

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024



**St. Patrick Catholic Church**  
139 W Main St.

**Mt. Sterling, KY 40353**  
(859) 498-0300 Office

stpatrickmtsterling@cdlex.org  
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**Diocesan Website:** [www.cdlex.org](http://www.cdlex.org)

**Fr. James Kinney, Pastor**

jkinney@cdlex.org  
(715) 296- 0219

Deacon Ron Allen  
Deacon John Roche

**Sr. Liz Wehri, Pastoral Associate**  
with focus on Hispanic Ministry  
859-404-8795

**Vicki Wenz, Pastoral Associate**  
Communion to the Sick  
859-585-1247

**Laura Groff, secretary**  
office hours:

Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9am -11:30am  
lgroff@cdlex.org

**Maynard Reinhardt, Coordinator of**  
Religious Education  
maynard.reinhardt0929@gmail.com  
606-207-3818

## Mass times:

Sunday 10:30am  
12pm Spanish

Thursday 6:00pm

**Reconciliation/Confession:**  
Thursday 5:30-6pm

**Religious Ed:**  
Sundays 9-10:15am

## Anointing of the Sick & Visits:

Please call the office if you know of someone in need of a pastoral visit.

**Marriage Prep:** Notify priest 6+mo. in adv.

**Baptism:** by appointment

## MASS INTENTIONS

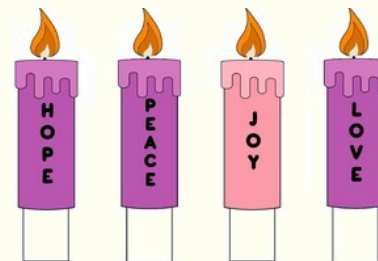
Dec. 22....Patrick Ridenour

Dec. 29....Jim Shaw

Jan. 05....James Louis Hyska

## DO YOU HAVE MASS INTENTIONS?

We have envelopes at back of the church. Ask an usher.



## A Word from Fr. Jim: Sunday, December 22, 2024

At the age of 4, I remember a great aunt, a nun, advising me to pray the Hail Mary whenever I was in need of any sort. And, to this day, it remains one of my favorite prayers- in need or otherwise. Today's gospel encounter between Mary and her cousin Elizabeth tells us so much about these cousins and even more about the God who blessed them with such telling graces. Oftentimes we imagine Mary, the younger of the two, hastening from Galilee to Judea out of concern and generosity to help her older relative, who is coping with pregnancy at an advanced age.

We can envision Elizabeth as the wise, elder mentor, embracing the bewildered teenage mother-to-be, offering her wisdom and strength in a difficult time. How much easier it would have been for her to have had John at a much earlier age and for Mary had her child arrived after her marriage to Joseph. Some may have earlier wondered why God was punishing Elizabeth for her barrenness. In Nazareth, the gossip about Mary probably started as soon as her condition was known. Perhaps my aunt, the nun, was thinking of these very challenges when she counseled me about praying during a time of need.

The coming of the Messiah was greatly misunderstood by most, even when the Christ was in their midst. The simple encounter between Elizabeth and Mary symbolized a meeting on the threshold between the old and new covenants. Like these blessed cousins, we too carry the mysterious power of God's life within us which enables us to be a source of delight and blessing for others. Let us ask Elizabeth and Mary to help us see what is happening among us, to discover God's workings and to leap for joy.

## New to Our Parish?

**Returning and need to update information?**

Ask an usher for the parish registration form. Complete and return to the church office or put in the collection plate.

We are happy you are here!

## DO YOU GET THE FLOCKNOTES?

Keep in touch with our parish through text and emails!

Text SJSPSA to  
84576

OR go to this  
QR code:



# RECYCLE THOSE LIGHTS!

Until January, we have a box to receive and recycle broken stringed lights in the back of the church.

Volunteers are needed to stay at Sterling House Warming Center during cold weather (<30F). 7pm to 7am. Please contact Vicki Wenz.



Want to recycle your real Christmas Tree to help fish? Closest drop off sites are in Morehead and Lexington areas. See QR code for more info.



# December Birthdays (Dec. 22nd - 28th)

- 12/22...Christian Melendez
- 12/23...Brian De la Cruz Lopez
- 12/24...John Mahler
- 12/24...Jesus Rodriguez
- 12/25...J.R. Butcher
- 12/25...Laura Fraley
- 12/25...Jacob Yenger
- 12/27...Arthur Walker



During December, please bring in Soups and Cereals for the MOCO Food Bank. A box has been placed in back of church for collection.

PLEASE USE RECYCLABLE WRAPPING PAPER OR REUSABLE BAGS THIS YEAR!



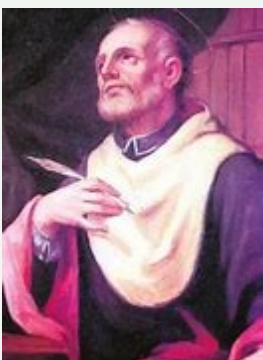
# UPCOMING ST PATRICK (SPC) or ST JOSEPH (SJC) MASS TIMES:

		SJC	SJC	SPC	SPC
		ENGLISH	SPANISH	ENGLISH	SPANISH
Christmas Vigil	12/24	4pm		6pm*	9pm
Christmas	12/25	8:30am	2pm		Noon
Theotokos Vigil	12/31	4pm			
Theotokos	01/01		2pm	10:30am	Noon

\*Music starting at 5:30pm for Christmas Eve at St Patrick. English Mass at 6 pm.

If you need an English Mass on Christmas Day, St Joseph in Winchester is at 8:30am.

“What kind of work can be more noble than to cultivate the minds of young people, guarding it carefully, so that the knowledge and love of God and His holy precepts go hand-in-hand with learning? To form young Christians and citizens- isn't this the most beautiful and noble-minded way to make use of life, of all one's talents and energy?”



- Saint John of Kanty (1390-2473)
- Patron of Students
- Feast Day Dec. 23