



Today's Gospel passage stands at the conclusion of a recitation of the tribulations that will occur in the final times. Jesus exhorts his disciples to keep awake. This exhortation is grounded in the way that Jesus' followers are to think about themselves: They are servants who are to take care of the home while the master is away (13:34). In other words, Jesus, in going away, is entrusting to his disciples what is precious to him, as symbolized by home and the family that lives there.

The challenging command to keep awake at all hours of the day and night when doing one's duty reflects the great value of those whom the servants are guarding and attending.

How we keep awake and what it means to guard and care for what is precious to Jesus is soon developed in another passage that repeats the imagery of watching at night, and so is linked to the Gospel passage for today. Following the Last Supper, Jesus leads his disciples into the Garden of Gethsemane. Leaving the rest of the disciples at one place in the garden, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John and proceeds further with them (Mark 14:32-33). This is an inner circle of disciples who are particularly close to Jesus. To these three he confides that his sorrow is so great that it may itself cause his death (14:34). It is in this context that Jesus asks these three disciples to "[r]emain here and keep watch" (14:34).

They are to be Jesus' support group, as shown by the fact that Jesus only goes a "little" way from them and then comes back to them in between his prayers. Because they keep falling asleep, however, Jesus admonishes them that prayer will give them the power to overcome their weakness (14:38). Prayer energizes the spirit to combat the fatigue of the flesh.

Thus, watching at all hours means providing support at all times to those entrusted to us. Prayer under girds such rigorous support, as does the realization that the ones we are called to care for are loved by Jesus as family members. Disciples are those entrusted with Jesus' family.

*Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by  
Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis*

**Readings for the Week of November 30, 2008**

Sunday	First Sunday of Advent Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
Monday	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Saint Francis Xavier, priest Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Saint John of Damascus, priest, doctor Is 26:1-6; Ps 118; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Saint Nicholas, bishop Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE**

Fr. Mondiek will have the St. Ann Advent Penance Service on Thursday evening, December 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**ST. ANN P.A.C. NEWS** The St. Ann P.A.C. New Year's Eve Dance will be Wednesday December 31st. The dance will be held in the school cafeteria from 7:00 pm to 1:00am. Happy hour will be from 7:00-8:00. Tickets will be \$40.00 a person which includes appetizers, beer, party favors, and champagne at midnight. For tickets and information call Jim Kreke at 910-0857 or Phil Kreke at 887-0146.

P.A.C. is selling 200 tickets for \$5.00 each toward a \$500 Kroger gift card. The drawing is when all 200 tickets are sold (usually monthly). We have tickets available in the school office. You can send in your money (checks make payable to St. Ann P.A.C.). We will send home the stub after filling out the ticket. Thank you in advance for your support!

**OFFERTORY SCHEDULE for DECEMBER**

<i>December 6/7</i>	
5:00 p.m.	Doug Conrad Family
8:00 a.m.	Mark & Jennifer Sanders
10:30 a.m.	Jim Kreke Family
<i>December 13/14</i>	
5:00 p.m.	Matsumoto Family
8:00 a.m.	Mindy Jones Family
10:30 a.m.	Hare Family
<i>December 20/21</i>	
5:00 p.m.	Craig Brown Family
8:00 a.m.	Ted Fontaine Family
10:30 a.m.	Eling Family
<i>December 24/25 need volunteers</i>	
5:00 p.m.	
Midnight	
8:00 a.m.	
10:30 a.m.	
<i>December 27/28</i>	
5:00 p.m.	Donges Family
8:00 a.m.	Kiep / Baumann
10:30 a.m.	Patrick Hayes Family

**USHERS for DECEMBER**

<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Neil Ferdelman, Mark Staarmann Joe Keller, <i>need one</i>
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Don Wolf, Dick Cepluch Mindy Jones, Terry Faucett
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Don Arent, Cliff Poppel Dave Beckett, <i>need one</i>

**LANDSCAPE BRICKS** Forty-six new landscape bricks have recently been added to our existing bricks. They look great and will remind you of many present and former members. If you have purchased one, and find that there is a mistake, please contact Susan at the parish office.

**ST. ANN GIFT CERTIFICATE FUND RAISER**

Still looking for that perfect gift for Christmas? Look no further. The St. Ann Gift Certificate program is your answer. There is a gift card for everyone on your list!

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### This Week in our Parish

#### Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes  
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

#### Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee meeting

#### Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

7:00 p.m. Rosary Society meeting in Parish offices

#### Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts  
 7:15 p.m. Choir  
 7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A.  
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul

#### Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m. St. Ann Advent Penance Service in Church  
 7:00 p.m. Pack 907

#### Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Confessions  
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass

#### Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes  
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

### ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Rosary Society December Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:00 PM in Parish offices. All are asked to bring cookies to share and a small gift for an exchange. Need a ride, call Mary Jo at 863-1700.

Help Needed – The Rosary Society tries to remember all those who are unable to attend church on a regular basis because of illness, age, etc. We don't want to miss anyone, if you know someone who should be placed on our list please call 863-1700 so we can remember them this Christmas.

**THE GIVING TREE** is now up in the front of church on the Hooven Avenue side. This is a great way to help someone in need this Christmas. The red tags are for needy Harrison Elementary students, green tags for Jefferson Elementary, and white tags for St. Ann parishioners. Please wrap gifts or put them in a gift bag, cut off the gift description at the bottom and make sure the tag is taped firmly to the package. No bows, please. Please return all gifts to church by Sunday, December 14. Thank you!

**Ring in the Holidays** with Glenmary Home Missioners Christmas Concert featuring Cincinnati Brass Band & Michael Chertock on Sunday, December 7 at St. Monica-St. George Catholic Church in Clifton to benefit the home mission ministry of Glenmary Home Missioners. The 2 p.m. concert featuring holiday music is open to music lovers young and old! For more information contact Jennifer Snedigar at 513-881-7498 or email [jsnedigar@glenmary.org](mailto:jsnedigar@glenmary.org).



#### Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

5:00 p.m. Marge MacQuiston – Birthday Remembrance (Helen Keller)

#### Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People  
 10:30 a.m. Antoinette Lauer (Beth Bollin)

#### Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Weekday

7:15 a.m. Ruth Huentelman (Golden Girls)

#### Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Weekday

7:15 a.m. Mary M. Mitrone (Women's American / Italian Society)

#### Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> Francis Xavier, priest

7:15 a.m. Martha Bushelman (Nancy & Mark Alfors)

#### Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> Advent Weekday

7:15 a.m. Communion Service  
 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton

#### Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Rose Toerner (The Huff Family)

#### 7:00 p.m. First Friday

For the Intentions of Tony Tozzi

#### Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> Nicholas, bishop / Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant  
 5:00 p.m. Alice Fiehrer

#### Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. William Kirchoff (Bill)  
 10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

6:30 p.m. Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

<b>Budgeted Weekly Offering</b>	\$ 12,072.00
<b>11/23/2008</b>	\$
<b>Shortfall</b>	\$ 0
<b>Year to Date Budgeted Offering</b>	\$ 241,440.00
<b>Year to Date Actual Offering</b>	\$ 186,984.83
<b>Shortfall</b>	\$ (54,455.17)

*\*NOTE: Figures not available at the time of this printing*

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Take a minute to look at the Centennial bulletin board in the vestibule of church. The pictures have been changed, and St. Ann Sacramental Celebrations is the theme. You may even find your picture in one of the photos.

We have ordered a total of 20 more Centennial blankets commemorating the St. Ann Centennial. If you would like to get one for yourself or as a gift, please order yours soon.

We still have St. Ann Centennial T-shirts available. Call the Parish office to get yours!

### Are you caring for an elderly or disabled loved one?

Join other caregivers to discover new ways to deal with stress during the holidays and to maintain your balance as a caregiver. Over 30 family caregiver support groups are held in this area each month co – sponsored by the Caregiver Assistance Network of Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio. Call 929-4483 for more information.