

## ADORATION CHAPEL

Jesus is calling you! Are you listening? Our Lord needs you to open your hearts and come spend an hour with Him in our Adoration Chapel. There are a number of hours that do not have coverage each week: open hours that need you. Please consider taking one of the following hours to help us keep our chapel open.



### The open hours for adoration are:

Monday - 2 am

Friday - 10 am, 11 am, & 1 pm

Saturday - 10 am & 12 pm

Sign-up sheets with available hours are in the entry of the Church, or you can call Mary King at 740-424-5112.

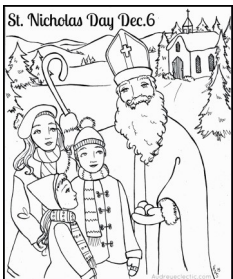
*The Rosary will be recited every Sunday at 9:30 am in the Church.*

## First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

DATE	MASS	INTENTION	REQUESTED BY
Monday 12/4	8:00 am	Mr. & Mrs. Greg Engelmeyer	Joe & Tracy Almeida
Tuesday 12/5	8:00 am	James & Margaret Langley	Mark & Jeanette Roberts
Wednesday 12/6	8:00 am 7:00 pm	Catherine Letcher Private Intention	Family
Thursday 12/7	8:00 am 7:00 pm	Thomas Kelly The Poor Souls in Purgatory	Debbie Straker Gregory Pace
Friday 12/8	8:00 am 12:15 pm 5:15 pm	Gabriel & Alayna Castaneda Pro Populo Lawrence & Nellie McDonald	Anthony & Jenna Edwards Estate
Saturday 12/9	8:00 am 4:00 pm	Bill Recinella John & Julia DiLoreto	Mike & Kathy Lally Ellie DiLoreto
Sunday 12/10	8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	Margo Turner Pro Populo Sister Sarah Nakyesa	Carol Chavez Anonymous

The **Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast** for *The Confraternity of Saint Nicholas & the Saint Nicholas Children's Choir*, is **THIS SUNDAY**, December 3, after all Masses. Cost: Adults \$7, Children 12 & under \$4, & family rate is a maximum of \$35.



On **Wednesday, December 6, 2023**, there will be a **special Mass for the Feast of Saint Nicholas**. It will be at Saint Peter Church at 7:00 pm, and the Saint Nicholas Children's Choir will be singing at the Mass.  
All are welcome to attend.

**Please Note:** There will be **NO** Confessions on Wednesday, December 6.

**Friday, December 8, 2023** is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** and a **Holy Day of Obligation**.

On *Thursday, December 7*, there will be a vigil Mass at 7:00 pm.

On *Friday, December 8*, Masses will be at 8:00 am, 12:15 pm, and 5:15 pm.

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** for the Holy Day on Friday, December 8. We will reopen Monday, December 11 at 8:30 am.



### **Saint Peter Church Groups and Events.....**

*All groups & events meet/take place in the Church Hall unless otherwise noted. All are invited to attend.*

The **Confraternity of Saint Nicholas** is NOT meeting in December. See you in the New Year!

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**Confraternity of Saint Peter** — December 5 at 6 pm

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**Book Club** — December 16 at 10 am — *Blessed Are You* by Mother Mary Francis, PCC

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**Knights of Columbus** — December 19 at 6:45 pm



The St. Peter Church CWC 17th Annual Toy Drive is underway and will continue through Sunday, December 3rd. If you would like to take part, please bring a new, unopened toy (not gift-wrapped) and place it in the marked box in the vestibule of the church. The toys will be donated to the Urban Mission. Thank you.

### **Church Support Sunday 11/26/2023**

Regular/Loose: \$7,479.01 • Maintenance: \$470.79 • School: \$66.00  
Campaign for Human Development: \$40.00

### **Women's Advent Evening of Recollection on Wednesday, December 13**

You are cordially invited to an inter-parish women's evening of recollection, which is centered around a time of private prayer and adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. To aid our prayer, there is also a short talk by a lay member of Opus Dei, and a meditation by a priest of Opus Dei. During the evening the priest is available for confession and spiritual direction. Our time of prayer concludes with Benediction.

The recollection takes place from 7-8:45 pm at the Oratory of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (formerly St. Pius Parish Church), located on the campus of the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus, 700 Lovers Lane, Steubenville. These recollections given by members of Opus Dei occur monthly, usually on the second Wednesday of the month. The next recollection is on January 10, 2024, same time and location. Call or text Dawn Bergsma (740-317-3884) or Risa Ryland (703-402-8520) for more information or with any questions.=

The Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus invite you to join them for **The Immaculate Conception Novena from now through December 7 at 7 pm** & to the **Holy Mass in her Honor on December 8 at 4:30 pm** in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory, 700 Lovers Lane, Steubenville. Let us honor the Patroness of our Nation & entrust America & our families to Her. For more information call 740-346-2625.

The **Steubenville Christian Young Adults (SCYA)** are hosting a **Meet-and-Greet Charcuterie Party** on December 3rd at 4pm. **All local young adults (ages 22-39) who are new to the area are invited!**

Please RSVP to Suzie Jackson at [susannah.r.jackson@gmail.com](mailto:susannah.r.jackson@gmail.com) for the address/details. Please bring beer, wine, or a charcuterie board/charcuterie supplies. If you can't make it but want to connect, send us an email!

### **Free Webinar for Parents: Guiding Your Children through Cultural Chaos**

Parenting is tough, & our culture is not making it any easier. Our children are facing challenges that many of us never dreamed about when we were younger. Please join us for a special online event designed to support parents & provide them with up to date information & resources from a Catholic perspective. The **Office of Marriage, Family & Respect Life** & the **Office of Christian Formation & Schools** are partnering with Family Honor, Inc, to offer a special webinar for parents. For more than 30 years Family Honor has been devoted to assisting parents in forming their children, especially in the areas of chastity & sexual integrity, through Catholic teaching & evidence-based information. The webinar will address the following topics: **The Problem with Porn; Gender Identity Disorder & SSA; & Social Media: Dangers & Safeguards.** Q & A will follow the presentations. The webinar will take place on **Tuesday, December 5, 2023, from 7-8:30 pm.** This event is **FREE but registration is required.** (A recording of the webinar will be provided for each registrant even if they miss the live broadcast.) **To register, go to [www.familyhonor.org/chastity-programs-near-me](http://www.familyhonor.org/chastity-programs-near-me).**

Questions? Please contact Joseph Schmidt ([jschmidt@diosteub.org](mailto:jschmidt@diosteub.org) or 740-516-9270).

### **Marian Retreat—Winter Convivences for girls ages 12-17**

Spend a weekend with Mary! December 8-10th — — Time with Jesus, Mary, Friends, and the Sisters.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory — — Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus

Register by phone: 740-346-2625.

The Franciscan Sisters, T.O.R. invite you to their Advent Retreat: *The Fullness of Time*, on Saturday, 12/9 at their Motherhouse in Toronto OH. The retreat begins at 8:30 am (registration starts at 8:00 am) and will end around noon. The day will include Mass, talks by sisters, and a Holy Hour. You will also have the option to be part of a sister-led share group, where you can meet after the retreat to reflect on the day's graces, or to receive prayer ministry from the sisters. You can sign up for the share groups on their website. To ensure a spot in the share group, please pre-register (online) by 12/6. Day-of sign ups for the groups are possible but not ensured. Registration for the retreat is encouraged beforehand on their website. The retreat will also be live streamed and virtual small groups (where signing up on the website prior to the event is required by 12/6) are available. For more information go to their website, hover over the "Events" tab, click on "Advent Retreat 2023."

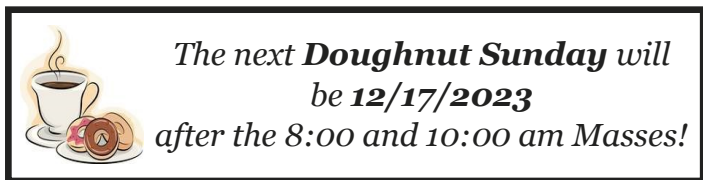
### Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus Upcoming Events

DOYMAR (Prayerful & Marian Apostolic Disciples of the Redemption) — Prayer. Formation. Community. Discipleship is for all ages! Participate in a monthly prayer group for girls and young women. Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Oratory (700 Lovers Lane; Steubenville)

Gatherings for 1st grade girls to College-aged & Young Professionals — Saturdays, 10 am-1:30 pm  
December 9—January 27—February 17—March 9 (1st-10th grade)—March 23 (older group)—April 27—May 25

For college-aged women and young professionals, overnight adoration begins at 9 pm the night before.  
Please RSVP your participation—740-346-2625 or novi-usa@hsmcj.org

Our goal for the **2023 Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign** is \$55,478.00. As of 11/21/2023, 78 families have pledged \$27,060.00 to the 2023 campaign. This amount has our parish short of our goal by \$28,418.00. Please remember all monies over our goal come back to our parish & we need this rebate money to help with our regular expenses. Thank you.



December: The Seven Sorrows of Mary – Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross  
Reflection by Monique Sammut

*"What a sea of tears & sorrows / Did the soul of Mary toss / To & fro upon its billows / While she wept her bitter loss; / In her arms her Jesus holding; / Torn so newly from the Cross. / Oh, that mournful Virgin Mother, / See her tears how fast they flow / Down upon His mangled Body, / Wounded Side, & thorny Brow; / While His Hands & Feet she kisses, / Picture of immortal woe. / Gentle Mother, we beseech thee, / By thy tears & troubles sore; / By the death of thy dear Offspring, / By the bloody wounds He bore: / Touch our hearts with that true sorrow, / Which afflicted thee of yore." ~ What a Sea of Tears and Sorrows by Charles Gounod*

Several years ago, a friend & I were having a conversation about life. I don't remember half of what we talked about, but one thing he said came back to me as I was thinking about this sixth sorrow & picturing Michelangelo's Pietà: *"We can't love people with closed hands – tight fists grasping & hanging on. We have to love others with open hands – willing to let them go."* In the Pietà, one of Mary's hands is holding Jesus, while the other is open, palm facing upwards in a gesture of surrender & openness.

Grasping comes so naturally. I think we all, in some way, grasp for control of our circumstances, our relationships, & many other aspects of our lives. We let *"Jesus take the wheel,"* but before long, we become back seat drivers. We take the good things God has given us & make the gifts more important than the Giver. There's a quote by Barb Raveling that says, *"One of the ways we love Him well is to hold His gifts with open hands, willing to give them up if they get in the way of loving Him."* We must always put God first, & everything else will fall into place. As we contemplate our Lady holding her crucified Son, let us ask her for the grace to *"let go and let God."* It doesn't matter what we are grasping right now – things, people, or circumstances, we can continuously surrender to God, & He will hear us & come to our rescue. During this month of December, as the year winds down & we prepare for Christmas & a new year, let us practice loving & living with open hands & open hearts, trusting in God when life is great AND when we don't understand or are tempted to despair. A Blessed Advent and Christmas to you all!