

# **Pastoral Perspective**

#### ADVENT IS A TIME TO PREPARE AND A TIME TO WAIT

BY FR JIM GARTLAND, SJ-PASTOR



It seems to me that things are pretty dark these days. In these shortest days of the year, we have more hours of darkness than daylight. Gratefully we have vaccines and boosters, yet COVID variant breakthrough cases dim some of our hope. We are approaching a year since the January 6<sup>th</sup> riot in the Capital and we

continue to come to grips on how and why this dark hour in our history transpired. The reality of growing gun violence hit home in the tragedy on Oxford. Why are students killing students?

In this darkness, we celebrate the season of Advent, a time of light, hope, and love. The Church suggests that this be a season of penance, and the suggested penance is that of fasting. Fasting helps us realize that we are completely dependent on God. To experience hunger also reminds us of those who live in hunger, and invites us to greater solidarity and compassion. Reflecting on hunger, we realize that our deepest hunger is to be with God, to walk with God.

Advent is a time to prepare and a time to wait. Advent promises us that Christ will come to us. With Christ, there is always more light, more life, and more love. In the darkness, Jesus comes with light. Jesus' message is "do not be afraid, I am with you, and walking together, all things are possible." In our waiting, may we be looking and listening. May we open our eyes and our hearts and allow Jesus to draw near to us.

I love this time of the year. The Virgin of Guadalupe reminds us that she is walking with us, and calls us to strive to be an inclusive Church where all are welcome. The dream of Guadalupe and the dream of Jesus is that God's kingdom does come and shine where there is no longer separation, discrimination, and poverty. May God's light come to allow all to live dignified lives. With Mary and Joseph, we continue to look and listen in our waiting. With them we too offer our hearts and say yes, let your will be done in us. May we give

birth to Jesus and bring Jesus' mercy and love to those we meet each day.

As we approach Christmas, I find myself so grateful and happy. I love being a part of St. Mary Student Parish because I love walking with you. Your love and faith deepens my own, and I thank God for you.

As you know, Christmas also brings our Year-End Appeal. Our goal is the same as last year, \$400,000. I am grateful we met that goal last year, and pray we will be able to do so again this year. This appeal helps support our Campus Ministry Program. It's so important, because forming young Catholic leaders for tomorrow is essential to our mission.

I invite you to prayerfully consider what you and your family can give to our Year-End Appeal. We have been entrusted the same mission Mary and Joseph received, to bring Christ into the world. May we continue to walk together here at St. Mary Student Parish, striving to bring Christ's light, love, and life into the world.

May this Christmas fill you and your family with God's peace and love.

With gratitude and affection, Rev. James Gartland, S.J. — Pastor

#### **OUR MISSION**

St. Mary Student Parish is a welcoming, Inclusive, caring, and diverse Catholic community, uniting residents and students.

We are Christ-centered with the Eucharist as the source of holiness in our vibrant liturgical life.

Inspired by Ignatian spirituality, we live a faith that does justice, reaching out to the marginalized.

As an apostolic parish, we are committed to ongoing formation of Christian witness, discipleship, and leadership.





## St Mary Student Parish Financials

#### **ONLINE GIVING NEWS**

In April 2020, we added a new online giving platform – "Parishsoft Online Giving". We have received positive feedback on how user friendly it is. We would like to move all online giving over to this platform and discontinue using the legacy system by December 31, 2021. This will reduce the cost of maintaining two systems.

Parishsoft is offering a Donor Match Program for all givers who add new recurring donations from Nov 1 thru-Dec 31. For every new recurring donation that is added in that time period, Parishsoft will match the donation, up to \$50, with a maximum match of \$1,000 per organization. Below are the simple steps to transition to this exciting new way to give!

# FIRST TIME—To donate for the first time on the Parishsoft Online Giving platform

Step 1: Click <u>HERE</u> to set up your donation or copy and paste this into your browser

https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsp

Step 2: Select one time or recurring donation

Step 3: Continue to complete the data fields as requested and then click the blue Submit button

Step 4: If you have been giving on the legacy system, you will want to cancel your recurring donation on that system by logging into your account <u>HERE</u> or copy and paste this into your browser:

https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=583

If you have not been donating on the legacy system, you are done!

# PREVIOUSLY—If you have previously donated on Parishsoft Online Giving platform and want to set up a new recurring donation

Step 1: Click <u>HERE</u> and then click "Sign In". If you have already created an account and have a email address and password enter those to continue to sign in. If you don't have an account, click the "Create One".

Step 2: Continue to complete the data fields and then click the blue Submit button

We appreciate you taking the time to transition to our new giving platform. Our goal is to make this as easy as possible for you.

#### OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT SMSP

**KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS & AMAZON SMILE** 

Sign up with **KROGER** to donate a % of your purchases:

- 1. Visit kroger.com/communityrewards
- 2. Create a digital account
- 3. Link your card to "St. Mary Student Parish" #JF263

Note: If you don't have a Kroger Rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.

Sign up for **AMAZON SMILE** to donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases:

- 1. Visit smile.amazon.com
- 2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
- 3. Search for the charity of your choice (St. Mary Student Parish) to receive donations
- 4. Select your charity
- 5. Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile



# Advent & Holiday Schedule



#### INTO THE LIGHT

SAT, DEC 18 | 9:00 AM

Into the Light is a fellowship group that has been meeting on Saturday mornings during Advent and Lent since the 1970's.

Ours is a "Road to Emmaus" style of gathering -- a communion service prayer using the Sunday's readings, potluck breakfast, and round-thetable we each share brief reflections of what stood out in the readings. We share our spiritual and life journeys towards the celebration of Christmas through prayer, the Eucharist, and companionship. All are welcome. We will be meeting in person this Advent season.

Contact Rainey rlamey@umich.edu

### ADVENT GIVING TREE, 2022 CALENDARS AND DAILY ADVENT PRAYER BOOKS

Advent Giving Tree tags, The 2022 Calendar and Sacred Reading for Advent and Christmas books are still available at both church entrances.

ADVENT GIVING TREE TAGS
ARE DUE DECEMBER 19.



#### **ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES**

Dive into the season of Advent with an Advent Penance Service on Wednesday, 12/15, at 7:00PM in the church. See below for other penance services in the area:

- ₱ Monday, Dec. 13, 7 pm, at St. Thomas
- <sup>☆</sup> Tuesday, Dec 14, 7 pm, at Christ the King
- <sup>↑</sup> Wednesday, Dec 15, 7 pm at SMSP
- Thursday, Dec. 16, 7 pm, at St. Francis



#### JANUARY DAYTIME WARMING CENTER

AT SMSP: JANUARY 3-28, 2022

MONDAY - FRIDAY FROM 8:30AM - 4:00PM

We are called to "love our neighbor", but sometimes we don't even know our neighbor or who they are. Start this new year by getting to know our community and the people in it. During the month of January in Newman Hall, our parish community provides a welcoming, safe, and warm environment where people experiencing homelessness can find companionship, food, and rest.

We are inviting YOU to be a part of this incredible opportunity of solidarity. For more information go to our webpage <a href="mailto:stmarystudentparish.org/parish-life/faith-doing-justice/">stmarystudentparish.org/parish-life/faith-doing-justice/</a>

Signup:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4cabaa22abf9ce9-smsp

Thank you for being part of this community and supporting our various ministries!

Peace and blessings, Fr. Bobby

#### SMSP IMMIGRATION TEAM AND SNL IMMIGRATION SURVEY UPDATE

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Parish Survey on Immigrants in late September! Strangers No Longer (SNL) received over 1,000 responses from 17 parishes; St. Mary's submitted 43 responses. The responses from St. Mary's parishioners were overwhelmingly positive and supportive. SNL, a network of parish-based immigration support teams, is using these responses to develop a plan of regional, direct action to involve business leaders, local governments, school districts and houses of worship in improving life for all immigrants in Southeast Michigan. To read about the recent projects and upcoming plans for the SMSP Immigration Team, please see: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/4ensfnmu">https://tinyurl.com/4ensfnmu</a>.

If you indicated that you would like to be involved with St. Mary's Immigration team and have not yet received an email invitation (or didn't provide your e-mail and want to be involved) please contact Aissa Cabrales (aissac@umich.edu) for more information.

# **Undergraduates**



#### FINALS BREAKFAST FOR DINNER

SUN, DEC 12 | 6:00 PM

Undergraduates are welcome to a finals breakfast in Newman Hall! Come enjoy pancakes and sausage, coffee & juices.

Contact Brian bcerabona@smspnewman.org

#### STUDENT STUDY DAYS

SUN, DEC 12-16 | 6:00 PM



Extended hours to study for finals from 9:00 AM to Midnight from Sun-Thurs Dec 12- 16. We'll have snacks and study spaces available.

To get Campus Ministry updates right to your inbox, join the CCC email list

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/RRVAIPd

Questions? Contact CCC President David Bosek dbosek@umich.edu



#### IN THE SPIRIT OF IGNATIUS

Living with the Incarnation always in mind

During this Advent season, when we are reminded so concretely about the power of the Incarnation, St. Ignatius would encourage us to remember that God is still active and present in the world. One of the main ways of understanding the way of Ignatius is to look at the world in an incarnational way.

Fr. James Martin, S.J., discusses this principle in his book, *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything* (Harper One). He writes:

"Christian theology holds that God became human, or "incarnate," in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. (The word *incarnation* comes from the Latin root *carn*, for flesh). More broadly, an incarnational spirituality means believing that God can be found in the everyday events of our lives. God is not just "out there," God is right here too. If you're looking for God, look around."

God has already made that step to be close to us, to be one of us, through his desire to take on flesh and become human. In this way, God was able to show us and teach us what the Kingdom of God is like, and what God wants to reveal to us about who God is. (Think of the Prodigal Son scripture in which Jesus tells us pretty clearly that God is all about love, forgiveness and mercy).

Through the incarnation, God knows us better, too. That means we can bring our prayers of anxiety, fear, or suffering to him because Jesus has experienced all of that when he walked the earth in human form.

Living with the Incarnation in mind, then, requires us to pay attention to what God is doing, and what God is calling us to do in response. We carry out the incarnation when we strive to live in relationship with God, our Creator, collaborating in the work of bringing more light and love to the world.

**Note:** As a parish staffed by Jesuit priests, we are joining with Jesuits around the world to celebrate a special "Ignatian Year." Through July 2022, we will reflect on the conversion of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus, who turned his life toward God after his legs were shattered by a cannonball in battle 500 years ago. We pray that this Jubilee will be a time to reflect on our own moments of conversion.

What are the "shattering" changes we experience that can open our hearts to God?

## St Mary Student Parish



#### **HELP NEEDED - ALTAR LINENS**

We are hoping to build up the number ofvolunteers who wash and maintain our altar linens.

#### Commitment:

3 hours, 1x every 4-8 weeks (depends on # of volunteers)

#### Description:

take home the Liturgical linens, wash/dry, and iron

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, contact Julie Mussio at jmussio@smspnewman.org for details. Thank you!

# THE FOUNDATION: MEN'S DISCERNMENT GROUP

**Who-**Any adult man over the age of 18 from the Diocese of Lansing who has graduated from high school and desires to join a group of men who are not afraid to talk about priesthood and be open to God's call — whatever it is.

What-Peer support and prayer are the main focus of the group, along with diving into topics surrounding priestly discernment and Catholic identity. All meetings are centered around a discussion about the chapter of the day from the book To Save a Thousand Souls (books will be provided).

Where-St. Mary Student Parish

When-Saturday at 10 a.m. and end with lunch! Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 19, Mar 12 & Apr 9

**Contact:** Fr John Vinton frjohn@stfrancisa2.org or Fr Jim Gartland, SJ at jgartland@smspnewman.org

#### PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!' Amen.

- Henri J.M. Nouwen

#### HONORING LANETTE'S RETIREMENT

In an effort to honor Lanette on her 20 years of dedicated service to St. Mary and send her off to retirement at the end of this year with fond memories, we are creating a collective memory book where anyone can contribute online --text and photos--and that's turned into a keepsake book as well as a digital book. Here you can write a letter for Lanette.

So, sit back, think of some good times you shared with her, and let her know how much she matters to you. You do not have to write it all now. You will receive a link that will allow you to edit or even delete it later. Your letter is meant to be private: in principle only Lanette will see it--although it will end up printed in a physical book, in which case we of course cannot guarantee that it will be kept private.

Please submit your thoughts and photos (if applicable) by December 25, 2021:

https://HappyRetirementLanette.fromabirdie.com/contribute

# **Mass Intentions and Events**

	MASS INTENTIONS: DECEMBER 11-18			MEETINGS & EVENTS: DECEMBER 12-18		
	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11			SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12		
	5:00 PM	Mass for		Las Mañanitas Novena	6:30 AM	Church
	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12			Student Study Days 9am-midnight	9:00 AM	Newman Hall
				TC Sunday Session	3:00 PM	Donnelly Hall
	8:30 AM	8:30 AM Mass for		H/L Sacramental Prep	3:15 PM	Newman Hall
	10:00 AM	Mass for	+John Haponik	Finals Breakfast for Undergrads Reconciliation	6:00 PM	Newman Hall
	12:00 PM	Mass for	+Les Guinn		6:15 PM	Church
	2:00 PM	Mass for	People of the Parish			
	5:00 PM	Mass for	Victoriano Go, Sr. & Anita T. Go	MONDAY, DECEMBER 13		
	5.00 1 111	141033 101		Student Study Days 9am-midnight	9:00 AM	Newman Hall
	8:00 PM	Mass for		Meals for Mercy House	5:45 PM	Mercy House
		111055 101		PPC Meeting	7:00 PM	Donnelly Hall
	MONDAY, DECEN	/IBER 13		Advent Penance Service –St Thomas	7:00 PM	Off-Site
	5:00 PM	Mass for	+Geo Paul	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14		
				Student Study Days 9am-midnight	9:00 AM	Newman Hall
	TUESDAY, DECEM	BER 14		SMSP Catechist Planning	6:00 PM	Virtual
	5:10 PM	Mass for	+Ann Marie Dahn	LGBT Christmas Potluck	6:30 PM	Rectory Lounge
				Catholic Thinkers Book Club	7:00 PM	Loyola Room
	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15			Women's AMDG	7:00 PM	Newman Room
	5:10 PM	Mass for		Advent Penance Service – Christ the King	7:00 PM	Off-Site
	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16			WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15		
		5:10 PM Mass for		Student Study Days 9am-midnight	9:00 AM	Newman Hall
	3.10 FIVI	101055 101		Meals for Mercy House	5:45 PM	Mercy House
	FRIDAY, DECEMBI	ER 17		Advent Penance Service –SMSP	7:00 PM	Church
	12:10 PM	Mass for		THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16		
				Student Study Days 9am-midnight	9:00 AM	Newman Hall
	SATURDAY, DECE	MBER 18		Advent Penance Service –St Francis	7:00 PM	Off-Site
	5:00 PM	Mass for	+Edward Vuylsteke	SCC Grad/YP	7:30 PM	Loyola Room
			, <b>,</b>			
				FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17		
				Mary & The Lives of the Saints	5:00 PM	Off-site
				SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18		
				Into the Light	9:00 AM	Rectory Lounge

# St. Mary Student Parish

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

WEDNESDAYS | 5:45-8:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration will be available each Wednesday in the Church from 5:45pm-8:00pm. We are in need of two adorers for each time slot. Thank you for supporting this ministry! Click HERE or copy and paste: https://bit.ly/3ziUjTsADORATION

#### CATHOLIC THINKER'S BOOK CLUB

2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7PM AT THE PARISH

The first half of the reading year will focus on social justice and the second half on contemporary Catholic leadership including a look at the Council of Bishops.

The reading list is as follows:

- Dec 14-Gregory of Nazianzus by Brian E. Daley, SJ
- Jan 11-Movie Night Title TBD
- Feb 8-Articles about USCCB Titles TBD
- Mar 8-Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship by Pope Francis
- Apr 12-Joe Biden and Catholicism in the United States by Massimo Faggioli

Contact: Nora Maloy at nmaloy@med.umich.edu

#### **SANTO ROSARIO (ROSARY)**

THURSDAYS | 8:00 AM

karinromeros@gmail.com

All are welcome to pray the Rosary in Spanish with other SMSP parishioners every Thursday at 8:00am, virtually on Zoom. For more information or to receive the Zoom link, please email Isabel isabelehcorona@yahoo.com or Karin

#### **SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

- **1** 8:30 AM
- ₱ 10:00 AM Masks & social distancing required

Watch live or anytime after the mass

https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/
10:00 Mass is a safe Mass where everyone in attendance is required to wear a mask. The Mass will also be streamed in Donnelly Hall for those that wish to attend unmasked

- 廿 12:00 Noon
- ₱ 2:00 PM (Spanish) Watch live or anytime after the mass https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/
- <sup>1</sup> 5:00 PM
- **☆** 8:00 PM

#### **DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**

**† Mon-Thurs** 5:10 PM **† Friday** 12:10 PM

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

 Sunday
 8:00 AM-10:00 PM

 Mon-Thurs
 9:00 AM-10:00 PM

 Friday
 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

 Saturday
 4:00 PM-6:00 PM

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 5:45-6:45 PM

**Sunday** 6:15-7:00 PM or by appointment

#### **LGBT OUTREACH MINISTRY**

3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH | 7-8:30 PM

Meetings are private and confidential and held on the third Tuesday of the month. As a diverse community of believers, we respect each person as a unique reflection of God's presence in our midst. We commit ourselves to being a community of care, support, formation, reconciliation, and witness to justice with and among gay and lesbian persons, parents, family members, and friends. We teach that all love comes from God and focus on helping people reconcile their orientation with their faith .

We provide a safe space for discussion, healing, and prayer. Together we reflect on Scripture and listen to the lived experiences of gay and lesbian persons and their allies.

For more info contact: Rodrigo rodri\_cg@hotmail.com or Cynthia jcynthia@umich.edu

### St. Mary Student Parish

# PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Orlando Averion, Zenaida Averion, Maryjo Lum, Ric Chapman, Therese Sheffield, Brianna Liker, Elpido Adrian, Marcelo Alvarez, Eddie Smith, Joan Lesneski, Daniel Leung, Francyn Chomic, Mark Kintz, Benjamin Besa, Brian Weard, Joan Brown Alexander, Alicia Patterson, Shawn Brown, Jamie Ballew, Patrick Geary, Ron Lesneski, Christopher Brown, Scott Alexander, Wilmer Zhinin, Juan Ibarra-Gonsalez, Adam Lesneski, Stacey Simpson Duke, Joanna Vuylsteke, Julia Zhinin, Wilmer Zhinin, Maria Ayauaca, Manuel Zhinin, Liz Groulx, Michael Patterson, Filiberto Zamorano, Nikolas Block, Rosemary Rodriguez, Cristina Magsino, Kate Hanson, Maria Delores Monicibas Aleman, Luis Mario Riano, Joseph Puttrich, Monica Terhar, Senir Rivas, Maria Hernandez, Hilda & Henry Willis, Joan Benzie, Jan Buhler, Brent Horvath, Marianna Hann, John Burns, Pablo Angiano Flores, Christine Geoghegan, Laura Brown, Cindy McPherson, Gloria Grisales, Aurora Kobalz, Amaris Bolanos Luna, John Lanzatta, Curran Lawrence, Fred Metry, Tom Forner, Brian Cronin, Phil Simmons, Charlotte Jenkins, Nancy Harknett, Matthew Casey, Amby Gallagher, Clifton Chippewa, Nic Steadman, Bonnie Dean, Debbie Nigh, Arthur O'Neil, Augusto Silvino Garduno Esquivel, Kaylah Misiuk, Paul McNamara, Rosemary Callahan, Terri White Kaufman, Joseph D. Schwartz, Annie & Justin Siciliano, Cynthia Lear, Guillermo Foncerrada, Dianna Nati, Pedro Osorio Soriano, Maria Enriqueta Ramirez Flores, Donna Osborne, Ernie Jones, Tina Jones, Bernie Lamey, Jo Lamey, Flora Corrales, Juanita Esquivel, Julio Ramos, Hugo Lombardo, Sara Zuleta, Art Lamey, Jeanne McAree, Salvador Cuevas, Lou Terhar, Fr. Walter Moll, Jr, Helen Lucille Ceasar, Robert Hunter, Mary D'Souza, Keisha Banks, Martha Leticia Garcia Guerro, Steiner Supphellen, Gerry Spencer, Mike Pearce, Norma Gonzalez, Marianne Roche, Philip Chan, Teresita Shah, Mercy Philomena Mascarenhas, Jose Luis Hernandez, Sheri Wander, Kathleen Moore, Susan Meyer, Gerald Montry, Ed Zyniewicz, Katie Veilleux, Aimee Manning, Ginny Weingate, Ellie Lewandowski, Arthur and Esther Michalec, Courtney Seitz, Oscar Perales, David Guevara, David Bull, Luis Campuzano, Kevin Nigh, Nancy Hook, Charlie Onesian, Marti Rozmys, Carol Sbordon, Ken Granke

To add or remove a name: stmarys@umich.edu or call 734-663-0557.

#### SMSP STAFF LIST 734-663-0557

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#### STUDENT STAFF

Araba Gyan Daniela Hernandez Michelle Hernandez Monica Olide

## Sunday Readings

#### **DECEMBER 12** —Third Sunday of Advent

Reading I Zep 3:14-18a

**Psalm** 12:2-6 Is

Reading II Phil 4:4-7

Gospel Lk 3:10-18

Rejoice in the Lord always! Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty savior. It is he whom John foretold; it is he who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.

#### **DECEMBER 19** —Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reading I Mi 5:1-4a

Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

Reading II Heb 10:5-10

Gospel 1:39-45

From Bethlehem shall come one who will rule Israel. Born of Mary, the servant of the Lord, he will protect and save us, offering himself once and for all in doing the Father's will.

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