

First Sunday of Advent

“The coming of God’s Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries. He makes everything converge on Christ: all the rituals and sacrifices, figures and symbols of the ‘First Covenant.’ He announces him through the mouths of the prophets who succeeded one another in Israel. Moreover, he awakens in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming” (CCC 522)

This Week at Our Parishes

Sunday, December 3: First Sunday of Advent

- Readings: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2b-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Nancy Panozzo by Fran Schaub
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary (Spanish) for the people of our parishes
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship and donuts at Our Lady of Grace
- 10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † James Muenstermann by JoAnn Muenstermann
- 12:00 p.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary (Spanish)
- 12:30 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Raul & Luovijilda Avila by Rosa Pacheco
- 4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Doris Marshall by the St. Mary’s Altar Society

Monday, December 4: St. John Damascene

- Readings: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Michael Wright by Darlene Homfield, JoAnn Rillma, & Judy Natu
- 6:30 p.m. RCIA classes at Our Lady of Grace
- 6:30 p.m. Follow the Light to Christmas at OLG

Tuesday, December 5

- Readings: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:00 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † Ed McMahon by John & Jill Mastee

Wednesday, December 6: St. Nicholas

- Readings: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
- Prayers: Glorious mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:30 a.m. Catholic Daughters of the Americas Christmas Luncheon at Our Lady of Grace
- 6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 6:30 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary (Spanish) for † Bob Ferenz by Jon & Chris Stewart

Holy Day of Obligation: The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Vigil Mass on Dec. 7th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary (Spanish)
Masses on Dec. 8th at 12:10 p.m. at St. Mary & 6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace

Thursday, December 7: St. Ambrose

- Readings: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Prayers: Luminous mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 12:00 p.m. Social Concerns Meeting at OLG
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Robert Torrie by Kimberly Goldie
- 6:30 p.m. Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception at St. Mary (Spanish)

Friday, December 8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Day of Obligation

- Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Prayers: Sorrowful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 11:40 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 12:10 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † Clara Kartes by Ruth Stevens
- 6:30 p.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for the people of our parishes

Saturday, December 9

- Readings: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 – 10: 1, 5a, 6-8
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 10:00 a.m. Food Truck at Our Lady of Grace
- 3:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLG
- 4:00 p.m. Holy Mass at Our Lady of Grace for † William Pastori by James & Donna Pastori

Sunday, December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

- Readings: Is 40: 1-5, 9-11; Ps 85: 9-14; 2 Pt 3: 8-14; Mk 1: 1-8
- Prayers: Joyful mysteries, Divine Mercy chaplet, Angelus
- 8:30 a.m. Rosary prayed at Our Lady of Grace
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at OLG for † Marie Peterson by the Women’s Guild
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary (Spanish) for the people of our parishes
- 10:00 a.m. Fellowship and donuts at Our Lady of Grace
- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Guild Meeting at OLG
- 10:00 a.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for † David Hoos by Phil Hoos
- 12:00 p.m. Rosary prayed at St. Mary (Spanish)
- 12:30 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary (Spanish) for † Robert L. Weissert, Sr. by Elizabeth Cioe
- 4:15 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass at St. Mary for a special intention by Barry Mara Kroll

Cantors Needed!!!

Do you have a good voice and the desire to serve the Lord with your talent? If so, we need you! Our Lady of Grace church is currently looking for more cantors to lead the congregation in song during Sunday Masses. If you are interested, please talk to the pianist or cantor after Mass, or call the parish office for more information.

Prayer Line

St. Mary's: Benita Mikesell, 231-803-4425
or Jean Gawel, 231-798-8493

Our Lady of Grace: Anna Mogdics, 231- 670-5073

Prayer Requests

Please keep these individuals in your prayers

Diane Williams, Mike and Patti Birkhold, Larry Gilbert,
Fred Kenny, Jr., Yvonne Petersen, Delores Zakroczemski,
John Potter, Ellis Dilts, Rose Marie Mikesell, Ron Betlejewski,
Ben Offrink, Gail Gee, Betty Gee, John McCormick,
Sotero Leyton, Billie Leonard, Gloria Cline, Pat Hogan, Jeff Kenny,
Shirley Green, Ron Faino, Jose Alcahuter, Christine Siedlecki,
Ralph Alvesteffer, Bill Forton, Julia Gonzales,
William & Benita Mikesell

Please pray for our homebound parishioners

Ruth Stevens, Jim Dalum, Rose Ann Bird,
Bernice Brown, Rosemary Keefe, Vivian Smith,
Betty Reilly & Johanna Ripka

Please pray for our parishioners who are in care

Dorothy Bauer, Eugene Rewalt, Joan Gardner, Arlene LeBeau,
Carolene McIntosh, Pat Simonson, Jackie Blake, Shirley Sterritt,
Ruth Ruby, Gene Gianetti Jr., Rosalie Venne, Alyce Donaldson,
Lucille Radke, Kathy Hale & Tillie Standage

Please pray for our parishioners in the military

PFC Abraham Angel Luis Aguilar; SSG. Richarda (Rikki) Amaya;
Private Jakob Bergquist; Spec. Alex Block; Nic Frank, Air Force;
IS3 Cody Hacker; Erin McDermott, US Army;
Fireman Ryan McIntire, US Coast Guard;
1st Lt. Timothy Merkle; Wade Sanford, U.S. Air Force;
Andrew Shadowski, U. S. Army; Major Adam Shaw;
Staff Sgt. Casey Sowa; Master Sgt. April Sowa;
Noah Sweet, U. S. Army; Elias Vihtelic, US Navy

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday, December 9, 2017

Our Lady of Grace
10:00 a.m.



Volunteers are needed! Signup sheets are located in the church hallway at OLG and in the Narthex at St. Mary's. You may also contact Dennis or Marilyn Chandonnet at 231-755-0357 or email the parish at secretary@olgmuskegon.org to sign up.

Volunteers need to arrive about 1 hour before, as the truck sometimes comes early. We can always use those plastic shopping bags, please bring them on Saturday or bring them to OLG and leave on the bench by the office. Dress for the weather, you never know what Mother Nature will throw at us. The need is still great in our community. Thanks to all who help in this ministry.

Happy 100th Birthday Tillie!

Matilda, "Tillie" Standage, an OLG parishioner will celebrate her 100th birthday on December 5th. Friends are invited to send a card or celebrate in person at Riverside Nursing and Rehab Center at 415 Friant, Grand Haven 49417 on Tuesday, December 5th from 2:00 - 3:00pm.

Bereavement Ministry

Deacon Bill Cook is looking for two volunteers from each parish to help start a grief support ministry. If you are interested, please call Deacon at 231-329-9504.

Evangelization Clip

by Deacon Jim Schiltz

Today, Jesus tells us, His disciples: "*Be alert.*" The early Christians were convinced Jesus' Second Coming was "soon and very soon." The chances of our seeing Jesus "coming on the clouds" next week is remote. So why be alert? You and I will see Jesus in our personal judgment day as we breathe our last. Are you worried? You should not be. Today, St. Paul tells us, "You are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ." This Advent, *look for*, Jesus to be revealed to us in our daily lives. Make this a family Advent by talking with your children about the Sunday readings and about their belief of Jesus in the Eucharist. Jesus will be there with you.

† Prayer and Sympathy †

Please keep the family and friends of Elizabeth Bourdo and Karmen McBride in your prayers as they mourn the passing of their loved one.

Elizabeth was remembered in a funeral Mass on Friday, December 1 at St. Mary's and Karmen will be remembered in a funeral Mass on Monday, December 4 at St. Mary's.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Religious Education News

The Director of Religious Education is currently looking for an energetic person to assist in the Middle School Youth Group program. If you are interested in this volunteer position, please contact Kacey Kersman at 231-722-2803, ext. 16 or dre@stmarysmuskegon.org or dre@olgmuskegon.org.

Sacrament News: November

St. Mary's: Baptisms:

Ellianna, child of Miguel Escobar and Sandy Martinez

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, December 8, 2016

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Masses will be celebrated:

Thursday, December 7

6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's (Spanish)

Friday, December 8

12:10 p.m. at St. Mary's

6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Grace



The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception, as solemnly defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854, teaches that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin. (CCC 491)

Sacrificial Offerings & Other Contributions

November 19, 2017

Our Lady of Grace

Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$	5,544.00	
General Fund:	\$	5092.00	
On-line Giving	\$	917.40	+465.40
CCHD Collection	\$	916.45	
Votive Candles	\$	151.00	
November 5 breakfast	\$	85.00	
November 12 donuts	\$	33.00	

St. Mary's Church

Budgeted Weekly Amount	\$	7,128.75	
General Fund	\$	4379.31	
On-line Giving	\$	389.30	-2360.14
Restoration	\$	60.00	
CCHD Collection	\$	1087.78	
Votive Candles	\$	531.65	
Poor Box	\$	196.61	
Faith CDs	\$	15.00	

Sacrificial Offerings & Other Contributions

November 25, 2017

Our Lady of Grace

Budgeted Weekly Amount:	\$	5,544.00	
General Fund:	\$	4152.00	
On-line Giving	\$	637.40	-754.60
CCHD Collection	\$	117.00	
Retirement for Religious	\$	75.00	
Catholic Relief Services	\$	4.00	
Faith CDs	\$	20.00	
Christmas Flowers	\$	90.00	
Donuts	\$	33.00	
Candles	\$	6.00	

St. Mary's Church

Budgeted Weekly Amount	\$	7,128.75
General Fund	\$	Not available

Contribution Counters: Week of December 3
 OLG Team 2 - St. Mary Team 1

Pray for an end to abortion.

Bulletin Deadline

If you would like to put a blurb in the December 24 and December 31 bulletin, please submit the information to the Parish Office by December 12th.

The regular deadline for parish bulletin submissions is 4pm the Monday before.

Mass Attendance: November 19, 2017

OLG 4:00pm: 207	OLG 900am: 134
SM 9:00am: 65	SM 10:30am: 203
SM 12:30pm: 178	SM 5:00pm: 197

Mass Attendance: November 26, 2017

OLG 4:00pm: 198	OLG 900am: 159
SM 9:00am: 97	SM 10:30am: 189
SM 12:30pm: 141	SM 5:00pm: 216

2018 Contribution Envelopes

For the upcoming year, we will be using a different company for the contribution envelopes. They will be mailed to parishioners periodically throughout the year. If you have had a change of address in the last year, please contact the parish office at 722-2803, ext. 11 or ext. 12.

CONGRATULATIONS
Education Endowment Raffle Winners!

November 26, 2017

50/50: \$26.00 Mary Sanford
 \$100.00 Patti Blaske

Join us for coffee, donuts & the next drawing following the 10:30 a.m. Mass on **December 31** in Lourdes Hall.

Please contact the parish office to purchase tickets for the \$100.00 drawing.



CSC Christmas Giving Tree

November 25 - December 10

The annual Christmas Gift Drive is here!

Gift tags will be available this weekend in the back of church on the Christian Social Concerns Giving Tree. Please remember the less fortunate during the Christmas season by choosing a tag of a sponsored child and purchasing a gift for them. Be sure to sign out your tag in the binder next to the tree. Gifts should be wrapped with the tag taped to it and placed under the Giving Tree no later than Sunday, December 10th.



The Our Lady of Grace Women's Guild will meet next Sunday, December 10th following the 9am Mass. All the women in the parish are invited.

Dear Friends in Christ,
Next week, our parishes will be conducting the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious, an annual collection that benefits more than 32,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Our senior religious are a treasure. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and numerous social service organizations. Many continue in volunteer ministry today. Their ongoing prayer and witness enrich our faith in countless ways. I am grateful for the service of religious, past and present. I hope you, too, recall a sister or brother who made a positive difference in your life.

Most elder religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet such day-to-day needs as medications and nursing assistance. The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured they are praying for you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids

Envelopes are in your contribution boxes and extras are in the East hallway at Our Lady of Grace and the narthex at St. Mary's this week.

Immaculate Conception Novena

November 30th - December 8th

<https://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/novena/immaculate.htm>

Christmas Posada and Mass for Children

Sunday, December 24, 2017

4:00 p.m., St. Mary's Church

All children of the parishes are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Posada which will take place before the Christmas Mass for Children at St. Mary's. It is very important to RSVP for this event so there are enough costumes for all the children. Please have your child(ren) in Lourdes Hall by 3:30pm to get his/her costume on before Mass. **After the Posada, the children will sit with their families.**



Please RSVP to Kacey Kersman
by December 13th at dre@stmarysmuskegon.org or
dre@olgmuskegon.org or call 231-722-2803, ext. 16.

Please include the number of boys and
the number of girls in your RSVP.

Estimados amigos en Cristo,

La próxima semana, nuestras parroquias llevarán a cabo la colecta del Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos que hacemos anualmente en beneficio de unos 32,000 religiosas, hermanos y sacerdotes, miembros mayores de las órdenes religiosas católicas.

Nuestros religiosos mayores son un tesoro. El fruto de su dedicación y arduo trabajo fue la fundación de las escuelas, hospitales y numerosas organizaciones para servicios sociales católicos. En la actualidad muchos continúan realizando ministerios como voluntarios. Su oración y testimonio continuo enriquecen nuestra fe de maneras innumerables. Estoy agradecido por el servicio de los religiosos, tanto de ahora como del pasado. Seguro que ustedes también recuerdan a un hermano o hermana que influyó de manera positiva en su vida.

Muchos religiosos mayores sirvieron durante muchos años recibiendo estipendios muy bajos que dejaron una gran carencia en los fondos para su jubilación. Los costos en aumento de la atención médica y los ingresos a la baja agravan el desafío de hacer frente a tales necesidades diarias como medicamentos y asistencia de enfermería. El Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos ofrece apoyo financiero que ayuda a las comunidades religiosas a brindar atención esmerada para los miembros mayores mientras asegura que los más jóvenes puedan continuar las buenas obras de aquellos miembros que les precedieron.

Entiendo que a ustedes les piden que apoyen muchas causas valiosas. Los invito a donar lo que puedan. Muy en particular, les pedimos que rueguen a Dios para que bendiga a todos los religiosos. ¡Tengan la seguridad de que ellos están rezando por ustedes!

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,
Reverendísimo David J. Walkowiak
Obispo de Grand Rapids

Los sobres están en sus casillas de contribución y los extras están en el narthex en Santa María esta semana.

Flower Memorial Fund

Due TODAY, Sunday, December 3

Honor your departed loved ones all year by donating to the Flower Memorial Fund this Christmas. December 3rd will be the bi-annual collection for this fund. It will be used to purchase poinsettias for the Sanctuary at Christmas and ensure that there are flowers to honor our Lord and Savior all year. It is fitting that we honor God in this way and make His house beautiful as possible.

Envelopes are in your contribution boxes.

On the envelope, please **PRINT** the names of your loved ones whom you wish to remember.

Please give
generously!

