

Parish Leader and DRE:
Deacon Randy Smith
330-323-5904

Office/ St. Mary Site:
1602 Market Ave. S.,
Canton, OH 44707
330-453-2110
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Monday - Friday

St. Benedict Site:
2207 Third St. SE.,
Canton, OH 44707

**Sunday Eucharistic
Celebrations:**
8 a.m.
St. Mary Worship Site

11 a.m.
St. Benedict
Worship Site

**Weekday Eucharistic
Celebration:**
8:30 a.m.
Wednesday & Friday
St. Mary Worship Site

**Liturgy of the Word
with Communion:**
8:30 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday
St. Mary Worship Site

Facilities Manager:
Shawn Roush

Sacristan:
Brenda Jones

Secretary:
Christine Freese

CCD Principal:
Lee Ann Smith
330-575-0918

Website:
StMary-StBenedict.com

Email:
OfficeStM-StB@sbcglobal.net

Facebook:
St Mary/St Benedict
Catholic Church



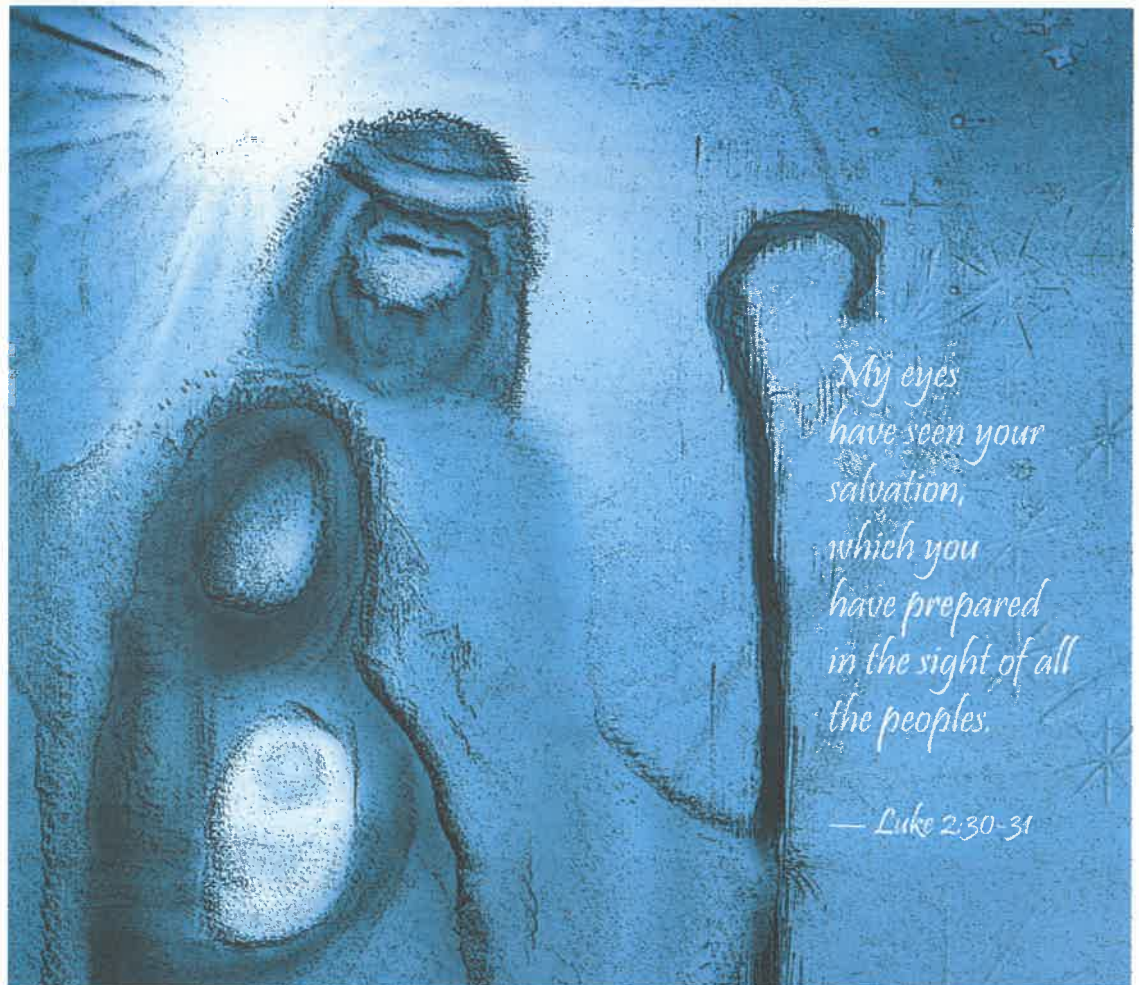
St. Mary/St. Benedict Parish Family

One Parish, One Mission

MISSION STATEMENT: We are people of God, celebrating our faith as a parish. With diverse roots and unique talents, we strive to live our baptismal commitment to love and serve God and neighbor. As we gather in prayer and worship to praise our Lord, we share a communion of faith, grace and service. We endeavor to live as Christians by reaching out to our brothers and sisters, proclaiming the Word, demonstrating compassion, and by sharing our faith through evangelization in order to make our parish a community of love and service.

DECEMBER 27, 2020

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, & JOSEPH



WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. **This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.**



With a full heart, we open our arms to you in friendship.
 We're honored to share this day with you as we worship God. We hope that the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and other events posted on our website and Facebook page will touch your heart and that you experience a sense of peace. We also hope you'll continue in the knowledge that St. Mary/St. Benedict parish is a home away from home. Deacon Randy is always available to you. You're welcome to contact him directly: 330 323 5904.

Thank you for your patience & understanding and complying with the different changes in place due to the Pandemic.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 27 MASS: 8am @ St. M & 11am @ St. B. HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY Blessing of Families	December 28	December 29 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	December 30 MASS 8:30am @ St. Mary	December 31 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 1 FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD MASS 9 a.m. @ St. Mary World Day of Prayer for Peace	January 2
January 3 MASS: 8am @ St. M & 11am @ St. B. EPIPHANY!	January 4	January 5 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 6 MASS 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 7 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 8 MASS 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 9 FOOD DISTRIBUTION Starting 9am @ St. M
January 10 MASS: 8am @ St. M & 11am @ St. B. BAPTISM OF THE LORD	January 11	January 12 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 13 MASS 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 14 Liturgy of the Word & Communion 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 15 MASS 8:30am @ St. Mary	January 16



UPCOMING!

Confessions: First Sunday of the month. (January 3rd) After the 8am Mass and before the 11am Mass

Special Year dedicated to St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus!

JANUARY 1ST - Mass - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

JANUARY 3RD - EPIPHANY



ONLINE GIVING IS COMING!
 Making donating simple, safe, and secure.

Parishioners who make regular giving a priority say:

"I Love being an usher/greeter. Greeting people, giving them a friendly wave as they come through the door. I imagine that some of them attend Mass with heavy hearts some days. I hope that the smiles I put on their faces stay there for a long time." ~Patti L.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt:13-18
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Friday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
- Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

PRO-LIFE STARK COUNTY OHIO

www.usccb.org/committees/pro-life-activities/secretariat-pro-life-activities
Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) Here are key facts:

8. Women's comprehensive health needs are much better served by community health centers and other federally qualified health centers, which serve over 24 million patients in both urban and rural areas and outnumber Planned Parenthood clinics 15 to 1 (9,754 to "more than 600"). PPFA's supporters cite its "cervical and breast cancer screenings," which make up only 6% of its services—but its heavily promoted contraceptive services, 26% of PPFA's activities, are associated with an increased risk of cervical and breast cancer. Planned Parenthood's "screening" for breast cancer is a preliminary screen that a woman can do for herself—it offers no mammograms or biopsies. PPFA emphasizes its testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, but it heavily promotes contraceptive methods that may increase women's risk of contracting STDs, including AIDS.

Dear God, we commit to you those in our families who have fallen sick. We believe that you are our Healer, our Great Physician. May You be the comfort of our family members who are physically in pain right now. Touch them with Your Healing Hands, Lord. Send forth your Word and heal their diseases. Let Your healing power flow through every cell of their bodies.

Loving Father, we also ask that you heal the members of our families who are hurting emotionally, we know that they are also in pain. Give them comfort as well, God. Give them the peace that transcends understanding. Heal their hearts, Lord, which may be full of anger, hatred, strife, bitterness, and unforgiveness. Clear their minds of any doubt, anxiety, or depression. Renew in them a peaceful spirit, Lord. Amen.



THINK CHRISTMAS IS OVER ON DECEMBER 25TH? THINK AGAIN!

The celebration of the Lord's Nativity, known as **The Christmas Octave**, contains feasts pertaining to the manifestation that Jesus is Lord of the nations, then there is **Epiphany** and **the Baptism of the Lord!**

Dec. 26: Feast of St. Stephen

It is interesting that the first feast day after Christmas is the feast of a martyr, recalling the purpose for which Christ came and the assignment of his divine mission.

Dec. 27: Feast of St. John

Apostle and evangelist, St. John is regarded as the disciple closest to Jesus. St. John teaches us that "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8).

Dec. 28: Feast of the Holy Innocents

The Holy Innocents were martyrs killed as the result of Herod's murderous rage, and desire to eliminate any threats to his power by killing anyone who fit the profile of the newborn king he learned about from the Magi (see Mt 2:13-18). Christ, of course, survives thanks to the heavenly intervention manifested by the angelic admonition to St. Joseph to flee with Mary and Jesus in the middle of the night to Egypt. The Gospel proclaimed on this day evokes two major issues about which the Church is concerned today: immigration and abortion.

Feast of the Holy Family

Many of the few details we know of Jesus' early life relates to his familial relationships. We know he grew in the ways of faith as the obedient son of Mary and Joseph. The Church holds up

annually the Holy Family of Nazareth as a model for all families, as a model for all human relationships.

Jan. 1: Solemnity of Mary

The octave of Christmas ends with the celebration of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. It is a holy day of obligation. Jan. 1 also marks the Church's commemoration of the World Day of Peace. Peace is only possible through total love and obedience to the will of God, of which Mary is an icon for the Church.

It bears noting that January 1 previously had been known as the **Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord**, because Jewish ritual prescribes that Jewish males would have been circumcised on the eighth day after birth, in accordance with the covenant God made with Abraham. As a member of a pious, practicing Jewish family, Jesus would have received this ritual induction into the Abrahamic covenant (see Lk 2:21).

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Traditionally celebrated on Jan. 2, the Twelfth Day of Christmas, is the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. (The feast is transferred to the Sunday between Jan. 2-8 in the United States, however.) In commemoration of Christ's manifestation to the Magi — who represent how Christ came to save all mankind, not just the Jews — this feast celebrates how Christ's identity is revealed, as is summed up in the gifts the Three Kings presented him. The gold and frankincense they gave Christ represent his status as king of the universe, the deity worthy of our true worship. And the myrrh tells of the bitter reality that the babe in the manger was born to die.

The Baptism of the Lord

The Christmas season ends with the feast of the Lord's baptism, which falls on the Sunday after the Epiphany. This feast commemorates the day on which Christ formally accepts his mission as the redeemer when he receives St. John the Baptist's baptism of conversion and repentance. He sets out from the waters of the Jordan, identified as God's own son by the Father's voice that resounded from the opened sky, and inaugurates his saving work as the long-awaited Messiah who will free us of our sins.

Today is the **feast day of the Holy Family**, but also every family's feast day, since the Holy Family is the patron and model of all Christian families. Let's celebrate our families! As Rev. Edward Sutfin states: *"The children must learn to see in their father the foster-father St. Joseph, and the Blessed Mother as the perfect model for their own mother. The lesson to be learned is both practical and theoretical, in that the children must learn how to obey and to love their parents in thought, word and action, just as Christ was obedient to Mary and Joseph. Helping mother in the kitchen and in the house work, and helping father in his odd jobs about the home thus take on a new significance by being performed in a Christ-like spirit."*

2021 MARCH FOR LIFE AND RELATED EVENTS

Friday, January 29th. "Together Strong, Life Unites!" EWTN will be televising the March for Life including the Pre-Rally Concert, the Rally Program as well as the March itself. For more information go to <https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/>.

Masses for Life in the Diocese of Youngstown: Each will include the special *Blessing of Children in the Womb*.

Sunday, January 24 at 11:00 a.m. in the Barrette Center at Walsh University, 2020 E. Maple St., North Canton. (Note: COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate a change of venue. Contact the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life at the Diocese of Youngstown.)

Friday, January 29 at 12:10 p.m. & Sunday, January 31st at 4 p.m. at St. Columba Cathedral, followed by a local "March for Life" at 1:00 p.m. sponsored by Right to Life of Mahoning County, which will include a prayerful vigil at the Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building at 125 Market St., Youngstown. For more information call 330-799-6160.

Sunday, January 31 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown. Contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451 ext. 272.

RETREAT DAY

Marriage Preparation Engaged Couple Retreat Day The next diocesan-sponsored one-day marriage preparation retreat day for engaged couples will be held **Sat., January 9, 2021 at St. Columba Cathedral Hall,** Youngstown.

Reservations are required. Social distancing protocols will be followed. Registration information may be found at www.doy.org; go to the "Ministries" drop-down menu and press on "Pro-Life, Marriage & Family Life." For more information on these, and other opportunities for marriage preparation formation, contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451, ext.272

BIRTHDAYS

We will be posting birthday blessings each month to parishioners 90 years old and above. Send a card if you are able. **Contact parish office if you do not want your name listed.**

! RECORDS UPDATE !

We are asking that all members provide their information, and return the completed form to the parish office. **Let's end the calendar year with all up-dated records!** *The information provided is for internal purposes ONLY.*

MASS OF ORDINATION

On November 17, 2020 Pope Francis appointed **Reverend David J. Bonnar** the sixth Bishop of Youngstown. The Mass of Ordination and Installation will take place on **Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** You are invited to watch the ceremony via live stream on the diocesan website at doy.org/media/cathedral. A rebroadcast on ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel is scheduled on Thursday, January 14th at 12:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 16th at 12:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.



Pope Francis proclaims **"YEAR OF ST JOSEPH"**

St. Joseph was the Spouse of Our Lady and adoptive father to Our Lord. He is known as the **Patron of the Universal Church**, as well as many causes including all laborers and families.

FEAST DAYS:

Saint Joseph's Day, March 19, has been the principal feast day in Western Christianity since the 10th century, and is celebrated by Catholics, Anglicans, many Lutherans, and other denominations. In Eastern Orthodoxy, the feast day is celebrated on the First Sunday after the Nativity of Christ.

May 1st is the feast of **St. Joseph the worker.** While not the primary celebration of St. Joseph (see below), this feast allows us to celebrate St. Joseph in a way that we can all relate to him!

INTERESTING TRADITIONS:

Popular customs among Christians of various liturgical traditions observing Saint Joseph's Day are attending Mass or the Divine Service, wearing red-coloured clothing, carrying dried fava beans that have been blessed, planting lilies and assembling home altars dedicated to St Joseph.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING 101

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society.

In the following brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of Catholic social tradition.

SOLIDARITY: We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sister's keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Blessed Pope Paul VI taught that "If you want peace, work for justice." The gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

Mass or Sanctuary Candle Intentions:

A beautiful way to honor your loved ones.
Thank you for the
\$10 stipend per request.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 27, 2020—8 am

+Cornell Matronia

Offered by Matronia Family
&

+Louise Taylor & Robert Lee Taylor

Sunday, December 27, 2020—11 am

+Robert Risaliti

Offered by Andrea Harrison & Family
&

+Sam & Betty Flott

Offered by Family

Wednesday, December 30, 2020 —8:30 am

+ Marie Koller

Offered by Pat Koller

Friday, January 1, MOTHER OF GOD—9am

+ Memorial Fund Members

St. Mary/St. Benedict Parish Family

Sunday, January 3, 2021—8 am

+Souls in Purgatory

St. Mary/St. Benedict Parish Family

Sunday, January 3, 2021—11 am

+Dale & Joan Wardle

Offered by Cynthia Schiltz
&

+Robert "Bob" Yacobucci

Offered by Diane Kimble

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Originating in our Jewish roots, the "eternal flame" is meant to represent the menorah of the Temple in Jerusalem as well as the continuously burning fire on the altar of burnt offerings in front of the Temple. It also symbolizes God's eternal presence and is therefore never extinguished. It is also intended to draw parallels between God and fire, or light. These lights are never allowed to dim or go out, and in the case of electric problems, alternative emergency energy sources are used to prevent it from diminishing.

REAL REASON The Diocese's Guidelines asks that everyone please wear face coverings when at Mass or at Parish Events. The wearing of face coverings by all liturgical ministers, especially during the distribution of Holy Communion is being observed. Please keep trying your best to stay six feet apart when choosing the pew to sit in. **Above all, stay focused on the real reason we are at Mass: Your relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the cross and the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.**

Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass (especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick) continues to be in effect until further notice. Thankfully, there are numerous digital and televised opportunities for viewing Mass and participating in Spiritual Communion.

BAPTISM: Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as members of Christ. We are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission. Parents (when possible Godparents as well) are asked to attend a class of preparation. Scheduled as needed.

CONFESSION: 1st Sunday of the Month or by appointment. First Sundays: directly after the 8 am Mass at St. Mary's and before the 11 am Mass at St. Benedict's.

CONFIRMATION: The reception of this Sacrament is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace and enriches one with special strength of the Holy Spirit. We combine preparation with St. Anthony/All Saints. **CONFIRMATION FOR 2020-2021 IS SET FOR 7PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 27TH AT ST. JOAN OF ARC PARISH.** Please contact Deacon Randy.

CRY ROOM: To maintain the sanctity of the Mass, you are asked to take advantage of this special space. Clean, well lit and you are still able to be part of the celebration.

FAITH FORMATION: is a commitment by all baptized Catholics to lifelong learning and openness to grow in knowledge of the faith. Suggestions: Youth Religious Ed, RCIA, Bible study group; books, CD's; Catholic Radio; talk with our Deacon Randy or a priest; read your Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and pray always.

HOSPITAL CALLS: Please notify the Parish office when your loved one is hospitalized. Due to HIPAA privacy laws, hospitals do not notify us. Please understand that the office message system is not connected to private cell numbers. You are also welcome to call Deacon Randy directly.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS at this time, all processions have been stopped. A basket at the front of the church for Offertory donations can be found at the entrance of the church. You also have the option of mailing the envelopes.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a formal process developed for prospective candidates to introduce aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. Anyone seeking instruction in the Catholic faith, or who has questions about celebrating sacraments they missed, is welcome and encouraged to call Deacon Randy.

VOCATIONS: Discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Contact Fr. Scott Kopp 330-744-8451 skopp@youngstowndiocese.org or Deacon Randy Smith.

PASCHAL BANQUET: CCC 1382-1390

To receive communion is to receive Christ himself. The altar is the symbol of Christ, present in the midst of the assembly of his faithful, both as the victim offered and as food from heaven who is giving himself to us. To respond to this invitation we must prepare ourselves for so great a moment. The faithful should observe the fast required. Bodily demeanor, clothing—ought to convey the respect, solemnity and joy of this moment. We are strongly urged to examine our consciences, and if aware of grave sin, seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving communion. If in doubt, Spiritual Reception of the Eucharist is a perfectly legitimate alternative.

Thank You

As of December 13th:

Special Building Fund:
\$755.00 (additional since 11/8)

Religious Retirement:
\$2,195.00

Immaculate Conception:
\$483.00

All Saints: \$913.00
All Souls: \$558.00

Food Pantry: \$15,484.93
(including \$6,000 from St. Michael's)

Fuel/Utilities \$2,228.00

Veteran's Day: \$297.00
(sent to SAM's Mission)

Diocese of Orlu Mission
Appeal: \$812.00

LET US PRAY

The intentions of the Pope:
For a Life of Prayer.
We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

May our Bishop-elect enjoy good health of mind and body to serve the diocese faithfully.

All affected by the Pandemic

All affected by natural disasters

The end to blind hate and violence

All sick & shut-ins of our parish family

All parish family members who are, or are about to be, hospitalized

All recently departed parish family members

All our beloved enrolled in the perpetual memorial fund

Prayer Chain:
Please speak with Sue Ritzert 330-488-0721 or the parish office.

ST MARY'S/BENEDICT PARISH CALENDAR

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

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St. Mary/St. Benedict Parish
January Birthdays

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Gale Charnetzky
Carol Jones | 11 | Abbygail Reichard
Ruth Spivey | 22 | Shannon Klemens |
| 2 | Dominic Abbott
Pat Antenuci | 13 | Karen Babik
Ron Jedel
Jakob Green
Kathleen Sigmund
Rodger Trompower | 23 | Joseph Crank
Diane Hudgins |
| 3 | Eudene Custer
Joe Zucal | 14 | James Ritzert | 24 | Dustin Diss
Robert Villella |
| 4 | Natalie Buxton
Joe Criss | 15 | Donald Young | 25 | Alexis Ranalli |
| 5 | Sam Almasy
Paisley Dale
Brittany King | 16 | Eugene Bialota
Bill Lacy
Claudia Sell | 26 | Ruth Chipko
Frances Majestic
Christine Whalen
Zygmunt Wisniewski |
| 6 | Marlene Chipko | 17 | Eileen Amendola,
Linda Crank
Michael Murphy | 27 | Phillip Natale
Sarah Weaver |
| 7 | Laura Hedrick
Katie Hughes
Rebecca Sibila | 18 | Gale Essick | 28 | Agnes Evanko
Karen Metzger
Ravona Miller
Michael Steigerwald |
| 8 | Eva Almasy
Bella Dickson
John Miller
Rita Rossetti
David Sigmund | 19 | Betty Jaeb
Allison Knebl
Rita Oberster | 29 | Dana Murphy |
| 9 | Kathleen Henderhan | 20 | Linda Cavella
Heather Hunter | 31 | Judy Cerny
Gerald Donahue |
| 10 | Chloe Orce
Michael Novelli
Dawn (Tender) Wireman | 21 | Nicholas Justice
Victor Knebl
Nicholas Knebl
David Rice | | |

If your name does not appear on this list, accept our apologies and contact the church office 330 453 2110.

The people whose names appear in red have achieved the honor of reaching and/or passing the age of 90! CONGRATULATIONS, what a great achievement!

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 3, 2021



CNS Photo

"As we begin the New Year, may we discover anew that faith demands worship. If we can fall on our knees before Jesus, we will overcome the temptation to set off on our own path." (Pope Francis, Jan. 6, 2020)

On this Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, we remember that God came to earth for everyone, every nation, every people.

January is Poverty Awareness Month!

Poverty does not strike all demographics equally. For example, in 2018, 10.6% of men, and 12.9% of women lived in Poverty USA. Along the same lines, the poverty rate for married couples in 2018 was only 4.7% - but the poverty rate for single-parent families with no wife present was 12.7%, and for single-parent families with no husband present was 24.9%.

In 2018, the poverty rate for people living with a disability was 25.7%. That's nearly 4 million people living with a disability—in poverty.

Visit [PovertyUSA](http://PovertyUSA.org) for education on economic justice, resources for prayer, and key conduits for action.

