

**December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent**

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION THIS WEEK

Mark begins his Gospel with the words, "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God." These words signify much more than just a disclosure of information about to be revealed. With the words, "The beginning," the reader recalls the opening words of Genesis, "In the Beginning..." and is compelled to see the coming of Christ as a new beginning in history. That God's promise of a savior is at hand and that all creation has been renewed. This is a time of rejoicing as the word "gospel" signifies. The word Gospel is rightly translated as "good news", however, it can also be translated as "joyful tidings." Therefore, this is a time of rejoicing is the message the evangelist is trying to convey to his audience. He is also echoing what we here in the first reading as the Israelites are exhorted by the prophet to rejoice as their time of exile has come to an end. Their "guilt is expiated" and they have been set free to return home. Jesus has come to set us free from our sins and has made a clear path for us to journey to our eternal home. All we have to do is follow Him. May this Advent season be a time for us to live joyfully as a people set free, journeying to our eternal home and continuing to do Jesus' work of making clear the path for others to encounter Jesus by being heralds of the Gospel.

MASS INTENTIONS AND SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

Sun, Dec 10, Second Sunday of Advent
Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8
8:30am – Intention of the Priest
10:30am – Delvonte Grant

Mon, Dec 11, Advent Weekday
Is 35:1-10 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 5:17-26

Tue, Dec 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 Jdt 13:18-19 Lk 1:26-38

Wed, Dec 13, St. Lucy
Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10 Mt 11:28-30

Thu, Dec 14, St. John of the Cross
Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:1, 9-13 Mt 11:11-15

Fri, Dec 15, Advent Weekday
Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Mt 11:16-19

Sat, Dec 16, Advent Weekday
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 Mt 17:9-13

Sun, Dec 17, Third Sunday of Advent
Is 61:1-2, 10-11 Lk 1:46-50, 53-54 1 Thes 5:16-24
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

DIOCESAN CHOIR NEWS:

LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!
Rehearsals for MLK & LENTEN REVIVAL
Saturday 12/9 @ Fatima
.. and more in Jan & Feb
—all rehearsals begin 12noon
EMAIL terriemac@roadrunner.com if you would like to be added to Diocesan choir email list #MusicUnitesUs

CHURCH and HALL CLEANUP TEAMS
Beginning in the Month of January 2024
Hall Cleanup Team – 3rd Tuesday of Each Month
Church Cleanup Team – Day and Time to Be Determined

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sacraments and Faith Formation Registration 2023-24:
Please sign your child/teen up for First Communion, Confirmation.
<https://saolf-parish.com/FaithFormation-Registration>
You can also pick up a form at the church entrance or call **Mr. Cary Dabney** at 216-391-1655 ext#14

R.C.I.A. FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Are you someone or do you know someone who...
❖ Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
❖ Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
❖ Is thirsting for God?
We offer an opportunity to come together to learn about the Catholic faith. To get started visit: <https://www.saolf.org/rite-of-christian-initiation-of-adults> or contact our Director of Religious Education, **Mr. Cary Dabney** at 216-391-1655 ext#14

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

In need of **New Members** to help in the ministerial work of communicating important information to the Parish
Some tasks include: Setting up the Mass Streaming Service; Website updates; Taking video and pictures of parish events and posting them; Updating the bulletin boards, etc...
Please contact Fr. James and you will be invited to the next meeting: pastor@saolf.org

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 12-3-2023:

Total Collection	\$5831.50
Cash App	\$163.00
Vanco On-Line	\$937.78
Total	\$6,932.28

MISSALETTES FOR 2023

The Missalettes that contain the Sunday readings are in the church pews for your convenience at Mass. Thank you for your cooperation in leaving the booklets in the pews. **If you wish to have your own personal booklet, they are available for \$5.00 each.** To purchase one, you can pick it up in the Sacristy. Use one of the available plain envelopes for your payment, write "Missal" on the envelope and drop in the basket.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
10-Dec	Second Sunday of Advent	
Comm	Pam Pendleton	Carla Grant
Lector	Dell Robinson	Tara Young
Server	Jeremy Mangum	Gavin Smedley Melvin Onuorah
Usher	Lonnie Smith Thomas Stover	Michelle Booker Billy Cardwell Elinor Williamson Jeremiah Robinson
17-Dec	Third Sunday of Advent	
Comm	Sabina Conroy	Brian Upton
Lector	Doreatha Stover	Lorraine McMillian
Server	Jeremy Mangum	Divine Onuorah Eric Smedley
Usher	Karren Larry Lazuras Oranugo	Billy Cardwell Antoinette Smith Linda Weatherspoon Lena Austin


ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

(Updated)
Christmas Eve (Vigil): Sunday, December 24th,
Christmas Carols: 6:30PM
Mass: 7:00PM
Christmas Day Mass: Monday, December 25th: 9:00AM

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS!

Your Manuals Are Available!
PLEASE pick up your manual in the Sacristy and email Fr. James at pastor@saolf.org to let him know you got it.
Thank you for serving in this holy ministry!!

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

 There are still a few slots for families to sign up to light the Advent Wreath at the beginning of Mass. **The Signup Sheet is available on the table at the Church entrance.** Thank you for your participation.

The Retirement Fund for Religious

PLEASE SUPPORT the annual appeal for the Retired Fund for Religious held this weekend **December 9th and 10th** throughout the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and throughout the rest of the country. The additional collection will provide much needed support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests whose communities lack sufficient retirement funding. For most of their lives, the elderly religious worked for little to no pay. There were no 401(k) plans or pensions. Many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Monetary donations will also assist with medications, nursing care, and so much more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

EUCHARIST UNDER BOTH SPECIES



NOTICE TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Please remember that the **Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America** state that no communicant who is not a priest may perform **INTINCTION**. **INTINCTION** is the Eucharistic practice of partly dipping the consecrated bread, or host, into the consecrated wine before consumption by the communicant.
The communicant, including the extraordinary minister, is never allowed to self-communicate, even by means of intinction. Communion under either form, bread or wine, must always be given by an ordinary or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. (NDRHC# 50)

Catholic Charities



**A time to heal.
A time to help.**

2023 Catholic Charities Appeal
Just over \$13.5M has been raised as of August 31. Starting September 13, 50,000 households received a letter from Bishop Malesic asking for monetary support of the 2023 Appeal. We are fast approaching our \$14.0M goal and every little bit helps support the 425,000 who rely on the 160 programs throughout the diocese.

NOTE: As of September, **St. Agnes Our Lady of Fatima Parish has raised 54%(\$7,483.96) of our goal of \$13,801.** Reaching our goal helps bring additional funds to our parish enabling us to build the ministries we need in our community.

Please Donate today:
<https://www.catholiccommunity.org/human>
or text CCHUMAN to 41444.

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, Adriene Hall, JoAnn Hinson, Althea Hite, Ursula Hite, Patricia Heard, Estelle Hodges, Kyllan Hughes, Valada Hutchinson, Andrea Johnson, Joseph Jones, Brianna 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, 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 Durrach, Mary Roberts, Donald Leftwich, James Jackson, Marcia St. John, Sabrina Wilson, Betty Moore, Ophelia Swain, Evelyn Morson-Eddie, Alonzo Givens, 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, Nina Simmons, Bertha McClain Alexander, Loraine Taylor, Danny Couch, Delvonte Grant

FAMILIES:

The Lane Family, The Poteat Family

Grief Support Catholic Cemeteries Association

The Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings and Memorial events throughout the year. **The next Grief Support meeting is Sunday, December 17th at 3:00pm for in-person support** (at 6 locations), and **5:00pm for virtual support**. The topic is **“The Gift of God’s Presence: You Never Walk Alone”**. For details: visit: www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx. For more information or questions, call Rhonda at 216-930-4866.

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 2023, 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. Questions? Contact **Aldo Fierro** in our parish office at (216) 391-1655 ext# or via email at afierro@saolf.org. You are also welcome to contact Mary Lou Ozimek of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x 4070 or visit www.catholiccommunity.org/ira

Holy Family Mission Group

Wood Carving Sale

(POSTPONED to February 11, 2024)

Holy Family Mission Group is a group in mission to help catholic families from Bethlehem by selling their Olive wood carvings in churches to support Catholic Families in Bethlehem in crises. **Samer and Ruth Kokaly:**

Holy family: 608-314-6673 or 810-931-7513

Black Catholic Ministries
LIVE YOUTH NATIVITY SCENE
St. Aloysius Church, 10932 St. Clair Ave.
December 14, 6-8pm

Come out to St. Aloysius Church to enjoy and engage in the true meaning of Christmas. Hosted and enacted by St. Aloysius Elementary School students, the Live Nativity Scene will also include the Diocesan Youth Praise Dancers from St. Agnes/OLOF, a selection from the St. Mary’s Elementary School Gospel Choir, St. Adalbert Altar Servers, and members of Holy Spirit Youth Club. Live animals will be in the stable; the camel’s presence will be weather dependent. The guards will accept your donations at the gate.

Consider becoming a
Lay Ecclesial Minister

The lay ecclesial minister is a fully initiated member in good standing of the Catholic community who, by baptismal commitment, prayer, discernment, and support of the community, responds to the call of the bishops to share in the mission of the Church.

“The renewal of the Church in America will not be possible without the active presence of the laity. Therefore, they are largely responsible for the future of the Church.”

-- Pope John Paul II Ecclesia in America

The Diocese of Cleveland has over 300 Certified Lay Ecclesial Ministers who serve across parishes, and diocesan offices in the various roles and ministries: pastoral associate, catechetical leader, campus minister, youth minister, bereavement, prison ministry, retreat houses and through Institutions or programs of social outreach and advocacy.

To learn more about becoming a Certified Lay Ecclesial Minister, please contact our office at (440) 943-7670 or email **Michelle Nowak:**

mnowak@dioceseofcleveland.org

Library Events (Addison Branch)

Addison Branch 6901 Superior Ave 216-623-6906

Holiday Movie Marathon:

Enjoy a day of free, family-friendly holiday movies.

Saturday, December 16th, 2023

11:00 AM -4:00 PM

Classic Book Club:

Read and discuss *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, a fable telling the story of a group of farm animals who rebel against their human farmer.

Fridays, December 22nd, 2023 &

January 19th, 2024

4:00 - 5:00 PM

Anime Club:

Every 3rd Thursday of the Month

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

Email: parish@saolf.org

Website: www.saolf.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9AM-12:30, 1:00PM-3:30PM
Fridays: Closed

Mass Schedule:

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Weekday: As Scheduled

Holyday: 7:15AM(Vigil Mass: 7:00PM)

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. James Watson, OFM Cap. Pastor

jwatson@saolf.org

Rev. Mr. Hardin Martin, Deacon

deaconmartin@saolf.org

Mr. Aldo Fierro, Parish Business Manager

AFierro@saolf.org

Miss Brittany Taylor, Parish Secretary

btaylor@saolf.org

Mr. Cary Dabney, Director of Religious Education

cabney@saolf.org

Mr. Danny McElroy, Director of Music Ministry

dannymac63@roadrunner.com

Mr. Reginald Daniels, Custodian

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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. Or go to

<https://saolf-parish.com/New-Registration>

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**