

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015



Sun Nov. 29
10:30 am People of St. Cyril-Baptism of Anabel Meiser

Mon Nov. 30
No Mass
St. Andrew, Apostle

Tues Dec. 1
No Mass

Wed Dec. 2
9:00 am Irene Heinze by Pete & Diane Arzberger

Thu Dec. 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest, Missionary, Religious

Fri Dec. 4
9:00 am Joseph Kusnier by family

Sat Dec. 5
No Mass

Sun Dec. 6
10:30 am **Second Sunday of Advent**
People of St. Cyril-In Thanksgiving

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
ckleinstcyrilchurch@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.

✠ Tithes & Gifts ✠	
November 22, 2015	
63 Adult Envelopes:	\$2,156.00
Loose:	52.00
Children:	1.81
1-Special Needs:	15.00
Total:	\$2,224.81
Amount needed each week.....	\$2,250.00
+/- For Year Ending 6/30/16.....	(\$9,115.54)
<i>Christmas Flowers- \$25</i>	
<i>Mass Intention- \$20</i>	

Greeters for December Robert & Karen Wooley Malcolm & Agnes Smith	Ushers for December JoAnn Forgarty, Joan Smolka Rosemary Houska, Annie Mikulka
Money Counters December 1 Mary Jane Schoendorf & Alice Steavens	Knight of the month –Nov. Joseph J. Fabus, III
Family of the month-November Keith and Sonja Homer	

Altar Servers: December 6 —Volunteers needed
Sacristans: December 6 —Jim & Diane Korienek
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: December 6 —Ann Pedsa, Toni Ornelas and Terry Loznak
Lectors: December 6 —Sonja Homer and Tom Bradley

Stewardship Message: “Be on guard,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel, “lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence.” Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.



Faith Formation Classes: We are adding a 4 year old pre-school class, which will be held at 9 am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, like the rest of the program. Children must currently be 4 years old to attend. The next class is Sunday, December 6th For more information, call Theresa Sopocy at 862-5909.

The Polar Express: The Polar Express will once again be coming to the Village of Ashley for an old fashion country Christmas. The Knights have been asked to assist with set up and clean up during the 5 weekends. Please volunteer for a time on one of the sign up sheets located at the Knights table. This is the perfect opportunity to bring the family, enjoy the festivities and provide a community service, all at the same time.

K of C Christmas Party: Save the date! The Knights of Columbus Christmas Party is Saturday, December 12th at the parish hall starting at 6 pm with a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to pass. Meat, drinks, rolls and table service will be furnished. Santa will arrive to meet all the children young and old following dinner.



Christmas Cookies Sale: St. Paul’s Altar Society of Owosso will be holding it’s annual Christmas Cookies Sale on Saturday, December 5th from 12-7 pm and on Sunday, December 6th from 9-12:30 pm in the church basement (Howell St. entrance). Cookies, candy and bars will be sold for \$4 per package. Specialty plates will be available and are ready to give as a gift to your family and friends. Everyone is welcome!



4th Annual Advent Tea: The date for the Advent Tea is Tuesday, December 1st from 6:30-8 pm at St. Peter Parish Hall in Chesaning. All ladies are welcome! Bring a friend or two. Joy Tanner, Parish Catechetical Leader, Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church will be the evening’s presenter and help us turn our focus to the true meaning of the Advent season.



Altar Society: Ladies, there will be a Christmas dinner on Monday, December 7th at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. Please bring a \$7 gift exchange and a dish to pass. Turkey will be provided. Hope you can make it.

Please Pray for Our Sick & Shut-Ins: Jon Miller, 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

Knights of Columbus Christmas Card Sale: The Knight’s Christmas card sales have begun. 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.



Community Christmas Boxes 2015: St. Cyril will again be participating in the local Christmas Boxes donations collected to help those in need in our area. We have enclosed a flyer with items are needed. We will be collecting items from November 22nd through December 6th. There will be a box by the St. Joseph Altar for your donations.

A Reflection on the Gospel from the 2015 Living Liturgy: At first glance the gospel for this Sunday does not seem to be about love—or about holiness. Yet, underneath Jesus’ prediction of events at the end of time, he is telling us a special story—a love story.

At first reading, it seems as though the gospel is only about tribulations and calamities and fear. Yes, right now, today, tribulations, wars, national calamities are upon us. We can cringe in fear or “stand erect” in hope. Jesus tells us not to fear what calamities might do to us, but to be “vigilant” for his coming. He comes with redemption not only in glory at the end of time, but right now, today. And here is where the love story is endlessly told—in Jesus’ abiding Presence to us. We are redeemed—renewed and made whole in our relationship with God—by God’s altogether new act on behalf of humankind: our “redemption is at hand.” We are vigilant for Christ’s coming not because of fear of the calamities that might assail us, but because our “redemption is at hand.” God’s love story narrated to us through the divine Son Jesus Christ is not about the kind of love we might read in romance novels, but is a holy love emanating from God’s very being. Holy love is the opposite of selfish love. Holy love is possible when there is a right relationship between God and us, measured by our right relationship with each other. Holy love is the caring exchange between Person and person whose regard for the other is at the very center of the relationship. We are redeemed by God’s holy love. We are “blameless in holiness” when we love as God loves us.

One sign of the Son of Man’s redeeming Presence is that we are growing in love. Despite appearances to the contrary (disaster and destruction generated both by natural forces and human choices), God’s plan and purpose are directed toward redemption and life. We need to read the right signs—new life in the midst of seeming destruction, the glory of the Son of Man coming into the darkness, the love of Christ growing in our hearts. We need to be attentive to holy love. The vigilance to which Jesus calls is possible when we embrace his Presence with holy love.