

# Holy Days of Obligation for Advent and Christmas

## Monday, December 8, 2008:

Mass times are: Monday, December 8 at 7:00 A.M. 9:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.  
There will NOT be a vigil Mass Sunday evening.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of obligation for Catholics in the United States. Catholics believe that Mary was free from original sin, from the moment of her conception, and today we celebrate that gift of God. It is fitting to celebrate this solemnity as we await the coming of Christ, for Mary always points the faithful toward her son, Jesus.

The adult choir will provide special music at the 7:00 p.m. mass.

## Thursday, January 1, 2009

*Mary, Mother of God*

Mass times are: Wednesday, December 31 at 5:15 P.M. and Thursday, January 1 at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00A.M.

This Holy Day of obligation for Catholics in the United States is the most ancient Marian feast which comes one week after Christmas. We start the new calendar year by honoring Mary as the Mother God. We also honor her as our spiritual mother. She brought the Prince of Peace into the world. We ask God in this liturgy that the prayer of Mary is our joy so that we can say "yes" to the divine initiative, born of a humble heart can draw the inspiration of the Holy Spirit upon us.

## Eastside Advent Communal Reconciliation Services

Sunday, December 14 – St. Bernard's	4:00 p.m.
Monday, December 15 – St. Peter	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 16 – Immaculate Heart of Mary	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 17 – St. Dennis	7:00 p.m.



## Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Schedule:

### Wednesday, December 24

4:00 p. m. Children's Mass. The youth of the parish plan and participate in this mass.

6:00 p.m. A traditional Christmas Eve Mass with special music being planned.

11:00 p.m. Our traditional Christmas Eve service will begin with a concert at 10:30 by the Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and special solo and ensemble arrangements. The Mass will conclude with our traditional singing of "Silent Night" surrounded by candlelight.

### Thursday, December 25

9:00 a.m. A concert at 8:30 am, by the Adult Choir, Bell Choir, and solo and ensemble arrangements will begin this festive Christmas Day Mass.

11:00 a.m. A traditional Christmas Day Mass with special music being planned.

## Christmas Caroling

Our annual Christmas Caroling will be December 14 at 3:00 P.M. Carolers will visit parishioners' homes to spread Christmas cheer. All youth, families and parishioners are encouraged and invited to join us on this uplifting event. If you would like to be on the carolers list or know of someone who would enjoy a visit from this enthusiastic group, please call Peg or Nicki in the Religious Education/Youth Ministry Office. ❖

## The Giving Tree is Up

For over 12 years St. Peter's Parish Community has had a Giving Tree in the back of the church before Christmas so that parishioners can select blue, yellow or pink tags and then make donations and give gifts to others to share the Christmas spirit.

This year the Giving Tree will be up through December 14. It is very important to have all gifts and donations returned to St. Peter's no later than December 14.

The gifts should also be new and wrapped.

Please consider taking a tag and sharing a gift with someone. Last year St. Peter's Parish Community demonstrated great generosity and provided about 500 gifts. Please continue this wonderful tradition and help brighten someone's Christmas.

Blue gifts tags indicate a child's age, gender and a suggested gift. Some of the children received their first Christmas gift through previous Giving Tree efforts. Yellow tags indicate a gift for a man, woman, boy or girl for the Luke House. We understand that St. Peter's is the only organization donating gifts like this to Luke House. For both the blue and yellow tag gifts please secure the tag to the outside of your gift.

Pink tags for St. Peter's Shut-In. This tag is for a \$12 donation in an envelope (cash or check payable to St. Peter's). Place the envelope in the Giving Tree Box. These donations are used to purchase gift bags and fruit baskets and delivered to those church members before Christmas. Let's remember members who, through illness or limitations, are no longer able to worship with us.

*On behalf of the Outreach Committee, thank you for your generosity.*



## 5th Grade Religious Education Students Make Rosaries

5th Grade Religious Education Students and teachers learn how to make rosaries in October. Thanks to Jayne Costner, Janet Coleman, Joanie Coleman and Tommy Brewster for sharing their talents! ❖



## Winners of the Ladies Guild Raffle

1. Frances McKenzie-\$1000
2. Don Skaugstad-\$750
3. Jean Elliott-\$500
4. Don White-\$100
5. Agnes Blair-\$100
6. Bonnie Johnson-\$100
7. Doris Kox-\$100
8. Sarah Kidd-\$100
9. Ralph Smieja-\$50
10. Mary Meister-\$50
11. Rita Staubli-\$50
12. James Grotta-\$50
13. Richard Kopp-\$50
14. Evelyn Weaver-\$50
15. Mary Gillitzer-\$25

Winner of the wood art - Lori Vissers  
Silent Auction Bid Furniture - Janine Richgels

All of this year's winners were parish members! Thank you to all who participated and those who made donations.

*Helen Jones and The Ladies Guild ❖*



## Pre-K - 1st Grade Religious Education Liturgy

Pre-K - 1st Grade Religious Education Students listen to Father Roger during his homily during their special liturgy on November 23rd. The children made crowns in honor of Christ the King, sang a rousing song after communion and handed out bookmarks and candy to help everyone remember to count their blessings. Thanks to all the catechists for their extra work in organizing this special liturgy! ❖