

Here we are on the first Sunday of Advent and we begin what traditionally has been the time of waiting. The church reminds us that we are waiting for the birth of Christ into our world, into our families and into our hearts. Personally, what are we waiting for this Advent season? What are our hopes for this season? Do we just hope to get through the holidays in one piece or do we want something more than that? Most of us will be deluged with the busyness of these days and will become numb to the deeper issues and desires of our lives.

So I ask again: If Christ were here in the flesh and wanted to grant us one blessing this Christmas, what would we ask for? Would we want an end to hunger throughout the world? Would we want the end of war in Yemen and in all those pockets of violence through out the world? Would we want to reverse global warming? Would we want to resolve the immigration issue? Would we ask to reunite all those children who were separated from parents at the border? Would we want to put an end to homelessness? Would we ask him to stop the opioid crisis and end all drug addiction? Would we ask him to help us with the mentally ill persons who roam our streets just looking for a little comfort? Would we ask him to stop the gun violence in our land so no more innocent victims would be killed? Would we ask him to heal all victims of abuse? Would we ask to eradicate cancer throughout the land? Would we ask for something for someone closer to us? Would we ask to heal a family member who is ill? Or would we ask for some superficial things: a new car, a vacation, all our bills paid, a winning lottery ticket, a new house, etc.?

Our society settles for the last items to bring us joy this Christmas and we will see ads upon ads telling us what we need to be happy. Let's not fall for it but allow ourselves to hold out and wait for something deeper this Christmas. Let's allow Christ to come closer and give us the courage to dream of a world where all God's children can find some joy. If we listen closely we will hear Christ turn the question on us and ask, "What are YOU waiting for? Don't just sit waiting for me to change the world but roll up your sleeves and let's create a world together where there is no hunger or war or homelessness or global warming or violence. Christ wants to know why we're waiting when he has given us what we need to build a world of peace and goodness. Happy Advent and let's do something!

Feast of Immaculate Conception: One combined Mass on Friday Dec. 7th at 7pm at Nativity.

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes again in glory.

Community

Pray for the Healing Presence

Bobby Allen Paul Andrecovich Marilyn Boomer John Bozich Shawn Burks Liana Caruana Ida Cherry Mary Cunningham Gary Davila Howard Dilworth Kyle Duker Heinrich Ericksen Jill Forton Doris Harris John Huddleston Addie Ingram Earline Johnson Ron Kirby Tony Lababera Vanessa Laco-Chambers **Dave Laverty** Catherine Lewis Edward Malik **Tiana Marguez** Michael Martin Mary Massaini Dina Maynard Leon McCool Gary Perzyk Judy Pierce Robert Preuss Celeste Rabaut Patricia C. Randall Elaine Rosen Carol Santa Maria Ben Saxon Tom Scallen Marvin Sims Len Stoehr Mark Tamer **Rachel Thompson** Enza Trah Anna Tyler Sr Jolene Van Handel Belinda Wilson Shawn Wilson Jenny White

"HOPE... is neither dream nor extravagance; hope is a necessity. It is life."

St. Charles Giving Trees

We will have two giving trees in the back of the church this year. The **green** tree is for our children, the **silver tinsel** one is for our friends who ride the bus. If you'd like to participate, select a tag, then attach it to your wrapped gift and return to St. Charles by Sunday, December 16. Gifts may be brought to the rectory, Monday – Thursday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM - or - to Steve Dearing or Harriet Lodholz at the 11:30 mass on Sundays. Thank you!

Religious Education News: Why the Jesse Tree?

The Jesse tree was created to help people link the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading up to Jesus' birth. The tradition of decorating Christmas trees actually predates the arrival of Christianity in western Europe and was adopted by the early Church in order to associate the custom more clearly with decorations related to the events of Jesus' birth and the prophecies about him in the Old Testament. Many parishes and families make Jesse trees during Advent to remind them of these events as they prepare for Christmas.

Symbols for December 2nd

Adam and Eve: Apple Noah: Rainbow or Ark Abraham: Field of Stars Isaac: Ram Jacob: Ladder Joseph: Coat of Many Colors

Help Families in Need this Christmas

You can help make Christmas a little brighter for needy families in southeast Michigan. Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan's **Saint Joseph Perpetual** *Help Fund* will help nearly 200 families this season, all nominated by Catholic parishes and Catholic organizations throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit. The more donations the fund receives by December 7, the more we can give to each family! Donate in one of two ways: Send a check made payable to CCSEM with "Saint Joseph Perpetual Help Fund" in the memo line to our CCSEM main office at 15945 Canal Road, Clinton Township, MI 48038. OR: Donate online at ccsem.org/donate. Select the box stating: "I would like to designate this donation to a specific fund." Then scroll down the list and select the "Saint Joseph Perpetual Help Fund." Donations received after the donation deadline of Dec. 7 will be used to help families throughout the year. Questions? Contact Kelly Luttinen at (248) 548-4044 x3621 or luttinenk@ccsem.org.

Online Giving

To be sure that your online donation is included in your contribution amounts, **we MUST have your email address.** Please make sure we have this information by either calling the rectory, sending an email to the parish *at stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com* or dropping a note in the collection basket with your email address. <u>Without the email address, your online contributions will not</u> be added to your collection data or included in your year-end statement.

FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS AT CVS

The following health screenings are being offered free in December at select CVS stores: *Body Mass Index; Blood Pressure; Glucose; Total cholesterol; Individual Health Access Plan; Professional Consultations; Smoking cessation counseling; Diabetes Resources.*In addition, you will receive a \$5 coupon for CVS Brand items for participating. **Dates** for the two CVS locations near St. Charles are as follows: 3200 E. Jefferson – **TODAY**; 12907 E. Jefferson - **Dec. 8 & 9.** For more information, call 855-827-7867 or see *CVS.com/projecthealth*

<u>**Upcoming Events / Meetings</u>**</u>

Advent at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House, Bloomfield Hills. Registration online or by contacting the front office at 248.644.4933 Ext. 0. December 9– Advent & Christmas Concert. Sunday, 3:00 PM. Caitlin Lynch, Soprano, and Jonathan Lasch, Baritone, accompanied by Jean Schneider. Afterglow follows. Info and tickets at: www.manresasj.org/120918-concert

SAVE THE DATE: ST. CHARLES WOMEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND February 8-10, 2019 -- Women of St. Charles! Your annual retreat at Saint Paul's Retreat Center in Detroit is on the weekend of February 8-10, 2019. This retreat experience is designed to help us rediscover the intimate call of God to each one of us to grow in holiness and live in JOY! For reservations, call Patty Gillis at 313.399.8320, or call the Retreat Center at 313-286-2801. You also register online mav at www.stpaulretreat.org.

Weekly Collection 11/25/18		
Envelopes	\$1	,678.00
Loose	\$	851.36
Maintenance	\$	
Thanksgiving	\$	85.00
Christmas	\$	450.00
TOTAL	\$3	,085.36

Rectory Hours: Mon-Thurs, 10a to 3p St. Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214 313-331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St. Charles Web Site: www.stcharlesdetroit.org

Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Pastoral Team

Brother Ray Stadmeyer OFM Cap., Pastor Gayle Koyton, Boulevard Ministry Rhonda Gilbert - Chairperson Alonda Walker – Vice Chairperson Adrienne Strubank - Secretary

Council Members

Mary Ann Andrecovich Peter Benedetto Danielle Daguio Gerry Danielewicz Jackie Harrison Steve Llorens Jessica Taylor Alonda Walker Mark Wedgeworth Paco Williams

December Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 2, 2018 Tony Gilbert (8:15) Robert and Albert Henley Bob, Helen, Alberta, Mary Rose, and Florence Henley

Wednesday, December 5, 2018 Harvey and Lorraine Dearing

Sunday, December 9, 2018 Mr. and Mrs. James Raggio, Lillian, Rose, Ernie, James, Steve, Andrew and Angela Raggio, Liz Cherry

Wednesday, December 12, 2018 Terrance Dearing

Sunday, December 16, 2018 Fr. Ed Borycz, Ed and Rose Borycz

Wednesday, December 19, 2018 Gregory Dearing

Sunday, December 23, 2018 Angela Bologna Sr. Mary Ann Untener

Wednesday, December 26, 2018 Georgia Hernandez

Sunday, December 30, 2018 Deceased Members of the Sinclair Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 03: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Matthew 8:5-11

Tues., Dec. 04: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Luke 10:21-24

Wed., Dec. 05: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Matthew 15:29-37

Thurs., Dec. 06: Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalm 118:1 AND 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Fri., Dec. 07: Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9:27-31

Sat., Dec. 08: Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd, 4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Sun., Dec. 09: Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

A St. Charles parishioner is in need of a reliable car for about \$2,000. If you know of someone selling a car or if you are selling a car, please call Mike at 313-506-6369. Thank you for your kindness!

As you start planning for the upcoming holidays, please think about donating to our new effort to feed those in need. We are going to collect Kroger gift cards that will be given to those who need food for the holidays. This way, they will have a say in the food that is served to their family and be able to retain a sense of pride! Donations can be dropped in the collection basket or given to Brother Ray or Rhonda Gilbert. Thank you for your generosity and compassion!

CITY RESOURCES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD: St. Charles is located in City Council District 5 and in Detroit Police Precinct 11. Here is some key contact information for those who live in the neighborhood. Clip this out and keep it handy in case you need it.

Mary Sheffield, District 5

Councilmember, (313) 224-

4505, CouncilmemberSheffield@det roitmi.gov

Marshall Bullock. District Manager, (313) 236-3523

BullockM@detroitmi.gov

11th Precinct, 5100 E. Nevada Ave. (313) 596-1100, Neighborhood Police Officer - Joseph Corbett (313) 643-0699

Using Your Mobile Device to Make Online Contributions... You can now use your mobile device to make online contributions! Follow these directions: (and see note below this week's mass intentions)

1. Go to

http://www.stcharlesdetroit.org
2. Click on the blue link with three white lines in the right top corner
3. Click on "Donate"
4. Choose to Login or Create Account
5. Follow the directions on the screen to make your donation!



website: www.goosenrealty.listingbook.com