



# Mary the Mother of God



Dear Friends,

A woman walked into a New York City bank and asked for a loan officer. She told him she was going to Europe for two weeks on business and needed to borrow \$5000. The bank officer told her that she'd need some kind of collateral for such a loan. So the woman handed him the keys to her new Rolls Royce parked on the street in front of the bank. Everything checked out, and the bank agreed to accept the car as security for the loan. An employee drove the shiny Rolls into the bank's underground garage and parked it there. Two weeks later, the woman returned from her trip and repaid her \$5000 loan with interest, which was \$15.41. As she was picking up the keys to her car, the loan officer approached her.

"Excuse me, Madam. We are delighted that you selected our bank for your business, but we're a bit puzzled. While you were away, we checked out your financial status and discovered that you are a multimillionaire. Do you mind if we ask, why, in heaven's name, you would bother to borrow \$5000 when you have so much money?"

The elderly matron looked at the banker and replied, "Where else in New York can I park my car for two weeks for fifteen bucks?"

These days, anyone who has investments is looking for ways to keep what he or she has got, and even save a dollar or two here and there. Business newspapers and magazines are replete with advice on how to be shrewd in topsyturvy times. Promises are made by pundits in the know that the New Year will see a turn around in the economy and patience will pay off. I wonder how many of us who pride ourselves on being savvy in the market would be just as eager to save the treasure we'll need for entrance into the after-life.

As we enter into this New Year of grace - as it's often called in church documents - perhaps it would be helpful for us to check out our spiritual portfolio to assess the health of our soul-stock. Do we need to be as shrewd when it comes to investing our time and energy in activities that can nourish our spiritual life as we would in those that can build up our bank accounts? Do we need to concentrate a bit more on saving ourselves from sin as we would on saving a few cents here and there?

A New Year always brings us the opportunity to start anew. After the hustle and bustle of the holidays, we now have the chance to pause and consider what impact the previous weeks have had on us. Maybe the words of Jesus can move us to put things into perspective in our own life: "Where you treasure is, there will your heart be."

Love,

Fr. Dave



**ST. MARY SCHOOL** will reopen January 4. *Script orders can be picked up in the parish office before 4:00, on January 3.* **THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** January 2.

**MASS FOR SHUT-INS** will be aired on channel 21 at 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. every Sunday.

**ST. MARY FUNERAL ROSARY COMMITTEE** is in need of volunteers to say the rosary at least 20 minutes before each funeral. This may be a great way to earn extra points to get into heaven! Call the parish office for more information at 447-2087.

## Schedule of Liturgies

### December 31 - January 8

**SATURDAY**, December 31, Vigil: Mary Mother of God  
4:30 PM Angeline Waire; Rose & Mike Cinicola  
Liv. & Dec'd of Wm. Kowpak & Anthony  
Falter Families; Vita Perna

6:30 PM Rosemary Yandura;  
Charles & Corrine Thom

**SUNDAY**, January 1, **Mary the Mother of God, New Year's Day; Day of World Peace**  
8:00 AM Joseph Keefe; David Bohnlein  
10:00 AM Luella Zoeller; Gaetta Murray;  
Mary Schroeder; Huth - Zablocki Families

11:30 AM St. Mary Parish Family

**MONDAY**, January 2, Basil the Great and Gregory  
Nazianzen, bishops, doctors

7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Hubert & Dorothy Elchert; Evelyn Heil

**TUESDAY**, January 3, Weekday  
6:30 AM Communion Service  
8:30 AM Carl Gosche, Clifford & Vera Sheeley  
4:00 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**

**WEDNESDAY**, January 4, Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious  
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Adam Michul

**THURSDAY**, January 5, John Neumann, bishop  
6:30 AM Communion Service  
8:30 AM Maurice Lupica; Richard Reinhart

**FRIDAY**, January 6, Weekday  
7:30 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Mary C. Miller

**SATURDAY**, January 7, Vigil: Epiphany  
4:30 PM Earl Rack; Ray Poignon, Eugene Elchert;  
Andrew Weber

6:30 PM Frank Vargo

**SUNDAY**, January 8, **Epiphany of the Lord**  
8:00 AM Frances Welty Reinhart; Loretta Goshe  
10:00 AM Herbert & Lillian & Robert Streacker;  
Frank & Sara Ambrose;  
Clarence & Emma Kin;  
Fred & Kathy Fabrizio

11:30 AM St. Mary Parish Family



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE A STATEMENT** of your contributions for the 2005 year, please call the parish office at 447-2087.

### THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED LAST WEEKEND!

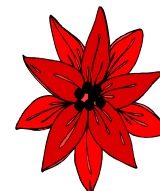
*Thanks to all the musicians, students, ushers, mass coordinators, decorators, collection helpers, Eucharistic ministers and lectors. God's blessings to all of you for your support.*

## Christmas Flowers

### Donor

Leticia Hernandez  
MaryEllen Boner

Marie Clark



### In memory of

Dr. Arturo Hernandez-  
Clarence C. Boner &  
loved ones

### In honor of

Jesus in the Most Blessed  
Sacrament - His birthday



**Sunday Night BINGO**

Held in the Recreation Room of St. Mary School  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 p.m.

*Bingo will resume January 8.*

**PLEASE BE ADVISED** that January through May inclusively, there will be no organ music at the Tuesday morning Masses. Therefore, Monday morning Masses will have organ music.

**2005 FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:** Would the birth of Jesus have gone unnoticed if the shepherds had been "too busy" to travel to Bethlehem to spread the word about Him? The shepherds, the first missionaries, played a major role in human history. Every family is also called to be missionaries by "glorifying and praising God for all you have heard and seen."

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS** to the family and friends of **Robert Streacker**. We pray the bereaved may find comfort at this difficult time.



**STEUBENVILLE 2006**

Please join us for a spirit-filled weekend at Franciscan University of Steubenville this June. The cost is \$180 which covers bus transportation, conference cost, all meals, and lodging. All students entering 9th grade through 2006 high school graduates are eligible. Adult chaperones are welcome. (Protecting the Youth Course is required by March.) Call Jane at 448-8841, Kim at 447-1129, or Lea at 448-4913 with any questions.

**WORLD DAY OF PEACE** is today, January 1. The first Day of Peace was celebrated in 1968 and was ordered by Pope Paul VI. Practice conflict resolution on this day. Within your home, school, or work, try these suggestions to resolve conflicts:

- Remain calm, use a low voice and neutral body language to invite the other person to discuss the problem.
- LISTEN more to get a better understanding of their concerns.
- Identify the *real* problem.
- Be a good role model for your children.



**Offering Total**

**December 24 & 25, 2005**

	<u>Total \$</u>	<u>Env.</u>
<b>Amount Needed Each Sunday</b>	<b>\$ 13,000.00</b>	
Sunday Offering	\$ 15,052.25	301
Difference +	\$ 2,052.25	
(Includes loose money & checks )	\$ 4,620.25	
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>\$ 17,133.00</b>	<b>395</b>
Immaculate Conception	\$ 31.00	5
New Year's Day	\$ 373.00	14
Repair and Maintenance	\$ 36.00	4
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 32,625.25</b>	
Retirement for Religious	\$ 15.00	2
Tuition Assistance	\$ 15.00	2
High School Sunday Offering	\$ 31.50	15
Children's Offering	\$ 131.25	54
<b>Total Sunday, 2005</b>	<b>\$ 32,818.00</b>	
<b>Total Sunday, 2004</b>	<b>\$ 33,867.59</b>	
<b>Total Christmas to date, 2005</b>	<b>\$ 23,585.00</b>	
<b>Total Christmas, 2004</b>	<b>\$ 28,402.65</b>	



**DIVORCED & SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUPS**

A 12 week seminar will be held on Sundays beginning January 15 - April 9 at 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Wendelin Church, Fostoria. Cost is \$20 and is held by individuals who have experienced some of the same pain that you are going through. Contact Kathy Holman at 435-6692 to register.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR SEPARATED** or divorced individuals will be held January 24 at St. Joseph Parish, Sylvania, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Contact Tim Etue, Catholic Charities, at 244-6711 to register.

**OLC RETREAT HOUSE**, Carey, is sponsoring a retreat for divorced or separated persons on February 24, 25, & 26. Come to this weekend retreat and discover how to "climb the mountain." Contact Brother Randy Kin at 396-7970.

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL SCHOOL TUITION RAFFLE** ticket sale is underway. Tickets are \$10 each and only 300 tickets will be sold. The winner receives free tuition for the 2006-2007 school year at your choice of St. Mary, St. Joseph, or Calvert. The drawing will be held April 8. You can purchase your tickets at any of the three schools or St. Joseph Guardian House

*Willamar Farms*  
**Tack & Feed**

**4585 N. Twp. Rd. 167**  
**Tiffin, Ohio 44883**  
**419-992-1005**



*Thank You To Our Sponsor Of The Week!*

**TIFFIN K OF C**

**SWISS STEAK DINNER** to benefit Pro-Life activities will be January 14, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$7.50 per person. Advance tickets can be purchased by calling K of C at 447-0901.

**REVERSE RAFFLE** will be January 21 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25.00 each. Contact a K of C member for tickets.

**SMOKE FREE THURSDAY NIGHT BINGO** at Tiffin K of C Hall to benefit Mercy Hospital and United Way. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Sandwiches, snacks and drinks will be available.



**ATTICA K OF C FISH FRY** will be January 6, 5:30 - 7:30. Adults are \$7.00 and children are \$4.00. Carry outs will be available and everyone is welcome.

**DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA** meetings have been cancelled for January and February and will resume on March 20, 2006. The 2006 dues are now being collected by Dorothy Brickner, 21 Cottage Ave, Tiffin.

**SCAT DRIVERS** for January 8 are Mike and Jack Magers.



**"52" Club Winners**

1. Mary Lonsway
2. Georgetta A. Hursey
3. Connie Funkhouser
4. Maria Anne Cool
5. Rita DeRose