

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield
founded 1866

St. John The Baptist, Miltontsburg
founded 1841

Parishes of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

The Monroe County Catholic Churches

www.monroecountycatholic.org

334 South Main Street
Woodsfield, Ohio 43793-1027

DECEMBER 21, 2025

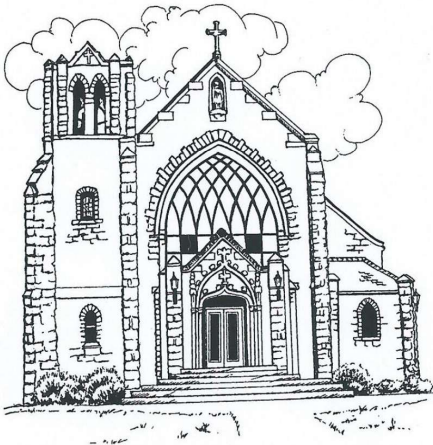
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IS 7:10-14 ROM 1:1-7 MT 1:18-24

Word of the Lord - Page 74

Fr. Nicholas Ward

Administrator



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Word of the Lord—Page 74

SUNDAY

DEC 21ST

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.
Living & Deceased of our Parishes

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.

+Ty Burkhart *by* Margie & Mary

Christmas Decorate St. John's following mass

MONDAY

DEC 22ND

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:30 p.m.

+Judy Carpenter *by* Linda Swallie

Christmas Decorate St. Sylvester following mass

TUESDAY

DEC 23RD

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 9:00 a.m.

Holy Hour 8:00 a.m.

+Mary Paulus *by* Paulus & Rodgers

WEDNESDAY

(No Adoration)

DEC 24TH

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

+Francis (Fritz) Schumacher

by Jennifer Winkler

THURSDAY

DEC 25TH

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 12:00 a.m.

MIDNIGHT MASS

Living & Deceased of our Parishes

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

+Walter J Knox *by* Regina Knox

FRIDAY

DEC 26TH

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield NO MASS

SATURDAY

DEC 27TH

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.

Adrianna Marangoni *by* Sony & Tina Titi

St. Sylvester, Woodsfield 5:00 p.m.

+Jimmy Partridge *by* Margie Partridge

SUNDAY

DEC 28TH

Sylvester, Woodsfield 8:30 a.m.

+Deb Schumacher *by* Perry Schumacher

St. John The Baptist, Miltonsburg 10:30 a.m.

Living & Deceased of our Parishes

**School Cancellation or
Delayed for Snow Days
Morning Mass**

**to be rescheduled
12 noon @ St. Sylvester Church**



OCLA

Every Thursday at 7:00p.m.

**Adult Catechesis Class,
Documents of Vatican II**

Every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Both locations at
St. Sylvester Church Basement

THANK YOU!!

We would like to Thank all the help we
received for the insulation of the
St. John The Baptist New Organ

Andy Schumacher

Perry Schumacher

The Chad Kuhn Family

Chris Crum

Mike Yonak

Danny Sims

Dan Burkhart

Chris Dickson

Swiss Hills Construction Trade Class..

Carter Cole

Vincent Adkins

Wesley Cole

Gabe Eing

Forgiveness and Hope After Abortion Did
fear and shame lead you or someone you
know to have an abortion? Or you felt as if
you had no other choice? Are you seeking
comfort from welcoming, non-judgmental
people to help you through your sadness
and guilt? We invite you to make a confidential
call to Project Rachel Ministry where you
can connect with others who understand
and can help. You're not alone anymore.
Peace starts here at Project Rachel Ministry.

Call 740-275-7038 or visit

www.diosteub.org/project-rachel

Our Sunday Offering

December 13 - December 14

St. John The Baptist

Adult Collection	\$ 720.00
Loose Collection	\$ 80.00
Education Fund	\$ 10.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 110.00
Imm Concept	\$ 50.00
Religious Retire	\$ 300.00
Mass Request	\$ 120.00
Building Fund	\$ 70.00

St. Sylvester

Adult Collection	\$ 2,267.00
Loose Collection	\$ 94.00
Education Fund	\$ 120.00
Candle Fund	\$ 25.00
Religious Retire	\$ 209.00
Christmas Offer	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 95.00
Immaculate Concept	\$ 100.00
CWC Dues	\$ 10.00
1st Offering	\$ 15.00

*Thank You for your
continued support of
our Parishes &
School*

This Week

Wednesday

St. Sylvester Church

NO Adoration

2025 DPSC Share Campaign

Your sacrificial gifts enable the dioceses to educate our seminarians, future priests, care for retired priests, oversee education of our youth through Catholic Schools, religious programs and youth ministry, assist poor and other local efforts, Please keep this in mind as you graciously consider your contribution. You can also donate online @ Give.DioSteub.Org

St. Sylvester Goal: \$29,390

St. John The Baptist Goal: \$17,806

Goal Received \$20,759

Goal Received \$10,773

In Loving Memory Of:

Emma Schumacher
Paul Ditto
Deb Schumacher
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher
Katy Madison
Paul Madison
Paul Madison Jr.
Charles & Mary Hunkler
Donald & Lois Stephen
Michael E. Koval
Norma H. Koval
Herman Burkhart
Hilda Burkhart
Madeline Mellinger
Billie Jean Elliott
Harry & Lucille Elliott
David Baker
Lowell Baker
William Bolon
Meri C Welsh
Raymond Baldwin
Alice & Ralph Buckalew
Grace Ann Joyce
Joe Fillippi
Ty A. Burkhart
Darrell & Charlotte Cline
Clara Rush
Virgil Rush
Francis & Edith Block
Virgil Block
Joe & Debbie Block
Gladys (babe) Burkhart
Jimmy Norris
Mary Ellen Barber Norris
Quinn Kahrig
Danny Betts
Edward Rensi
Vernon Butler
Cinderella Butler
Francis Stephen
Carol Moore
Imelda D. Scott
Francis Paulus
Freeda Paulus
Mary Paulus
Hilda Paulus
Michael Burkhart
Bertha Burkhart
Rebeca Burkhart
Robert Miller Sr.
Walter Knox
Josephina Jack
Lawrence Crock
Helen Burkhart
Francis Burkhart
Wes & Clare Hossman
Donald Miller
Larry Krone
Joy Taylor
Cindy Miller Stevens
Norbert Burkhart
Agnes Burkhart
Tina Burkhart Muffett
Francis Reischman
Hazel Reischman
Harold Robinson
Ellen Robinson
Cyril Burkhart
Eunice Gallagher
Joe Gallagher
Thelma Scott
Harmon Scott
Jimmy Scott
Richard Scott
Delores Quarles
Carol Lumbatis
Richard J. Sobocinski
Fr. Samuel Saprano

***Eternal rest grant unto
them, O Lord.***

Dear parishioners,

A few months ago, a parishioner brought to me a box of old photographs and belongings from parishioners long-deceased. One item that caught my eye was a little box, dated 1899: a collection of holy cards, the property of a Miss Annie Schumacher. I was stunned by the antiquity and artistry of many of those cards, many of which had their prayers printed in fine German script. One of them caught my eye: A Christmas Card, bearing the image of the infant Christ, with the following prayer on the obverse side:

"O blessed Jesus, who did not disdain to lay aside the glory of Heaven and come upon earth in poverty and lowliness, help us to cast all our pride at Thy feet and serve thee in true humility for Thy dear sake."

I will speak more of this humility of Christ in my Christmas homily, but I wish to give you the words of the late great Pope Benedict XVI to think on, who leads us in his Christmas Eve homily of 2011 to consider Christ's humility in His Nativity as he thinks on the place where Christ was born in Bethlehem:

"Today, anyone wishing to enter the Church of Jesus' Nativity in Bethlehem will find that the doorway five and a half metres high, through which emperors and caliphs used to enter the building, is now largely walled up. Only a low opening of one and a half metres has remained. The intention was probably to provide the church with better protection from attack, but above all to prevent people from entering God's house on horseback. Anyone wishing to enter the place of Jesus' birth has to bend down. It seems to me that a deeper truth is revealed here, which should touch our hearts on this holy night: if we want to find the God who appeared as a child, then we must dismount from the high horse of our "enlightened" reason. We must set aside our false certainties, our intellectual pride, which prevents us from recognizing God's closeness. We must follow the interior path of Saint Francis – the path leading to that ultimate outward and inward simplicity which enables the heart to see. We must bend down, spiritually we must as it were go on foot, in order to pass through the portal of faith and encounter the God who is so different from our prejudices and opinions – the God who conceals himself in the humility of a newborn baby. In this spirit let us celebrate the liturgy of the holy night, let us strip away our fixation on what is material, on what can be measured and grasped. Let us allow ourselves to be made simple by the God who reveals himself to the simple of heart. And let us also pray especially at this hour for all who have to celebrate Christmas in poverty, in suffering, as migrants, that a ray of God's kindness may shine upon them, that they – and we – may be touched by the kindness that God chose to bring into the world through the birth of his Son in a stable."

If only we humbled ourselves to embrace and love the God who humbles Himself before us! And love each other with the same humility! From the front of the aforementioned card:

O holy Child, inspire us with a desire to imitate Thy humility!

To you and yours, a very merry Christmas and a blessed new year.

In Christ, Fr. Nick

TUESDAY BINGO**January 6th**

Missy Knowlton
Randall Sefert
Eric/Kendra Billiter

January 13th

Courtney Collmar,
Jake/Krysten Schuerman
Jenna Rosnick
Missy Dean
Safreed/Pitt

SUNDAY BINGO**January 4th**

Robyn Guiler
Brooke Yontz

January 11th

Missy Knowlton
Terry Schumacher
Jess McKelvey

TUESDAY KITCHEN**January 6th**

Julie Selmon
Becky Baldwin

SUNDAY KITCHEN**January 4th**

Louise Kress
Robyn Guiler

LECTOR READERS

December 20.....Bill Frank
December 21.....Jill Schumacher
December 24.....School Children
December 25.....Tom Dick-Midnight
December 25.....Tom Stephen
December 27.....Steve Burkhart
December 28.....Becky Baldwin

**Scripture Reading
of the Week****Sunday****DECEMBER 21ST
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

IS 7:10-14
ROM 1:1-7
MT 1:18-24

Monday**DECEMBER 22ND**

1SM 1:24-28
LK 1:46-56

Tuesday**DECEMBER 23RD**

MAL 3:1-4, 23-24
LK 1:57-66

Wednesday**DECEMBER 24TH**

2SM 7:1-5, 8b-12,
14a, 16
LK 1:67-79

Thursday**DECEMBER 25TH**

IS 62:1-5
ACTS 13:16-17, 22-25
MT 1:1-25

Friday**DECEMBER 26TH**

ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59
MT 10:17-22

Saturday**DECEMBER 27TH**

1JN 1:1-4
JN 20:1a, 2-8

Sunday**DECEMBER 28TH
THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND
JOSEPH**

SIR 3:2-6, 12-14
COL 3:12-21
MT 2:13-15, 19-23

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
IN MEMORY OF**

Arthur Miller
Ruth Miller
David Miller
Susan Thomas
Richard Schumacher
Teresa Lucas
Pandora Neuhart
Vernon & Cinderella Butler
Gene & Mary Louise Wells
Clarence E. Stephen
Luzelda E. Stephen
Lonnie T. Stephen
Kirkland & Mehler Family
George Mehler
James & Marie Kirkland
Kenny & Shirley Kuhn
Mark Kuhn
Don & Ruth Lafferre
Eva (Ellis) Riggensbach
Brian Ellis
John Guiler
Teresa (Guiler) Morrison
Roman & Clara Schumacher
Deloris Knowlton
Francis L Block
Virgil Block
Donald Miller
Lois Stephen
Paul Ring
Francis (Fritz) Schumacher
Fred & Betty Neuhart
Ralph & Maxine Keevert
Walter J Knox
Robert Miller Sr.
Albert & Clara Garfold
Glenn Dierkes
Tom Dierkes
Ed Rensi
Segundo Baguio
Mildred Baguio
Cyril Gallagher

Susan Schumacher Thomas
Rosemary Schumacher
Anna Hinderlong
Joe Brooks
Mary Malanowski
Buzz & Enola Riggs
Don & Bessie Ann Freeman
Gerald & Goldie Weiss
Raymond Baldwin
Alice & Ralph Buckalew
Grace Ann Joyce
George & Martha Kress
Clarence & Helen Hoff
Fred, Clem, & George Jr. Kress
Jane & Richard Radon
Floyd Griffin
Larry Okey
Myrna Minder
Sally Hall
Leona Hoskinson
Joseph Pirl Sr.
Richard Passio Sr.
Hilda Burkhart
Madeline Mellinger
Edith Block
Joe & Debbie Block
Wes & Clara Hossman
Candy & Joy
Teresa Baguio
Francis, Edith & Virgil Block
Donald & Lois Stephen
Charles & Mary Hunkler
Theresa Garfold
Kenny & Ruthann Knox
Dorothy Stungis
Dorothy Dierkes
John Dierkes
Stephen E. Hooper
Joe Gallagher
Billie Jean Elliott
Eunice Gallagher

Katy & Paul Madison
Kathy Hannahs
Louis & Estelle Schumacher Family
Jim Partridge
Jimmy Partridge
Clara Hall
Ruth Hall

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
IN HONOR:**

Andy Vinskovich
Barbara Stephen
Helen Marie Ring

**St. Joseph of Monroe County,
Council 5009 of the Knights of Columbus
Anthony Schumacher, Grand Knight**

Leading by Example—Our council seeks to develop a culture of charity, unity, and fraternity in faithful service to the Church and community.
New members are welcome to join us!

Next Meetings—*Knight's of Columbus Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 7th. Adoration at 6:00 p.m. Rosary at 6:15 p.m.
Mass at 6:30 p.m. Meeting to follow in the Church Basement.

*Catholic Women's Club Meeting is Wednesday, January 14th - 5:30p.m. @ Generations

