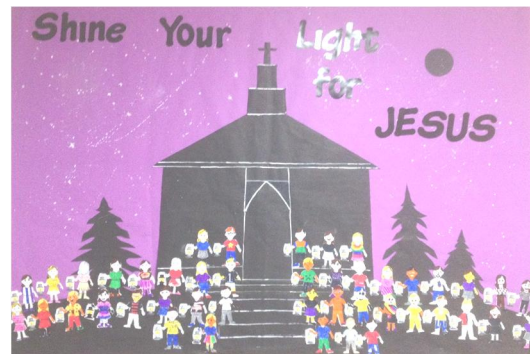


Advent is the Season for Preparing Our Hearts to Receive Christ

- ◆ POPE FRANCIS in "THE JOY OF LOVE": A reminder for our family gatherings this Advent-Christmas Season "no family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love...stop demanding of our interpersonal relationships a perfection, a purity of intentions and a consistency which we will only encounter in the Kingdom to come ... May we never lose heart because of our limitations, or ever stop seeking that fullness of love and communion which God holds out before us."
- ◆ POPE LEO XIII in RERUM NOVARUM: "If the question be asked how must one's possessions be used, the Church replies without hesitation that man should not consider his material possessions as his own but as common to all." And then this startling line, very effective for an examination of conscience: "when what necessity demands has been supplied, and one's standing fairly taken thought for, it becomes a duty to give to the indigent out of what remains over."

**Singers Needed for St. Patrick Choir**

We are seeking singers to form a choir for our Christmas Masses and beyond at St Patrick. You are needed!! Rehearsals will be on Thursdays at 7:00 pm, with Christmas music.

Questions? Contact Ric Koenig at rickenig@sbcglobal.net. All are welcome to join!!

Fr. Paul Sciarrotta's address

Per many requests, we are passing along Fr. Paul's address for Christmas cards: Altercare of Saint Joseph Center, 4291 Richmond Rr., Warrensville Hts., OH 44122

PSR students, Good Samaritans & Outreach Ministry Collaborating this Advent Season to Care for Those in Need in our Area**PSR Food Drive and "Mitten, Hat & Glove Tree":**

Our 6th and 7th grade PSR class is coordinating this year's Food Drive and "Mitten, Glove & Hat Tree" to help those who may be struggling during the upcoming Christmas season. All donations are shared with local Thompson and Montville families who are in need.

Non-perishable foods are requested especially nutritional cereals, canned fruits, baked beans, tuna fish, peanut butter, jelly, kidney beans, coffee, tea, chicken stew & beef stew in cans, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, sloppy joe mix, hot chocolate mix, and granola bars. Your donation to this project gives love and hope to families in need. Thank you for your help.

Boxes for food donations are in the vestibule of church & the lower Church Hall. The "Mitten, Glove & Hat Tree" is in the lower Church Hall. Collection runs now through Tuesday, December 20th.

Outreach Ministry "Giving Tree" gift items for Christmas:**If you took a "gift tag" from the Giving Tree ...**

- ◆ We thank you ... and almost all of the "gifts" have been returned because of your generosity.
- ◆ Pray for the person you are purchasing the gift for ... in your prayers this last week of Advent and through the Christmas season.
- ◆ **THANK YOU** for helping to bring the love of Christ to others ... as we care for area families this Christmas!!



Rev. Edward R. Wieczorek, from “Unbound” to Come to our Parish on Dec. 31 & Jan. 1:

I have extended an invitation to Rev. Edward R. Wieczorek to come to our parish on the weekend of December 31, 2016-January 1, 2017. Father Wieczorek will speak to you about the work being done by Unbound (previously known as CFCA), and how this provides a trustworthy way to actively participate in the social outreach of the Catholic Church and answer the Gospel call to serve the poor.

Founded by lay Catholics, Unbound is an organization that has served more than 600,000 children, youth and elderly in 20 developing countries since 1981 – empowering them to make more choices in their lives, live with dignity and reach their potential.

Unbound’s unique sponsorship program is highly personalized. It matches a child, youth or aging person at a project overseas with a sponsor in the U.S. who cares about and encourages that person. With a monthly contribution, a sponsor helps to provide much-needed nourishing food, medical and dental care, the chance for a child to go to school, livelihood programs for families and much more. All of these efforts are directed at affirming the dignity of every person in their local community.

Please join me in welcoming Father Wieczorek to our parish.

Sincerely yours in Jesus Christ,

Fr. Dan Redmond

Community Life Update: January 28 - Chili/Soup/Stew Cook-Off

To begin the new year, in January we are planning a Chili/Soup/Stew cook-off for the family on Saturday January 28 at 5:30 PM. Save the date on your calendar and join us for great company, fun and delicious food!

We have two volunteers to coordinate this event but need a few more volunteers. If you could help on this event please contact the parish office or Mary Husek 440-729-4978. Your help would be appreciated!!

**Christmas is coming and if you need a gift for the person who has everything...**

The Christ Child Society of Geauga County has the perfect gift! You can purchase a complete newborn layette for a baby in need of these items in the name of a loved one. The Layette includes undershirts, diapers, sleepers, receiving blankets, and some baby toiletries all wrapped up in a baby quilt. These much-welcomed gifts are given to a newborn that might otherwise have nothing. **For just a \$40 donation, you can give one to a little one in need, in your name or the name of a special person.** A card will be sent to that person letting them know you have donated this item in their name. Please contact the Christ Child Society, Judy Benda at 440-286-4261 for more information.

Retrouvaille Weekend – January 20-22, 2017

Someone once said “marriages may be made in heaven, but they sure take a lot of work on earth.” Have you become so distracted by outside pressure that you neglect your spouse? The Retrouvaille program can help you put your troubled marriage back on track. This program is supported by the Catholic diocese of Cleveland, but, it is open to couples of all faiths. The next Cleveland Retrouvaille weekend will be held on January 20-22, 2017. A registration fee of \$150 is required to confirm your reservation. For more information concerning the program, or to register, please call Marce or Liz Gliha in complete confidence at 440-357-6580 or 1-800-470-2230. For additional information or to register online, please go to www.helpourmarriage.org.

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

World Wide Marriage Encounter offers weekends to bring a husband and wife closer together. Get away from the distractions of everyday life and focus on each other and how to improve your marriage. The next weekend is Feb. 17-19, 2017, at the Clarion Inn & Conference Center, Hudson, Ohio. Information on these weekends can be found at <http://www.wwme.org/>, or call 330-305- 9963.



St. Patrick Parishioners Thank Fr. Zachary Kawalec!!

We have been blessed through Fr. Kawalec's inspiring and thought-filled homilies, prayerful liturgies and his warm and welcoming spirit! Centered on Christ and dedicated to serving God, through service in the Church at St. Patrick and St. Mary, Fr. Kawalec has been a spiritual mentor for our community. St. Patrick families gathered last Sunday to thank Fr. Kawalec at his farewell breakfast brunch. Many thanks to all who baked, helped with decorations, set-up, serving and clean-up!!



**THANK YOU FATHER KAWALEC!!
YOU HAVE BEEN A
BLESSING TO US!!**

Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, and Barcelona

Our "Fatima 100th Anniversary" 10 Day Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Fatima, Lourdes and Barcelona's Sagrada Familia will be offered November 5-14, 2017. **Spiritual Directors are Fr. Dan Redmond and Fr. Tom Sweany.** We will be departing Cleveland Hopkins International Airport with Bus transportation to the airport round trip from both St. Mary's Chardon and St. Anselm Chesterland at the all land and air inclusive costs of \$3249.00. We will be visiting Lisbon, Fatima Portugal, Burgos Spain, Lourdes and Carcassone France, Barcelona Spain and more. Brochures and reservation forms available at St. Mary's Office, or from Catholic Tour at 1-877-627-4268 or e-mail jimadair@thecatholictour.com.

Calendar Dec/Jan