SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

THEY FOUND HIM IN THE HOLY AND TEMPLE.

LK 2:46





Monday: 6:00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 8:15am

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

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

*Mass is Livestreamed watch via YouTube: 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.



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

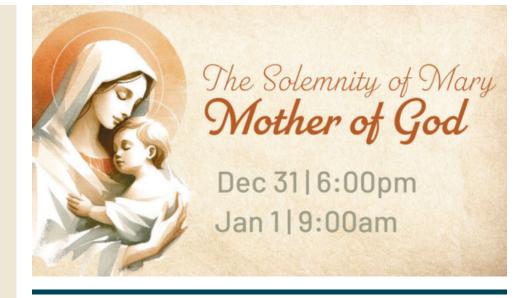
Fr. Ed | 513.697.3169 Fr. Stephen | 513.697.3102

Scheduled Confession Times Monday: 6:30-7:00pm*

Saturday: 8:45 - 9:15am 3:00 - 4:00pm * Or until last Confession is heard

Anyone in need of assistance at Communion please notify an Usher before Mass begins.

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PUZZLE

asking them to come back.

Help visitors to your church feel welcomed.

As a family or as a class, make cards for visitors,

Help Mary and Joseph find Jesus.



Sunday Reflection

Fr. Ed Smith

Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

Every family has its own stories, memories, jokes, traditions and even recipes. Being a family is a dynamic thing, and it is the great vocation for all God's people. We are called to be a family! Today's feast of the Holy Family gives us a moment to think about this, and what it requires.

The book of Sirach makes sure that we know that 'respect' is a central part of any true family; and the verbs, "honor" and "revere" show what family relationships are all about. We are to hold one another in high regard. The reading from St. Paul deepens this theme, highlighting the presence of love as the basis for family members who honor and revere one another: love is lived out in obedience to God and care for others in the family.

Finally, in the Gospel, we find ourselves reading about a family in crisis: Jesus is missing, and Mary and Joseph are worried about where He has been, and when He is back with them, they are perplexed with His cryptic explanation: "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" What must they have thought? What parent would not be concerned if their children were missing? And what happens after Jesus returns to Mary and Joseph? We see Jesus, Son of God and our Messiah, accepting that His parents have been given to Him by God, and, as the Gospel says: "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them."

So, we see that the scripture speaks to us not only about families from centuries ago, but about our own families today: we need respect, love, concern, obedience, and acceptance of one another in order to be the family God wants us to be. These are not always the easiest virtues to live out, but they are part of who we are as God's children, and they open the door to become a happy, caring, united, and loving family.

Fr. Fd Smith



CLERGY & STAFF

Priests

Fr. Ed Smith Pastor esmith@smoy.org

513.697.3169

Deacons

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Parish Financial Support

Sunday Offerings (October 2024)

October 06	\$11,794.72
EFT	\$11,113.00
October 13	\$21,042.00
EFT	\$9,753.00
October 20	\$10,419.43
October 27	\$15,740.50

WeShare Offering \$#'s 40,446.00 Total for current month to date \$120,308.65

> Sunday Offerings (November 2024)

November 03	\$14,257.72
EFT	\$11,113.00
November 10	\$11,372.00
EFT	\$9,343.00
November 17	\$19,087.50
November 24	\$11,627.43

WeShare Offering \$#'s n/a Total for current month to date \$76,800.65

Sunday Offerings (December 2024)

December 01 \$15,135 EFT \$11,113.00 December 8 \$12,809.20 EFT December 15 December 22 December 29

WeShare Offering \$#'s n/a Total for current month to date \$39.057.20

Mortgage Indebtedness

Principal balance on mortgage: \$1,583,272.00 Number of Months left until payoff: 44 Monthly Payment: 33,690

Updated numbers not available at time of printing

Safe Environment Reminder

Before being approved to work with youth in our parish or school all adults(18+) must complete the SafeParish[™] training and complete an online background check. **More Info:** smoy.org/safe-environment

Save the Date

Events with a green bar under them are at St. Columban. Events with a red bar under them are at St. Margaret. Events with a yellow bar are at a third party location.

Heart & Soul First Friday Fellowship Gathering



Friday, January 3, 2025 | After Mass & Rosary | SMOY Gathering Space

Join us after First Friday Mass and Rosary for fellowship in the Gathering Space. Enjoy donuts, breakfast pastries, coffee, tea, and orange juice. Donations are welcome!

Post-Christmas/Epiphany Dinner

Friday, January 10, 2025 6:00pm deSha's



Celebrate the season with Heart & Soul at a special dinner event at deSha's. Enjoy a private room to mingle before dinner. The cost will range from \$30–40 per person, with a cash bar available.

3

Visit to St. Peter in Chains Cathedral





Join Heart & Soul for a tour of our Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains. Details about departure will follow, but we plan to leave away from the SMOY campus to avoid school dismissal and return by 6:00pm. Transportation will be available for those who prefer not to drive downtown.

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Day of Prayer for Life

Friday, January 24, 2025 8:15am - 4:00pm

We invite you to join us for a Day of Prayer for the Sanctity and Protection of all Life, for the pre-born and their mothers, preserving parental rights and accompanying pregnant women in need. Come 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



Discovering Our Deepest Desire

Thursdays, Beginning Jan. 30, 2025

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 513.335.0595

More Info: ourdeepestdesire.com



Support Summary

Helping Our Neighbors in Need

As a result of your generous donations, we were able to assist our Neighbors in Need this past Fiscal Year (ending Sep 30, 2024) as follows:

# of Home Visits, Walk-Ins, Other # of Family Members Helped	115 288
Rent/Housing Costs Duke/Utility Bills Food – SVDP Pantry Gift Cards – Food/Gas/Clothing Other – Insurance, Repairs, etc. Clothing & Furniture Vouchers	\$23,853 \$4,118 \$2,898 \$2,375 \$2,213 \$395
Thanksgiving Meals (17 families)	\$1,275
Christmas Meals/Gifts (22 families)	\$5,450
Total Help Provided	\$42,577
Hours Spent Serving Neighbors	\$202
Miles Driven on Home Visits	\$1,310

Thanks for your SVDP Support! You make it all possible!

Baptism Prep Classes

All sacraments require preparation. Baptism Prep Class is for expectant parents who want to have their child baptized. (If your child is already here, congrats. We will still help you prepare for their Baptism with this class.) Once you have completed the paperwork from the class, you will be able to set the date for your child's Baptism. Baptism prep is required for additional children if it's been 4 or more years since your last class or there is a change in pastor. Contact: baptism@smoy. org to sign up for a class. Please provide your phone number when signing up. You can register for the class anytime during your pregnancy. Baptism prep will not be held in January and July.



Eucharistic Exposition

Weekly Eucharistic Exposition

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

Saturday 9:00am - 4:00pm (Divine Mercy Chaplet @ 3:00pm) (Benediction @ 4:00pm)

Eucharistic Guardian To sign up or get information to be a Eucharistic Guardian: smoy.weadorehim.org

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

> Kathy McGaughy kmcgaughy@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 (For Baptism please include your phone number when emailing)

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

> Holy Orders: vocations@catholicaoc.org

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33 Days to EUCHARISTIC GLORY

This Christmas, we're excited to give away 700 copies of 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory by Matthew Kelly. This 33-day journey features daily readings about the Eucharist, just 3-4 pages each day, culminating in a Consecration to the Eucharist on the 33rd day.

Consecration means to make holy and involves a personal commitment to God—dedicating oneself to His service and worship. While you can read and consecrate yourself individually, we invite you to join our parish consecration for a richer experience through shared discussions. Here's the plan:

- · Register for the parish discussions: https://forms.office.com/r/EtQ8rEGXAA
- Pick up your book at Christmas Mass (one book per family, please).
- Start reading on January 1.
- Join discussion groups on January 9, 16, 23, and 30.
- Consecrate to the Eucharist on February 2, 2025.

The Eucharist is God, Our Lord Jesus Christ! We look forward to sharing this meaningful journey with you!



Family Connection Eucharist

The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist is a mystery of our faith that even adults cannot fully comprehend. So how are we supposed to teach our kids about this important doctrine? We can best do so by modeling reverence towards the Blessed Sacrament. Last week we talked about genuflecting towards the Tabernacle when you enter the church. During Mass you can do small things to help your kids learn more about this reality. First, sit towards the front. I know it can sound daunting especially when you have young kids, but giving your kids a front row seat to the action helps them to focus. It is not unusual for kids' minds to wander while sitting for Mass, but during the Consecration, when the priest is elevating the Blessed Sacrament, be sure to draw their attention back to the Mass. For toddlers simply pointing to the elevated Host and saying "Look, Jesus" is enough. If you would like to give your family an even closer look at what happens at the Mass, you are invited to join our Family Faith program for a "Behind the Scenes" look at the Mass after the 8:30am Mass on January 12th. Contact Jacilyn Jackson at jjackson@smoy. org with any questions about this opportunity.



applications for the

2025-26 school

year accepted

January 1-15, 2025



Explore the difference in a SMOY education

Prospective Parent OPEN HOUSE

January 9, 2025 6:00pm-7:30pm

Visit smoyschool.org or email Amy Eisele at aeisele@smoyschool.org

Question & Answers

Jesus' Grandparents

Question:

July 26 is the feast of Joachim and Anna. Who are they and what do we know about them?

Answer:

Joachim and Anna are the parents of Mary, the mother of Jesus, yet there is absolutely no biblical reference to them whatsoever. So where do we get their names, and what is their story?

Their names are found in an apocryphal (hidden) gospel known as "The Infancy Gospel of James." Apocryphal, or hidden gospels, consist of accounts of Jesus' life that were ultimately not accepted as inspired works, and thus were not included in the Bible. However, they sometimes captured the Christian imagination, spilling into the devotional dimension of the community.

James' infancy gospel begins with the parents of Mary and their desire for a child. In their prayer and petitions to God, they are heard and given the blessings of a child, whom they named Mary. While we have no idea who Mary's parents really were, the fact that we celebrate the feast of Joachim and Anna indicates that the bond of family love is important in the Christian life.

Long before Grandparents' Day was established, the church had a feast that honored the presumed grandparents of Jesus. While their names are part of noninspired apocryphal legends, the fact of the Savior's human ancestry is not. Christ, the incarnate Word, dwelt among us in the flesh in a human family. In honoring the grandparents of Jesus we really proclaim our faith in the Incarnation--God becoming human! ©LPi





Catholic Trivia

Question: According to tradition, who were Balthasar, Melchior, and Casper?

> Answer: The three kings who visited baby Jesus.





Practicing Catholic

Where is Jesus?

Every mother who has ever lost sight of her child in a crowd, even for a few seconds, knows the panic.

I think of Mary living with that level of anxiety for three straight days. I doubt she slept, but I'm sure Joseph forced her to lie down at night, imploring her to think of her health, to rest while he kept on searching the streets of Jerusalem. I imagine her lying there, eyes open and staring at the ceiling. Mary, full of grace. Mary, spotless of sin. Weeping in the dark, whispering, "Where is he?"

It's an experience that we all have at one point or another. Running through the world, desperate and confused, just trying to find God and failing so miserably that we wonder if He's purposefully eluding us.

If Mary couldn't even find Him, do we stand a chance?

Why didn't Mary think to look in the temple? She had wisdom beyond anyone else who ever lived, at least when it came to Jesus. But I think God purposefully dropped a veil over her reasoning for these three days, so that He could show us it's okay to lose our way.

He isn't eluding us. In fact, He's trying to make it easy. He's staying put, in one place, the very place we should know to look. But the streets of our life are so crowded and loud, so full of distraction.

The Christmas season is about God revealing to us who and what and where He is. He has told us. The question is, have we listened?

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPi



Practicing Catholic

The Hidden Truth

If you have ever been visibly pregnant, chances are that someone, somewhere, whom you do not know, has reached out to touch your stomach.

I've had this happen to me, and sure, it's a little strange. Generally, I prefer people to ask before they touch me. But it's also very sweet, this great mystical excitement inspired by a pregnant belly. We know that belly is special. We know enclosed within it is hope and potential — the very future of our world. Hidden, but real. How can we help but venerate it?

It's why the pregnant Madonna is my favorite devotional image. I even prefer it over the depictions of the Madonna and Child because I find in the sight of Mary's swollen belly more to meditate upon than I find in the unveiled face of the Christ Child. Salvation and redemption, enclosed in flesh, moving, and growing and breathing, but I cannot see it. It's real and it's true and it's there.

And it is hidden.

There is much about God that we know with certainty. But there is so much that remains beyond our sight, beyond our comprehension. Questions of evil and sorrow. Pain and tragedy. Life and death. Why don't we have all the answers? We grow very impatient about this. We're like teenagers who want to be trusted with all the family secrets. We hate feeling left out of the loop.

But truth, like life, does not come to us showing its face. Perhaps this is because we could not bear its terrible beauty. Perhaps it's because we would not recognize it if it was laid bare for us to see.

But it's there, right in front of us. We can reach out and touch it. We may not see it. We may not understand it. But we can know it.



Everyday Stewardship

When Elizabeth was visited by Mary, her joy was overwhelming. Elizabeth recognized that Mary was carrying inside her the Messiah. She was honored to receive Mary, not just because of who Mary was herself, but also because of the One she had inside her.

We meet people every day in our lives. Some we know well, some are acquaintances, and others we may have never seen before. Yet all of them are made in the image of God and carry within them the person of Jesus. If we considered this more frequently, would we act more graciously toward each other? Mary gave birth to the Son of God so that we might be able to be adopted sons and daughters of God. If we thought of this more often, would we be so quick to dismiss someone or ignore him or her?

This time of year is filled with gatherings and parties for many of us. We also find ourselves rushing about getting ready for Christmas. There are so many people that cross our paths. Will we allow the Jesus in us to greet with joy the Jesus in them? Will we pause to offer a greeting or kind word? Instead of looking at them with human eyes, will we try to see them through the eyes of faith like Elizabeth. If not, what is all of this celebration and preparation about anyway?

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



Beyond the Parish Doors

Beyond our parish doors, there is a wealth of events and opportunities with other Catholic organizations. See more at https://smoy.org/beyond-parish-doors

Relevant Radio

Relevant Radio is a national Catholic radio station promoting the Faith here in the Cincinnati and Dayton areas. Listen on 105.9 FM, on their #1 FREE Catholic app or at relevant radio.com.

Project Rachel

Since 1994, Project Rachel has ministered to women who have lost a child through abortion. We now know that this experience can cause guilt and shame after making the difficult decision to have an abortion. Women and men often suffer in silence and need the opportunity to honor the child and to heal while grieving and mourning their loss. Project Rachel offers several components for hope and healing. For more information, call/text the Project Rachel Helpline at: 513.784.0531, or email us at: hopeandhealingcinci@gmail.com, or visit our website at: https://projectrachelohio.org/.

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Join the Permanent Diaconate

Any man who may be discerning a possible vocation to serve the Church as a Permanent Deacon should contact Deacon Mark Machuga, Director of the Office of the Diaconate, to discuss the discernment process, pre-requisites and the formation cycle. Deacon Mark can be reached at 513.263.6641 or deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org.

Gate of Heaven - Pre Planning Seminars

Being prepared is essential! Gate of Heaven Cemetery, owned and operated by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, is here to help you understand the Church's teachings on end-oflife planning, so you can make these important decisions with peace of mind.

Planning ahead spares loved ones the added stress of making difficult decisions during times of grief. If you'd like to arrange a seminar at your parish, feel free to reach out, and we'll gladly help schedule a session.

For more details, visit: https://gateofheaven.org/events/

To reserve your spot, please RSVP by calling 513.489.0300 or emailing community@ga-teofheaven.org.

New Year





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 x6206 | creeves@4lpi.com

Please support our bulletin sponsors

Bulletin Sponsors of the Week Best, Baden & Christy Jones Dwyer

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 30 6:00PM + Robert Whang

by The Whang Family

Tuesday, December 31 8:15AM Mass

Carol and Jim Ferello by Jim and Mary Ireton **6:00PM Mass** + Christy Von Allmen by The Wheng Family

by The Whang Family

Wednesday, January 01 9:00AM Mass + Mariantonia Corvo by Matt & Julie Byrne

Thursday, January 02 8:15AM Mass + Carolyn Knueven

by Chris Knueven

Friday, January 03

8:15AM Mass + Steve B. by SMOY Office Staff

Saturday, January 04 8:15AM Mass

+ Mary Broerman
by Jerry and Dianne Wedig
4:30PM Mass
+ Donald Elsasser
by Bill and Jane Morand

Sunday, January 05

8:30AM Mass SMOY Parishioners 11:00AM Mass + Jody Grebenc by John & Gale McLaughlin 5:30PM Mass +Tom Tracy by The Kallmeyer Family

Due to frequent last-minute changes, celebrants will not be listed for now.



CONTACTS

Parish Council & Commissions

Education Commission Crista Ward cristaaward@gmail.com

Finance Commission Tony Levo tlevo@fuse.net

Pastoral Council Liz Gradwohl pastoralcouncil@smoy.org

Social Action Commission Dave Doel | 513.324.2320

Worship Commission Tony Arnold | 513.697.3107 tarnold@smoy.org

Pray for the Sick

Tristan LaFord Mary Sue Loftus Nancy Kern Andrea Kittel Kendall Millette Mike O'Brien, Jr. Jacquie Scott Earl Wall Barbara Wilders Jerry Young Michael Zegarski

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

Amy Grogan | 513.646.8911 smoyprayerchain@gmail.com

Sacramental Prep Coordinators

Baptism Preparation Charlotte Sharon baptism@smoy.org

Marriage Preparation Frank & Lisa Hoffman marriage@smoy.org

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Birgitt Hacker | 513.697.3114 rcia@smoy.org

Declarations of Nullity (Annulments)

Deacon Mike Muse | 513.504.8442

Ministries & Faith Formation

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RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Jesuit Spiritual Center Retreats

The Jesuit Spiritual Center's Ministry Team is committed to offering transformational Catholic retreat experiences in the Jesuit tradition. More Info: https:// jesuitspiritualcenter.com/retreats/

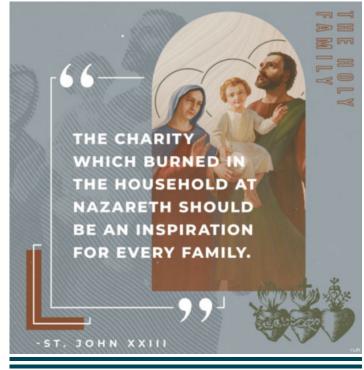
Saint Meinrad Retreat

Saint Meinrad offers a variety of monk-led retreats during the year - on these and other topics at our Guest House and Retreat Center in southern Indiana. More Info: https://saintmeinrad.org/retreats

Friends of Jesus

Saturday, January 25, 2025 | 1:00 - 3:00pm | All 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.



We apologize for any errors or omissions in this publication.

Blessed are THEY WHO DWELL IN YOUR HOUSE.





St. Vincent de Paul Car Donation Program

By donating a car, motorcycle, RV, boat, trailer, or ATV to St. Vincent de Paul, you make a direct impact on the lives of our neighbors. You also can receive a tax credit. We make it easy for you — we'll pick up your vehicle and take care of the paperwork. All you have to do is give us a call at 800.322.8284, or contact us through svd-pusacars.com

Social Media Follow us on Facebook & Instagram @smoyparish Þ https://bit.ly/SMOY-YouTube Listen to our homily archive on Spotify for Podcasters ST. MARGARET of YORK ATHOLIC CHURCH 9499 Columbia Rd Address: Loveland, OH 45140 513.697.3100 Phone: Emergency: **Call & Follow Prompts**

Email: parish@smoy.org Website: smoy.org Fax: 513.683.7101





For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

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CHURCH NAME



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