

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES 3 PM ✘ 3:15 PM in gym ✘ 5:30 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES Midnight ✘ 8 AM ✘ 10 AM ✘ Noon

(On Sunday December 31st, evening Mass will be at 4 PM instead of 7 PM.)

4th Sunday of Advent

FROM THE PASTOR'S PRINTER

December 24, 2017

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! On Sunday, February 11, 2017, St. John's will have a reception for the Treasures of our New Church, an open house from 2-6 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall, where we will display some of the objects needed for our new church which can be donated in honor or memory of a relative or friend, or donated in your own name. More details to follow.

HAVE YOUR PEOPLE CALL MY PEOPLE (AND WE MIGHT GET AN ELEVATOR)

For years St. John's parish and school has been trying to figure out where to place an elevator to meet the needs of disabled students (which we now have) or adults in the Park Avenue school. We have now figured out a place for the elevator in the building. Now we are looking for foundations that might assist us in the funding. If you know of any foundations, please contact our business manager Mike Newton at mnewton@stjb.net or 513-367-9086 x211.

WHY DON'T I SEE A CHURCH BUILDING YET?

Even though you don't see anything above the ground, be assured work is progressing well. So far, the utilities have been tied into our property, the ground stabilized, the gravel for the parking lot installed, and the footers are being poured. The next step is pouring the slab of the church, and in January we should see the structure rise from the ground.

I have to tell you this story. Each week I go to take pictures of the progress (which right now are all flat land photos). I went on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving about 3 PM, and from the road I saw only a dump truck parked with the bed up. My first thought was why are these guys gone early? I parked in the driveway and begin to walk to see what had been accomplished. When I am about 700 feet from my car, the dump truck starts to leave the lot, and as I turn to move my car,

another truck is pulling in. I waved my hands to signify I was coming, but I suspect both drivers were thinking, "Who is the &%\$ parked in the driveway?" (They're truck drivers; I am sure they weren't thinking, "Oh, gee; I hope the gentleman in black might move his car soon.") While I was there (with my car duly moved out of the driveway) trucks showed up about every 10 minutes and dumped gravel. Gary Detmer, our site manager, said that trucks were arriving like that since that Monday. Now that's a lot of gravel!

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed until December 27th, and I will be away from the 26th to January 2nd. Should you need a priest for anointing or to notify the parish of a funeral, please call 513-367-9086 x 5, and someone will assist you.

WE'RE STILL FARM COUNTRY

Last Sunday, coming into church, a toddler saw the empty Christmas stable and said, "Look, Mama, chickens all gone!"

BLESSINGS OF THIS HOLY SEASON

On this Christmas Eve, are you thinking that the rush of Christmas preparation has stolen the time for preparation of the soul for the true meaning of the season? Not to worry; God is always there for us. Just take a few minutes each day of the Christmas season to reflect on the goodness and kindness of our God in giving us His only Son. It is never too late to turn to God.

Christmas blessings to you & your family. – Fr. Jeff