

Advent

December 21, 2008
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Do you want to build God a house?

David did. He felt awkward living well in his own place. God gave him a break from his enemies. David could see well enough to count his blessings. Now he felt dumb that the ark of God was in a tent. Yet God tells Nathan to tell David, I don't want a house. I want *you*. I have plans for *you*.



It's hard to get our imagination around this image. Of course, the One who creates the universe doesn't need a building. But then, does God need the tent? If we identify with David, something here throws off our expectations, our sense of how to respond.

What have you received that you didn't deserve? We admire saints like Francis and Ignatius, who exchanged their clothes with beggars to identify with the poor. Maybe we've thought of doing something like that. Ever identify with the other person in the story? What does it feel like to be the guy who received the new clothes? We can imagine gratitude was one feeling. Surprise might be another. How about awkwardness? Why me? Do we know how to be grateful? Are we embarrassed by someone else's generosity?

Take a minute to dig into your memory and recall a gift you received, where all you could do was say thank you. Were you able to give up control of the situation?

The model for how to do this is described in Luke's Gospel. Here is a young woman who was clear-sighted enough, and clear-hearted enough, to know she was being offered a gift and responsibility to live an open-ended gratefulness, no matter what God did next. She did not accept the gift blindly; she asked enough questions, and the angel gave her enough answers, so she knew what the Giver could do.

Then her response was simply, "Here am I,...let it be with me according to your word" (1:38).

DAN FINUCANE

sundaybulletins@liguori.org

Today's Readings

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

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SCHOOL NEWS

Science and History Fair Judges Needed!

Do you have an interest in Science or History?

You may be the perfect person to help judge our school Science and History Fairs! Date – Wednesday, January 28, starting at 4:00 p.m. There is a brief meeting for judges before judging starts. Judging is usually over by about 6:30 p.m. Snacks are provided! If you are interested, contact Erin Reinhart for History Fair (erinhart@ceducation.org) or Sue Gardiner for Science Fair (sgardine@ceducation.org). You can also contact Erin or Sue at 451-0739.

Thank you all for your generous contributions to the Giving Tree. Your donations helped provide Christmas gifts to St. Stephens Community House.

The St. Timothy School Jar Beta Club

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers: Andy Mandrake, Linda Carnival, Jim Colson, Carl Connor, Jan Della Flora, Martha Jacoby, and Dora Sense.

The students and I appreciate the time, effort and energy you give to help us in our Reading Room at St. Timothy School. You're our Reading Room Angels!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Jan Brawler and students

RESPECT LIFE

Family and Friends 2009 Signature Ad Campaign sponsored by Greater Columbus Right to Life: An ad in support of life will appear in the SNP newspapers on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, in observance of the January 22, 1973 anniversary of *Roe v Wade*. Add your name to this pro-life effort giving voice to the unborn who cannot speak for themselves. Thank you for helping us to build the Culture of Life!

Names and donations must be received by GCRTL by Tuesday, December 23, to be included in the January 21 SNP ad (only your name will appear in the ad). Please mail this form and your donation (payable to Greater Columbus Right to Life) to Greater Columbus Right to Life, P.O. Box 6357, Columbus, Ohio 43207.

Forms will be available in the vestibule of the church. If you would like a "Signature Ad Donation Sheet" to pass on to your friends and family, there is one available to download at their web site at www.columbusrighttolife.org.

Look for the signature ad in the *Suburban News Publications* (SNP) on Wednesday, January 21st.



Eighth and Ninth Month

In the last two months, the baby continues to gain weight. It is developing a layer of fat that will keep it warm after birth. In the 9th month, it will shift to a head-down position, preparing for birth. Its lungs are fully developed and capable of making the transition to breathing air. After birth, it will continue the human growth process for approximately the next 80 years.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL LIFE



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Prayer Line

If you have a prayer request, call Kitty Hoessly (451-2146) or Lea Guarasci (451-1281).



Bible Study

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Multi-purpose Room.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Please join us for Divine Mercy Chaplet after the 9:00 a.m. Mass every Tuesday.



BIRTHRIGHT CRISIS HOTLINE is 1-800-550-4900.

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH • COLUMBUS, OH

E-mail address: sttimothy@rrohio.com

December 21, 2008

Fourth Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 22

9:00 am Roseanne Barcelona

Tuesday, December 23

9:00 am Jerry Schuster

Wednesday, December 24 –

NO MASS at 9:00 a.m.

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

5:00 p.m. St. Timothy Parishioners

7:00 p.m. Dan Grant Family

10:00 p.m. Rocco Salesmen

Thursday, December 25

9:00 am The Bevilacqua Family

Friday, December 26

9:00 am Louis and Rita Jentgen

Saturday, December 27

5:00 p.m. Janet Davis

Sunday, December 28

8:00 am St. Timothy Parishioners

10:00 am Mel Sullivan

12:00 p.m. McCann and Binder Families

VOLUNTEERS FOR DECEMBER	
Linens	Joyce Nobile
Collection Counters	Joe Boeckman and Tony Romaker
Altar Care	Kathy Theado and Marty Gardner

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 28		
MASS	EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
5:00 p.m. Saturday	Virginia Leidheiser, MaryK Rainey, Peg Lind	Joey Reinmann, Charlotte Reinmann, Dustin Obergfell
8:00 a.m. Sunday	Lou & Joyce Nobile, Kitty Quinn	Spencer Powell, Remy Powell
10:00 a.m. Sunday	Phil & Donna Diaz, JoAnn O'Brien, Joan Terveer, John Stechschulte	Charles Cooper, Tom Cooper, Olivia Ward
12:00 p.m. Sunday	Claire Meeks, Vince Fabro, Mike McGroarty	Megan Neary, Joe Jeffrey, Matt Neary

A Word from Your Pastor

Dear Parishioners:

This week we enter into the celebration of the Gift of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the World through the Incarnation. Christmas is the acknowledgement of the Love God has for each of us. Jesus was born for us, for me, for you, for every human being, even for those who do not know Him or who have rejected Him for some reason. The Gift is a permanent one. God can never take back the fact that He has become one of us. Christ is ours and we belong to Christ.

Although the world around us seems to find new problems every day, we must not despair. We already knew our world would come to an end. In this world we have no lasting city. Rather, our world is destined to be transformed. God became human in Jesus Christ. Human beings are created to share divine life humanly in the same Jesus Christ.

I look forward to sharing these days with all the members of the St. Timothy Parish Family. May God bless you and your family and may you come to understand ever more deeply the power of God unleashed in our world through the Baby in the Manger. Merry Christmas!

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

December 27-28



All families are invited to attend the Mass of their choice on Holy Family Sunday, the Sunday after Christmas. At the end of this Mass, as the final song begins, individual family blessing will be offered in front of the altar. This practice has become a tradition in many parishes and it begins at St. Timothy this year.

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Extraordinary Ministers

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Dave & Mary Pat Boulware, Rita Flanagan, Brad Spees, Rita Feige, George Cleary, John Rinto, Tom Rinto

7:00 p.m. Bill and Elaine James, Matt Cooper

10:00 p.m. Jim & Sue Klun, Mike McGroarty

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Lou & Joyce Nobile, Frank Furno

Mass Servers

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Brian Davidson, Bryce Spees, Stevyn Spees

7:00 p.m. Emily Prebihalo, Joey Reinmann, Charlotte Reinmann

10:00 p.m. Steven Steigelman, Joseph Montgomery

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Joe Meeks

Lectors

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Children

7:00 p.m. Debbie Lackey and Kathleen Dunn

10:00 p.m. Kitty Quinn and Dawn Ellis

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Linda Gelhaus and Claire Meeks

Ushers

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Ron Benjamin, Jim Competti, John Davidson, Alan Ehret, John Hazzard, John Steller

7:00 p.m. Joe Briski, Paul Bubenchik, Chris Neary, John O'Brien

10:00 p.m. Joe Basbagill, Bill Crossin, Mark Hill, Tony Kanakkanatt

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. John Cline, Hugo Della Flora, Frank Iezzi, Bill Steller

LECTORS FOR JANUARY 2009

5:00 p.m. Angela Parker and Norm Altman

8:00 a.m. Kitty Quinn and Joe Briski

10:00 a.m. Jim Connors and Vince Fabro

12:00 p.m. Jan Della Flora and Ed Geraghty

Men's Club

Due to the OSU bowl game being Monday the 5th, the St. Timothy Men's Club January meeting will be moved to Monday, January 12.

HOLIDAY LITURGIES

Masses for Christmas

Christmas Eve	5:00 p.m.
	7:00 p.m.
	10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day	9:00 a.m.
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Masses for January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

December 31	6:00 p.m.
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January 1	9:00 a.m.
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	11:00 a.m.
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Last Week's collection was \$13,222.00.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

From our Youth Minister:

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope that each of you had a joyous and blessed Christmas holiday with family and friends. As we soon will see an end to 2008 and ring in 2009, many of us will once again make New Year's resolutions. I ask that *each* of our *young people* to put Church on their list. Maybe you can give of your time by helping at Mass? Go to confession? Spending some quiet time with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration or even come to a youth group gathering. Our Church and St. Timothy is here for you.

Upcoming Youth Group dates: Sunday, January 18 and Sunday, February 15. We will gather from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the **Multipurpose Room**. All High School youth are invited and encouraged to come.

Any questions about youth ministry, please contact Chris Valentine in the Parish Office or by e-mail at youthstim@rrohio.com.

Coats for Christmas

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting money for coats for the needy after each Mass. The recommended contribution is \$25.00.

Please send notices for the January 4th bulletin in by December 22 due to the holiday early printing.