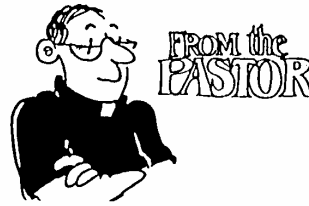


**Reading for the Week of November 27, 2005**

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3; Lk 21:1-4  
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3; Lk 21:5-11  
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3; Lk 21:12-19  
Thursday: Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3; Lk 21:20-28  
Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3; Lk 21:29-33  
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27; Ps 84; Lk 21:34-36  
Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

*You can now find the daily readings on our Parish Website!*



**PASTOR'S NOTE:  
HANGING ON**

I was hiking in the woods last week when I came upon a tree that had lost all of its leaves...except one. In spite of the wind, one orange-brown leaf clung to the twig. It wavered in the wind, but it refused to let go.

The falling of leaves during November is inevitable, just as the arrival of new leaves in spring is bound to happen. Nonetheless, I applauded that single leaf for refusing to give up and let go.

With societal winds and cultural forces, we are sometimes like those leaves on the trees. It can be very tempting to go along with what's around us. It can seem impossible to hang on to our convictions when "everyone else" is accepting some standard.

Frankly, it can be lonely to oppose violence when people accept it. It can be harsh to believe in the sanctity of marriage when others are indifferent. And it can be challenging to believe that our faith has to be the center of our being when for many it is just something extra.

Cardinal George of Chicago recently observed that for many "religion has become a hobby and church attendance a leisure activity." Churches even pursue people as they might market a new ride at Cedar Point or a show at the Stranahan.

Those who believe differently and make a commitment to develop their faith, day in and day out, may feel a bit like that lone leaf on the tree. Wouldn't it be great, however, if we all were committed to the same values so we could encourage one another? Then you wouldn't have to hang there alone. That's church!

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

*Q. Does our new parish have a ministry to the sick or hospitalized?*

A. The "Parish Life and Activities" committee is in the process of developing a pastoral care ministry. If you or someone you know is hospitalized, ill, home-bound, or in a nursing home, please let us know by contacting the parish offices (419-662-3180) or Fr. Herb directly if it is an emergency (419-260-4849).

Parishioners who would like to go through one training session and then are willing to visit and pray, as well as bring Communion, to the sick, please contact Sharon Benedict at [J\\_SBENEDICT@MSN.COM](mailto:J_SBENEDICT@MSN.COM) or call her at 419-823-7035.

Fr. Herb and Marla Overholt are also available for visits. Please let us know.

**BISHOP BLAIR HERE NEXT WEEK**

Just a reminder that Bishop Blair will be here next week for the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Please be sure to be here in good time so you can help welcome him. If you get a chance, please let him know how you feel about this parish.

**FR. HERB'S COURSE: MORALITY**

The third session of Fr. Herb's four-week mini-course, "The Catholic Church Today," will take place this Monday, November 21, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Dowling. You are welcome even if you have not attended previous sessions. This presentation will deal with contemporary concepts of sin, church teachings on morality, and conscience formation.

## THIRTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

---



### GENERATIONS OF FAITH

We have begun registering any households who would like to attend the December GOF gatherings who are not already signed up for the "season ticket". There are green brochures located on the table with all our Religious Education information to register for the Dec. 11 and 12 gatherings. If you are not a season ticket holder, please consider joining us for a GOF gathering!

It will be a great way to prepare for Christmas! For more information, contact Marla Overholt. The deadline for Registration for the Dec. gatherings is November 27, 2005.

---

### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

IN *SYMPATHY*



Daniel Kornasiewicz

Who was buried November 16, 2005

---



### THANKSGIVING INTER-CHURCH SERVICE

We have much to be thankful for, so plan to come to our joint Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 23, at 6:00 p.m., at Christ Lutheran Church, Dowling. ALSO the service will follow with a "Pumpkin Bake Off." Bring something that includes pumpkin and we, along with our brothers and sisters of Christ Lutheran Church, will share together. Coming together for Thanksgiving seems exactly the way to celebrate this holiday.

### FOOD COLLECTION TODAY

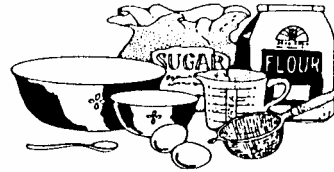
This Sunday before Thanksgiving we thank all those who have brought in food to be given to the Assumption Center (old St. Mary's Parish) in downtown Toledo to help the needy in that neighborhood. Thank you. Some of our youth are loading the vans and will, in turn, help take the food to St. Mary's on Wednesday morning. Thank you.

### SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our Sunday offering last weekend was \$2,262. Thank you. It appears more and more people are remembering the "sacrificial" part of sacrificial giving. When there is an element of sacrifice, giving beyond what is easy or extra, then giving starts to really make a difference in our lives.

### CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

At the doors there are special envelopes available for the Campaign for Human Development. This annual appeal by the U.S. Bishops has assisted countless grassroots programs that have helped neighborhoods help themselves in ending the cycle of poverty. Thank you in advance for your support.



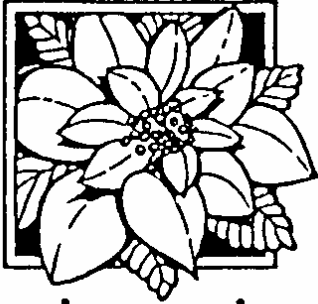
### ATTENTION CHRISTMAS COOKIE BAKERS!!

For our dessert for the Dec. 11 and 12 Generations of Faith we would like to feature Christmas cookies from our parish community! We would like to ask that any interested bakers make their signature Christmas cookie recipe and donate the cookies the weekend of December 10 and 11. The Generations of Faith team will collect them and take them to our Sunday and Monday gatherings. Any size donation will be very much appreciated.

Here is another reason to attend the December GOF gatherings!! Who can resist home-baked Christmas cookies!!! Marla

### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We continue to have our weekly Bible Study at 9:30-10:30 a.m., Tuesdays, at the "model" home at River's Edge Development, Ft. Meigs Rd, just south of Perrysburg High School. (This week there will be not be the usual 9:00 a.m. Mass first.)



## **Poinsettias**

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS**

Help us get ready for Christmas. We would love to decorate our altar with Christmas flowers. If you are able to contribute to the fund, please put your contribution in the basket on the table in the gathering area continuing this weekend. These donations will be used to decorate at our Christmas liturgies on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

### **ADVENT**

Next Sunday is the first day of the new church calendar. With Christmas being on a Sunday this year, we have four full weeks of Advent as a wonderful time to prepare for the coming of the Lord.

During Advent we encourage you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Besides the usual Saturday afternoon time, Fr. Herb will be assisting at the Reconciliation service at 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 12, at St. Rose, Perrysburg; and at the service at 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 19, at St. Aloysius. You are welcome at either.

### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Plan ahead, and invite others, to our Christmas Masses. On Christmas Eve we will have a 4:30 p.m. Mass "with the child in mind" and a 7:00 p.m. Mass that is "midnight without having to stay up that late." On Christmas morning Mass will be at 9:30 a.m. All three Masses will take place at Perrysburg High School.

### **CO-OP NURSERY 9:30 a.m. LITURGY**

Any families with young children, who would like to participate in a Co-Op Nursery, are invited to drop their kids off in Room 119 (just past the bathroom and turn left)! There is a schedule in the room where you can sign up to take a turn. There are usually about 3 or 4 kids in the nursery on any given Sunday and we already have several families involved!

Visitors to Blessed John are certainly welcome to take advantage of the nursery when they are worshipping with us.

Next week's nursery workers are Valerie and David Suelzer. Thanks! For more information contact Marla.

### **FIRE '05**

Sunday, November 20, 2005 our Confirmation candidates will be traveling to Bluffton University to experience FIRE'05!! Please pray for our safe journey and for the success of the day! Candidates are reminded to be ready to travel Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Perrysburg High School. Parents we hope to return by 8:15 p.m., so please pickup at this time. Fr. Herb will be traveling with us, so should you need to reach us please use his cell number 419-260-4849 as a contact number



### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

We are developing a prayer circle. You can pray from your home. If you want to help pray for those in need (sickness, injury, or loss), you can get on the list by emailing our parish office with your email or by calling the parish phone number (419-662-3180). Each time someone is added to the list, you will be emailed or called, so you have the name of the person to pray for. Also needed are some people willing to be the telephone conduits, ready to call others.

## DON'T MISS



### *The Float Looks Great and It's Almost Done Now it's Time for You to Join in the Fun!*

Participating in the Holiday Parade is a wonderful opportunity for members of Blessed John XXIII to show our community support as well as evangelize others, and invite our "friends and neighbors" to worship with us during the Christmas Season. We would love to have your family walk with us in the parade on **Sunday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**. **Please be at Toth School by 1:30 p.m.**

Since our theme is: "**Building a Catholic Community**," adults & children should dress as carpenters, painters, etc. (It could be cold so wear long underwear / dress in warm layers.)

We are gathering hard hats for many to wear, and we're also looking for tool belts, nail aprons, or clean paint cans that will be filled with candy for the kids to hand out to children along the parade route. The adults will be handing out flyers.

If each Blessed John family would bring 1 or 2 bags of wrapped candy with them to Mass on November 27, we would have plenty to give out at the parade. You may deposit these in boxes at the entrance doors when you arrive.

*Thanks from Fred and Ann Eberly*

## **From the Church Office**

If you would like to submit information to be printed in the bulletin, please email or drop off at our office. The deadline is Monday at noon.

Email address [tcarella@blessedjohn.org](mailto:tcarella@blessedjohn.org)

Office address: All Saints Church

*Thank you  
Tina Carella*

## PARISH REGISTRATION

If you haven't yet registered for Blessed John XXIII and are planning to, please do so this week. Anyone who is registered by the end of November will be considered a "charter member" of this parish. Of course, we welcome anyone, registered or not. And you are always considered an important part of this parish regardless of when you join

## THANKS AND WELCOME

We want to thank Michelle Carr for helping set up our parish office and getting us started with the new bulletin service. Thanks, Michelle. We now welcome Tina Carella as our parish secretary. Tina is working part-time and usually in the office between 9:30 and noon, Monday through Friday. With the parish phone, you can always leave a message for her or any staff member, even when she is not there.

## HAPPENINGS ELSEWHERE

### SUPPORTING OUR FRIENDS

Members of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church have an annual fund-raiser of making and selling holiday cheese balls. They are spread-able and come in four different flavors. You can put in your order after Mass. They will be made and delivered on the weekend before Christmas, December 17-18, and you can pay at that time (\$5.00 each). Thank you.

### ROSSFORD COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Blood Drive on the Friday after Thanksgiving from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at All Saints School – McAlear Center (630 Lime City Road). Appointments are scheduled but walk-ins are welcome.

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or Rita Baur at 419-661-1987