

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



BEHOLD,  
THE LAMB  
OF GOD.

JN 1:36



## Mass Times

**Monday:**  
6:00pm

**Tuesday–Friday:**  
8:15am

**Saturday:**  
8:15am | 4:30pm

**Sunday:**  
8:30am\* | 11:00am | 5:30pm

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**\*Mass is Livestreamed watch via  
YouTube:**  
[bit.ly/SMOY-Youtube](http://bit.ly/SMOY-Youtube)

### Notice of Filming and Photography

In order to offer Mass online, we will be live streaming during the 8:30 Sunday Mass. This means there is a possibility your image and likeness may appear on camera.

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## Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at our scheduled time or by appointment.

Fr. Ed | 513.697.3960  
Fr. Stephen | 513.697.3102

### Scheduled Confession Times

**Monday:**  
6:30pm–7:00pm\*

**Saturday:**  
8:45–9:15am  
3:00pm–4:00pm

*\*Or until last Confession is heard*

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*Anyone in need of assistance at  
Communion please notify an Usher  
before Mass Begins*

## High School Youth Group

The SMOY/St. Columban High School Youth Group is looking for interested young adult volunteers to help chaperone youth events and participate in Youth Group activities to include small table discussions. No previous training or ministry experience required except a desire to share your faith with the youth of the parishes! Volunteers must be SafeParish trained and registered before working with students. Please contact Fr Stephen Hughes at [shughes@smoy.org](mailto:shughes@smoy.org) or [shughes@stcolumban.org](mailto:shughes@stcolumban.org).

## Attention all servers!

There will be a refresher training on Friday January 19th at 5 p.m. This is an opportunity for new servers to ask questions and for experienced servers to get to know the new servers. Having experienced servers to help demonstrate will be a big help! After the training there will be pizza social in the Fr James Hall from 6 p.m.–7 p.m. RSVP to Fr Stephen Hughes at [shughes@smoy.org](mailto:shughes@smoy.org) so we can ensure there is enough food.

## Join us every Saturday in church

During Adoration at 3:00 p.m., we will say a prayer as per Jesus's request to St Faustina of the Divine Mercy.

"At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion" (Diary of St. Faustina. 1320)

## Fathers Team

We invite fathers of all ages to join us at Fathers Team for informal fellowship and a deepening relationship with our Lord. We meet at 7:03 p.m. Thursdays in the Father Jan Schmidt Room (right off the new entrance) and at 6:03 a.m. Friday mornings in the Gathering Space.

Upcoming topics:

- January 25/26: Moving from Parent to Adult Mentor with your Kids
- February 1/2: The Stages of Marriage
- February 8/9: Strategies for Keeping your Grandkids Catholic

For more information, please e-mail [fathers.team.smoy@gmail.com](mailto:fathers.team.smoy@gmail.com).

## Spring sports deadlines

Baseball and t-ball: contact Nick Davidson, [nicholas.davidson4@gmail.com](mailto:nicholas.davidson4@gmail.com)  
Boys volleyball: contact Chris Booms, [boomschr@yahoo.com](mailto:boomschr@yahoo.com)



## Sunday Reflection

Fr. Ed Smith

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42

Questions, questions, questions! Life is filled with them, and some are more important than others. In our Gospel, Jesus asks a question of Andrew and John: "What are you looking for?" It's a good question for us also. What are we looking for? The answer to this is the beginning of our life's work: our vocation. When many people speak of a vocation they think primarily of a priest or a religious brother or sister. The reality is: every Christian has a vocation to follow, a life to lead, a path on which to journey. And every vocation story is important to hear because it involves God's call and a person's response.

God calls each of us to say, with our psalmist, "Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will." So, what is it about a vocation that is so important? First, we are dealing with one of the most intimate parts of a person's life. We are exploring the deepest level of existence. Along with this, we are exploring why someone would be willing to sacrifice an 'easy' life for a life of service [think of the self-sacrifice involved in a Christian marriage, in loving parenthood, in priestly ministry, or in religious life].

Finally, there is, for many of us, the question of whether we are capable of living out such important realities or not. Can we do what God asks? Can we accept the sacrifices involved? Can we be happy in a life that is demanding? The answer is a resounding YES. When we are living out God's plan for us, we will find a happiness we never could have imagined, by embracing the demands of a sacrificial Christian vocation. One of the most beautiful moments in the Gospels is found in today's reading: John the Baptist was standing with two of his disciples. And as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God.' The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. That's our vocation: to follow Jesus and point Him out to others. This is a life worth living, even with all its questions!

## CLERGY & STAFF

### Priests

**Fr. Ed Smith**  
**Pastor**  
513.697.3960

**Fr. Stephen Hughes**  
**Parochial Vicar**  
513.697.3102

**Fr. Simon Peter Wankya**  
**Parochial Vicar**  
513.697.3113

### Deacons

**Paul Blessing**  
**Deacon**  
paul.e.blessing@gmail.com

**Mike Muse**  
**Deacon**  
mike\_muse@live.com  
513.504.8442

**Mike Huffman**  
**Deacon**  
mjahuffman@msn.com  
513.313.1121

**Jeff Perkins**  
**Deacon**  
deacon.jp@gmail.com  
513.226.6665

### Parish Staff

**Kathy McGaughy**  
**Business Manager**  
kmcgaughy@smoy.org  
513.697.3108

**Jacilyn Jackson**  
**Coordinator of Religious Educations**  
jjackson@smoy.org  
513.697.3109

**Josette Hudek**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
jhudek@smoy.org  
513.697.3105

**Birgitt Hacker**  
**Pastoral Associate of Adult Faith Formation & Ministries**  
bhacker@smoy.org  
513.697.3114

**Tony Arnold**  
**Pastoral Associate of Liturgical Music**  
tarnold@smoy.org  
513.697.3107

**Michelle Manczyk**  
**Communications Coordinator**  
communications@smoy.org  
513.697.3111

### School Office Staff

**Kristin Penley**  
**Principal**  
513.697.3123

**Stacy Brandel**  
**Administrative Assistant**  
sbrandel@smoyschool.org  
513.697.3121

**Natalie Cohen**  
**Assistant Principal**  
ncohen@smoyschool.org  
513.697.3124

**Amy Eisele**  
**Admissions**  
aeisele@smoyschool.org  
513.697.3122

Donut Sunday  
Next Weekend







" Who are the Knights of Columbus? We are men who lead, serve, protect and defend, whether we are providing financial and physical support to parish activities, lending a hand in the greater community, or supporting local pregnancy centers by donating ultrasound machines.

If you are a Man of SMOY who would like to grow in your faith, give back to the Parish and Community, and be with other men with those same values and goals, consider joining the Knights of Columbus.

We are having a reception for interested men and their families after the 8:30 Mass on Sunday, 1/14, in the Father James Brooks Hall. Please come down to learn more about the Knights.

To join the Knights of Columbus, contact Nick Avondet ([nickavondet@icloud.com](mailto:nickavondet@icloud.com)) or Tom Rogers ([smoygrandknight@gmail.com](mailto:smoygrandknight@gmail.com)). You may also use the link or QR code below and use the Council number 13429 to join:



<https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html>

## Just Faith ministry

**To enhance your Lenten journey**  
**Thursdays, February 8-April 4**  
**7:00-9:00 p.m.**



"Speak out for the rights of all who are destitute. Defend the rights of the poor and needy." (Proverbs 31:8-9) **As Christians, we are called to address the root causes of injustice while serving with love to care for those experiencing hunger and poverty, and thereby embracing our Creator's vision of hope, love, and peace.** Are you looking for a place to learn about and to dialogue with others on issues you are passionate about? Are you looking for practical ways to address today's issues? **Just Faith** may be just what you are looking for, a positive way to put your faith into action.

This Lent, St. Columban will be offering the archdiocesan recommended program called **Just Faith**. There will be four separate 8-week programs, consisting of one, two-hour session per week. The initial program is foundational to the other three and represents a compact overview of the **Just Faith** program, after which you can participate in one or more of the remaining program segments depending on which ones topically meet your specific interests. Each session will be led by a trained **Just Faith** facilitator. Registration information will be announced in January.

Prayerfully consider this spiritual growth opportunity, which is uniquely faith-enriching and probably experientially different from any other program you may have encountered. And prayerfully listen! Someone is knocking on your door! Direct questions to Mary Beth at [mbmeyer@stcolumban.org](mailto:mbmeyer@stcolumban.org).

## A Pro-Life Gathering for Her

**Saturday, February 24th**

**8:00am: Mass, followed by coffee**

**9:15am-2:30pm: Conference Presentations**

at St. Susanna Church  
616 Reading Road, Mason, Ohio 45040

*National & Local Speakers!*



Emily Macke



Rebekah Hagan



Donna Murphy



**Tickets: \$40**

Purchase online: [cincinnati.rightrighttolife.org](http://cincinnati.rightrighttolife.org)  
or call 513-728-7870

(Event includes lunch, and priests will be available for confession)



## 14th Annual

## Healing Touch for Self-Care Workshop

Sponsored by

**Healing Christ Ministry**

Sharing God's love, light and energy

A non-Sacramental ministry of Good Shepherd  
Since 2000

You are cordially invited to learn principles and techniques from the Healing Touch Program™ that can reduce stress and pain for yourself and others.

**Date:** Saturday, February 3, 2024

**Speaker:** Theresa Kajs, Ph.D., M.A., HTCP/I

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. (Doors open)  
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Lecture & demonstrations)

**Where:** The Community of the Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
8815 East Kemper Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45249

**Website:** [www.good-shepherd.org](http://www.good-shepherd.org)

**Cost:** FREE

**Who:** Anyone curious about healing touch and wanting to relax!

**Registration:** Please register by **Monday, January 29, 2024** to [www.good-shepherd.org/healing-touch-for-self-care-workshop](http://www.good-shepherd.org/healing-touch-for-self-care-workshop) or scan the QR Code to the right.

**Questions:** Patti Cecere at [htselfcare@gmail.com](mailto:htselfcare@gmail.com) or phone 513-535-1925

Scan to Register



8815 E. Kemper Rd. | Cincinnati, OH 45249 | 513-489-8815 | Website: [www.good-shepherd.org](http://www.good-shepherd.org)  
GS Mobile App Download: <https://www.parishsolutionsco.com/shepherdoh.html/>  
Facebook: [facebook.com/thecommunityofthegoodshepherd](https://www.facebook.com/thecommunityofthegoodshepherd) | Instagram: [instagram.com/goodshepherd8815/](https://www.instagram.com/goodshepherd8815/)



# Save the Date

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Events with a green bar under them are at St. Columban.

Events with a red bar under them are at St. Margaret

### 1 Quilting for a Cause

**January 14 | 1:00-5:00 p.m. | Parish Hall**

Quilting for a Cause meets once a month in the St. Columban Parish Hall. Over their 10 years, they have donated hundreds of quilts to many organizations in the Greater Cincinnati area, including Loveland Health Care Center and the Ronald McDonald House. They have collected bins of all kinds of fabric, thread and batting and are always looking for more hands to turn these materials into wonderful hand-crafted items for those in need. No sewing or quilting skills are required – they will help you learn. If you prefer to knit or crochet, they will gladly accept those items as well. All St. Margaret of York parishioners are welcome to join! The next gathering is 1/14.

### 2 St. Margaret of York School Open Houses

**January 18 | 6:00–7:30pm | School**

**January 28 | 12:00-2:00pm | School**

Save the date for our upcoming open houses.

**More Info:** <https://smoy.org/education>

### 3 Day of Prayer for Life

Friday, January 19, 2024  
8:15am – 4:00pm



We invite you to join us for a Day of Prayer for the Sanctity and Protection of all Life and for the Legal Protection of the Unborn as your time permits. There will be opportunities for Mass, Adoration, and Rosary throughout the day.

### 4 24-hour Eucharistic Exposition

**January 20 & 21**

Eucharistic Exposition is a Eucharistic practice in which the Blessed Sacrament is adored by the faithful. Our 24-Hour Eucharistic Exposition takes place from 8:45am – 8:00am (reposed 4:00 – 5:30pm for Mass) Benediction at 7:50am. Stop by anytime and come pray with the Lord. Is our Eucharistic Lord calling you to commit to an hour with Him? Become a Eucharistic Guardian. To sign up or get information to be a Eucharistic Guardian please visit [smoy.weadorehim.org](https://smoy.weadorehim.org)

## Parish Financial Support

### Sunday Offerings (December 2023)

December 3	\$ 11,563.18
EFT	\$ 12,341.34
December 10	\$ 17,852.56
December 17	\$ 15,776.01

WeShare Offering \$

**Total for current month to date \$ 57,533.09**

### Sunday Offerings (YTD)

(July 2023 – June 2024)

Not available at press time

Monthly Average:	YTD Total
\$ -	\$ -
Monthly	Annual
Fiscal Budget:	Fiscal Budget:
\$ -	\$ -
Difference:	
(\$ -)	

### Special & Designated Collections (December 2023)

**Debt Reduction (Close the Gap):**  
\$ 845.00

**Special Collections**  
\$ 3,235.00 ~ Retired Religious

**Total for Current Month:**  
\$ 4,080.00

### Mortgage Indebtedness

Principal balance on mortgage:
\$ 1,833,547.41
Number of Months left until payoff:
54
Amount of last payment:
\$ -
Additional Payment xx/xx/xxxx
\$ -

**Thank you so much for your generous support of St Margaret of York. Please be sure to use the correct year when writing your checks to avoid a delay in processing it. We greatly appreciate your generosity during this Christmas season and throughout the year.**



## Eucharistic Exposition

### Weekly Eucharistic Exposition

**Thursday**  
9:00am - 6:00pm  
(Benediction @ 6:00pm)

**Saturday**  
9:00am - 4:00pm  
(Benediction @ 4:00pm)

### 24hr Eucharistic Exposition

**3rd Saturday into Sunday**  
8:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  
(reposed 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. for Mass)  
Benediction at 7:50 a.m.

#### Eucharistic Guardian

To sign up or get information to be a Eucharistic Guardian:  
[smoy.weadorehim.org](mailto:smoy.weadorehim.org)

The Church is open whenever Mass isn't in progress for adoration. For access to building after hours, please contact:

**Josette Hudek**  
[jhudek@smoy.org](mailto:jhudek@smoy.org)

## Rosary

*This beautiful devotional practice is prayed immediately following every weekday Mass.*

**Tuesday - Saturday**  
8:45am

**Monday**  
6:30pm

## Sacraments

Please note all sacraments require formational preparation prior to the reception of the sacrament. Please contact the following for more information and to schedule:

**Baptism:** [baptism@smoy.org](mailto:baptism@smoy.org)  
(For Baptism please include your phone number when emailing)

**Marriage:** [marriage@smoy.org](mailto:marriage@smoy.org)  
(For Marriage prep please contact at least 6 months before anticipated wedding date.)

**Holy Orders:**  
[vocations@catholicaoc.org](mailto:vocations@catholicaoc.org)

## 5

## Mental health first aid

**January 22 and 29 | 6:00-9:00 p.m. | St. Columban Parish Hall**

Nearly 1 in 5 individuals in the US live with mental illness. As persons of faith, how can we be the hands and feet and face of Christ to those who are experiencing a mental health crisis? Mental Health First Aid is an evidence-based class that teaches participants common signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges, as well as how to interact with a person in crisis and connect a person with help. The class also helps to break down the stigma around mental health. Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio will be offering MHFA at St. Columban. The class involves 2 hours of online pre-work as well as attendance at *both* sessions. If you are interested in attending, contact Mary Anne Bressler, Parish & Community Engagement Coordinator, at [mbressler@ccswoh.org](mailto:mbressler@ccswoh.org), 513-672-3714.

## Discovering Our Deepest Desire

**Thursdays,**  
**January 18 - Feb. 29, 2024**

**St. Margaret of York | Day Chapel**  
**6:30 - 8:30pm**

Enrich your marriage through a series of fun and informative sessions and renew your understanding of what it means to have a Sacramental Marriage. Join us for a 7-night in-person series and "Build a Eucharistic Marriage" with activities, Catechism, and Bible reflections. The series will be presented by author and Director of Marriage Works Ohio, Greg Schutte.

**Cost:**  
\$20 per couple for materials


*Space is limited, sign up soon!*

**Questions / Register:**  
Frank and Lisa Hoffman  
[marriage@smoy.org](mailto:marriage@smoy.org)  
513.335.0595

**More Info:**  
[ourdeepestdesire.com](http://ourdeepestdesire.com)



St. Margaret of York  
9499 Columbia Rd.  
Loveland, OH 45140



# The Last Words of Christ on the Cross

Parish Mission with Liz Kelly

February 9 and 10



Join award-winning author Liz Kelly Stanchina for a two-day parish mission exploring the hidden graces unleashed in the last words of Christ from the Cross. Based on her most recent book, *A Place Called Golgotha: Meditations on the Last Words*, our mission will include time for guided meditation, private prayer, and reflection.

Visit her website at [LizK.org](http://LizK.org) or follow her on Instagram at [LizKToday](https://www.instagram.com/LizKToday).



Scan the QR code  
[smoy.org/parish-mission](http://smoy.org/parish-mission)

## Friday

7:00pm Intro to the Last Words and "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

## Saturday

8:15am Mass

*Please Note: On Saturday morning of the parish mission, we will still have our regular 8:15am Mass but we will not be offering Confession.*

8:45am Continental Breakfast

9:30am Mothers and Fathers at the Foot of the Cross

10:30am Break

11:00am "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?"



## Beyond the Parish Doors

Beyond our parish doors, there is a wealth of events and opportunities with external Catholic organizations. Visit <https://smoy.org/beyond-parish-doors> to see more events and volunteer opportunities in the greater Catholic community.

## Friends of Jesus

**Saturday, January 20 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. | All Saint Saints, Montgomery, OH**

Friends of Jesus is a group for adults with developmental disabilities (18 years of age or older). This group's focus is primarily for support, prayer and socializing. We come together in prayer, do some craft-making and enjoy refreshments. New members are always welcome but must RSVP first prior to attending so we can plan for food and craft supplies. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Jane Callan at 513.793.3546. Anyone bringing snacks for the group to share is asked to wrap the snacks individually.

This invitation is extended to neighboring parishes who would like to join us on the following Saturdays in 2024: **January 20, March 30, with a date in May for the year-end picnic in 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at All Saints Parish Center, 8939 Montgomery Road.**

We come together in prayer, do some craft-making and enjoy refreshments. New members are always welcome but must RSVP first prior to attending so we can plan for food and craft supplies. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Jane Callan at 513-793-3546. At our January 20th gathering we will focus on "God's Gift of Joy".

## New Day Grief Support

**Mondays, January 22-March 18 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
Good Shepherd Parish, Montgomery, OH**

This program is a structured way for adults to work through the "tasks of grief" when mourning the death of a loved one from any cause. Our program is made up of nine grief support sessions.

Register online at: [www.good-shepherd.org/new-day-grief-support-registration](http://www.good-shepherd.org/new-day-grief-support-registration)  
For more information: Kathy Teipen, 513-489-7489 or [kteipen@zoomtown.com](mailto:kteipen@zoomtown.com)



## Fatima, Lourdes, and Northern Spain pilgrimage

**April 15-24, 2024 with Fr. Maria Raju Pasala**

Our beloved Fr. Pasala from India, is leading a 10-day pilgrimage through Portugal, Spain and France to the Fatima Shrine, the Lourdes Shrine, and other sacred sites of St. Anthony Padua, St. Elizabeth of Portugal, St. Teresa of Avila, and St. Ignatius of Loyola. Fr. Pasala is extending his invitation to his beloved parishioners of SMOY who may be interested in joining him. For more details call 800-715-6670 or online at <https://www.catholicjourneys.com/tour/fatima-lourdes-pilgrimage-2023/>

## Become a Bulletin Sponsor

Did you know, our weekly bulletin is paid through our bulletin sponsors and actually provides extra funds to the parish? Becoming a bulletin sponsor is a great way to support the parish and get your business in front of your fellow parishioners. Interested? Contact: Chris Reeves | 800.477.4574 ext. 6206 [creeves@4lpi.com](mailto:creeves@4lpi.com)

**Please support our bulletin sponsors**

**Bulletin Sponsors of the Week**

Rumpke  
VolzCPA

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, January 15**

**6:00 PM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Ed Smith  
+ Jennie Wedig req. by  
Burke & DeBrosse Families

**Tuesday, January 16**

**8:15 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Stephen Hughes  
+ Frank Martin req. by  
Maureen Gallagher

**Wednesday, January 17**

**8:15 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Simon Peter Wankya  
+ Laverne Beede req. by  
Mick Beede

**Thursday, January 18**

**8:15 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Ed Smith  
+ Joe Kist req. by  
Maureen Gallagher

**Friday, January 19**

**8:15 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Simon Peter Wankya  
+ Patrick Hughes req. by  
Fr. Stephen Hughes

**Saturday, January 20**

**8:15 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Stephen Hughes  
+ Joe Johnson req. by  
Layman & Paula Cobb

**4:30 PM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Jeff Kemper

+ Thomas Goertemiller req. by  
Francis Smith

**Sunday, January 21**

**8:30 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Ed Smith  
+ Robert Kopack req. by  
WOW

**11:00 AM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Ed Smith  
Jim & Mary Ireton Anniversary req. by  
Jim Ireton

**5:30 PM Mass** Celebrant: Fr. Jeff Kemper  
SMOY Parish

*Please note celebrants listed are  
subject to change without notice.*



## Epiphany House Blessing

Epiphany celebrates the joyous truth that God calls into relationship with Himself not only the chosen people of Israel, but the entire world. Families have traditionally “marked” this truth by the practice of “chalking” the front door of their homes at Epiphany. This visible mark on your door reminds your family, friends and guests that you hope they will find Christ in your home, just as did the Magi who followed the star to Bethlehem.

### Here’s how it works:

Using the chalk blessed at Church, your family writes the numerals for the New Year over or on your front door. In the middle of the numerals, add the initials “CMB.” Tradition suggests that this comes from the Latin blessing, *Christus mansionem benedicat*, “May Christ bless this home.” These are also the initials of the three wise men, known to us as Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Both interpretations remind us of God’s generous gift of gracing us with his presence. Here’s the ritual to be prayed together as a family.

You’ll need a Bible and the chalk blessed at Mass. All make the Sign of the Cross.

### The leader begins:

**Leader:** Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

**All:** Now and forever.

**Leader:** After the Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Magi from the east followed a star to Bethlehem where they found the new-born child and worshiped him. Mary and Joseph cared for Jesus and watched over him as he grew. As a man, Jesus preached about God’s love for all, He favored the poor, healed the sick, and welcomed the children. He suffered and died for us and God raised him from the dead. He is here with us. Let us make our home a place of welcome and peace where all can see the goodness of Christ. Let us make our home a dwelling place of love. Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the Magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, help us who dwell here to be your light in the world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

The Gospel (and additional readings) for Epiphany may now be read by a family member: (Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72, or Ephesians 3:2-6). At the entrance of the home and with hands joined, the leader prays:

**Leader:** Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who live here. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

Family members then chalk the door with the inscription: 20+C+M+B+24

After which the leader concludes by inviting everyone to say the Our Father. Have a Blessed New Year!



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

The SMOY Knights of Columbus would like to thank the following people for their support in constructing the new Pavilion next to the school:

- Bill Turner from Building Inspection Engineers for his donation of services to create the engineered drawings.
- McCabe Lumber for providing materials at a discount.
- Mike Ott and the Parish staff
- The many Knights who provided their services and labor over many months to plan and construct this improvement for the SMOY community.

**Thank you!**

## Food Pantry ministry: item of the month

Oral care items are ineligible for purchase using SNAP benefits. In January pantries strive to provide clients with a brush and paste.

### ITEMS OF THE MONTH: toothbrushes, paste, floss, denture tabs

These and all non-perishable donations can be left in the box opposite the Parish Office and will be delivered to the Kings and Loveland LIFE pantries.

### Leadership Openings!

Might leading the Food Pantry ministry team be fit for you? Minimal responsibility, maximum fulfillment! We have an established relationship with the pantries, a robust set of delivery volunteers, and donations from the parish abound.

Leadership tasks are very family-friendly: Communicate pantry needs to the parish, maintain a SignUp Genius (2 volunteer driver spots per month), touch base with volunteers as needed. ~ 1-2 hours per month.

Contact [lindseygalles@gmail.com](mailto:lindseygalles@gmail.com) with questions.

# Day of Prayer for Life



Friday, January 19, 2024  
8:15am - 4:00pm

We invite you to join us for a Day of Prayer for the Sanctity and Protection of all Life and for the Legal Protection of the Unborn as your time permits. There will be opportunities for Mass, Adoration, and Rosary throughout the day.

## SCHEDULE

**8:15 - 8:45am**  
Morning Mass Concluding  
with Eucharistic Exposition

**8:45 - 9:15am**  
Rosary for Life  
with Meditations  
(Joyful Mysteries)



**9:15 - 10:30am**  
Adoration & Private Prayer  
**10:30 - 11:00am**

Seven Sorrows of Mary  
with Meditations

**11:00 - 12:00pm**  
Adoration & Private Prayer  
**12:00 - 12:30pm**

Rosary for Life  
with Meditations  
(Luminous Mysteries)

**12:30 - 1:30pm**  
Adoration & Private Prayer  
**1:30 - 2:00pm**

Rosary for Life  
with Meditations  
(Sorrowful Mysteries)

**2:00 - 3:00pm**  
Adoration & Private Prayer  
**3:00 - 3:20pm**

Chaplet of Divine Mercy  
**3:20 - 3:50pm**

Rosary for Life  
with Meditations  
(Glorious Mysteries)

**3:50 - 4:00pm**  
Benediction followed  
by Repose of the  
Blessed Sacrament







In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Saint Paul tells us to “Pray without ceasing.” (5:17). Perhaps as you think about that, it seems almost an impossible command because you have a job to go to, children to care for, dinner to cook, and sporting events to attend...you name it. You can feel defeated just reading that scripture. Fear not, because this isn’t a new predicament, it’s as old as Saint Paul’s letter itself and there’s a way to do it, with the Jesus Prayer.

The Jesus Prayer is an easy to learn, one sentence long, simple prayer that can help you on your quest to pray always. Here it is:

“Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

That’s it, a one-liner that’s even easy for your children to learn but huge in terms of always putting yourself in the presence of God and praying unceasingly.

### **Where is it from?**

There are several places in the New Testament that echo the words of this prayer. In Luke (18:13), the tax collector approached God in prayer with the words “Be merciful to me a sinner”. In Matthew (15:22), a Canaanite woman pleads “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David”. The blind man, Bartimaeus, in Mark (15:22) begged “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me” when asking to be healed of his blindness.

Beyond the words of scripture, the Jesus Prayer can be traced back to the monasteries of the 3rd and 4th centuries, especially the eastern orthodox monasteries, where it was prayed repeatedly on knotted ropes called *chotki*.

### **The depth of this simple prayer**

The Catechism in CCC 2668 tells us “The invocation of the holy name of Jesus is the simplest way of praying always. When the holy name is repeated often by a humbly attentive heart, the prayer is not lost by heaping up empty phrases...”

Beginning with “Lord”, we make an act of worship and a confession of faith by calling Him our Lord. Then the name, Jesus, the Holy name revealed to Mary and Joseph by an angel, gives us an intimacy with Jesus’ human nature. From that first-name-basis, we then call Him Christ, the anointed one, our savior. Our confession of faith continues as we call Him the Son of God and acknowledge that Jesus is God. Finally, in asking for Jesus to have mercy on us sinners, we acknowledge our wretched state before God and invoke His compassion both in forgiveness of our sins and in caring for our needs.

### **How to pray the Jesus Prayer**

Breathe in and recite “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God” and then exhale and pray “have mercy on me, a sinner.” When we breathe intentionally, we become aware of this natural function of our body that we take for granted. This grounds us in the present moment and helps us to relax. When we are busy at work or at home, this combination of our breath and our prayer helps us to be aware of God’s presence in our day. For those who like the feel of rosary beads in your hands during prayer, use them to pray the Jesus Prayer on each bead just like on a *chotki*. By inhaling and exhaling the words of this prayer, we make it as natural as our breaths and soon find ourselves praying without ceasing.

Written by: Birgitt Hacker

#### **Let us pray:**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
Have mercy on me a sinner.

# CONTACTS

## Parish Council & Commissions

**Education Commission**  
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**Finance Commission**  
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Mary Sue Loftus	Earl Wall
Nancy Kern	Barbara Wilders
Andrea Kittel	Jerry Young
Kendall Millette	Michael Zegarski
Mike O'Brien, Jr.	

## Prayer Request

The St. Margaret Prayer Chain Ministry prays for those experiencing a special need or emergency situation. They are a great comfort to anyone who feels alone when facing a time of crisis. You are welcome to be included in this special ministry, or if you have prayer intentions or requests, our prayers can be offered for you.

### Prayer Chain

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## Ministries & Faith Formation

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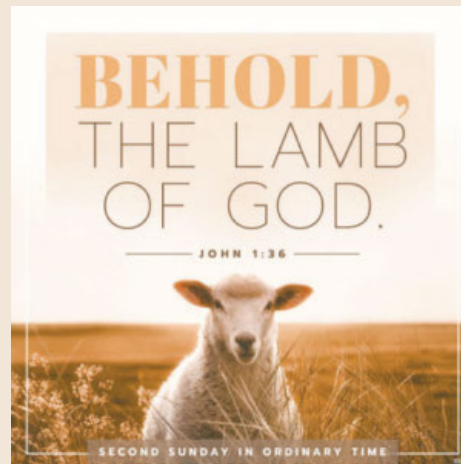
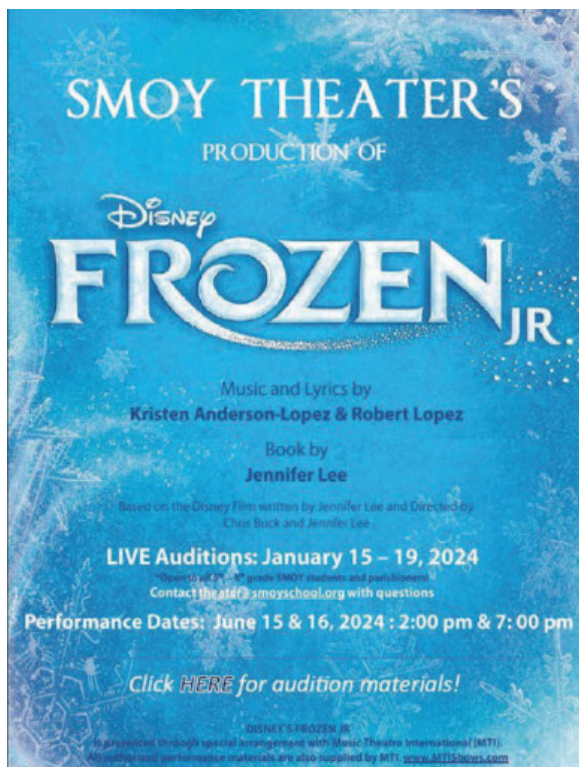
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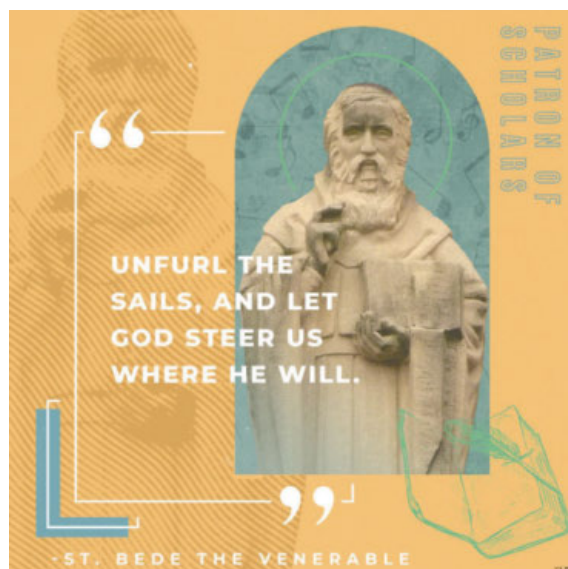


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We apologize for any errors or omissions in this publication.



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