



ST MARGARET MARY CHURCH
1830 W. Galbraith Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

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Parish Calendar

DECEMBER

Parish Advent Penance Service & First Reconciliation
Thurs., December 1st, 7:00 PM

8th Grade & High School Open Gym (GIFT)
Sun., December 4th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
at Little Flower

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Masses
Thurs., Dec.. 8th, 8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

St Nick Brunch
Sat., December 10th, 10:00 AM
Breakfast, Crafts and a visit by St Nick

Heavenly Fingers Mini Raffle
Sat., December 17th and
Sun., December 18th after all masses
Tickets 50 cents each or 3 for \$1.00

Christmas Masses
Sat., Dec. 24th, 4:30 & 10:00 PM
Sun., Dec. 25th, 10:00 AM

PYO Youth Social (Grades 4 – 6)
Tues, Dec. 27th, 7:00 - 10:00 PM
\$2.00 Admission, with permission slip

GIFT Junior High Dance
Weds., Dec. 28th, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
at St. Margaret Mary
\$7.00 in advance/\$10.00 at door

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction
Sat., Dec. 31st, 8:30 AM Mass,
1:00 PM Benediction

JANUARY

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses
Sat., Dec. 31st, 4:30 PM
Sun., Jan. 1st, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

FEBRUARY

GIFT Tubing at Perfect North Slopes
Thurs., February 16th, \$20.00
Open to Jr. High and High School

Casino Night
Sat., Feb. 18th, 7:00 PM – Midnight
\$15 per person, includes \$5 in chips,
food and soft drinks

Mardi Gras
Tues., February 21st,
Potluck dinner, 5:45 PM
Prayer service, 7:00 PM

COME TO
Casino Night
Saturday, February 18th

Reverse Raffle
Top Prize- \$599
Texas Holdem • 7 Card Stud • Big 9
Roulette • Split the Pot • Bingo Ball
Blackjack • Horse Races • Instants

Ash Wednesday Masses
Weds., February 22nd,
8:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Tuesday Lenten Soup Suppers
February 28th, 5:45 PM Dinner,
followed by either a speaker, prayer
service or parish penance service.

MARCH

Tuesday Lenten Soup Suppers
March 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th
5:45 PM Dinner, followed by either
a speaker, prayer service or parish
penance service.

GIFT Weekend Retreat
Fri., March 2nd – Sun., March 4th

GIFT Junior High Dance
Watch the bulletin for more information.

March Madness
Sat., March 24th

A P R I L

Palm Sunday Masses
Sat., March 31st, 4:30 PM
Sun., April 1st, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper
Thurs., April 5, 7:00 PM

Good Friday, Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
Fri., April 6, 12:30 & 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil
Sat., April 7th, 8:30 PM

Easter Sunday Masses
Sun., April 8th, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

Easter Egg Scramble
Sun., April 8th, After 10:30 Mass

SAINT MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH *newsletter*

WINTER 2011

www.stmargaretmaryparish.org



My dear friends in Christ,

Grace, peace and joy to you as we begin a new liturgical year and look forward to the celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord.

As you are aware we began using the new English translation of the Roman Missal, Third Edition on the First Sunday of Advent on November 27. It is important to remember that the Order of Mass is not changing, just some of the words we use. This is a wonderful opportunity to attune our minds and hearts anew to the words that we sing and pray.

As we patiently await the return of the Lord, may we also be patient with ourselves and with one another, especially as we learn the new prayers and responses. May our worship that we give Sunday after Sunday continue to be an offering of perfect praise to our God who has blessed us so abundantly.

Know of my prayers for you and your family as we enter into this joyous Advent and Christmas Season.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Fr. Jerry Gardner

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

The Parish Advent Penance Service takes place on Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 pm. If you have never attended a Parish Penance Service, this is the one to try. In addition to the traditional ceremony of a group service, six of our young parishioners will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. As a parish community, the support of our presence and participation demonstrate to our youth the importance of the Sacrament. There will be multiple priests available for sacramental confession. If you can't attend, please keep these youngsters in your prayers.



Many thanks to our Choirs for leading us in celebration year round!

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Join with us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior.

Saturday, December 24th – Christmas Eve, 4:30 PM

Often referred to as the "Childrens' Mass", our parish children help to celebrate at this Mass. Experience our Intergenerational Christmas Carol Choir with children and adults leading the congregation in joyful song. Carolfest and Mass will be accompanied by timpani and trumpet.

Carols begin at 4:10 pm.

Saturday, December 24th –Christmas Eve, 10:00 PM

Our Adult Choir will be accompanied by violin, cello, oboe, trumpet, and timpani. Carols begin at 9:30 pm.

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day, 10:00 AM

Our Adult Choir will be accompanied by trumpet and timpani. Carols begin at 9:40 am.



around the parish

PARENT YOUTH ORGANIZATION (PYO)

Thank you to all who attended the Turkey Dinner. It was a huge success! Proceeds support upcoming PYO events.

If you have little ones in your family, you won't want to miss the annual St. Nick Brunch on Saturday, December 10. It takes place in the PAC cafeteria beginning at 10:00 am and provides a fun-filled, festive program for our youngest parishioners and their families.

Guests are asked to bring a new toy or baby food to be presented to baby Jesus. All proceeds will go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to assist families in our area.



Is there a better way to enjoy the holidays than to send the teens off with their friends where you know they will have fun while staying out of trouble? The Winter Youth Social is just the answer. It takes place on Tuesday, December 27 from 7-10:00 pm in Madonna Hall. A permission slip is required and everyone will be restricted to Madonna Hall. More information can be found on the parish website, or contact Jenni Petrey, 522-1236.



On New Year's Day, January 1st, 2012 we will be serving brunch to the families at the Ronald McDonald House. We are seeking volunteers to help prepare and serve food. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Jenni Petrey.

FIFTH SATURDAY MASS & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

We will have a fifth Saturday Mass on Saturday, December 31. What a wonderful way to bring in the New Year, by spending some quiet time before the Lord to meditate as to what He might be calling us to. Mass will be at 8:30 followed by adoration and Benediction at 1:00 pm. We will have sign ups to allow you to commit to a time for adoration the weekend before.

Looking for something new?

Check out the many parish ministries and groups!

Ushers/Greeters	RCIA	Bereavement Ministry
Distributors	Bible Study	St Vincent de Paul
Lectors	Scripture Study	Holy Name Society
Servers	Men's Prayer Group	Women's Society
Cross Bearers	Youth Embracing the Spirit (YES)	Heavenly Fingers
Funeral Choir	Vacation Bible School	Rosary Makers
Parish Choir	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Parent Youth Organization (PYO)
	Faith Formation Committee	Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)
		Parish Council
		Bingo
		Festival
		Kroger Cards

GIFT YOUTH GROUP (Growing In Faith Together)

The GIFT youth group has been very active and busy over the past several months. Throughout September, the group has enjoyed a canoe trip, monthly open gyms, assisting St. Ann's "Shred Day" and monthly volunteer support of Market Day. For October our weekly meetings began, assisted St. Ann with their pancake breakfast (youth group fundraiser) and held the Jr. High Halloween dance. In November, our youth will partake in a weekend retreat at Higher Ground.

GIFT is open to all high school students. Our meetings are held every Wednesday at 7:30 PM in room 19 at St. Margaret Mary. For more information please see GIFT Youth Group on Facebook.

GIFT Junior High Dance

DECEMBER 28, 7:00 – 10:00 PM

At St. Margaret Mary

\$7.00 in advance, \$10.00 at the door

DJ, pizza, drinks and snacks included



2011 Parish Ministry Fair



ANNUAL PARISH APPRECIATION DINNER

Our parish appreciation dinner in October, coinciding this year with the Feast of our patron, St. Margaret Mary and our Ministry Fair enjoyed an excellent turn out. This annual event is an opportunity for fellowship and giving thanks for all of the many gifts and countless volunteer hours our community shares with each other to preserve the vitality of this parish. Thank you all!

CALLING ALL MEN!

The Holy Name Society will be holding it's regular scheduled meetings on the fourth tuesday of each month. All men of the parish are welcome! Our next event will be the summer parish picnic at Strickers Grove on Sunday July 1st, 2012.

**RCIA
(Rite of Christian Initiation)**

We are excited to introduce three catechumen who have agreed to continue their pursuit of studies on the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church during the Rite of Acceptance Sunday, November 13. They are Tracy Gehring, Brian McArthur and Anna Curtis.



We extend a warm welcome to our RCIA catechumen and their sponsors!

From this point on, the catechumens will join us for weekend Mass. After the homily they will be dismissed with the RCIA team to consider the meaning of the readings as they apply to Christian living. Please keep each in your prayers as they journey toward the time of full communion with the Catholic Church and with us here at St. Margaret Mary!

VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Every year the Church commemorates National Vocation Awareness Week following the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, this year from January 9 – 15 2012. We here at St. Margaret Mary take this opportunity to personally pray for vocations by signing up to take the Vocation Cup home for a week. The response to this effort has truly been wonderful. We again will have an opportunity to commit to a week to pray for vocations. Let us remain faithful to praying for priests so that God will send us many good and holy priests!

spotlight

St Vincent de Paul

The St. Vincent De Paul Society is about neighbors helping neighbors without concern for race or religion. Dedicated and unassuming, our parish chapter volunteers are always at the ready to provide assistance with the most basic needs.

Recently, parishioners and OLG students stepped forward during the Fall Food Drive. Approximately 100 bags of groceries were donated by parishioners, with OLG students adding another 1000 canned or boxed food items to stock the pantry with enough food for the winter. As a result 14 families in our area received food and a \$30 Kroger gift card for Thanksgiving Dinner.

These same families will be assisted at Christmas. As an annual tradition, parishioners faithfully answer the call by taking tags from the Giving Tree, providing gifts to be distributed during the holidays. Each child will receive four articles of clothing and the families will receive food and a \$40 Kroger gift card for their Christmas meal.

In addition to serving families directly, a small donation will be made this year to Birthright Pregnancy Center to help with the cost of diapers, and NCH Citizens on Patrol have adopted one of the families, providing small toys and food for the holidays.

Though much of what this group does is necessarily out of sight and behind the scenes, we can be confident that they are walking, talking examples of Christ's love to each person they find in need.

Can we email the newsletter to you?

If you prefer to receive the digital version of the newsletter instead of paper, contact the Parish Office, 521-7387 with your email address.