

SAINT VINCENT



December 6, 2009

Sunday of Ordinary Time

Rectory

Rev. Joseph Kraker, Pastor
Rev. Gordon Yahner, In residence
Rev. David McCafferty, In residence
Mrs. Shani Sinopoli, Business Manager
Mrs. Eileen Halaiko, Office Manager
Ms. Louise Grizer, Director of Development
Phone: 330-535-3135
Fax: 330-535-4160
Web Site: www.stvincentchurch.com
Office Hours: Monday- Friday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

School

Mr. James Tawney, Principal
Mrs. Laurie Belair, Secretary
Phone: 330-762-5912
Address: 17 S. Maple St., Akron, OH 44303
PSR
Mrs. Ellen Dies, Principal, 330-864-5484
Youth Minister: Cathy Sivec, 330-835-1427

Bulletin Deadline:

12:00 Noon Monday in Writing

Masses: **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 PM • **Sunday:** 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Weekdays: 6:30 AM • **Saturday:** 6:30 AM
Holy Days: 6:30, 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM

Confessions: Saturday: 11:00 to 12:00 Noon and Thursday before First Friday; 3:30-4:30 PM

Eucharistic Holy Hour: Wednesday: 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Rosary: Saturday at 4:40 PM

Parish Registration: New Parishioners are most welcome and should register at the rectory as soon as possible. If moving out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

Baptisms: It is necessary that parents attend a Baptism Preparation Program before the Baptism of their first child. Baptism Preparation classes can be completed at either St. Hilary (Sr. Marlene, 330-867-1055) or at St. Sebastian (Marival Ciarlariello, 330-865-5905). Call either parish for times and registration details. Proof of attendance should be presented to St. Vincent Church prior to the baptism.

Marriages: Couples intending to marry should call at the rectory at least SIX MONTHS prior to the marriage. It is required to have copies of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation records, if these Sacraments are not received at St. Vincent. Wedding times on Saturday are at 12:00 Noon or 2:00 PM.

Parish School of Religion (PSR) Pre-School - 8th: Classes are September through May. Classes are held in St. Vincent Grade School on Sundays from 10:15 AM to 11:15 AM.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (Convert Classes): Classes begin in September. For information, call 330-535-3135.

Hospital/Sick/Shut-in Visitation : Please notify the Rectory when a parishioner is hospitalized, shut-in or ill.

Funerals: Please notify a Priest as soon as possible regarding arrangements, either personally or through the funeral director.

164 WEST MARKET STREET • AKRON, OH 44303-2373

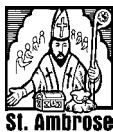


Masses for the Week

SATURDAY, December 5, 2009
5:00 PM Alice B. Lusardi



SUNDAY, December 6 * Second Sunday of Advent
7:00 Jim Walter—Anniversary
9:00 Catherine Tallon—Anniversary
11:00 Anthony Di Salvo
12:00 **Baptism** of Anthony Di Salvo



MONDAY, December 7 * St. Ambrose * Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
6:30 Special Intention—Living

TUESDAY, December 8 * Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary * Holy Day of Obligation
6:30 Margaret and John Pontius
9:00 Matthew Felber
5:30 p.m. John T. Henretta



WEDNESDAY, December 9 * St. Juan Diego
6:30 Warren Shriver—Birthday
7:00 PM **Holy Hour in Church**

THURSDAY, December 10
6:30 Pauline Schultz

FRIDAY, December 11 * St. Damasus I, pope
6:30 Rose Ahern



SATURDAY, December 12 * Our Lady of Guadalupe * Jewish festival Hanukkah begins
6:30 Evelyn Lavery—Anniversary, and deceased of the Lavery Family
5:00 PM Marie Daily—Anniversary

SUNDAY, December 13 * Third Sunday of Advent
7:00 Henry Wojcik—Anniversary
9:00 Jo Anne & Ned Boland
11:00 Sister Peter Claver



COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY, November 22 and November 29, 2009
Thanks for your Support!

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 15, 500.00
Collection of November 22.....	\$9,794.63
Children's Envelopes	\$34.12
Collection for Human Development.....	\$990.00
Collection of November 29.....	\$11,267.98
Children's Envelopes	\$32.47

THANK YOU!

KRUMBS FROM THE KRAKER-BARREL

GREAT GETTING UP DAY



What's going on down here, boss? We're getting ready to decorate the house for Christmas. What's Christmas? That's right, Minnie, you've probably never lived in a home where Christmas was celebrated. Christmas is the day when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. It's one of the happiest times of the year, and we have to begin now to get ready for it.

Sounds like I might enjoy this, boss. So what do we do first?

First we have to go upstairs and bring down all the Christmas decorations.

You mean we have special decorations just for Christmas?

Absolutely, Minnie, just wait, you'll see.

What are those things, boss? It looks like they chopped up a tree and brought the branches inside.

Not exactly, Minnie. These are artificial tree limbs, and we're going to hang them up over the doors.

Sounds crazy, boss, but don't let me stop you. What's that, they're bringing down the stairs? It looks like they took the whole tree this time.

They did, Minnie, and we're going to put the tree in our living room; but don't worry; it's not a real tree.

Are you kidding me, boss? Do you mean to tell me you're going to put a tree right here in the house? This Christmas must really be something.

Now hold on just a minute, boss, do you see what they're doing now? They're taking my chair, the one I sleep on. Where am I going to sleep?

Relax, Minnie, there are other chairs you can sleep on.

But that's always been my chair.

Sometimes we have to make changes to get ready for Christmas, Minnie, and I think you'll find the change is worth it.

I can hardly wait, boss.

You'll have to wait a little until Christmas day, but in the meantime you'll be able to enjoy the decorations. They'll put you in the Christmas spirit, and when Christmas comes, you'll be ready to celebrate.

I'm already getting excited, boss. This is starting to look really fine—nice lights, nice decorations, nice train. Wow, Christmas must really be something!

Nothing like it, Minnie, wait and see.

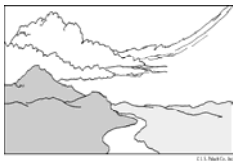


II Dennis T. Murray, St. Vincent and Kristen Rumbaugh

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of **Matthew Felber**, Son of Tony and Carol Felber, **Kenneth Breen**, Father of James Breen and **Bessie Yanda**. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.



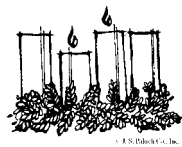
WELCOME to St. Vincent's Parish Community, **James Gregory Stallings**, Son of Gregory and Laura Stallings, who will be baptized at 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 6th. God bless you and your Family.



**Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2009**
God has commanded that every mountain be made low.
—*Baruch 5:7*

WRAPPED IN SPLENDOR

Today's readings begin with the announcement by the prophet Baruch: "Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever" (5:1). This Advent scripture reading summons us to be wrapped in splendor. During this time of year when we purchase wrapping paper and wrap our Christmas gifts, the Church asks us to look at what has been "wrapped" around us. Are peace and justice, the hallmarks of God's splendor, the wrapping that others see when they see us? Saint Paul reminds us that this "wrapping" should show that our love for one another increases with the passing of each day. As we await the coming of the One who was wrapped in swaddling clothes at his birth, we pray that we will be wrapped in the splendor of God. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



ADVENT REFLECTION John the Baptist comes to point the way to the Lord—not a roundabout or meandering way, but a direct way, a way that levels mountains and fills valleys, a way that takes us straight to God. How do we follow this road? It is simple, but not easy. It starts with repentance, a change of heart, and it leads to forgiveness in the waters of Baptism. That pattern of conversion is not something we can do once and be done with it. It must become the insistent pattern of our lives. No matter how many times we lose ourselves among the "Winding roads" and the "rough ways," we must have the courage—and the humility—to turn again to the path that will lead us straight to God.

SECOND COLLECTION this weekend—Religious face rising costs. Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Current statistics put this figure at \$35,077 per person annually, with skilled care reaching nearly \$55,000. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious and give generously to today's second collection. www.retiredreligious.org.



FAMILY PERSPECTIVES

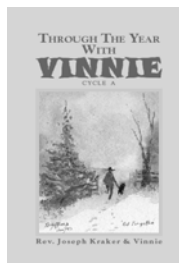
Sometimes it is difficult to imagine God's presence in the normal confusion of home life. The message in today's gospel is "God came to John in the wilderness." Even in our busy and hectic home life we are called to "prepare the way of the Lord." Your family life can be a "voice crying out in the wilderness, an example to other families of God's presence in a broken world.

For single parents who struggle to raise their children alone, that they may discover the support and encouragement of others. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

CONGRATULATIONS to the following winners of the Altar's Society's 300 Club Drawing for the month of November: Christa and Douglas Domer, Roberta Arnold, Nancy Ochsenhirt, Donna Warner and Connie & Bill Babcock.



COMING SOON

Another Vinnie book, *Through the Year with Vinnie*, is the first of a three part series which will offer reflections on each Sunday of the year. This first book uses the Gospels of Year A. When it arrives, hopefully by Christmas, it will be available at the parish office and at Grismers.

R.C.I.A. CLASS will meet on Monday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Scullen Meeting Room. The topic for discussion this week will be "Baptism".

YOU can easily make a lasting impact on the future of St. Vincent Church through a simple bequest written into a will. The savings in state and federal death taxes resulting from a gift to the foundation can be dramatic, and your charitable bequest can benefit your family's inheritance. Bequests can take a variety of forms. You can leave the foundation a stated sum of money, or you can make the foundation a contingent beneficiary in the event other beneficiaries die before you. You can provide a name by which the gift should be known. You can also leave the gift unrestricted or specify a charitable purpose. Please call Louise Grizer, St. Vincent Development Director, at 330-714-9684 to discuss all the possibilities available.

December Calendar for both Junior and Senior High

7- Pastor Installation Mass for Father Valencheck in St. Sebastian Church 6:00 pm

13- A Ceremony of Lessons and Carols (service hours) St. Sebastian Church at 3:00 pm. 2:30 pm greet and pass out programs. 4:00 pm set-up and run reception after concert. Baked goods are needed for this reception!!

18- Winter Wonderland Junior High Dance THIS IS NOT A FORMAL DANCE!!!! St. Sebastian Zwisler Hall 7-9 pm. Cost: \$5.00. Sponsored by Senior High Youth Ministry. All proceeds will help defray the cost of the Steubenville Youth Conference

Dress up to celebrate Christ's birth! Students should dress up in appropriate "Sunday Best" attire. This is the same dress code that applies for school dress up days! Boys may wear dress shirts or polos and dress pants (tie optional). Girls may wear a dress or skirt of modest length, or dress pants, with an appropriate top. Bare shoulders are not permitted!

Junior High only

9- Christmas Tea (service hours in St. Sebastian Zwisler Hall. Set-up from 2:30-4:00 pm

16- Shopping for Giving Tree Gifts (service hours) St. Vincent's Knights of Columbus will give us money to do their shopping. First 6 students to volunteer will shop! 7-8:30 pm.

Senior High only

8- Winter Wonderland Dance Meeting in St. Sebastian Byrider Hall 7-8:30 pm

Cathy Sivec home phone: (330)835-1427

St. Sebastian: (330)836-2233 ext 105

St. Vincent: (330)535-3135 ext.11

cathy@stvincentchurch.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL
Advent Ideas, Reflecting on a Year of Change, Looking Forward with Hope Listen to a favorite Christmas carol. Are the lyrics not only a song, but also a prayer?

Live simply so others can simply live. How will you have a simpler Christmas this year? Consider coordinating with a friend or family member to exchange charitable donations in lieu of gifts.

Millions of Americans remain separated from their families due to our broken immigration system. What can you do so that more families can celebrate the holidays together?

In celebration of **St. Nicholas Day, December 6** how can you show "secret generosity" to loved ones and strangers?

On the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8**, how can you mirror Mary's willingness and courage?

Celebrate the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12**. Almost 500 years ago, Mary appeared in an unexpected way. How does Mary appear to you in persons you might not expect?

The celebration of **Hanukkah begins December 12**. "As Christians and Jews, following the example of the faith of Abraham, we are called to be a blessing to the world. This is the common task awaiting us." – Pope John Paul II -from NETWORK, a Catholic leader in the global movement for justice and peace.

Prayers of the People for Clusters of Occupations (Cluster 43) For those who work in **material moving occupations**, that they respond fully to the call of our baptism and accept the grace to remain open to God's call to serve in and through their daily work no matter what they move and how they move it.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who earned Honor Roll status at Our Lady of the Elms High School: Ann Drude, Alicia Dubois, Emmaline Fisher, Lauren Goetz and Kyla Korvne.

ALTAR SOCIETY OFFERS BARGAINS! Boy-o-boy does our Altar Society have a deal for you! Just in time for Christmas giving, the ladies are having a "Christmas Clearance Sale" of the 1997 version of Cat's Meow wooden replicas of our Church, Rectory, and the old St. Vincent High School. There is a very limited supply of the sets which include the Church, Rectory and High School (only 10 sets remain) for \$27.00 per set, or just 9 remaining individual High Schools for \$10 each. These mementos are collectibles and make a perfect gift for alumni and parishioners. For more information, call Marilyn McCafferty at 330-836-3924. HURRY!



2009 POINSETTIA DONATION

During the Christmas Season we think of our loved ones, past and present. The Altar Society extends an opportunity for you to remember your loved ones. A flower donation of \$10.00 will be used to enhance the beauty of our Altar at Christmas and throughout the year. Please make your donations payable to St. Vincent Altar Society and either mail them to the parish office at 164 W. Market St., Akron, OH 44303 or put them in an **envelope clearly marked "Poinsettia Donation"** and place them in the collection basket. The deadline for donations and intentions to be printed is **Monday, December 14th, 2009**. Thank you!

DONATED BY:

YOUR INTENTION OR IN MEMORY OF:

TAIZE PRAYER will be offered by the Dominican Sisters of Peace on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. in Our Lady of the Elms Chapel, 1230 West Market Street. Simple and meditative, an evening of contemplative prayer in the style of Taize promotes serenity in all who participate. Invite your family and friends to accompany you. All are welcome. Contact Sr. Mary Noel, OP at 330-836-4908 for further information.

Grounds for Faith: A coffee house for young adults! Please join us for our annual Advent gathering on Friday, December 11. This year we will be having a dinner and game night. Each person is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. A main dish and drinks will be provided. If you have a favorite board game please bring it along. All single and married young adults are invited to attend. Events are held at Guardian Angels Parish, 1676 S. Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Copley, OH 44321. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. and dinner will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please

RSVP to Jennifer Sullivan at groundsforfaith@yahoo.com or 330-753-6265.

The Association of Guadalupe of Akron and St. Bernard Church invites you to celebrate the 478th anniversary of the apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe on Saturday, December 12 (Bilingual Mass) at 4:30 p.m. at St. Bernard's Church, 44 University Ave., Akron. After Mass in the Social Hall, enjoy Latino American Dances. Dance with Latin Music, provided by our DJ. Taste delicious Latin-American Food. \$5.00 per person. Free for children 12 and under. Food will be sold separately, plate from the menu \$5.00 Free parking. For information please call the Hispanic Office 330-253-5364, ext. 13.

A CEREMONY OF LESSONS AND CAROLS featuring the Handbell Bell Choir, Children's Choir, Men's Quartet, Parish Choir and Praise and Worship Ensemble will be held on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00 p.m. in St. Sebastian's Church, 476 Mull Ave. Free will offering and reception to follow. All proceeds benefit the choir's trip to Italy.



**SAINT JUAN DIEGO (1474-1548)
December 9**

How well Mary's own words describe St. Juan Diego: "God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:52). Through him, for the diverse peoples of the Americas, indigenous and immigrant, the Mother of God became known as their Mother too. Cuauhtlatzin, his given name, means "One Who Speaks Like An Eagle," and Juan Diego faithfully delivered the Virgin's request that a church be built at Tepeyac where she had appeared to him. To the skeptical bishop's request for a sign, Our Lady showed Juan Diego roses blooming through stony ground, despite winter's cold. When he unfolded his tilma to present them to the bishop, imprinted there was Mary's image! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus to peoples too easily prone to a "clash of cultures," Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son. —Peter Scagnelli, (c) Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

A BUSY MOTHER Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children. — St. John Vianney

FORGIVENESS God forgives like a Mother who kisses the offense into everlasting forgiveness. —Henry Ward Beecher