

Dear Parish Family

As this edition hits your letter boxes the Christmas season is almost upon us. The full details of times of Masses for Christmas appear elsewhere but I do want to point out a few important things to remember:



First, if you have older children, or your children are young adults, please consider coming to the 8pm or 11.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. The 5pm Mass is really for those families with small children but often the seats are full of older people who could easily go to a later Mass and help reduce the overcrowding at the early mass. As always, please do not try to reserve seats – it is a first come first served basis so that we are fair to everyone.

There will be no Saturday Vigil mass on Christmas Day for the Sunday, as ordered by the Bishop. We priests also need time to be with those we love on that day!

However, on January 1st there will be a Saturday evening vigil Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany.

There will be no scheduled confessions before Mass on either of these weekends.

St Francis is again planning to take a bus to Washington DC for the March for Life at the end of January. We have already been told that we have secured tickets for one of the big arenas being made available for a Mass with young people the morning of the March. Please consider sponsoring a teen to attend the March. We work hard to keep the cost as reasonable as possible and this is an awesome event for our young people to attend. While the media will try to tell us that the march is full of older people this is not true. The March is a very young event and the Mass in DC will have thousands of young people at it.

I am also happy to be able to tell you that we will be beginning a monthly youth mass. The first one will be on January 9th at 5.30pm and then after that the Mass will be on the first Sunday of the month at 5.30pm.

I want to thank all those who have worked so hard to make our church look glorious for this Christmas season. A great deal of work goes on behind the scenes to make everything happen and I am grateful for all that is done to make St Francis such a welcoming place as we celebrate our Savior's birth.

We have so much to thank God for – our families, our friends, the beauty of His creation. But none of this compares with the gift of His Son, Our Savior Jesus Christ. May Christ our Lord fill your hearts and souls with His light and Life this Christmas season and may you know the peace of the Prince of Peace.

With Christmas blessings

Fr Bob

# CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## **CHRISTMAS EVE (Holy Day of Obligation) LITURGIES (Friday, Dec. 24)**

**(No Mid-night Mass – Last Mass at 11:30 PM, see below)**

**5:00 p.m.** - Good Measure & Children Choirs, carols at 4:30 pm.

PLEASE NOTE: *The 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve is a Family Mass and has been very crowded in recent years. To be assured a seat, please consider coming to a later Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Mass. Thank you.*

**8:00 p.m.** - Acappella Women's Choir, carols at 7:30 pm

**11:30 p.m. (NOTE THE TIME)** - Adult Choir, carols at 11:00 pm (come early as church is darkened for carols)-----

## **CHRISTMAS DAY (Holy Day of Obligation) LITURGY (Saturday, Dec. 25)**

**(Only one Mass on Christmas Day)**

**10:00 a.m.** - Adult Choir, carols at 9:30 am

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## **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day of Obligation) Liturgies**

**7:00 p.m. (NOTE THE TIME)** - New Year's Eve (Friday, December 31)

**10:00 a.m.** - New Year's Day (Saturday, Jan. 1)

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- During the season of Advent many of our families participated in our Advent Bag project. The families had an evening to spend completing the activities in the bag. They enjoyed a gospel reading, the lighting of Advent candles, enjoyed a holiday story and treat. They then sent the bag on to the next family. What a wonderful way to await the coming of Jesus!

- Our parish crèche moved to the Day Chapel, underneath the altar arch. The students in grades one and two have created a backdrop of the city of Bethlehem. Be sure to stop in and see their beautiful artwork.

- Congratulations to the students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the 2nd grade students who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

- We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week beginning on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. We have many exciting activities to enjoy as we reflect on our wonderful Catholic school! Watch for info about an open house and new student registration.

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## Market Day

Hope everyone took advantage of our November & December sale for the holidays. We had great sales those months.

In January, our sale will take place on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 to 9:00 am in the school cafeteria. Please pick up an order form or order on-line at: [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) and give us a try, if you haven't before.

We have a lot of items for the school lunches and quick fix dinner items also. Our chicken steaks are always a big hit. You may place an order by filling out the form and putting it in the collection basket at church or dropping off at the parish or school offices. Or you may call Natascha Bowman @ 349-8523.

As always the profits made from this goes to our tech lab at school.

# Women of St. Francis

The Women of St. Francis monthly meeting will be held **Thursday, January 13, 2011, 7:00PM, Johnson Hall.**

Our first speaker of the New Year is Larry Fugate, Public Relations Director for the Licking County Aging Program. Weather permitting Larry will “have the honor” of accompanying Lady Anne. (Readers of the **Newark Advocate** will be very familiar with Larry’s companion).

Speaking to us in his capacity as P.R. Director, Larry will bring us up-to-date on senior services provided by the Aging Program and answer any questions members may have. Rumor has it that the Aging Program is looking into the possibility of purchasing Miller’s Essenplatz Restaurant for their new Senior Center. Larry has promised to give us the “latest” on the progress of the real estate deal.

During the short business meeting, plans will be finalized for the Ladies Brunch (invitation below) and the Nursing Home Bingo Party, which is scheduled for February 3. Sound like an interesting, enlightening and fun evening? If so, make plans to join us. Need a ride? Feel free to contact Ann Forgrave @366-3090.

**An Invitation to ALL ladies of St. Francis de Sales Parish  
Wives, Moms, Daughters, Sisters, Grandmas, Granddaughters, Aunts, Nieces, Cousins, Friends**

**Take a break from the winter blahs  
Come, join us for delicious food and great fellowship**

**Event: 8th Annual Ladies Brunch – sponsored by the Women of St. Francis  
Location: Johnson Hall  
Date: Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Time: 9:30 am  
No charge (freewill donation accepted)**

*New this year – We are adding gluten free items to the menu*

*Our Program – A SURPRISE!!!*

**RSVP by – Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
Questions? Contact Debby Shelly @366-6924 or Lori Brown @323-3562**

**Reservation for Ladies Brunch – January 29, 2011**

**Please complete the reservation form and drop in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office (reservations will help us in planning food preparation). Mark envelopes W.O.S.F. Brunch**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number attending \_\_\_\_\_**

## **Knights of Columbus**

**Father Bill Johnson**  
**Council 11665**

Upcoming Activities –

**Dec. 21** – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Christmas Party, 6:30 pm, Sir Knight Jerry Oldham's house, Buckeye Lake

**Dec. ?** – Assist parish Environmental Arts Committee in decorating the church for Christmas

**Dec. 24 & 25** – Christmas Eve & Day Mass schedule. Assist with moving chairs to church and back.

**Dec. 28** – Council After Christmas Party, check with Grand Knight Jim Grady on the Time and Place

**Jan. 5** – Business Meeting, 7:30 pm, Lamy Center, Multi-Purpose Room

**Jan. 9** – Free Throw sign-ups after all masses, Johnson Hall.

**Jan. 18** – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting, Sts. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, Rosary at 6:30 pm

**Jan. 19** – Free Throw Contest. Need volunteers to assist with contest. Contact Brother Mike Weiland @ 366-5007.

**Jan. 23** – St. Francis de Sales Feast Day Breakfast. Need volunteers to cook, serve and cleanup

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### **ST. FRANCIS de SALES FEAST DAY BREAKFAST**



Come join us for Breakfast/Brunch to celebrate St. Francis de Sales Feast Day in Johnson Hall on **Sunday, January 23 between 9 am and noon.** Adults, Senior Citizens and Children are all welcome and invited.

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a smorgasbord breakfast/brunch with eggs, pancakes and all the trimmings.

**Prices:** \$6.00 for Adults  
\$4.00 for Children  
\$4.00 for Senior Citizens  
\$18.00 per Family



### **Free Throw Contest**

The contest is open to **all girls and boys between the ages of 10 and 14.** There will be winners in each age group.

**When:** Wednesday, January 19, 2011

**Where:** St. Francis Gym

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**To enter:** Fill out a K of C form at Johnson Hall after masses on Jan. 9 or at the contest.

Note - Parental permission is required on the form. Copies of the form can be obtained at the St. Francis School Office or by calling Mike Weiland @ 366-5007.

Winners go to a DISTRICT "free-throw" contest to be held during the first two (2) weeks of February. Regional contests and State Finals will be held in March. Winners will be notified as to the time, date, and location of each contest.

The Council had an International winner two years ago. He went all the way from local to district, regional & state.

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**REMINDER**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**The Annual Cub Scout Pack 8 Pancake and Sausage Breakfast**  
will be held on *SuperBowl Sunday, February 6, 2011.*

Check the Sunday bulletin and next month's Generations Magazine for more details.



## Business Bits

By Christy McNabb

I would like to start out by thanking all 400+ parishioner families who have returned their Generations pledge cards. This is wonderful! It is **NOT TOO LATE** to turn in your cards. Please remember that in order to stay active in the ministries you are currently active in or to keep your current offertory pledge, we need those cards! We are just about complete in updating all of your ministry selections and pledges. Ministry chairpersons will be receiving updated ministry lists by year's end so that they can begin contacting you in January.

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to Park National Bank. They sent 20+ employees here to the parish and school for their Day of Caring. They cleaned the church, washed windows, tore out lockers, and weeded some beds. This was a great help to myself and Jason (our illustrious maintenance person). We are so blessed to have such generous companies that allow their employees to volunteer in our community.

I wish you all a joyous and blessed Advent Season!

*Christy McNabb*



**Members of the Generations Committee want to be sure you know that your comments are listened to and addressed. For the next few months, you will see your comments and responses by Fr. Bob or the committee.**

Prayers of the faithful should include – EVERY MASS – a prayer for our troops – we are at war.

*Response – This was intended for a long time and thankfully now happens.*

Since it involves no additional expense to the church when sending out “news” could you please use both email addresses?

*Response – The office will need to test email both addresses. Currently one “family” email address is slotted in our family directory database. Look out for more news weekly by email from Fr. Bob!*

Why not create an email pen pal service for our parishioners only?

*Response – Unfortunately this is not possible due to privacy issues, but check out the parish Facebook page.*

One more lawn mowing team would lessen the load

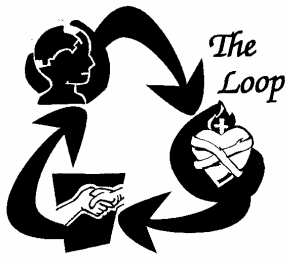
*Response – Information was passed on to Garden Club Chairs.*

The amazing improvements at St. Francis with the advent of Fr. Bob are most welcome and overdue. The department on the altar, dress and attentiveness of the servers enhance the sacredness of mass - beautiful

*Response – Thank you!*

Please bring Station 14 back to Mass occasionally. AND Have one weekly Mass with good, inspirational music (ie Station 14) that is geared toward the younger members of the parish.

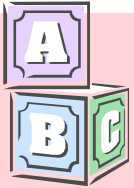
*Response – We are working with a group of teens to help with this sort of music.*



Students from **The Loop** celebrated the Thanksgiving season with a “Search for Thankfulness” game whereby they identified some of the many blessings God has bestowed on us, and how we can use them to glorify his name.

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### ABC: About Being Catholic



We welcomed the following participants of the ABC: *About Being Catholic* program at the Recent Rite of Welcome & Acceptance:

Catechumens: Rob Elkins, Robert Hall, Brad Hullhorst, Crystal Mummey, Danielle Pennell, Alexis Ryan, Matthew Ryan, Michelle Ryan, Dave Stalling, Lana Stalling, Parker Stalling, Riley Stalling, William Twitty

Candidates: Brian Bemiller, Garrett Bemiller, Heather Bemiller, Caleb Bemiller, Nathan Landerman, Tyler Landerman, Eric Lee, Kristen Stare, Rebecca Watson, Zachary Whitney, Tresha Winston.

Please pray for them as they continue their journey to full communion with the Catholic Church.

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### **St. Francis Respect Life Group**

The Respect Life Group would like to thank all of you who participated in the **40 Days for Life** campaign that ran from Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. Here are some final statistics that were sent out by the campaign headquarters:

- \* 82,000 participants
- \* 238 cities across 46 (US) states, Canada, Australia, Denmark, Northern Ireland and England
- \* 788 lives spared from abortion (that we know of)
- \* 8 abortion workers quit their jobs
- \* One more abortion facility went out of business on Day 2 of this Fall's campaign. And, during a recent webcast, there was mention of another abortion facility -- that has been the focus of 40 Days for Life campaigns -- was about to close located in Southgate, MI. When this happens, that would be the NINTH abortion center to close after a 40 Days for Life campaign was held outside its doors. Let's get ready and psyched up for the next campaign during Lent, 2011.

We invite you to join us to pray the rosary on Saturday mornings outside of the Church in front of the Blessed Mother's statue. We begin at 9:00 am, we're finished at 9:30 am, and we are there every Saturday morning, all year 'round. We KNOW prayer works!



# CUB SCOUT CORNER

**Thank YOU!** to all of you who supported Pack 8 by purchasing popcorn from us. Our fundraisers support all of our activities and helps scouts build character and faith. Over 70% of all proceeds go to local scouting.

Here are some of the fun activities your support funds:

In September, several of the Webelos I attended the Young Eagles Fly-In at the Heath Airport. The Scouts had the opportunity to fly in a light airplane and learn about flying. They were able to see Buckeye Lake and other local sights from the air. A great time was had by all.



The Webelos I and II worked on their Fitness and Athlete Activity Badges at the September Den Meeting in Gellar Park. They ran the 50-yard dash, did push-ups & pull-ups, measured their distance in the long jump, and discussed food choices for healthy living. The Scouts will be tracking their improvement over the next 30 days. In October, the Webelos prepared for the Webelos Woods session & campout at Camp Falling Rock and carving pumpkins into Jack-O-Lanterns for the pumpkin carving contest at the October Pack Meeting.

## **Bottle Rocket Blast OFF!**

On November 14<sup>th</sup> Pack 8 celebrated Veterans by learning about flag retirement and holding a flag retirement ceremony at Gellar Park in Heath. Several of the scouts have friends and relatives that are



currently serving in the armed forces or are veterans. They honored them with respect and dignity during their flag retirement ceremony.

The ceremony was followed by a celebration of our freedom with a pop bottle rocket blast off. The cub scouts prepared rockets made out of soda pop bottles and got to send them off with a bang at the park. Mr. Van O thought it was the best pack meeting ever he had so much fun.



## **Check out our Upcoming Events!**

*Items in italics are optional council wide events.*

Christmas Caroling at Chapel Grove is now on THURSDAY, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 6-8PM

NO PACK MTG FOR DECEMBER

1/20/2011 6:30 pm Pack Meeting

*2/6/2011 All Day Scout Sunday*



**FROM FATHER BOB, DEACON STEVE & the PARISH STAFF**  
And THE EDITOR & STAFF of *GENERATIONS MAGAZINE*

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January 2011

Dec. 31 & 1<sup>st</sup> – Holy Day, Mary, Mother of God  
Mass Schedule  
3<sup>rd</sup> – St. Francis School Classes Resume  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> – About Being Catholic  
(ABC), 7 to 8:30 pm  
6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> – Women’s Bible Study  
9 to Noon  
8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Respect Life Newspaper  
Ad Sign Up after Masses  
10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – Adult Bible Study, 7 to 9 pm  
13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> – CCC Study Group, 7 to 9 pm  
17<sup>th</sup> – No School, M. L. King Holiday  
20<sup>th</sup> – Generations Mailing, 10 am to 1 pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> – St. Francis Feast Day  
24<sup>th</sup> thru 28<sup>th</sup> – Catholic Schools Week  
28<sup>th</sup> – News Deadline for Generations

### February 2011

2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – About Being Catholic  
(ABC), 7 to 8:30 pm  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – Women’s Bible Study,  
9 to Noon  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – CCC Study Group,  
7 to 9 pm  
14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> – Adult Bible Study, 7 to 9 pm  
17<sup>th</sup> – Generations Mailing, 10 am to 1 pm  
18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> – No School, President’s Day  
Weekend  
25<sup>th</sup> – News Deadline for Generations

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