

# SAINT VINCENT



December 20, 2009

Fourth Sunday of Advent

## 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](http://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.

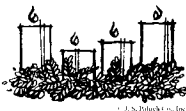
**Funerals:** Please notify a Priest as soon as possible regarding arrangements, either personally or through the funeral director.

164 WEST MARKET STREET • AKRON, OH 44303-2373



### Masses for the Week

**SATURDAY, December 19, 2009**  
5:00 PM Frances and Bud Palmer



**SUNDAY, December 20th \* Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
7:00 Marilyn Davis  
9:00 Judith Hackman  
11:00 Louis and Angie Maglione

**MONDAY, December 21 \* St. Peter Canistus**  
6:30 Kenneth D. Breen—Birthday



**TUESDAY, December 22**  
6:30 Earl Webb

**WEDNESDAY, December 23 \* St. John of Kanty**  
6:30 Bridget Eva Keeney  
**7:00 PM Holy Hour in Church**

**THURSDAY, December 24 \* CHRISTMAS EVE**  
4:00 p.m. Intentions of St. Vincent Parishioners  
7:00 p.m. William Kannel—Anniversary  
10:00 p.m. Warren Shriver



**FRIDAY, December 25 \* NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
10:00 a.m. Charlotte and Tim O'Connor

**SATURDAY, December 26 \* St. Stephen, first martyr, Canada: Boxing Day \* Kwanza begins**  
6:30 Joseph Kraker, Sr.—Anniversary  
5:00 PM Blanche O'Neil

**SUNDAY, December 27 \* Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
7:00 Special Intention for prayers answered  
9:00 Living and deceased of the Holy Name Society  
11:00 Intentions of the Tawney Family \* Baptism of Olivia Marie Fogle



**COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY, December 13, 2009**  
**Thanks for your Support!**

Weekly Budget..... \$ 15, 500.00  
Collection of December 13 ..... \$10763.39  
Children's Envelopes ..... \$34.70

**THANK YOU!**

**Merry Christmas** A Blessed and Joyous Christmas to all from Fr. Kraker, Fr. McCafferty, Fr. Yahner and the parish staff. God bless us one and all!

### KRUMBS FROM THE KRAKER-BARREL



### WHO GIVES, GETS

Shake a leg and let's get going, boss, don't be so slow.  
What's the rush, Minnie?  
Don't you know what today is, boss?  
Yes, it's Sunday. But I still don't understand what the hurry is.  
Church, boss! We've got to get to church.

I know that, Minnie, but it's only five o'clock in the morning. What are you going to do over at church at this time of day?

You know how it is, boss, the people are waiting for me over there.

I don't think so, Minnie. I appreciate your enthusiasm, but nobody gets to church this early.

Well, let's at least open the doors, so when they come, they'll be able to get in.

That we can do, Minnie, and then we'll just have to wait until the people come.

What time is it now, boss?

It's just a little over six o'clock.

Good, let's go.

I wish everybody was as anxious to go to church as you are, Minnie, but I'm not so sure your motives are as pure as they should be. I think you're just anxious to get the treats some of our people have for you.

Why, boss, how could you think such a thing? That thought barely entered my mind.

Then why are you so anxious, Minnie?

You see, boss, I've noticed how happy people are to see me. Did you ever see the looks on their faces when I come in?

That's true, Minnie, you do bring a smile to their faces, especially now that you've learned not to bark at them.

Precisely, boss. I look forward to Sunday mornings just because I enjoy making people happy. I guess you could say that's my way of ministering.

That's very laudable, Minnie, I didn't think you had such lofty thoughts. So, it's not about collecting the treats people bring you?

Yes and no, boss. You see, even though I set out with the desire to help others, that doesn't mean I don't appreciate the rewards I get from doing that. I've discovered there's as much joy in receiving as in giving.

That sounds backwards; I'll have to think about it.

**2009 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE****MASSES: CHRISTMAS EVE**

Thursday, December 24, 2009

4:00 p.m. Children's Mass

7:00 p.m. Contemporary Choir  
(Christmas Carols begin at 9:30 p.m.)

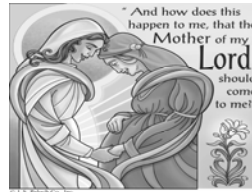
10:00 p.m. Mass—Adult Choir

**NO MIDNIGHT MASS****CHRISTMAS DAY: December 25, 2009**

Mass is at 10:00 a.m.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS,****Thursday, December 31, 2009 is at 5:00 p.m.****NEW YEAR'S DAY, Friday, January 1, 2010****(a Holy day of Obligation this year)**

Masses are at 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

**FAMILY PERSPECTIVES**

Jesus was born into a family. Because of his birth, not only was the world changed—the role of family life was also profoundly changed. Every family is called to recognize, value, and nurture the presence of God in their midst.

That families will be eager to uphold the rights of others and not be misled by ignorance or self-interest. **Let us pray to the Lord.**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK****Monday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56**Wednesday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66**Thursday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79**Friday: Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]**Midnight:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]**Saturday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128 or Ps 84; Col 3:12-20 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

**PLEASE NOTE:** There are no P.S.R. Classes this weekend. Classes will resume on January 10th, 2010. To all of our P.S.R. and Elementary School students and teachers, may you and your families enjoy a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Fourth Sunday of Advent****December 20, 2009**

O LORD of hosts,

look down from heaven and see;

take care of this vine,

and protect what your right hand has  
planted.— *Psalm 80:15-16***MEMORIES AND DREAMS**

There is an old saying that good gifts come in small packages. This is certainly borne out in today's scriptures. In the first reading the Lord announces that it is from Bethlehem, described as "too small to be among the clans of Judah" (Micah 5:1), that the Messiah would spring forth. In the Gospel story of the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, we can only imagine Mary, probably a young teenager, a small woman, bearing within herself the greatest gift the world would ever know. These scriptures have much to say to us as we look forward to opening Christmas gifts over the next few days. Nothing in any package beneath any tree can compare to the gift given to the world two thousand years ago. As we share the joy of Christmas, let us remember the greatest gift, Jesus Christ, who came into this world to save us and set us free. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**NATURE RESTORED**

Christ is born, that by his birth he might restore our nature. — St. Peter Chrysologus

**THE ALTAR SOCIETY 300 CLUB DRAWING** for the month of December will be held on Monday, December 28th. Is your money in?

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following Archbishop Hoban High School students from St. Vincent Parish who received scholastic honors for the first quarter of the 2009-2010 school year. **Highest Honors:** Maeve Kallenbach, Margaret Woods. **High Honors:** Elizabeth Green, Jacob Belair, Natalie Rothenbuecher, Meghan Donohue. **Honors:** Joseph Fallucco, Sarah Belair.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS—St.****Vincent Parish. K OF C FREE THROW**

Girls and boys ages 10-14 are invited to participate in the **Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition** on Thursday, January 21, 2010, in the grade school gymnasium. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. and last about an hour. Participants can register the day of the event or pre-register by contacting the grade school gym teacher for forms. Winners can advance to district, regional, state, and even national competition. Gym shoes only please. Sponsored by the St. Vincent Knights of Columbus. Contact Brian at 330-864-1242 for more information.

**KNIGHT AT THE RACES** The St. Vincent Knights of Columbus will once again be holding a “Knight at the Races on January 30, 2010, to benefit repairs to our Church organ. Our Church organ was acquired in March of 1942 and has helped set the atmosphere for many of our most sacred moments. It has been 25 years since the organ had any significant maintenance. Recently, the parish was told that the reeds on the organ needed to be refurbished to the cost of \$24,000. The Church would not be the same without a viable organ, the work must be done. In support of this effort please consider an ad for the “Knight at the Races” racing form. The ads are \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100.00 respectively; all you need to do is to offer some graphic such as a business card or brochure and we will have the ad put into the racing form. Considering the inexpensive cost of the ad and the benefit to our parish, the goodwill to your company is not such a bad value. For more information call Tom Carone at 330-835-4694 or Brian Walsh at 330-864-1242.

**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.

**YOUTH MINISTRY would like to wish  
Everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
Looking forward to 2010!**



**LEPRECHAUN BASKETBALL:** St. Vincent 1st and 2nd grade Boys and Girls Basketball Program begins Saturday, January 9, 2010. Practice and games every Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the School Gym. Please contact T.J. Pasadyn by calling 330-676-1877 or by e-mail at tj@cavanaughbuilding.com or Walt Whitmyer at 330-808-4549 or at walterwhitmyer@sbcglobal.net for information.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY...AND JUSTICE FOR ALL** Advent Reflection: *Hail Mary, Full of Grace.* This year, we have witnessed a whirlwind of change: an economic recession, a new administration, and more. How do we envision our future in the midst of this?

During Advent, we can look to a woman who also experienced great change. Mary, the mother of Jesus, com-

pletely surrendered herself to God's will. She had to convince herself, her community, and the man to whom she was promised that she was carrying out that will. In the midst of chaos, she had to envision that there was a future – that she would be the Mother to the Son of God.

What can she teach us?

- **Openness:** Mary was open to the Spirit. To God working through her, she said “may it be done” (Luke 1:38). By changing the ways we stand in solidarity with people around the globe, can we be more open to doing God's will?
- **Strength:** Mary was strong and committed. She possessed the courage to tell Joseph that she was carrying a child, knowing that she could face scorn or punishment. How can we show the strength to respond to God's call?
- **Hope:** Jesus' birth represents hope. Out of the complicated situation of an unwed mother was born the Alpha and the Omega. Out of political wrangling and citizens' rallies can come good. Where can we find and foster hope in ourselves, our communities, and our world?

-from NETWORK, a Catholic leader in the global movement for justice and peace

### *A CHRISTMAS PRAYER*

WHEN LIFE FORCES US TO WRESTLE with what's difficult, give us courage.

Teach us that there is a purpose in everything we experience, and everything is more than it appears to be.

This world is permeated by your Presence, and *is* your Presence in form.

May we be drawn to your Voice above the other, competing voices.

Great and Holy one, we pray for Peace.

Take us to the abode of Peace for which all hearts long.

WE PRAY TO FIND STILLNESS WITHIN our busyness, and Rest in the midst of our celebrations and activity.

Show us how to walk more gently, more patiently, on the Earth.

Let Kindness be born within all hearts.

Teach us to draw together as one people.

One humanity.

One heart.

One spirit,

One longing.

May our prayer rise up like fire and be Light for a troubled world. This we know. Something is trying to be born in us. Take our hand as we set out anew. —Paula D'Arcy

**LOVE NOW** Let those love now  
who never lov'd before;

let those who always lov'd

now love the more.—St. Peter Chrysologus

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY AT ST. VM: Course Beginning 1-5-10** Looking for some direction in your financial life? Want to learn what the bible says about money. Join us for this life-changing 13 week course that discusses a wide range of financial topics. This class is for everyone regardless of age, income level, or knowledge base. Families have better communication between spouses and with children. View the challenges of dealing with money situations through a different perspective. Here is what recent graduates are saying about FPU: This course taught me that debt is not a way of life. This class is a gift for young and old alike. As a couple you must manage your money, not let it manage you. It is definitely worth the time and money. **Classes led by Jim Bennet.** For more information or to sign up please contact John or Sally Olszewski at 330-867-7576 or [olszewskij@firstenergycorp.com](mailto:olszewskij@firstenergycorp.com).

### SAINT STEPHEN (first century)

#### Feast Day --December 26

“A man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit” (Acts 6:5): thus Luke introduces Stephen, first of seven deacons chosen by the community for its ministry of charity, first to lay down his life in witness to Christ. As the church’s first martyr, Stephen’s life and death mirror the preaching and passion of Jesus, “the faithful witness” (Greek, martyr) (Revelation 1:5). Like Jesus, Stephen works “great signs and wonders among the people” (Acts 6:8). Like Jesus, when falsely accused, Stephen’s face radiates angelic serenity (Acts 6:15), though his tongue, like Jesus’, is a two-edged sword. As the dying Jesus forgave his executioners, even making excuses for them, then commended his spirit into his Father’s hands (Luke 23:34, 46), so Stephen intercedes for his murderers and begs Jesus to receive his spirit (Acts 7:60, 59). How fruitful both passions! The penitent thief inherits Paradise; Saul, who consented to Stephen’s killing, is transformed into the fearless preacher Paul. Thus Stephen challenges us to bear witness not in words only, but by Christ-like forgiveness toward all.—Peter Scagnelli, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**SHARING GRIEF** — The Catholic Cemeteries Bereavement Ministry invites you to spend some special time sharing your grief with others this Christmas season. A bereavement support group session will be held this Sunday, December 20, from 3 to 4 p.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron. (330-724-1297).

**TOURS OF THE BEHLEHEM CAVE AND NATIVITY MUSEUM** The Bethlehem Cave and Nativity Museum are located in Nativity of the Lord Jesus Church at the corner of Killian and Myersville Roads in

Springfield Township. Guided tours are offered to the public daily at 2:00 from Saturday, December 26 through Wednesday, December 30. For more information call 330-699-5086 between 9-4 weekdays.

**CALLING ALL ST. PAUL’S SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM 1970** —We are in the process of putting together a list of all names/addresses/emails for our classmates in the hopes of having a 40-year class reunion sometime in 2010. If you graduated from St. Paul Grade School (Firestone Park, Akron) in 1970/high school in 1974, please contact Caryn Armbruster at 330-773-5243, 330-815-6940 or email to [clintner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clintner@sbcglobal.net) with your contact information, (Ladies, include maiden AND married names, please). You will be contacted as plans progress. If you are in contact with or know of any 1970 classmates, please pass this information on to them or to Caryn at the above numbers.

### RETRouvaille WEEKEND—JANUARY 2010

Someone once said “marriages may be made in heaven, but they sure take a lot of work on earth.” Have you become so distracted by outside pressures that you have neglected your spouse? Retrouvaille (Help our Marriage) can help you put your marriage back on track. The next Cleveland Retrouvaille weekend will be held on January 22-24 at the Cleveland Hilton Inn Beachwood. A Registration fee of \$50 is requested to confirm a reservations. For information concerning the program, or to register, contact Al or Diane Miskinis at 330-665-3506 or 1-800-470-2230. You may also learn about Retrouvaille on the web at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com).

### *How Simply Wrapped, This Richest Gift*

How simply wrapped, this richest Gift,  
From heav’n to earth come down:  
In swaddle lain upon the hay,  
Not even tinsel for a crown.  
No bow adorns this present Lord  
Nor ribbons wrap him tight;  
But hugged in warmest mother’s love  
Against the chill of Bethl’em’s night.  
This is the richest Gift of God;  
Salvation’s promise won!  
In swaddle lain upon the hay;  
This present Lord: God’s only son.

*MERRY CHRISTMAS!*