

St. John Chrysostom, Columbus, OH

Parish Weekly Schedule

Sunday December 4

29th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30a Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

11:15am ECF Classes and
Visit from St. Nicholas



Monday December 5

9a-1p Office Hours

Wednesday December 7

9a-1p Office Hours

7pm Divine Liturgy for Maternity of Anna

Thursday December 8

9a-1p Office Hours

**Cookie Drop-Off in hall – see times in
Cookie Corner**

Friday December 9

9a-1p Office Hours

**Tray Assembly and final set-up - see what
and when in Cookie Corner**

Saturday December 10

8a Divine Liturgy in Chapel

10a-2p *Cookie Sale!*

4pm Fr. Bob covering St. Barbara in Dayton



Sunday December 11

29th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30a Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Eternal Memory

Our deepest condolences go out to Evelyn Houston on the death of her brother, Joseph Yurcisin, on November 20th. Joe was buried this past week in his New Jersey hometown.

*May God grant His servant Joseph,
Eternal Rest and Blessed Repose.*

St. Nicholas

TODAY we welcome St. Nicholas to St. John Chrysostom Parish. All the children are invited and welcome to spend time with our special visitor!

Eastern Christian Formation Classes

Children's ECF Classes are scheduled for TODAY December 4th and the 18th.

Philip's Fast Reflection

Read your Bible

Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalms 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Romans 15: 4-9; Matthew 3: 1-12

www.catholicstewardship.com

In the Gospel passage from St. Matthew, St. John the Baptist declares, among other things, "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." Isn't that a sign to us of what Philip's Fast means to us? Are you familiar with roads in the world that are filled with curves and hills? Depending on your age, you may be familiar with efforts to straighten those roads, perhaps

even to build tunnels through those hills, so the journey is less treacherous and threatening.

That is part of our goal during Philip's Fast. With the coming of Christ imminent we want to work to rid our lives of the hills, valleys, curves, and twists in our lives. The readings above speak of endurance and persistence to accomplish that.

The imagery found in the First Reading from Isaiah is rich and vivid and with much meaning. It opens with "On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom." This is, of course, as Isaiah is wont to do, a reference to the Messiah, to the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is an interesting word picture. There is a bare and withered tree stump. It would seem that the stump will never again bear fruit, never again blossom in any way. Suddenly from the stump appears a small shoot which will grow and flourish.

Jesse was the father of King David, but the reading does not emphasize David. When Christ was born, as we all know, there was nothing royal about the birth or about the legacy it would produce and leave. Christ came from humble beginnings and that is part of this message.

Our Second Reading is drawn from St. Paul's letter to the Romans. Within that reading Paul speaks of glory and praise and by implication from those — joy. Those are words we associate with this time of year, are they not?

The way to do that is by emulating Christ, by reaching out to one another, by welcoming one another, just as Christ reaches out to us and welcomes us. How carefully do we really consider this sense of gladness at this time of year? It is more than anticipation. It is the hope of Christ's promises and what His Coming truly means to us.

An entire reflection might be written on any one of several sentences and phrases from today's Gospel Reading from St. Matthew. Consider these examples: *"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"* or *"...a voice of one crying out in the desert"* or *"I am baptizing you with water...but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*

It all comes down to the fact that John the Baptist is a witness for Christ. He is the kind of disciple we need to be. Witnessing is an important part of stewardship, and it is something we all need to practice and be willing to do. St. John the Baptist was more than an effective witness, however; you might say that John was a living witness because of how he lived; the way he lived made people pay attention to him. He is incredibly real—the way he dresses, what he eats, the way he lives.

In the same way we are called to witness as John did, with our very lives. What people perceive us to be as Catholics and Christians is the most important stewardship witness we can offer. Philip's Fast is the time for us to make that commitment, that conversion. Like John we need to do more than preach the message; we need to be the message. Our beliefs, our faith, and our actions must always reflect that.

St. Paul writes in his letter to the Romans, *"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another."* That statement is prayer-like, something that Paul tends to do in his letters, because Paul recognizes and knows that it is only through the Holy Spirit that each of us can find that internal conversion to have the same endurance and patience to achieve the harmony for which we seek.

That in part is what we are striving for during this Philip's Fast. Often, especially at this time of year, we are in a hurry. God may seem to work too slowly for us. God's plan is based

upon patience and endurance. Paul continues that we need to *"...welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you."* Christ does indeed welcome us with all our faults and our sins as well. Throughout His ministry the Lord called us to treat one another, to love one another, as He treats and loves us.

As part of our Pre-Christmas journey we need to work toward finding that same love in our hearts that the Lord feels for us. First, we need to recognize and accept that love. Then we need to seek the conversion that allows us to translate that love into our treatment of others. This is, in effect, what stewardship is all about — to glorify God in our actions by thinking of others first, by sharing who and what we are.

**Come, O Jesus, our Savior
redeem and save us!**

Special Dates this Week!

Happy Birthday!

Rosemary Nyahay December 5
David Lonrick December 7
Nicolas Bucaczyk December 8



Brent & Natasha Goodin
December 6, 2014

Celebrating 2 years Crowned in Marriage

May God grant them many Happy and Blessed Years!

Prayer List

For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:

The Priest Eugene Linowski			
Ron Doctor	Ray Doskotch	Julia Fedeczko	Julie Fultz
Charlene Grabner	John Grabner	Ev Houston	Esther Imhoff
Frederick Kowalski	Marilyn Kimbrel	Donald Krofcheck	Victor Lonrick
Christine Loya	Bill Martin	Joe Martin	Paul Mech
Ed Nyahay	Dave Olszyk	Mic O'Halloran	John Oshinski
Paula Oshinski	Bob Parks	Maria Rakowsky	Betty Sikora
John Sikora	Dennis Stinich	Bernie Turanchik	Ruth Turanchik
Anastasza Wojchak			

That the Lord God, for the glory of His name, visit his sick servants with His Holy Spirit and cure every illness and affliction, let us pray.



Church Cleaning

December

12/3- All Clean
12/17 – Paula/Cathy



Collection Counting

Dec. 4 Kathy Krofcheck
Dec. 11 Jerry Stasek
Dec. 18 Mark Frye
Dec. 25 Alex Rakowsky