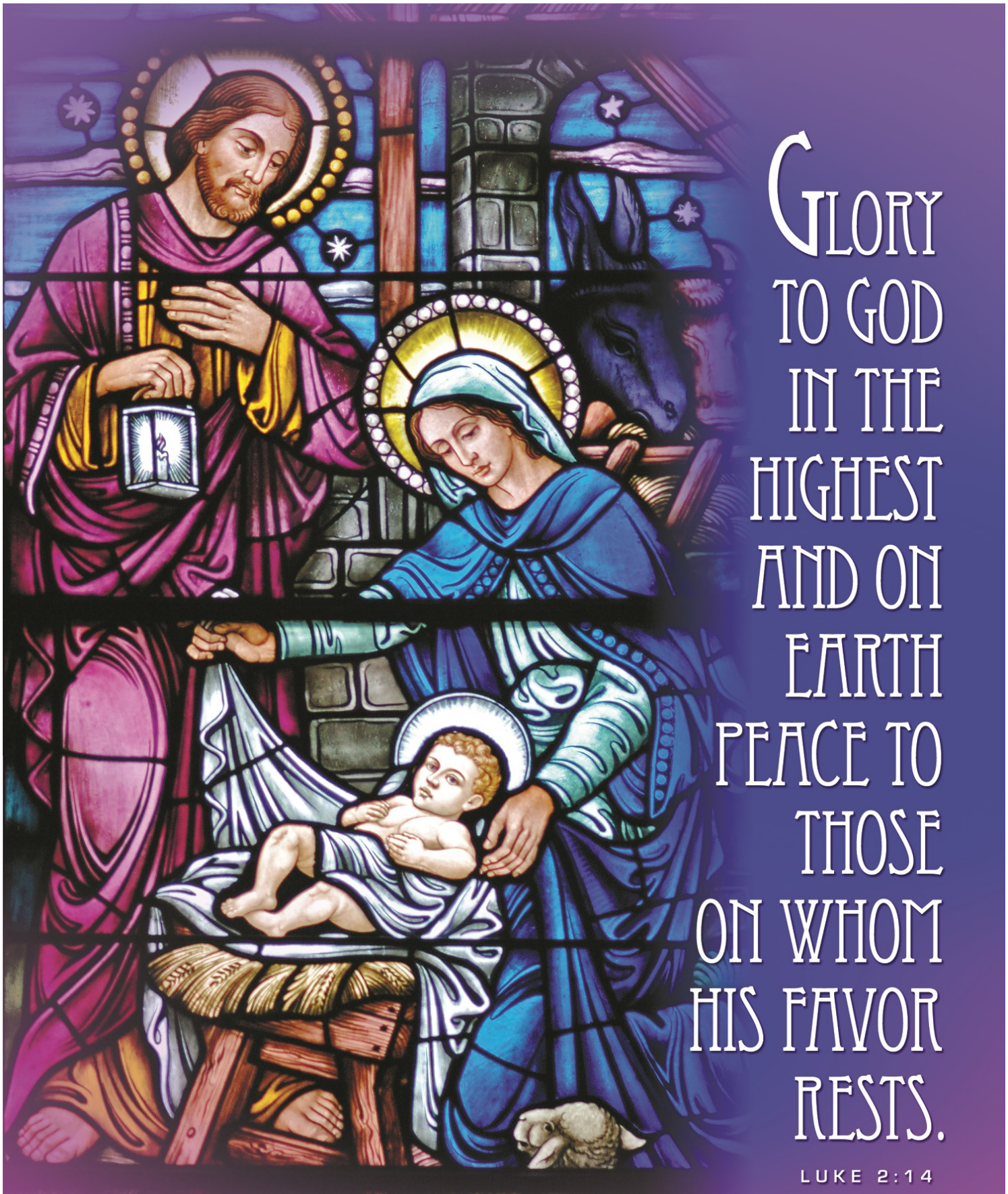

St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church

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From the Desk of Father Franco

Dear Parishioners,

In Hebrews 11:1 it is written that "faith is the conviction of things not seen." Faith is the gift of God that enables us to see what that naked eye misses. Our physical eyes can only see the physical world. On the other hand, faith gives us "real eyes to realize where the real lies."

As we draw near to Christ, our gospel reading tells us of Mary's visit to her kinswoman Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. The text tells us that as soon of Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the infant in Elizabeth's womb "leaped". John leaped in the womb of his mother Elizabeth because he recognized Jesus, hidden in the womb of Mary. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she also recognized Jesus-the fruit of Mary's womb and her Lord. Both John and Elizabeth responded in faith to a reality beyond sight: the Lord in human flesh in the womb of Mary.

The response of John and the response of Elizabeth are models for us as we approach the celebration of Christmas. Our church will be decked out with poinsettia plants, a manger scene, Christmas lights and other beautiful holiday trimmings. Our homes will be made festive by trees and lights and other decorations. However, this holiday goes way beyond the sights and smells that dazzle our senses. The Son of God was born in a human form. Faith gives us the real eyes to see this great event and rejoice in it.

In later October, I led a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. One of the sights we visited was the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. In this church, behind the altar on a lower level is a fourteen-point silver star on the floor. It marks the spot where Jesus was born.

We waited a long time in line to venerate that spot. Our time there was a bit hurried. It seemed a bit of a letdown. However, immediately after our visit there, we celebrated Mass at a chapel nearby. The readings and Mass texts were those of Christmas. We sang Christmas Carols. And like Christmas Masses, we even had extra guests-people from another English-speaking pilgrimage who did not have a priest with their group.

When we expressed our faith by song and prayer, we became aware that we had just touched the spot where Mary gave birth to the Son of God! Our exercise of faith gave us those real eyes to realize where the real lies.

I pray that your celebration of Christmas deepens the reality of God's love for you. He gave his only begotten Son so that each of us would know peace with God and the hope of eternal life.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob Franco

Mass Intentions for the Week

Dec. 22 - Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Ron Matuszak (Family)
Dec. 23 - Sunday	9:00 a.m.	St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
	10:30 a.m.	Joe Kearney (June Kearney)
Dec. 24 - Monday	5:00 p.m.	For the intention of those remembered
	10:00 p.m.	in St. Julie's Christmas cards
Dec. 25 - Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	For the intention of those remembered
	10:30 a.m.	in St. Julie's Christmas cards
Dec. 29 - Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Wed. Ross MacDonald & Kathryn Elmore
	5:00 p.m.	Mary O'Malley (Jim & Peg Nolan)
Dec. 30 - Sunday	9:00 a.m.	St. Julie Billiart Parishioners
	10:30 a.m.	Tom McNamara (Joanne McNamara)

PASTOR…Rev. George A. Vrabel

Permanent Deacon…Rev. Mr. John Rivera
Permanent Deacon...Rev. Dr. Ken DeLuca
Music Director……..Danny O'Brien
PSR Principal……..Kelly Reed

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Masses at Church

Saturday……5:00 p.m.
Sunday……9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses will be at St. Peter's until further notice

Holydays……Consult the Bulletin

CONFESSIONS

2nd Saturday of the month
4:00-4:30 p.m. *in the Church Library*

PSR - PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades K - 8: 9 - 10:15 a.m. Sundays
Children's Liturgy of the Word:
During 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
(except first Sunday of Month)

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Grades 9-12: 11:45 a.m.

RCIA & RCIC *(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children)*

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday by appointment

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made 6 months
in advance

NEW PARISHIONERS

You are welcome to call the office or register on line.

CHURCH-CATECHETICAL CENTER • 440-327-1978

5500 Lear Nagle Road • 44039

CHAPEL-ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

5545 Opal Drive • 44039
Hours: (M–F) 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Phone: 440-327-1978
Fax: 440-327-1994
Email: stjbc@windstream.net
Website: www.stjuliebilliart.org

St. Julie's Office will be closed from Noon, December 21 until 9:00 a.m. December 27.

Parish & Community Events

December 23, 2018

Religious Education

PSR - Parish School of Religion, Pre K - 8th grades (Sundays, 9:00 a.m.)

FLY - Faithfully Leading Youth - St. Julie's High School Youth Ministry Grades 9 - 12 (Sundays, 11:45 a.m.)

Children's Liturgy of the Word: During 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass *(except first Sunday of Month)*

RCIA & RCIC *(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children)*

~ Christmas Mass Schedule ~

Christmas Eve

- Monday - December 24: 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

- Tuesday - December 25: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

New Years Eve

- Monday - December 31: 5:00 p.m.

New Years Day

- Tuesday - January 1: 9:00 a.m.

From the desk of Fr. George...

Dear Parishioners and friends of St. Julie's,

The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord is nearly upon us, and not only have we prepared our homes and church with decorations and merriment, but hopefully our hearts as well. Over these past few months I have had plenty of time to think and reflect upon what is within and what is beyond my control. I know that I need to be patient with my health issues and submit to whatever is my portion. But I also know that seeing people - whether familiar or strangers – needs to be with an open heart and a joy that can only be described as God's love and mercy. I continue to pray for all of you in this special time of the year and welcome your prayers of healing and my return to the parish and regular celebration of Mass. With that said, may you and your family and friends have a blessed and joy filled celebration of God's love both now and in the new year to come.

Fr. George

He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of His birth... Luke 1:14

This week my prayers were for: my whole family; people who are traveling; dad, mom, Ashley, Sady, Sparky, Father George; Sadie, Sparky, uncle Jim, Duncan; mom and dad and Father George.

This is how I used my time and talent for others: took out the trash; I thanked my mom for buying us ice cream; I used manners and was an example for my little brother & I stacked up chairs after the concert.

PRAY FOR . . .

the health of, and caregivers of Father George, Linda Lagina, Joe Dominak, JoAnne Bellomo, Phil Vella (brother of Dottie Heller), John Murphy, Patrick Tinics, June Seman, Dolores Rivera, Bill Livingston, Marge Lesnick, Jerry & Barb Moran, Carol Polak, Chris Piazza, Irene Kollin, Regula Family, Sondra Jirousek, Carol Straub; for our men & women in uniform, our police, firefighters, doctors and nurses; and for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate & religious life.

Gifts for Baby Jesus

St. Julie's Respect Life group will sponsor our annual Gifts for Baby Jesus to benefit Birthright of Lorain County. Gifts are returned at all masses December 24/25.

FORMED PICK

The Story of the Nativity

Explore the Birth of Christ

This fast-paced look at the true story of the Nativity clears away misunderstandings about Jesus's origin and is invaluable for learning more about the truth of Christmas. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and more.

WATCH ON FORMED.ORG

Login/Registration:

- Go to stjuliebilliart.formed.org
- Click on "register"
- Enter your name, email address, and desired password
- You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!

Parish Stewardship

Dec.16: Envelopes used: 209 (out of 682 mailed)..... $5019

Average per Envelope	$22
Children's	$20
School Subsidy	$35
Capital Improvement	$120
Net Offertory	**$5194**
Mass Attendance	512

Thank you for sharing your blessings.

News & Events

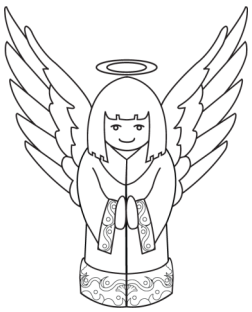
Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Sat,Dec.22, 5:00	Sun,Dec.23, 9:00	10:30
L- Sharon DeBevec	Linda Vasiloff	Jim Cassidy
L- ( )	Ken Allen	Gloria Hearns
EM-Don Braun	Dottie Heller	Barb Arguello
Greg Dubecky	Kristine Krejsa	Laura Eland
Genny Umpirowicz	Nick Modock	Meg Hogue
Suzanne Snyder*	Larry Rozman	( )
	Leslie Rozman	Joe Kotarsky
	Suzanne Snyder*	Mike Yarosh*
Altar Servers		
Anthony Shealy	Lizzie Schiffbauer	Tessa Johnston

~ Christmas Schedule ~

Mon,Dec.24, 5:00	10:00 p.m.
L- Renee Gallagher	Sharon DeBevec
L- Gloria Hearns	( )
EM- Laura Eland	John Burghard
Agnes Klimkowicz	Michelle Davis
Elaine Klepek	Jim Livingston
Kristine Krejsa	Suzanne Snyder*
( )	Ginny Umpirowicz
Marian Juszkiewicz	
( )	
Suzanne Snyder*	
Altar Servers	
Alyssa Eland	Anthony Shealy
Haley Eland	

Tue,Dec.25, 9:00	10:30 a.m.
L- Diane DeMelo	Mark LaLonde
L- Ken Allen	Jim Cassidy
EM- Barb Arguello	Laura Knoblauch
Jim Carter	Joe Kotarsky
Joanne Carter	( )
Nick Modock	Tom Lamoda
Mary Kay Polomsky	Mike Yarosh*
Suzanne Snyder*	
Altar Servers	
Ashley McDowell	Juliana Cerny



Sat,Dec.29, 5:00	Sun,Dec.30, 9:00	10:30
L- ( )	Cindy Naprestek	Jim Cassidy
L- Sharon DeBevec	Linda Vasiloff	Gloria Hearns
EM- Don Braun	Theresa Bak	JoAnne Bellomo
( )	Kristine Krejsa	Laura Knoblauch
Jim Miklich	Mary Kay Polomsky	Tom Lamoda
Ted Lapponi	Larry Rozman	Terri Lanser
Beth Paoloni*	Leslie Rozman	Gene Morrison
	Debijo Lamb*	Suzanne Snyder*
Altar Servers		Amanda Bastian
Kady Jerore	Lizzie Schiffbauer	Marie Bastian