your neighbors is greatly appreciated. Remember, Gifts will be delivered the **Monday after Christmas.**

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

Sun, Dec 18 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24
 5:00pm For Homeless Children and Orphans
 8:30am For the Souls in Purgatory
 10:30am For Dorris Jackson, dec.

Mon, Dec 19 – Advent Weekday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25 Ps 71:3-4, 5-6, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25

Tue, Dec 20 – Advent Weekday

Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Lk 1:26-38

Wed, Dec 21 – Advent Weekday

Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45

Thu, Dec 22 – Advent Weekday

1 Sm 1:24-28 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8 Lk 1:46-56

Fri, Dec 23 - Advent Weekday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14 Lk 1:57-66

Sat, Dec 24 – Vigil of The Nativity of the Lord

Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25

MISSALETTES FOR 2022

The Missalettes that contain the Sunday readings are in the church pews for your convenience at Mass. If you wish to have your own personal booklet, they are available at \$5.00 each. Thank you for your cooperation in leaving the booklets in the pews.

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS!

Your Manuals Are Available!

PLEASE pick up your manual in the Sacristy and Check your name on the list indicating that you did get it.

Thank you for serving in this holy ministry!!

Liturgical Ministers

If you are a liturgical minister (Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Lector, etc.) and would like to resume your ministry please contact: **Carla Grant: 216-200-1525** or

cgbible40@gmail.com so she can review your status and get you back active. **Thank you for serving the Lord with your ministerial gifts!**

Black Catholic Congress XIII

Write the Vision: A Prophetic Call to Thrive

The National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) convenes a national congress every five years. Each one renews and develops our mission with a Pastoral Plan. The next congress will be held July 20-23, 2023 at the Gaylord National in National Harbor, Maryland. Join with other Black Catholics and those who minister to Black Catholics in the United States for a celebration of our faith and culture. To register, call Fr. James at the Parish office or go to www.nbccgathering2023.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2022-23

Please sign your child/teen for First Communion, Confirmation. Faith formation for our youth takes place on Sundays immediately following the **8:30am** Mass from **9:45am–11:00am**. To register your child, pick up a form at the church entrance or call **Mr. Cary Dabney** at 216-391-1655. **Online registration will be available soon!**

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES		
	8:30 AM	10:03 AM
18-Dec	4th Sunday of Advent	
Comm	Sabina Conroy	Josie Kramer
Lector	Doreatha Stover	Anna Smith
Server	Sharla Durand	Syan Hughes
		Melvin Onuorah
Usher	Karen Larry	Robin Allen
	Thomas Stover	Billy Cardwell
		Antoinette Smith
		Linda Weatherspoon
25-Dec	The Nativity of the Lord	
Comm	Ellen Connally	Jeanette Austin
Lector	Uzuamaka Oranugo	Brian Upton
Server	Uzuchukku Oranugo	Divine Onuorah
		Jordon Ivory
Usher	Lazuras Oranugo	Michelle Booker
	Theresa Hughley	Jeremiah Robinson
		Elinor Williamson
		Crystal Willis

YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults in their 20's and 30's are invited to fellowship, faith sharing and event planning every 4th Sunday of the month after the 10:30 Mass (around 12:00pm) in the Saint Agnes / Our Lady of Fatima gym. Come and join other young adults in our parish as well as

our surrounding parishes to learn and grow in faith together.

ADVENT REVIVAL THANK YOU!

Deep thanks and appreciation to all who helped make our Advent Revival fruitful, joyful and holy event reality this past week. To all the Revival Committee Members, The Musicians, The Choir and all who Ministered in any way. Heartfelt thanks to Father Roy Lee for his powerful word and example teaching us how to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ. heartfelt thanks. Let us now move forward towards the celebration of Christmas remembering that "Christ Unites Us as One!"

PRAY FOR THE SICK+

Ogechi Achunine, Georgia Atkinson, Kalima Assami, Joyce Baker, Bessie Bolles, Gabriel Blair, Joyce Blanton-Smith, Anna Broadhead, Thella Brooks, Christine Byrd, William Byrd, Marcella Caffie, Kathy Clayton, Terrell Cole, Robin Davis, Edna Evans, Richard Gayle, James Nakima, Myron Gholson, Yvonne Griffin, Toni Griffin-France, Adriene Hall, Wendell Harris, JoAnn Hinson, Althea Hite, Ursula Hite, Patricia Heard, Estelle Hodges, Kyllan Hughes, Valada Hutchinson, Maxine Jackson, Andrea Johnson, Joseph Jones, Brianna Jones, Evelyne Jones, Reaber Jones, Craig Kelly, Janie Kincaid, Francesca Lehu, Dolores Malby, Elizabeth Malby, LaVerta Marshall, Bill Miller, David McClain, Chantel McConnell, Chaquita McClinton, Sharon McDuffie, Terri Mohr, Verendez Moore, Lounette Payne, Erma Pollard, Nisha Presley, Sue Scott, Regina Shanklin, Jerry Shelton, Kevin Sipp, Deborah Smedley, John Strozier, Barbara Sudberry, Danita Thomas, Janice Thompson, Hubert Watson, Desiree Webb, Aris White, James Keifer, Kathy Heard, Eboni Edwards, Monique Johnson, Margie Jones, Barbara Marshall Brown, Naomi Matthews, Fay Grady, Tyrone Grady, Rachael Glaster, Jame Hoyle, Judy Guzy, Latina Thomas, Constance Durrah, Mary Roberts, Donald Leftwich, James Jackson, Marcia St. John, Sabrina Wilson, Betty Moore, Ophelia Swain, Fidela Lozada, Evelyn Morson-Eaddie, Alonzo Givens, Juanita Carter, Yvonne Williamson, Regina Woodard, Beverly Greene-Reed, Jahiem Wilson, Ali'Bey, Warren Family, William Jackson, Kardier Jackson, Carol Hollinger, Mattie McDonald, Anita Gullett, Natalie Webb, Carson Wetherwax, Gail Xavier, Jaqueline Zeigler, Darlene Harris, Lasonia Sims, Bertha McClain, Nina Simmons, Bertha McClain Alexander, Loraine Taylor

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Family, it is that time again to think about preparing our church for the Christmas holidays. Flower envelopes will be available next Sunday in the Gallery and Narthex to memorialize Poinsettias in remembrance of our loved ones. Donations remain at \$15.00 per plant and are requested by December 21st. Thank you for your generosity!

YOUR SACRIFICE LAST WEEK

Thank you for your sacrificial gift for our church. Your response to our offertory commitment has been tremendous! Our goal to meet our budget is \$5,400.00. **Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!**

SUNDAY OFFERINGS 12-11-2022

In Church	\$4073.00
Cash App	\$127.00
Vanco On-Line	\$921.49
HolyDay(Immaculate Conception 12/8/22)	\$48.00
Candles	\$1.25
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev	\$15.00
Local Charities	\$4.00
Hall Rental	\$1160.00
Men's Ministry	\$25.00
Liturgy of the Word Missals	\$5.00
Revival T-Shirts	\$285.00
Revival T-Shirts via CashApp	\$75.00
Special Collection: Retired Religious	\$235.00
Total	\$6974.74

CLEVELAND CATHOLIC RADIO

Did you know Cleveland has its very own 24/7 Catholic radio station? What is Catholic radio, and why should you listen? AM1260 The Rock, Cleveland's Catholic Radio station, provides quality Catholic programming for all ages and for every stage of your faith journey, 24 hours a day! A representative from the station will be speaking at all of our Masses on **Sunday January 8**. Tune in to AM1260 The Rock or visit www.am1260therock to learn more.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS for CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS

Beyond normal listed hours, the parish office will also be closed on the following days:

CLOSED on:

Monday, December 26th & Tuesday, December 27th

Monday January 2nd & Tuesday January 3rd

Planned Giving Year-End Giving In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2022, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds.

And, if you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. You are also welcome to contact Jean Ann Montagna of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x8070.

Sunday Van Driver

We are looking for a Parish Van Drivers. The Parish Van drivers provide transportation to church members for 10:30am Mass on Sunday morning. Must possess valid driver's license, be at least 21 years of age with clean driving record and willing to undergo Safe-Environment training. If interested, please contact: Fr. James Watson: jwatson@saolf.org



Van Ministry

HAM JAM Give Away

Through a generous donation from MEIJERS, INC., Guardians of Hope, will be giving Hams to families here in the Hough Community on **Friday, December 23rd at 11AM** in the **St. Agnes and Our Lady of Fatima Parish Parking Lot** on the 70th Street side. **ONLY 100 HAMS** will be distributed. **FIRST COME/FIRST SERVED.** This is a Drive up event. Guardians of Hope founders, Terry Pfaff and Tim Vala, created their ministry from a desire to support, aid, and uplift the residents of the Hough Neighborhood in Cleveland, Ohio.

St. Agnes+Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

A Ministry of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars
Visit the Capuchins at www.capuchin.com



MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Agnes + Our Lady of Fatima Church is a visionary Catholic Christian Community.

*As a diverse parish, we embrace
Africentric worship,
Christ centered hospitality,
and missionary service.*

*Sustained by the wisdom of our elders
and energized by the spirit of our youth,
we come together in faith
as a church family
to give witness to the liberating message
of the Gospel.*



PARISH INFORMATION

Address: 6800 Lexington Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
Office: 216-391-1655
FAX: 216-391-7919
Website: www.saolf.org
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9AM-12:30, 1:00PM-3:30PM
Fridays: Closed

Mass Schedule:

Saturday(Sunday Vigil): 5:00PM
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Weekday: As Scheduled
Holyday: 7:00 p.m.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. James Watson, OFM Cap. Pastor
pastor@saolf.org
Rev. David Domanski, OFM Cap. Associate Pastor
ddomanski@dioceseofcleveland.org
Rev. Mr. Hardin Martin, Deacon
deaconmartin@saolf.org
Miss Brittany Taylor, Parish Secretary
btaylor@saolf.org
Mr. Cary Dabney, Director of Religious Education
carywdabney@gmail.com
Mr. Danny McElroy, Director of Music Ministry
dannymac63@roadrunner.com
Mr. Reginald Daniels, Custodian
custodian@saolf.org

Fatima Family Center: 6600 Lexington Ave.
LaJean Ray, Director
216-391-0505

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays: 4:00 pm or anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants:

Arrangements made in advance with a priest or deacon. Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Preparations begin with a priest or deacon BEFORE setting a date and six months prior to intended date. Contact the parish to schedule an appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick and Home Visits:

Please contact the parish office.

Parish Registration: Welcome to our parish. To register, please contact the parish office.

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesdays at 12 noon

Electronic Giving Opportunities:

Go to www.saolf.org and click on "Make a Gift." For **CashApp** users: send to **\$saolf**

VOLUNTEER COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED!

Our Parish is in need of **4 Volunteer Collection Counters** to help count Sunday and Holyday collections after the 10:30 Mass. Requirement is to count just once a month! **On the job training available!**

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Are being prepared for 2023. If you wish to receive envelopes, or if you are using electronic giving and no longer need them, please contact the parish office.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Retirement Fund for Religious

This special annual collection supporting our retired religious women and men raises funds that are distributed to religious communities throughout the eight counties of the diocese and across the country. These funds help communities provide for the immediate needs of their elder members. Religious communities are exceedingly grateful for this assistance and are careful stewards of each dollar received. This in pew collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** continues this weekend, **December 17 – 18, 2022**. Donations are also accepted online at

<https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/events/2022/12/10/retirement-fund-for-religious--2022-collection>

Thank you to those who gave last week. Last week you gave **\$235.00** to support those who gave the gift of themselves to the Lord and their brothers and sisters!!!

CHURCH CALENDARS

Have been ordered and will be available in the Narthex when they arrive. Please only take one per household so that all may have one. When they run out, they are gone until next year!