

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2015



St. Cyril Church

517 E. Main St., PO Box 96, Bannister, MI 48807

Parish Staff:

Pastor Fr. William Gruden
 wjgruden@stpeterchesaning.org

Administrative Assistant Kris Pullman
 ckleinstrylchurch@gmail.com

Bookkeeper Jean Burns

Lay Minister Margaret Horak

Organist Geraldine Winkler

Maintenance Jim Porubsky

Faith Formation Theresa Sopocy
 (989) 862-5909

Phone Numbers:

Parish Office (989) 862-5270

Parish Fax (989) 862-4534

St. Peter Parish (989) 845-1794

Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday & Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
 (Bulletin items need to be in by 4:00 pm Tuesday prior.)

Liturgical Schedule:

Saturday @ St Peter* 4:30 pm

Sunday @ St Peter* 8:30 am

Sunday 10:30 am

* St. Peter Parish, 404 S. Wood Street, Chesaning

Weekday Schedule:

Friday Word & Communion: 8:00 am

Wednesday Mass: 9:00 am

Thursday Mass @ St Peter 8:00 am

Sacraments:

Reconciliation: Sunday, 11:30 am

Baptism: Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage: Engaged couples must contact the priest at least six (6) months prior to anticipated date of marriage. Weddings are not celebrated during the Lenten Season.

Sick or Homebound: If someone in your family or neighborhood is *Sick or homebound*, please contact the Parish Office. When entering a hospital, please register as a member of Saint Cyril Parish and notify the parish office.

New Parishioners: Welcome to Saint Cyril Parish. Please call or stop by the parish office to register for our parish family.

Sun Dec. 20
 10:30 am People of St. Cyril

Mon Dec. 21
 No Mass

Tues Dec. 22
 No Mass

Wed Dec. 23
 9:00 am Helen Meehan by Don & Barb Larabele

Thu Dec. 24
 8:00 pm Living and Deceased members of St. Cyril Parish

Fri Dec. 25
 9:00 am **Nativity of the Lord**
 Living and Deceased members of St. Cyril Parish

Sat Dec. 26
 No Mass
St. Stephen, First Martyr

Sun Dec. 27
 10:30 am **Feast of the Holy Family**
 People of St. Cyril-all families of St. Cyril

† Tithes & Gifts †	
December 13, 2015	
58 Adult Envelopes:	\$1,520.00
Loose:	81.00
Children:	.00
3-Special Needs:	47.00
Total:	\$1,648.00
Amount needed each week.....	\$2,250.00
+/- For Year Ending 6/30/16.....	(\$8,353.54)
Christmas Flowers-\$25 Retired Religious Collection-\$100	

Greeters for December Robert & Karen Wooley Malcolm & Agnes Smith	Ushers for December JoAnn Forgarty, Joan Smolka Rosemary Houska, Annie Mikulka
Money Counters December 22 Tom & Diane Bradley	Knight of the month –Dec. Jim Porubsky
Family of the month-December Jim & Marie Hurst	

Altar Servers: **December 24**–Volunteers needed
December 25–Volunteers needed
December 27–Christa & Rachel Fornusek

Sacristans: **December 24**–Margaret Horak
December 25–Jim & Diane Korienek
December 27–Sonja Homer

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
December 24–Lyna Schneider, Annie Mikulka and Duane Schneider
December 25–Carol Chvojka, Diane Kusnier and John Chvojka
December 27–Pete & Debbie Hurst and Margaret Horak

Stewardship Message: The Gospel today tells of the Virgin Mary, pregnant herself, hurrying off to help her cousin Elizabeth. The model of good stewardship, she who had given herself to bear the Savior gave her time and love others as well.



Faith Formation Classes: The next class will be Sunday, January 3rd at 9:00 am. There will be a parent meeting for those receiving Reconciliation also on Sunday the 3rd.

Ornaments: Please save your caps from mayo and peanut butter jars and similar caps that size and also the front of used Christmas cards. These will be used at the Ashley Country Christmas by a church group that helps children make ornaments. We will be collecting them throughout the year. I will put a box for these things by the choir stairs. Thank you. Diane Korienek



Decorating the Church for Christmas: Ladies and gentlemen, we will be decorating the church for Christmas today after Mass. Hope to see you there! Many hands make light the work.

Blood Drive: On Tuesday, December 29th from 12-5:45 pm at the ZCJB Hall in Bannister co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and ZCJB Lodge. Walk in are welcome or you may call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment. Give the gift of life this Christmas season by donating blood.

Usher Schedule: We are working on updating the Usher Schedule. If you would like to become an usher, please call Jim Korienek at 989-221-7717.



Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Masses:

December 24th– 5:00 pm at St. Peter Parish, Chesaning
 8:00 pm at St. Cyril Church
December 25th–9:00 am at St. Cyril Church

Solemnity of Mary Holy Day Mass Schedule:

December 31st–4:30 pm at St. Cyril Church
 January 1st–9:00 am at St. Peter Parish, Chesaning.

Please Pray for Our Sick & Shut-Ins: Kyle Salyer, Rose Wolfe, Kevin Sopocy, Barb Pumford, Mary Bernath, Jerry Horak, Frank Kral, Carl Bowles, Marcella Baese, Ron Betts, Brian Courter, Mary Galko, John Smolka, Kim Babyock, Joe Batora, Tillie Bohil, Helen Fabus, Sally Foreit, George Goscinski, Mary Hanacek, Betty Kirby, Ann Luznak, Jim Schneider, Joanne Sisco, Frances Surdenik, Josie Vondruska, Elizabeth Chandler

Lectors: **December 24**–Margaret Horak and Dylan Dysinger
December 25–Tom Bradley and Ellie Bowles
December 27–Tamara Chapko and Theresa Sopocy

Knights of Columbus Christmas Card Sale:

They are beautiful cards that are very reasonably priced. You may also purchase Keep Christ in Christmas magnets and yard signs. Why not consider purchasing some of these items and support our Council and the Keep Christ in Christmas program. Please put money in the lock box on the Knight's table in the back of church. Plan ahead and purchase some for next year.

Thank You: Thank you to all who remembered my special milestone 75th Birthday with wishes, cards, prayers and gifts. It is amazing how word can travel through WOES and Facebook! Your love, generosity and prayers are deeply appreciated. God Bless you all. Margaret Horak

Thank You: To Leyna Miller for the donations of the beautiful Christmas poinsettia plants.

Christmas Wafers: The remaining Christmas wafers packages will be the Chapel entrance and main entrance of church. Please feel free to take one. Kris

A Reflection on the Gospel from the 2015 Living

Liturgy: Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth and they were present to each other in a most extraordinary encounter. Clearly also present and active was the Holy Spirit who overshadowed Mary to conceive the Savior of the world, inspired Elizabeth to extol Mary and the “fruit of her womb,” and prompted the unborn John to leap for joy. The Holy Spirit brought an intensity to each encounter that augured the singularity and significance of all these happenings. Mary didn't simply “set out” to visit Elizabeth; she went “in haste.” Elizabeth didn't simply say “hello” to Mary, but “cried out in a loud voice” the blessings of Mary and her unborn infant. John didn't simply give a gentle kick in Elizabeth's womb at this encounter, but “leaped for joy.”

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, quickly approaching our celebration of the birth of the Son of God, we need to open ourselves to receive this same intensity from the Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit overshadows, inspires, and prompts those of us who believe to “set out” “in haste” to touch others with divine Presence. Elizabeth blesses Mary because she “believed” that God would fulfill in her all that the angel Gabriel had said to her. Now so must we believe that God fulfills in us all the goodness and love that is promised. Like Mary and Elizabeth, we must make any no to what God asks of us absent from our lives. Mary and Elizabeth show us the way to *our* being overshadowed by the Spirit by their offering their own bodies in cooperating with God's plan of salvation. So must we offer ourselves with the same willingness, with the same love response, with the same eager desire for divine Presence within and among us. This divine Presences is never gone, never absent. We cannot ever forget that.

