

**St. John Chrysostom,
Columbus, OH
Parish Weekly Schedule**

Sunday January 8
9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful
11:15am ECF Classes

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



Monday January 9
9a-1p Office Hours
7pm Ladies Guild Meeting

Wednesday January 11
8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+Rev. Robert Barter
9a-1p Office Hours

Thursday January 12
8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+Helen Jadwisiak by the Pitt Family
9a-1p Office Hours

Friday January 13
8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+Katherine Backwin by Vera Hollwinsky
9a-1p Office Hours

Sunday January 14
9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful
11:30am Cookie Sale Wrap-up Meeting

**St. Barbara,
Dayton, OH
Monthly Schedule**

Saturday January 7
4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

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



Saturday January 14
4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

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



Saturday January 21
4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

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



Saturday January 28
4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

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

Happy New Year to Everyone!

The office is getting back into the swing of things after the holidays. Office hours are back to Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 9:00am and 1:00pm; so if you need to contact me, please call during those hours.

The 2017 Contribution envelopes and calendars are in the narthex of the church, please pick them up there. If you do not find envelopes with your name in those remaining, please contact me in the office and I will take care of you.

The 2016 Yearly Contribution records will be distributed by the end of January. They will be in marked, sealed envelopes in the church narthex when they have been completed.

~ Teresa



Coming up this month....

Monday, January 9th – 7:00pm – Ladies Guild Meeting in the parish hall. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend.

Sunday, January 15th – approx 11:30am – Cookie Sale Wrap up meeting. Discuss what went well, what might not have, and any suggested changes.

Sunday, January 22nd – Children’s ECF following Divine Liturgy

Monday, January 23rd – Advisory/Finance Board Meeting in parish hall

Wednesday, February 1st – 7:00pm – Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Our Lord’s Encounter with Simeon

Read your Bible!

*Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6; Psalms 40: 2, 4, 7-10;
1 Corinthians 1: 1-3; John 1: 29-34*

Many Catholics do not fully understand the meaning and importance of Ordinary Time. Ordinary is based upon the fact that the Sundays during this time are numbered, and that is because they do not fall into the various seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, or Easter. That does not make this time of year unimportant; in fact Ordinary Time is far from unimportant or uninteresting.

As indicated in today’s Gospel Reading from John, John the Baptist refers to Jesus as the Lamb of God. That means this is the time of year when Christ, the Lamb of God, walks among us and can transform our lives. There is certainly nothing “ordinary” about that.

On most Sundays within the readings for the liturgy there are some gems and special messages that might get lost in the midst of everything else. This Sunday is no exception. The prescience of the prophet Isaiah who was writing some six centuries before the birth of Christ is sometimes amazing. Today’s first reading from Isaiah closes with this statement: **“I will make you a light to the nations that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”** How often do we hear the Lord called the Light of the World, not just the light of Israel, but the light to everyone everywhere? Jesus does not just bring salvation to all of us; He is salvation for all of us.

The second reading comes to us from the very beginning of St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. Paul understood the forms and traditions of his day. When someone was writing a letter, they needed to state at the very beginning to whom the letter is for and from whom it comes. That, in part, is the gist of today’s reading. Paul spent as much time in

Corinth as he did anywhere during his ministry. As a result we may know more about the faith community in Corinth than we do about any other community in the New Testament.

Perhaps the two key ingredients of this introductory message

of the letter is that first of all Paul makes it quite clear that he is a “called” apostle. He is not an elected apostle or an appointed apostle, but one called by God. Each of us is also called to apostleship. That is what being a steward and being a disciple of Christ involves. We need to recognize and accept our calling, and then live it out.

Also, Paul makes reference to the people of the Corinthian Christian community as “the church of God that is in Corinth.” Too often we may think of a church as being a building, but the Greek word that is translated as “church” is *ekklesia*. That means literally an “assembly of people,” quite often a group that gathers for a very definite purpose. That is what we are as Church, not so much a structure, but a group of people with a common purpose and commitment, which should be to serve God and one another.

As is the case on many a Sunday, this entire reflection could be on the Gospel Reading from John. The first witness to Christ is John the Baptist. As he states in the Gospel, **“I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”** Personal witness is still important within our communities, as individuals and couples and groups witness to their own realization of what John the Baptist maintains. This Gospel is from the very beginning of Jesus’ public ministry, but



John already accurately states that **“Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”** The shadow of the Cross is over Jesus then and throughout His existence on earth.

John the Baptist additionally emphasizes the divinity

of Jesus when he says, **“...He existed before me.”** In truth John was born before Jesus and was older than the Lord, at least in terms of earthly existence. However, when John says “He existed before me,” he is testifying to the pre-existence of Jesus. Jesus was and is God. More than thirty times in the New Testament Jesus is referred to as a lamb. We are called to live lives similar to His, not as representatives of strength and power, but as symbols of obedience and love and peace and humility. It takes great strength to show that kind of acceptance and love, but that is what we are called to do.

Our Gospel Reading today is quite short. However, it contains an important revelation from St. John the Baptist about Jesus, our Lord and Savior. John the Baptist testifies, **“I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him.”** We are fond in the Church to use the symbol of the dove to represent the Holy Spirit, but what John says is not that the Spirit was a dove, but it descended like a dove.

The Spirit descends upon us as well throughout our lives as Catholics. At our Baptism the Holy Spirit came upon us, and we received the fullness of the Holy Spirit’s gifts at Confirmation. Nevertheless, we receive the Holy Spirit at every Divine Liturgy and especially at the Eucharist. Just as John the

Baptist spoke of seeing the Holy Spirit descend upon the Lord that same Holy Spirit descends upon us.

You probably have never paid much attention to how a dove actually descends. It sort of hovers and floats downward. Its descent is smooth, deliberate, and in its own unique way. This Spirit has descended upon us and continues to do so. It fills us. What do we do with it? It is part of our very being, but for it to be effective we must share it and use it.

Our Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI once said, **“No one can give that which they do not personally possess, which means we cannot transmit the Holy Spirit if we ourselves are not close to the Spirit.”**

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Prayer List

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

The Priest Eugene Linowski			
Ron Doctor	Ray Duskotch	Julia Fedeczko	Julie Fultz
Charlene Grabner	John Grabner	Ev Houston	Esther Imhoff
Frederick Kowalski	Marilyn Kimbrel	Donald Krofcheck	Victor Lonzrick
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
Anastaszja 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.



Peter	Gozon
Carol	Hoover
Evelyn	Houston
Kathy	Krofcheck
Christopher	Stasek
Patrick	Stasek

Collection Counting

Jan. 1	Kathy Krofcheck
Jan. 8	Jerry Stasek
Jan. 15	Mark Frye
Jan. 22	Alex Rakowsky
Jan. 29	Mark Frye

May God grant them many Happy and Blessed Years!