

December 17, 2023



*Our* LADY of  
PERPETUAL  
HELP

**CELEBRATION  
OF HOLY MASS**

Saturday Vigil | 4 pm

Sunday | 8:30 am, 10:30 am

**DAILY MASS**

Monday – Saturday 8:30 am

**CONFESSIONS**

Monday – Saturday after  
8:30 am Daily Mass

Saturdays 3–3:45 pm

Or anytime by appointment

**ADORATION**

First Fridays 24 hours, 9 am–9 am

Other Fridays 9 am–9 pm

3730 Broadway, Grove City, Ohio 43123  
614.875.3322 | ourladygc.org



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Joy*

# Info Center

## PARISH OFFICE

3730 Broadway | 614.875.3322

Father Joe Yokum, Pastor  
jyokum@ourladygc.org

Deacon Michael Kopczewski  
mkopczewski@ourladygc.org

Deacon Michael Sowers  
msowers@ourladygc.org

## OUR LADY SCHOOL

3752 Broadway | 614.875.6779

Julie Freeman, Principal  
jfreeman@cdeducation.org

## Church Hours

The Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament is open for personal prayer 24/7. Use the southwest door to enter, and use the code \*3322#.

## Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 8 am to 2 pm. The office is closed for holidays and occasional staff meetings.

## New Members

All are welcome to join our parish! You may register at ourladygc.org/register or by calling 614.875.3322 or emailing parish@ourladygc.org.

## Mass Intentions

Would you like to have a Mass celebrated for yourself or a loved one? Contact the Church Office for more information.

## In Need of Assistance?

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, please contact our local Saint Vincent de Paul Chapter at 614.875.3322, ext 311.

## Baptism

For information, call Karen Cook in the Church Office, 614.875.3322 or visit ourladygc.org/sacraments/baptism/

## Marriage

Please contact the Church Office at least six months in advance. Wedding guidelines are available at the Church Office.

## Bulletin Announcements Deadline: noon Thursday

Items should be short and concise. Submit your articles by noon on Thursday, 10 days before you wish to have your item appear, to bulletin@ourladygc.org. All items are subject to the pastor's approval.

# Mass Readings & Intentions

## Sunday, December 17 | Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 am	Our Parish Family	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
10:30 am	Marybeth Williamson by The Williamson Family	

## Monday, December 18

8:30 am	Special Living Intention for Josef Otmar VI by Honor Worthington	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
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## Tuesday, December 19

8:30 am	Special Living Intention for Carol Berge by Honor Worthington	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
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## Wednesday, December 20

8:30 am	Souls in Purgatory by Glen Holmes	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
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## Thursday, December 21

8:30 am	Deceased members of the Phyllis & Edgar Lordier Family by The Hershel & Mildred Shaw Family	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
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## Friday, December 22

8:30 am	Diane Hoskinson by The Ruth & Legue Families	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
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## Saturday, December 23

8:30 am	Sharon Bowers by Barb & Chris Kistner	
4:00 pm	Tom Courtney by Joan Courtney	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
6:00 pm	Deceased members of the John & Virginia McCoy Family by The Hershel & Mildred Shaw Family	

## Sunday, December 24 | Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am	Char Dillon by Forsyth Family	
4:00 pm	Don Mathews by Mathews Family	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
4:00 pm	Genevieve Rotert by Jennifer Weithman	
10:00 pm	Our Parish Family	

# Giving Update

Team #3

Please check out our website at ourladygc.org/about-us/generosity for a complete list of options for supporting our parish community.

	This Week 12.2 to 12.8.2023	Year to Date 7.1.23 to 12.8.2023
Envelopes	\$20,338	
Loose Cash	\$978	
Online	\$11,274	
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY</b>	<b>\$32,590</b>	<b>\$586,648</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$26,500</b>	<b>\$609,500</b>

Thank you for your generosity to Our Lady of Perpetual Help! We pray for God's continued blessings upon you.



# The Week Ahead

## Sunday, December 17

8:30 am	PWA Bake Sale	Gathering Space
9:30 am	PSR Classes	Various
7:00 pm	High School Youth Group	Basement East

## Monday, December 18

6:00 pm	Vespers	Nave
7:00 pm	Confessions	Nave

## Tuesday, December 19

6:30 pm	O CIA	Life Center
6:30 pm	Youth Faith Formation	Basement West
7:00 pm	Confessions	Nave

## Wednesday, December 20

9:00 am	Our Lady Novena	Chapel
6:00 pm	Parish Women's Association Meeting	Life Center
6:00 pm	Divine Mercy Cenacle	Shepherds' Room
7:00 pm	Confessions	Nave

## Thursday, December 21

9:00 am	Patriotic Rosary	Chapel
6:00 pm	New Horizons	Life Center

## Friday, December 22

9:00 am	Eucharistic Adoration	Nave/Chapel
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## Saturday, December 23

7:00 am	Men's Fellowship and Bible Study	Life Center
7:00 am	Women's Fellowship and Bible Study	Shepherds' Room
3:00 pm	Confessions	Nave
4:00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass	Nave
6:00 pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass	Nave

## Sunday, December 24

8:30 am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Mass	Nave
4:00 pm	Christmas Vigil Mass	Nave/Gymnasium
10:00 pm	Christmas Vigil Mass	Nave

# EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**December Devotion: The Immaculate Conception**

**1st Friday – Saturday, December 1–2, 9 am – 9am**

**Fridays: December 8, 15, 22, 29, 9am – 9pm**



*Blessed be the holy and Immaculate Conception of the most Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of God.*

We are living in times of darkness and the culture of death is more present than ever. Let's entrust ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary and learn from her to surrender, to trust, to love Christ her Son and always be faithful because nothing is impossible with God! Our hope is in God our Savior... come adore Him every Friday in the Chapel!

Sign up for adoration at [ourladygc.org/adoration](http://ourladygc.org/adoration).

## M – F DAILY EVENTS

7 am — Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayers | Chapel

7:50 am — Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary | Nave

8:30 am — Daily Mass | Nave

9 am — Coffee & Conversation | Life Center

2:25 pm — Radio Rosary | 101.9FM



Congratulations to couples celebrating anniversaries in December.

**Mike and Susan Murray**  
**34 years | December 9**

**Vaughn and Judy Radi**  
**46 years | December 10**

**Joel and Jill Denton**  
**11 years | December 15**

**Eric and Mary Wuichner**  
**31 years | December 19**

**Wayne and Cookie Coakley**  
**60 years | December 20**

**Mike and Carol Callahan**  
**63 years | December 31**

If you would like to have an anniversary recognized in the bulletin, please email the couple's names, date, and number of years married to [bulletin@ourladygc.org](mailto:bulletin@ourladygc.org).



12/19 | Early Dismissal

1/3 | School Resumes

1/15 | No School - MLK Day

# PASTOR'S CORNER

BY FATHER JOE YOKUM

*"Let my eyes take their sleep, but may my heart always keep watch for You. May Your right hand bless Your servants who love You. May I be united with the praise that flows from You, Lord Jesus, to all Your saints; united with the gratitude drawn from Your heart, good Jesus, that causes Your saints to thank You; united with Your passion, good Jesus, by which You took away our guilt; united with the divine longing that You had on earth for our salvation; united with every prayer that welled from Your divine heart, good Jesus, and flowed into the hearts of Your saints."* (A Prayer composed by Saint Peter Canisius)

## THE THIRD WEEK IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

*O Lord and Ruler of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come and redeem us with outstretched arm.*

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Prayer: Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that we, who are weighed down from of old by slavery beneath the yoke of sin, may be set free by the newness of the long-awaited Nativity of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, did not wish to embarrass or punish his espoused wife, Mary when he discovered that she was pregnant. To all appearances she had broken their solemn pledge to be faithful and chaste to one another. Joseph, no doubt took this troubling matter to God in prayer. He was not hasty to judge or to react with hurt and anger. God rewarded him not only with guidance and consolation, but with the divine assurance that he had indeed called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and to assume a mission that would require the utmost faith, confidence, and trust in Almighty God. Joseph believed in the divine message to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah. Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption. Are you ready to believe in the promises of God, even when faced with perplexing circumstances and what seems like insurmountable problems?

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

*O Root of Jesse, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and unto whom the Gentiles shall make supplication: Come to deliver us, and tarry not.*

Holy Gospel: Luke 5:1-25

Prayer: O God, who through your Only Begotten Son have made us a new creation, look kindly, we pray, on the handiwork of your mercy, and at your Son's coming cleanse us from every stain of the old way of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: In the annunciation of the birth of John the Baptist, the angel explains to Zechariah the role his son is to play in preparing the way for the Messiah. John will be great in the sight of God. He will live as a Nazarite (read Book of Numbers 6) – a person set apart for the Lord. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even within his mother's womb. And he shall be sent to the people of God, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers and children to God and one another, by turning the "disobedient to the wisdom of the just." The name John means "the Lord is gracious." When God acts to save us, he graciously fills us with his Holy Spirit and makes our faith "alive" to his promises. Do you pray that "the hearts of parents and children may be turned to God and one another"?

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

*O Key of David, and Scepter of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts who shuts and no man opens; Come and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Prayer: Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that the coming solemnity of your Son may bestow healing upon us in this present life and bring us the rewards of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Mary is the "mother of God" because God becomes incarnate when he takes on flesh in her womb. When we pray the Nicene Creed, we state our confession of faith in this great mystery: "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man." God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willingness, obedience, and heartfelt trust as Mary did. When God commands he also gives help, strength, and means to respond. We can either yield to his grace or resist and go our own way. Do you believe in God's promises and yield to his grace?



## PASTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21** | Saint Peter Canisius  
*O Dawn, splendor of eternal light, and sun of justice, come, and shine on those seated in darkness, and in the shadow of death.*

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Prayer: O God, who for the defense of the Catholic faith made the Priest Saint Peter Canisius strong in virtue and in learning, grant, through his intercession, that those who seek the truth may joyfully find you, their God, and that your faithful people may persevere in confessing you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: You are indeed blessed if you see and recognize the Lord with the “eyes of faith.” The word “blessed” [makarios in Greek] literally means “happiness” or “beatitude.” It describes a kind of joy which is serene and untouchable, self-contained, and independent from chance and changing circumstances of life. There is a certain paradox for those “blessed” by the Lord. Mary was given the “blessedness” of being the mother of the Son of God. That blessedness also would become a sword which pierced her heart as her Son died upon the cross. Mary received both a crown of joy and a cross of sorrow. Her joy was not diminished by her sorrow because it was fueled by her faith, hope, and trust in God and his promises. Jesus promised his disciples that “no one will take your joy from you.” (John 16:22) The Lord gives us a supernatural joy which enables us to bear any sorrow or pain and which neither life nor death can take away. As we move closer to the end of Advent, have you come to know during this time the joy of living a life given over to God in greater faith and trust?

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22**

*O King of the Gentiles and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one; Come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth.*

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:46-56

Prayer: Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that we, who are weighed down from of old by slavery beneath the yoke of sin, may be set free by the newness of the long-awaited Nativity of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Despite what we may think about ourselves, always remember that God has great things in store for his people. It is again a vision of the Kingdom, of God's will being done on earth. It is indeed Good News. All this is very much in line with the picture of Jesus when one reads the gospels. It is in the gospels where the poor, the weak, the marginalized, the outcast and the sinful have a special place in the eyes of Jesus. We, too, can rejoice with Mary in the long list of good things that we have been gifted with by our loving Lord. Those gifts are not just for our enjoyment. Our task is, in accordance with those God-given gifts, abilities and talents, to make sure that the love of God is tangibly experienced by the poor, the weak, the marginalized, the outcast and the sinful in our own midst. The realization of what Mary sings about in today's gospel will only take place when we all work together with Jesus to bring it about. With Mary, let us all say a hearty and resounding “Yes” to God's plans for us, his sons and daughters.

*Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits' Sacred Space web page and Biblical Medications for Advent by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.; prayers are from The Roman Missal, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture website. frlumppe:2023*

## CONFESSION OPPORTUNITIES THIS ADVENT

Monday – Saturday | after 8:30 am Daily Mass

Saturdays | 3 – 3:45 pm

December 18, 19, & 20 | 7 – 8 pm each evening



to the following children, who were recently baptized at Our Lady.

**Reagan Curry**, daughter of Seth & Laura (Niehaus) Curry

**Raphael Dockers**, son of Joseph & Britany Dockers

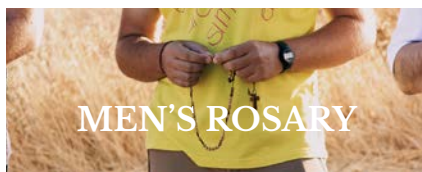
### CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Church office will be closed on the following dates to prepare for and observe Christmas and New Year's:

- **December 22, 25, 26**
- **January 1**

Please note that all church office staff will be working from home the week between Christmas and New Year's, so the office will be closed to the public December 27-29. Emergencies will still be taken care of, and calls and emails will be addressed in a timely manner.

We pray that everyone has a very blessed Christmas and holiday season!



The Catholic Men's Ministry hosts a Virtual Rosary on Zoom on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 am. Please join men from across our diocese Wednesday morning on January 3 in honoring our Blessed Mother in this powerful prayer. Contact Chris Killian for more information at SpiritofOLPH@gmail.com or you can find the link on the CMM website at www.catholicmensministry.com.

# Christmas Masses 2023

**GROUP A**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 | 4 pm, 6 pm

Sunday, December 24 | 8:30 am

**GROUP B**

## CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 24

4 pm (in church and school gym)

10 pm (church only)

Monday, December 25 | 9:30 am

With Christmas Eve on a Sunday this year, things can be a little confusing. Both Sundays and Christmas are very important in the liturgical year, and have separate Mass obligations. We have modified our usual weekend Mass schedule for December 23 & 24 to help make getting all your obligations in easier. Choose one Mass from each category above to help you set your schedule for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas!

## SWEETS, TREATS, AND RAFFLES GALORE

### CALLING ALL BAKERS!

It's time again to show off your culinary talents at the Holiday Bake Sale hosted by the Parish Women's Association.

When, you ask? The weekend of December 16 and 17.

Please just drop off your delicious delights in the Gathering Space before any Mass. This event is only one of two fundraisers that PWA does to be able to service so many important causes within our parish, our community and beyond. We thank you in advance for your contributions and your precious time in preparation. Also look forward to fabulous Gift Baskets and Raffles!



# HOLIDAY RAFFLE FUNDRAISER



As we approach the festive season, we are excited to share an opportunity that not only brings joy but also supports a worthy cause.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders are planning an enriching trip to Washington D.C., and we're organizing a special Holiday Raffle to help fund their adventure. One lucky winner will take home a Yeti Cooler filled with premium spirits and wine, just in time for the holiday celebrations!

Tickets:

**1 for \$10 OR 3 for \$25**

The drawing is set for December 19, adding an extra touch of excitement to the season. Purchase tickets at [school.ourladygc.org/holiday-spirit-giveaway](http://school.ourladygc.org/holiday-spirit-giveaway). Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support!

# ADORATION COVERAGE

Please consider committing to an hour of adoration every Friday. Most of our hours from 9 am to 9 pm on Fridays have only one adorer; if we had 2 each hour when one can't attend, the hour would still be covered. We especially need coverage for 11 am - 12 pm every Friday. We hear from so many saints about Eucharistic Adoration, and who better to ponder than the saints! Sign up at [ourladygc.org/adoration](http://ourladygc.org/adoration).



# SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS

**NOW – DECEMBER 25**

Don't forget about the Silver Streaks "Socks for the Homeless" collection drive. We are looking for NEW socks of all kinds and styles for men, women, teens, children, and infants. Socks are one of the top three items most often requested by those who provide shelter to people in need. Our box will be located in the Gathering Space. Our goal this year is to collect 2,000 pairs.



Thank you in advance, and God bless you for your generosity in helping our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



## NEW HORIZONS MEETING

The next meeting of the New Horizons Widow and Widowers group is Thursday, December 21 at 6 pm in the Parish Life Center. We will not have a Meal after Mass this month, but will be celebrating the holiday season with each other at this meeting. Bring a dish or favorite holiday treat to share with fellow attendees.

New Horizons is open to any widow or widower and is a group to support each other through fellowship and service. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. Come to a meeting to learn about and suggest activities for the coming months. Bring a dish to share, if you can. We eat at 6 pm. The meetings start at 6:30.



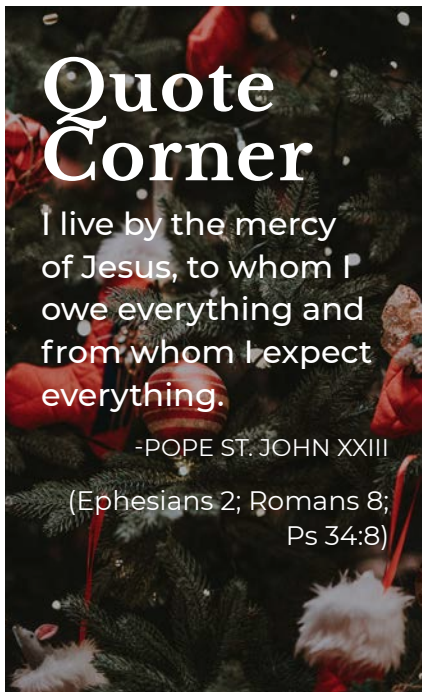
## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We are calling all women to join in fellowship and prayer every Saturday in the Shepherds' Room. We meet at 7 am and will end at or before 8:15 am, so that you can enjoy the rest of your day. We look forward to seeing you there. For additional information, please contact Julie Walker at 614.332.5786 or [julzwalker1108@gmail.com](mailto:julzwalker1108@gmail.com).



We have an ongoing prayer chain for all those who are in need of prayers. To add an intention to our list, or if you would like to join in praying for our intentions, contact Jodi Stage at [tashastage@aol.com](mailto:tashastage@aol.com).





This is the quarterly statement covering August 2023 through October 2023. Please remit by December 20!

To get the information to submit: Sign into your Kroger Account. On the menu, click on: "Rewards." Then click on: "Community Rewards." It will show your enrollment with Our Lady and an amount at the bottom; this reward is a percentage of your spending of the past quarter. Please email that to [scrip@ourladygc.org](mailto:scrip@ourladygc.org). **Please note on your remittance your student's name, grade and class.**

If you do not have a specific family tuition account, you may still donate your rewards. Just register your card with Community Rewards, and our donation will be split equally between Guardian Angel, PTO, SPICE, PSR, and Athletics. For any questions, contact [Scrip@ourladygc.org](mailto:Scrip@ourladygc.org).



## HAT, GLOVE, AND SCARF TREE

Warm your heart and warm your soul this Christmas season by donating new or gently worn hats, gloves and scarves to the homeless and those most vulnerable during this cold and Blessed season. We ask you to pray for those whom you so generously cover in warmth. We thank you in advance and may God bless you always. The Parish Women's Association.

## WHITE CHRISTMAS 2023

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, through the Grove City Ministers Fellowship, is once again requesting your support of the White Christmas Food program. This food program helps the needy of Southwest Franklin County by supplying them non-perishable food items for Christmas. This year, Our Lady will serve as the main sort and distribution site.



### SCHOOL FOOD PICKUP DAYS 9:15AM

We will meet in the **Parish Life Center** on Wednesday and Thursday, December 20 and 21 at 9:15 am. to pick up food items from the schools

### SORT 6 PM-9 PM

We will meet in the **School Cafeteria**, 3752 Broadway, Thursday, December 21 to sort all food items donated. We ask for volunteers to help sort later in the evening if unable to arrive at 6 PM. This event needs many volunteers.

### BOX 6 PM-8 PM

We will meet in the **School Cafeteria**, 3752 Broadway, Friday, December 22 to box food for the individual recipient families

### DISTRIBUTE BOXES 12 PM-4 PM

We will meet in the **School Cafeteria**, 3752 Broadway, Saturday, December 23 for the distribution to recipient families. We need only a few volunteers for this date.

### REMAINING FOOD TO PANTRY 8:30 AM

We will meet in the **School Cafeteria**, 3752 Broadway, Tuesday, December 27 to load excess food not needed for our program into trucks for the Grove City Food Pantry. This event needs many volunteers as last year we donated/loaded over 36,000 items.

If you have any questions regarding this program or to volunteer, please contact coordinator Pat Fahy at [patrickjfahy01@gmail.com](mailto:patrickjfahy01@gmail.com) or 614.875.3322, ext. 309 for updated information and for volunteers to sign up. You can also like us at [facebook.com/WhiteChristmasFoodDrive](https://facebook.com/WhiteChristmasFoodDrive) to see previous years' programs and updated information.



## HOLIDAY LIGHT COLLECTION

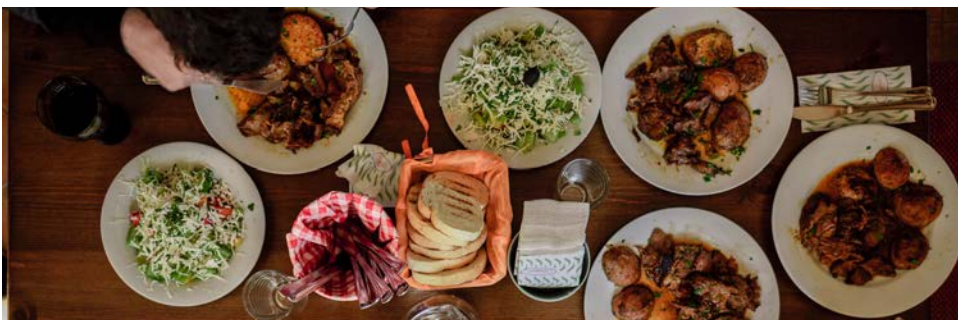
Keep Grove City Beautiful is partnering with the City of Grove City and Accurate IT Services to offer holiday light recycling at several drop-off locations now through Sunday, January 7.

Deposit lights ready to be discarded in marked collection boxes at one of the following locations during business hours:

- City Hall, 4035 Broadway
- Kingston Center, 3226 Kingston Ave.
- Service Department, 3262 Ventura Ave.
- Jackson Township Administration Building, 3756 Hoover Road
- Fire Station 202, 3650 Hoover Road
- Fire Station 203, 2650 London-Groveport Road
- Fire Station 204, 4900 Buckeye Pkwy.
- Grove City Library, 3959 Broadway

**Why it matters:** Like most electronic products, Christmas lights are not biodegradable and can sit in landfills for hundreds of years. Recycling unwanted lights is a simple way to look after the earth and help keep Grove City beautiful.

For additional information, contact Environmental Supervisor Linda Rosine at 614.277.3058.



## MEALS NEEDED FOR OCIA

We are seeking ministries and parishioners to provide dinner for our OCIA folks. We need to serve dinner for 45 at 6:30 pm on Tuesdays. We are so grateful to all who participated in this ministry of hospitality last year and ask that you would consider providing a meal again. Or perhaps you thought about it last year, but never got around to making it happen. Now is your chance! Contact Karen Cook, 614.875.3322 or [kcook@ourladygc.org](mailto:kcook@ourladygc.org). The meal can be as complex or as simple as you like. Thank you in advance! Meals for 1/9, 1/23, 1/30, 2/13, 2/20, and 2/27 are still needed!



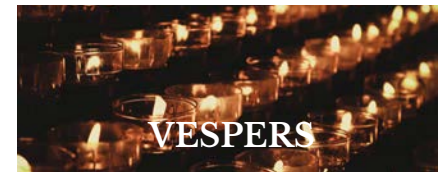
**START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT!** Give the gift of time to each other this year. Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2024 the best year of your marriage by applying today! The next weekend is February 9–11, 2024 in the Central Ohio area. For more information or to apply, visit our website at [WWMEcolumbus.org](http://WWMEcolumbus.org) or contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at 614.834.6880. Early registration is highly recommended.



## PARISH WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

### PARTY PARTY PARTY

All women in the parish, please join us for our fun and festive Christmas party. It will be held on Wednesday December 20 in the Life Center at 6 pm. Please bring a dish for our potluck dinner.... an entree, side, appetizer or dessert. We will have a fun filled gift exchange after food and fellowship, so bring a \$10 wrapped gift, and don't forget to bring a friend!



Join us for communally sung Vespers (Night Prayer) on Mondays at 6 pm in the Nave. Pray with the wider Church in this portion of the Divine Office.

This worship opportunity is sponsored by Creative Ministries.



# GOSPEL

## JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28



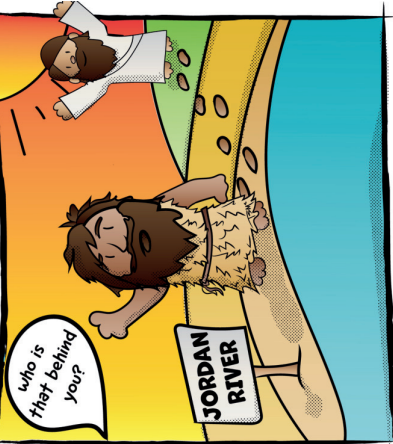
A man named John was sent from God. - He came for testimony, to testify to the light, - so that all might believe through him. - He was not the light, - but came to testify to the light. - And this is the testimony of John. - When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests - and Levites to him - to ask him, "Who are you?" - He admitted and did not deny it, - but admitted, "I am not the Christ." - So they asked him, - "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" - And he said, "I am not." - "Are you the Prophet?" - He answered, "No." - So they said to him, - "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? - What do you have to say for yourself?"



Pharisees were also sent. - They asked him, - "Why then do you baptize - if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" - John answered them, - "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, - the one who is coming after me, - whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." - This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, - where John was baptizing.



He said: - "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, - make straight the way of the Lord." - as Isaiah the prophet said, - "Some of you who are coming after me, - whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." - This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, - where John was baptizing.



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The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God.



I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.



# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## 1ST READING

### ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11

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