# LOVE

...blessed is the fruit of your womb.



#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### Masses for the Week

Sunday, December 22

7:30am St. Patrick's Parishioners

10:00am Bethany Calder

Monday, December 23 NO MASS

Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00pm For St. Patrick's Parishioners 11:00pm For St. Patrick's Parishioners

Wednesday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:00am For St. Patrick's Parishioners 10:00am For St. Patrick's Parishioners

Thursday, December 26

9:00am Special intention: Jones & Rabadan families

Friday, December 27

9:00am Special intention: Jim & Sue Skora

Saturday, December 28

5:00pm Bethany Ann Calder & her family

Sunday, December 29

7:30am For married couples & their families

10:00am Bonnie Davis

**Liturgical Ministries** 

December 28 & 29

Lectors

5:00pm Kirk Giant 7:30am John Lushis 10:00am Raylene Rospond

10.00am Raylette Rospon

**Eucharistic Ministries** 

5:00pm P. Bottone, L. Doak, S. Fawbush, B. Harber 7:30am K. Lipke, A. Lushis, K. Schaefer, Z. Schortgen 10:00am M. McGrew, N. Millberg, K. Miller, S. Miller

Gifts

5:00pm Brandi Duncan family 7:30am Nathaniel Strack family 10:00am John Pirrung family

Ushers

5:00pm J. Burelison, J. Fawbush, J. Gordan, M. Moore 7:30am M. Butts, J. Butts, M. Mager, H. Strack 10:00am C. Brown, J. Pirrung, S. Wilhelm, T. Wilhelm Greeter only – B. Trahin

Servers

7:30am Jonah J, James G, Lincon S, Matthew U 10:00am John D, Owen K, Paul D, Micah H

Church Cleaning

December 28 Kris Giant, Joan Kegerreis

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stpatrickarcola.org

# "FROM YOU SHALL COME FORTH THE SAVIOUR"

Prophet Micah against every human expectation and logic announces that the small town of Bethlehem, so insignificant that it is not even included among the clans of Judah will be the birthplace of the Messianic King who will come from the line of King David to save his people. Christians see the fulfillment of Micah's prophecy in the birth of Jesus who was born in the little town of Bethlehem, to set us free from Satan, sin, and death. St. Luke presents Mary as the lonely handmaid chosen by God to be the mother of the Savior, she is the instrument God has chosen to bring forth the Savior into the world. Mary brought joy to all she encountered because she had in her the Savior of the world.

All Christians who have prepared a room for Christ in their hearts are also bearers of God who must, like Mary, bring about a burst of hope, peace, joy, love, and faith wherever we are. May all people who encounter us experience the Savior this Christmas and always. Like Mary, let us hurry to the poor and needy with many acts of mercy and kindness as we bring the joy, peace, and love of Christ to them.

**P.S.** Remember to bring someone to one of our Christmas Masses. And let us joyfully welcome home all those that God will be bringing to us this Christmas season. Merry Christmas! -Fr. John Eze

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - 4pm (Church & Parish Hall) Christmas Eve - 11pm (Church)

Christmas Day - 8am & 10 am

# Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God (a Holy Day of Obligation)

New Year's Eve – 5pm New Year's Day – 9am

#### **December 22, 2024**

# Weekly Offertory Collection December 9 – December 15

<u>Pro-Life</u> "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus," Gabriel says to her.



Congratulations to the following students who made their First Reconciliation on December 14, 2024: Rowanna Davis, Samuel Guyll, Vincent Hilger, Agnes Lovejoy, Ellie Peters, Georgiana Ripley. May you be blessed by Jesus' love and forgiveness always.

<u>Congratulations</u> to Zach and Chelsea Elder whose son Simon was baptized on December 15, 2024 at St. Patrick's. May the Lord bless you and your family.

NO Religious Education Classes on Sunday, December 22 and 29. Wishing everyone a very joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year 2025! Classes will resume on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>!

2025 Catholic Calendars are at the church entrances.

<u>Christmas Memorial Flowers Donation Envelopes</u> are at the church entrances for donations to help decorate the church for Christmas.

<u>2025 Offertory Envelopes</u> – Please pick up your 2025 offertory envelopes located on the table in the back of church.

Mark your Calendars! Regional Rally and March for Life on Saturday, January 18, doors open at noon. Starting at the Tin Caps Stadium (not at the USF performing Arts Center like it has been in past years, as the building is closed for construction currently). Rally will begin at 12:30pm and the March will begin after the Rally. Learn more at <a href="https://www.ichooselife.org/march">www.ichooselife.org/march</a>.

<u>Christmas Choir Practice</u> in the choir loft on Sunday, <u>December 22 from 2:30-4:30pm</u> for Christmas Eve 11 pm Mass.

<u>Cupertino Classic: Priests V. Seminarians Basketball</u>
<u>Game</u> will take place on Friday, December 27 at Marian
High School in Mishawaka. Tip-off at 6:30 pm.
Adoration & Mass at 3pm prior at the Sisters Chapel.



<u>Catholic Charities Annual Christmas Collection</u> will be at all the Christmas Masses. Serving the 14 Counties of the Diocese since 1922. Through Catholic Charities work, the light of Christ is brought to our most vulnerable neighbors during the coldest and darkest times of the year.

Weekday Masses on Thursday and Friday December 26 & 27 will be at 9:00 am.



33 DAYS to EUCHARISTIC GLORY BOOK - A Spiritual Pilgrimage. Merry Christmas gift to you from Fr. John to enjoy. They are located at the church entrances. This extraordinary spiritual guide will forever change the way you spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist.



K of C Thank you! — The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all who participated in our Italian Dinner Experience this year. Thanks to you we were able to donate \$3050 to Safe Haven Baby Boxes knowing that we all are helping mothers in crisis to be able to surrender their babies in a safe and secure environment. THANKS AGAIN!



Jubilee 2025 – The Catholic Church embarks on a year of prayer, hope, and renewal for the Catholic Church. Opening Mass and procession will be on Sunday, December 29 beginning at St. Mary at 10:45am and travel to the Cathedral for Mass celebrated by Bishop Rhoades at 11:30 am. Visit diocesefwsb.org/jubilee25.



SHE SHALL BRING FORTH A SON.

AND THOU SHALT

CALL HIS NAME estes.

MAITHEW 121

2024 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE!

## "AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH..." JN.1:14

Christmas offers us an opportunity to celebrate the fulfilment of God's promise. As St. Paul tells us: "When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were born under the law." (Gal.4:3). This intervention of God in the affairs of humanity is the dawn of a new era; no one can overlook or be indifferent to the fact of the Incarnation. History is divided into two eras: Before Christ and After Christ. "And the Word became flesh, and lived among us. (Jn.1:14). Incarnation is a manifestation of the love of God, who took our weak and sinful flesh and redeemed it. He became man so that He can teach and lead us to God. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (Jn3:16). The big challenge given to us by the birth of Christ is to ensure that the new Kingdom He has begun continues to grow and flourish in our lives and that we all play our part in expanding His Kingdom to every corner of our world. "Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Mtt.6:10). It is only through Him, with Him and in Him that we live, move, and have our being.

I sincerely thank all my staff and volunteers who worked very hard to make our Advent and Christmas celebrations inspiring and uplifting.

A big thank you to all those who blessed me with Christmas prayers and gifts. I appreciate your love and kindness. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Please pray for my safety and protection as I will be traveling to Nigeria from January 7<sup>th</sup> to 30th to visit my family.

Join us on Tuesday, December 31, at 5PM for the Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and on Wednesday, January 1st, 2025, at 9AM. It is a holiday of obligation!

The joy of Christmas continues beyond this day, through the eight days (Christmas Octave) to Sunday, January 12, 2025, The Baptism of the Lord.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! And a Happy New Year!

Fr. John Eze



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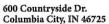


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