



St. Ann Catholic Church
646 Clinton Avenue
Hamilton, OH 45015
513-863-4963

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Stephen J. Mondiek, Pastor 863-4963
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PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish website www.stanncc.org
Parish Offices 863-4963
School 863-0604
Fax 863-2017
School website www.stannhamilton.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday 7:15 a.m. Sat. 7:30 a.m.
Sept. – May, Friday 8:00 a.m.
Weekend, Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Weekend, Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Holy Day, Evening 6:30 p.m.
Holy Day, Day 7:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Anytime upon request.

BAPTISM

Sunday after 4th Tuesday
Call Rectory to make arrangements.

WEDDINGS

No date should be set without consulting the Pastor. Call for an appointment at least six months in advance.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Please register by calling the Parish Office.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday, 4:00 p.m.

PAC NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE: Come celebrate the last day of the 100th year of St. Ann! St. Ann PAC will hold a New Year's Eve Dance on Thursday, December 31st from 7:00 PM - 1:00 AM in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, beer and champagne at midnight will be provided. Space is limited, so purchase your tickets now! Tickets are available at the school office. Feel free to contact Janice Hare for more details at 233-5852 or jmhare@c@cinci.rr.com.

Lord,
make us turn to You;
let us see Your face and
we shall be SAVED.



The concept of the Messiah is rooted in the covenant that God made with King David and his household. Originally the Messiah was a political figure who would restore the rule of the house of David over Israel. Later there evolved a concept of a priestly messiah. In the New Testament the concept is applied to Jesus, who *would* bring the *reign* of God to people.

The book of Micah the prophet presents the significance of the Messiah against the backdrop of the overwhelming oppression that the people of Micah's time are experiencing. The Messiah is the one whom the Lord sends from unexpected places to achieve unparalleled results. Micah was an eighth-century B.C. prophet. He lived through the invasion by Assyria of the northern kingdom in 722 B.C. and the consequent deportation of the northern nobles to Assyria and demise of the northern kingdom. Around 710 B.C. the southern kingdom of Judah, to which Micah prophesies, also was invaded by the Assyrians. One can imagine the feeling of *déjà vu* that the people of Judah must have experienced at this time. Would what happened to their northern brothers and sisters happen to them?

Constricting conditions often circumscribe hope. Jerusalem was under siege from the Assyrians. In this situation, Micah calls the city *Bat-gader*, a name that means "fenced-in maiden" (4:14a). He continues speaking of the degradation of the city by saying that the Assyrians "strike on the cheek the ruler of Israel" (4:14b).

It is in this context that Micah prophesies about the coming messiah. This anointed one will come not from the great city of Jerusalem, but from Bethlehem, "too small to be among the clans of Judah" (5:1). In the face of the prevailing weakness of the Jewish leaders in response to the Assyrian threat, the Messiah will come with the strength of YHWH" (5:3a). The result will be that the people of Judah will remain" because the Messiah "will be peace" (5:3b, 4).

The Messiah wonderfully upsets conventional expectations in the light of a past that seems to constrict possible outcomes.

Commentaries by Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, C.Ss.R

Readings for the Week of December 20, 2009

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday:
Saint Peter Canisius, priest, doctor
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33; Lk 1:39-45

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

Wednesday:
Saint John of Kanty, priest
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday:
Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89;
Lk 1:67-79
Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Friday:
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or
1:1-5, 9-14

Saturday:
Saint Stephen, first martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22

Sunday:
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128;
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;
Lk 2:41-52

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, December 20th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

Tuesday, December 22nd

6:30 p.m. Decorate Church...*Everyone welcome!*

Wednesday, December 23rd

8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction
 7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A.
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, December 26th

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

Sunday, December 27th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

Decorating the Church for Christmas - We hope you can come on Tuesday, December 22nd at 6:30 P.M. to help. We need all ages to help hang the wreaths, string the lights, and carry up the manger figures. Please consider making this part of your Christmas preparation. Mark your calendar now and join in preparing the church for the Christmas season.

Interested in some FREE good entertainment? Celebrate the Year For Priests at St. Max! Come see the 1st showing in Ohio of Faith of Our Father: The Story of a Priest. Produced by nationally recognized Theater of the Word, Inc, this is a funny, profound, and heartwarming story dedicated to those who dedicate themselves to us—our priests. This play is geared toward a general audience. It is appropriate for adults, teenagers, and older children. Younger children (under age 10) may be able to understand parts of the play, but it is not specifically geared to them. "Faith of Our Father" is a four person play (three actors and one actress). Each actor plays multiple parts throughout the story. The live performance will be Saturday, January 16th, 2010, at 7:30pm in the main church. Seating is limited – RSVP at the St. Max website, www.saint-max.org. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information about Theater of the Word, Inc visit www.thewordinc.org.

See the real Shroud of Turin! Are you interested in going on a pilgrimage to Italy, seeing the Shroud of Turin (which is displayed to the public only about every 50 years), seeing Rome (papal audience), Assisi, Milan, Florence, Padre Pio's town, etc.? Fr. Paul Bader will be leading this spiritual pilgrimage, from May 3 - May 14, 2010, saying Mass for us in each of the locations we visit. This would be the PERFECT Christmas gift to request or to receive! It is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity! Contact Kathy Klich, from Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Cincinnati, 513 825-8626, or kjklch@yahoo.com or for more information if you are interested in going to Italy. We are late in putting this together so contact as soon as possible. Reservations are due by January 29.

WANTED – FESTIVAL CHAIRPERSON/PEOPLE *Experience not necessary.* All you have to do is follow easy to read instructions. Be willing to make several phone calls in preparation of the big event starting in January. Be willing to have lots of fun meeting new people and sharing stories of the behind-the-scene events leading to the festival. Do it yourselves or gather a group to partake in the planning and execution of this GREAT event!
 Past chair people are always willing to give advice when asked and available for any questions that you may have. Please call Susan McAbee at 863-4963.



Saturday, December 19th Fourth Sunday of Advent
 5:00 p.m. Mariann Williams (Family)

Sunday, December 20th Fourth Sunday of Advent
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

10:30 a.m. Shirley Poppel (Family)

Monday, December 21st Peter Canisius, priest & doctor
 7:15 a.m. Ray Harris – 3rd Anniversary (Family)

Tuesday, December 22nd Late Advent Weekday
 7:15 a.m. John Boyle, Jr. – Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday, December 23rd Late Advent Weekday
 7:15 a.m. Leroy Renners – Christmas Remembrance (Family)

Thursday, December 24th Vigil of Christmas
No Morning Mass

5:00 p.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

Midnight For the Intentions of the Celebrant

Friday, December 25th Nativity of the Lord

8:00 a.m. For the Deceased Members of St. Ann Parish

10:30 a.m. For the Sick and Shut In Members of St. Ann Parish (St. Ann Rosary Society)

Saturday, December 26th Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 7:30 a.m. Richard Roesch (Windy & Judy Bowling)

5:00 p.m. Walter & Theresa Reumann (Helen Keller & Family)

Sunday, December 27th Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 8:00 a.m. Damon Jones (Mindy Jones)

10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

St. Ann Financial Stewardship <i>Thank you!</i>	
Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
12/13/2009	\$ 9,505.75
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 289,728.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 223,091.84
Immaculate Conception collection	\$ 1,380.50
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 1,318.00

your attention please

Fr. Mondiek will be exposing the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar from 8 a.m. until Benediction at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday. We *need* more people to *commit* on a regular basis to an hour at noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m. We also need persons who would be available to Sub for these same hours as well as hours 10am and 11am. Please call the Parish office if you can commit to an hour each week. If you currently are an Adorer on a different day and could switch to Wednesday, please consider doing this. NOTE: All **Adorers**, please be sure to sign the Eucharistic Adorers log so we know who is there. *Thank you to all who make this day possible!*

- Christmas giving is made easy with the St. Ann Grocery / Gift Card fund raiser. *We even deliver!*
- Donate your inactive cell phones, **no** chargers or accessories. Proceeds benefit the St. Ann Respect Life Committee. Boxes for used phones are at all the church doors. *Thank you!*
- We continue to sell LaRosa Buddy Cards....call the parish office at 863-4963 for yours (\$10).