

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3, 2023

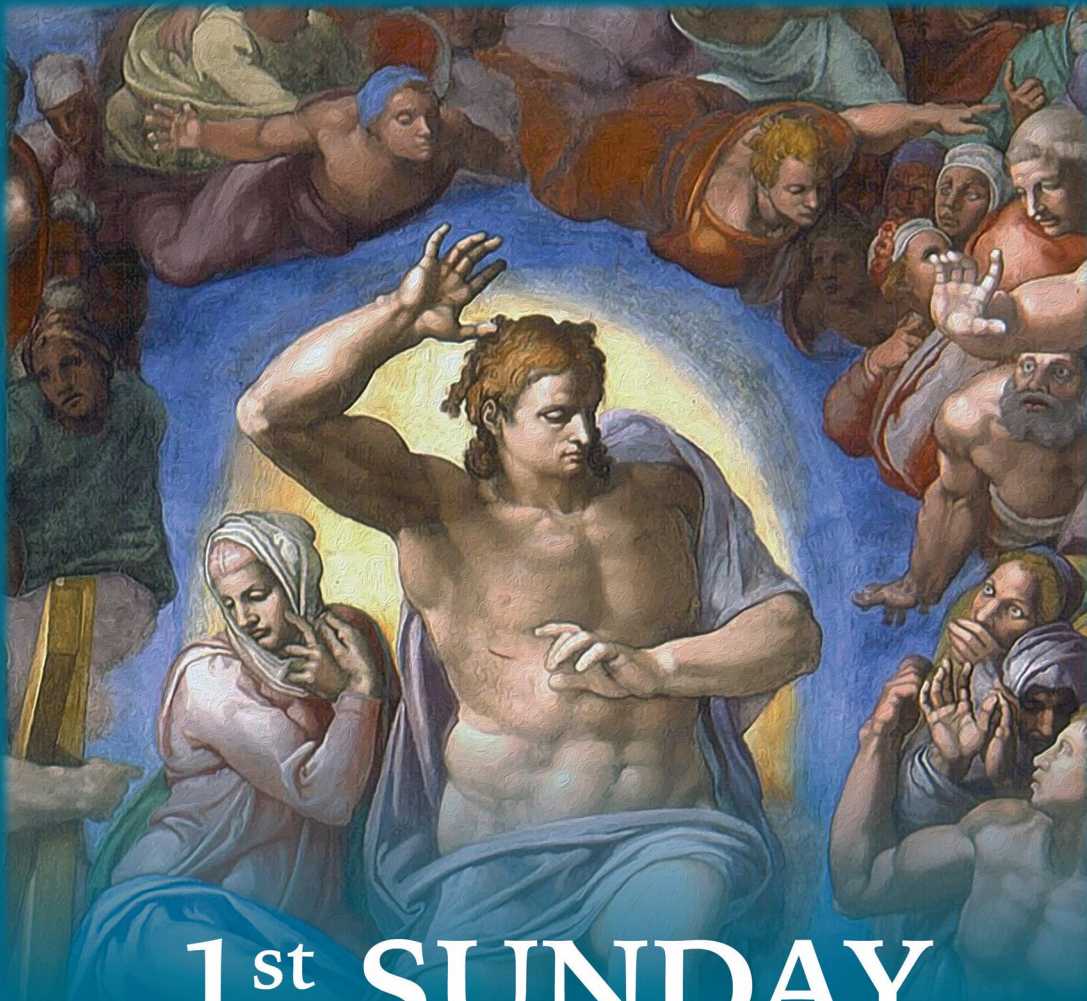


SAINTS CYRIL AND
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOST SVĚTÝCH
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house
is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at
cockcrow, or in the morning.” - Mk 13:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS *Intentions* ©JPPC

December 2, First Saturday - Prva Sobota

Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

- 9:00AM For the Intentions of the Rosary Society
 ❖ For Tommy Kassab req. Vera Lucaj
 ❖ For the Hanna Family ❖ †Clair W. Branch req. Family
- 5:30PM For Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Jack Reynolds & Family ❖ For Samantha Babbie
 ❖ For Bev & Frank Moran req. Cecelia Bustamante
 ❖ For O'Brien, Ryan & Foley Families
 ❖ †Louis Allawerdi
 ❖ †Nancy Bobola req. Judy & Rob Stec

December 3, Sunday - Nedela

First Sunday of Advent

- Is 63:16B-17; 19B; 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
- 7:30AM For the Intentions of the All Parishioners
- 9:30AM For Holy Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
 ❖ For the Intentions of the Knights of Columbus -
 St. Nicholas Council & Families
 ❖ For Mason Langlois req. Langlois Family
 ❖ For Michael Fayad (B'Day) ❖ †Josephine Davis
 ❖ †Rosie Davis ❖ †Louis Allawerdi
- 11:30AM (Slovak) In Thanksgiving req. Marie Kerry
 ❖ For the Living & Deceased Members of the
 First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 743
 ❖ For Pamela Franco req. Friend ❖ For Angie Bettin
 ❖ For Dr. Cesar Hidalgo & Dr. Nishit Choksi
 ❖ †Stefan & +Zofia Grisak req. Joe
 ❖ †Emilia Rafaidus req. Maria Balaz
- 8:30PM In Thanksgiving req. Bernard Gjokaj
 ❖ For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family
 ❖ For Jerson Jimenez (B'Day) req. Family
 ❖ For James & Grette Varchetti ❖ For Tony Robin
 ❖ †Gerald McCarthy req. Billock Family
 ❖ †Mark Juncaj req. Gjyste Ulaj

December 4, Monday - Pondelok

- 9:00AM For Robert Priest ❖ †Charles & Isabella Varchetti
 ❖ †Mark & +Tereze Juncaj req. Groshe Lulgjuraj
 ❖ †Gjon & +Paska Lulgjuraj req. Groshe Lulgjuraj
- 12:00PM For Al Hankus
 ❖ †Michael Foley ❖ †Eleanor Stout
 ❖ †Kelsey Calo req. Patty & Frank Micakaj

December 5, Tuesday - Utorok

- 6:00AM For David Funk req. Langlois Family
 ❖ †George & Helen Emmendorfer
 ❖ †Martin Segal req. Laqui Family
 ❖ †Eufemia Casem req. Friends
- 12:00PM In Thanksgiving req. Alia Korkis
 ❖ For O'Brien, Ryan & Foley Families
 ❖ †Dila Berisaj req. Groshe Lulgjuraj
 ❖ †Mark Juncaj req. Groshe Lulgjuraj

December 6, Wednesday - Streda

Memorial of Saint Nicholas, Bishop

- 9:00AM (Latin) For Al & Ann Varchetti
 ❖ For the Qasguargis Family
 ❖ For Andy & Steven Gappy
 ❖ †Kola Cacaj req. Wife & Family
- 12:00PM For the Living & Deceased Members of the Tymn
 & Duzey Families ❖ For Vicki Babbie
 ❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
 ❖ For Marilyn Persichetti req. M/M Lucio Persichetti

December 7, Thursday - Štvrtok

Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Dr. of the Church

- 6:00AM For a Special Intention ❖ For Thomas Fuller
 ❖ †Margaret Roe ❖ †Stephanie Varchetti
- 12:00PM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory ❖ For Megan Stevenson
 ❖ †Catherine Boyle req. Ormachea Family
 ❖ †Rafael Drensek
- 7:00PM *Vigil for the Immaculate Conception
 For Fr. Lawrence Fares req. Touch of Mary Prayer Group
 ❖ For Anne Marie Krahala req. Friend
 ❖ For Jason Jimenez (20th B'Day) req. Family
 ❖ For Bernard, Kristina & Valentina Gjokaj
 ❖ For Lorraine Drozdowski req. Rita Bacik
 ❖ †Bill Green ❖ †Jean Grubby

December 8, Friday - Piatok

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

- 6:00AM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 12:00PM For the Louis Family ❖ For Jean Grubby
 ❖ For Mike Pablo (B'Day) ❖ For The Hanna Family
 ❖ For Margaret Manor req. Langlois Family
 ❖ For Adam Brady (B'Day) ❖ †Eleanor Stout
- 7:00PM For Rob & Anne Avery & Family
 ❖ For Widad, Steve & Vivian Haisha
 ❖ †Rev. Emmanuel Rayes
 ❖ †Leonardo Ljuljduraj req. Warman Family
 ❖ †Kelsey Calo req. Tonya & Mark Gjokaj
 ❖ †Roy & Greg Duzey ❖ †Loretta Kuligowski

December 9, Saturday - Sobota

- 9:00AM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For the Members of Our Lady Mother of Mercy Secular
 Discalced Carmelites ❖ For Martin Szollosi
 ❖ For Keys Grace Academy School Students & Staff
- 5:30PM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
 ❖ For Samantha Babbie ❖ For Dianne Mitchell
 ❖ †Roy & Greg Duzey
 ❖ †Fr. Lawrence Fares req. Touch of Mary Prayer Group
 ❖ †Jaqueline Marie Kania req. Dubon Family
 ❖ †Paolo Persichetti req. Lucio & Yvonne Persichetti

December 10, Sunday - Nedela

Second Sunday of Advent (Is 40:1-5,9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8)

- 7:30AM For Constance Brunner req. the Nash Brown Family
 ❖ For Ted Kopacki ❖ †John Maciag req. Wife
 ❖ †Loai Kasyouhanan ❖ †Jane Desser
 ❖ †For the Deceased Members of Anastacio Isip Family
 ❖ †Mary Ann O'Shea req. Rybicki Family
- 9:30AM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 11:30AM (Slovak) For the Holy Souls in Purgatory req. Sam Babbie
 ❖ For Maria Montserrat Alvarado & Staff
 ❖ For Martin Lulgjuraj req. Aunt Dijela
 ❖ †Vladimir & Terezia Krizik req. Sobolic Family
 ❖ †Stefan & Anna Sobolic req. Family
 ❖ †Charles J. Celusnak req. Imelda Foley
 ❖ †Emilia Rafaidus req. Ann Venglar
- 8:30PM For the Holy Souls in Purgatory ❖ For Tony Robin
 ❖ For Bernard, Kristina & Valentina Gjokaj
 ❖ For Paul Varchetti & Family
 ❖ †Kola & Drage Ulaj req. Gjyste Ulaj
 ❖ †Coleta Ty req. Rose Maroto ❖ †Medi Maroto req. Wife



First Sunday of Advent • Sunday, December 3, 2023

Fr. Libor Marek, Priest in Solidum • lmarek@saintcyrils.church
Fr. Juraj Nuota, Priest in Solidum • jnuota@saintcyrils.church
Deacon Phil McCown • pmccown@saintcyrils.church
Deacon Gerald Smigell • vgsmigell6@gmail.com
Parish Office • parishoffice@saintcyrils.church

Ss. CYRIL & METHODIUS HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAYS: 9:00AM & 5:30PM (Vigil)
SUNDAYS: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM (Slovak) & 8:30PM
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: 9:00AM & 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 6:00AM & 12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 6:00AM, 12:00PM & 7:00PM

Ss. CYRIL & METHODIUS CONFESSION SCHEDULE

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAY: 8:30AM - 9:00AM & 11:30AM - 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 5:30AM-6:00AM & 11:30AM-12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 5:30AM - 6:00AM, 11:30AM - 12:00PM & 6:30PM-7:00PM
SATURDAY: 8:30AM - 9:00AM

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS: 10:00AM - 5:00PM
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: 11:00AM - 5:00PM
WEDNESDAYS: 11:00AM - 2:00PM
*Office is closed during 12:00PM Holy Mass

OVERNIGHT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

THURSDAYS, 1:00PM - FRIDAYS, 12:00PM (First Fridays, Adoration is until 7:00PM)

"Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum, aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem."

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

(Holy Day of Obligation)



Mass & Confession Times

Vigil Holy Mass

Thursday, December 7th:
7:00PM

Solemnity Holy Mass

Friday, December 8th:
6:00AM, 12:00PM & 7:00PM

Confessions:

**Half hour before each
Holy Mass**



RORATE HOLY MASSES

(Fridays in Advent at the 6AM Holy Mass)

The name "**Rorate**" comes from the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon:

'Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum, aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem.'
which is Latin for:

***"Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above,
and let the clouds rain the just:
let the earth be opened and bud forth a Savior."***

The Rorate Mass was traditionally a Solemn Votive Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary and celebrated during Advent by using candlelight on the altar. As the Holy Mass comes to a close, the sky is dawning its first lights, beautifully symbolizing the coming of Christ, the Light of the World.

Rorate Masses will take place at 6AM every Friday in Advent, by a candlelight procession beginning by the outdoor Slovak Cross.

2023 Parish Advent Giving Projects

MATERIAL GOODS:

THIS WEEKEND ONLY! December 2-3

The following items may be dropped off in the vestibule before all Holy Masses NEXT WEEKEND ONLY:

•**Non-perishable Food for St. Dominic's Outreach Center.**

Food donations to this neighborhood assistance program that serves 75+ families in Detroit are down this year. Any food donations will be appreciated; but the most needed items include: **hearty soups, instant oatmeal packets, sugared cereals, pasta and sauces.** Please, no glass jars.

•**Toiletries and household cleaning products** for seniors and families at **Most Holy Redeemer** and **St. Gabriel** in southwest Detroit. Our donations will help provide the 250 households being assisted at these parishes with necessary items they often cannot afford.

•**Rice, dried beans and pasta** donations will further help families at **Most Holy Redeemer** and **St. Gabriel** stretch their overstretched budgets.

•**Paper towels, Kleenex, Clorox cleaning wipes and individual applesauce cups** for **Mary's Children**. This Catholic ministry, located in Clawson, provides a loving and nurturing day program for severely brain injured adults. The program provides activities based on each participant's capabilities, lunch, prayer time, and personal care in a 1:2 caregiver to participant ratio. Our donations will help offset the costs of this intensive, much needed service for vulnerable individuals and their families.

GIVING TREE:

Drop off your gift, with the tag attached, in the Parish Office by Friday, December 8 or before any weekend Mass by Sunday, December 10

The tags with gift requests for children and families in **Macomb County Community and Mental Health programs, St. Dominic's Outreach Center**, from **families the parish** is assisting have all been taken. These are the gifts that are to be dropped off by Sunday, December 10.



The Giving Tree still has Gift Card requests:

•**St. Christine's Christian Services**, which operates a food bank and a soup kitchen in the Brightmoor neighborhood of Detroit, has requested **Costco and Gordon Foods gift cards**. These cards will primarily help them purchase foods to serve in the soup kitchen, but also will help to stock their food pantry shelves if needed.

•**Mary's Children** has asked for **Meijer and Kroger gift cards**, in either \$25 or \$50 amounts, to be used to purchase birthday or Christmas gifts for their students.



GIFT CARDS: Gift Cards may be placed in a Sunday collection basket during the month of December or dropped off at the Parish Office before December 20.

St. Nicholas Helpers are Needed: Helpers are needed to collect the Giving Tree gifts before all Holy Masses NEXT WEEKEND, December 9 & 10, as well as to deliver them on Tuesday, December 12. To volunteer your time, contact *Erin Rybicki* at ChristianService@saintcyriels.church

MONETARY DONATIONS

During the month of December, donations to the parish Christian Service Fund will be distributed to:

•**St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) chapter at St. Jane de Chantal Parish** - During the past year our parish office called upon the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Jane's to assist a parishioner and a local family that were experiencing great need. SVdP promptly stepped in and provided for both of these situations. As a next step in partnering with SVdP in the Family of the Good Shepherd, this donation will help them fund services such as assistance with rent or utilities, household or emergency needs to individuals in our local community.



•**Image of God Crisis Pregnancy Centers** - Women experiencing a crisis pregnancy find friendly and much needed assistance at Image of God's three centers. The centers help women set goals and provide for their own and their baby's needs from pregnancy through the baby's first 2 years. Our donation will help Image of God's operational costs so they can continue their lifesaving and life affirming mission in 2024.

Donations to the Christian Service Fund can be made online via PushPay; or place cash or a check made out to *Ss. Cyril & Methodius* in a white Advent Giving envelope and put it in the Sunday collection basket by **December 25.**



**NOTE:
DEADLINES
ARE PRINTED
IN RED!**

SLOVAK SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

The seminary in Bratislava, which we have assisted with individualized sponsorships for many years, is currently undergoing major renovations. The students are now at the seminary in Nitra, making a combined total of 70 seminarians in formation. This larger number of students makes it unreasonable for our parish to sponsor them individually for a \$300 donation as we have in the past. Instead, parishioners who wish to support the future priests in Slovakia may make a donation in any amount to a seminary scholarship fund. Our monetary gift will help support seminarians with financial needs, at the rector's discretion. To contribute to the scholarship, place your donation in a blue Advent Giving envelope and place it **in the Sunday collection basket by December 25**. Note: per the IRS, this international donation is not tax deductible. A group photo of the seminarians and a prayer card for seminarians are available in the Parish Office.



Please Pray During Advent for all those who will benefit from our parish Advent donations as well as those who minister to them.

If you have questions about any of the projects, contact:
Erin Rybicki at ChristianService@saintcyriels.church or
Sandi Brady in the Parish Office

Bakers

Christmas Cookie Walk & Bake Sale

BAKERS: Can you help to make our
Annual Christmas Cookie Walk & Bake Sale a great success?

The success of our Bake Sales show that we have some of the most passionate bakers in the AOD. Consider sharing your talent once more and make a batch of cookies for the Cookie Walk that will take place on Saturday and Sunday, December 16 & 17. The more bakers that participate, the lovelier the assortments will be to purchase. Remember, this is a cookie "walk" so the calorie count is cut in half:)

We need bakers who will commit to making 10 dozen (of the same) cookies (but less is ok too)! You can make your own favorite, tried-and-true, Christmas Cookie recipe or choose from the varieties on our sign-up sheet that is located in the vestibule. Please sign up so we know how many varieties of cookies we will have and so that we know that we will have enough bakers to make our Cookie Walk a success.

WANT TO USE THE CHURCH FREEZERS FOR YOUR HOMEMADE GOODIES?

If you are interested in making cookies in advance and would like to store your homemade goodies at the church, you are welcome to do so. Please contact the Parish Office, (586) 726-6911, for arrangements.

We want to have a wide variety of options for our customers, so please help make this our best Cookie Walk ever by committing to bake some cookies for us! Please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule and let us know what type of cookie you can bake!

This will be a Bake Sale as well so all homemade baked goodies are welcomed!

Thank you! Chaired by: *Eman Louis, Mirka Plzak & Jean Wolf*

Questions, please contact: *Mirka, 248-390-1101*

Organized by the Rosary Society! All proceeds go to the church!



SUGGESTED TYPES OF COOKIES:

Butter
Candy Cane
Chocolate Chip
Cookie of Your Choice
Gingerbread
Grinch Small Heart
Macaroons
Nut Cups
Oatmeal Raisin
Peanut Butter Kiss
Peppermint
Sesame Cookies
Shortbread
Snickerdoodles
Sugar Cut-out
Thumbprint
Slovak Cookies:
Vianočka
Rožky
Vanilkové Rohliky/
Russian Tea Cakes
("Snowball")

Christmas Novena Begins Tuesday, December 26
Cards are Available in English and Slovak in the
Parish Office on Weekdays and after Masses on Weekends!

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the Most Precious Gift Anyone can Receive!



Heart of St. Joseph Men's Fellowship

Wednesday, December 6

Men of Faith, Unite! Please join us as we strengthen each other in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity. The Bible is a divine gift given to strengthen us, to train us in righteousness and to bring us to salvation. Inspired by God through the Holy Spirit, the words of Scripture communicate the very Word of God to us! It is an indispensable weapon on our everyday battlefields.

The next meeting will be held on December 6 from 6:30PM-7:20PM in the Overflow Room. This session we will be praying lectio divina as a group, and our focus will be Genesis 2:15-25.

Enter the church through the main doors closest to the sanctuary and find the room at the end of the hallway. Catechism will be in session, so please heed the posted signs and DO NOT enter through the doors by the Fr. Mikus hall. Subsequent meetings to be listed in future bulletins.

For any questions or concerns please contact:

clifford_haynes@hotmail.com

Study materials are provided free of charge at the meeting. All men of the parish are welcome to join us! We look forward to seeing you there!

Reporting Sexual Abuse

The Archdiocese of Detroit encourages individuals to report clergy sexual abuse of minors and others – no matter when the abuse occurred. Individuals may contact local law enforcement authorities and/or they may report to the Archdiocese of Detroit by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (866) 343-8055 or by emailing: vac@aod.org. In addition the Michigan Attorney General's Office can be contacted at its toll-free reporting hotline at (844) 324-3374 (Monday through Friday from 8:00AM-5:00PM) or by email at: aginvestigations@michigan.gov.

More information about the AOD's efforts to address abuse may be found at protect.aod.org.

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Detroitská Arcidiecéza povzbudzuje jednotlivcov, ktorí by vedeli o prípadoch sexuálneho obťažovania mladistvých zo strany kleru, aby ich ohlásili bez ohľadu na to, kedy sa tieto prípady vyskytli. Jednotlivci môžu kontaktovať orgány činné v trestnom konaní, alebo upovedomiť Detroitškú Arcidiecézu prostredníctvom koordinátora pre pomoc obetiam na tel. čísle 866-343-8055, alebo emailom vac@aod.org. Úrad generálneho prokurátora v Michigane možno kontaktovať na bezplatnom telefónnom čísle 844-324-3374 (od pondelka do piatku, od 8:00 do 17:00), alebo emailom aginvestigations@michigan.gov. Viac informácií o snahe Detroitskej Arcidiecézy predchádzať zneužívaniu je k dispozícii na adrese protect.aod.org.

### Life Teen Youth Ministry & EDGE Grade School Ministry

The next Life Night takes place on Monday, December 11, and the next EDGE Night takes place on Thursday, December 14. Details about each night will be outlined in next week's bulletin and can now be found on our website:

www.saintcyrils.church

TO REGISTER FOR LIFE TEEN or EDGE,  
PLEASE SCAN CODE ON LEFT

Questions? Please contact:

Heidi Normile, Youth Minister, (586) 641-7672

edge@saintcyrils.church or

lifeteen@saintcyrils.church

Scan to  
register!



## Handmade QUILT RAFFLE DECEMBER 17

How would you like to win a handmade quilt just in time for Christmas?

The Rosary Society is sponsoring a:

**Handmade Quilt Raffle** featuring:

**6 Handmade Quilts & 6 Handmade Lap Blankets**

Each ticket has 12 chances to win!

Tickets are \$2 each or a book of six for \$10!

Raffle Date & Time:

Sunday of the Cookie Walk, December 17, 2:00PM

Tickets may be purchased in the Parish Office, from a Rosary Society member, or after all Holy Masses next weekend, December 2 & 3.

Questions: Kathy Holka, (586) 703-4043

## Christmas Decorations

This weekend, artificial wreaths (20", 30", 36" & 48"), swags, garland, decorative picks and sprays will be available for purchase after all Holy Masses to help you get ready for the holidays.

Please stop by the Fr. Mikus Hall to take a look at the beautiful quality, affordable Christmas items we have to offer!



### Retirement Fund for Religious • December 9 & 10

Elderly religious need your help. Nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated their lives to serving others by praying for us, ministering to all, educating the young, caring for those who are sick and helping those in need — usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation at the Holy Masses next weekend, December 9 & 10, will make a real difference by providing essential care, medicine and other necessities.

Envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please make checks payable to "Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish".

Thank you for your generosity.

### Catechism Corner

**Wednesday, December 6, 6:15PM:**

Class

**Wednesday, December 13, 6:15PM:**

Class (Catechism Christmas Party)

**Wednesday, December 20:**

No Class

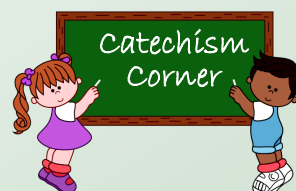
**Wednesday, December 27:**

No Class

Catechism questions, please contact:

Paul & Carroll Schuller, (586) 726-6911

p\_schuller@yahoo.com or cschuller@saintcyrils.church



THE FRIENDS OF THE UKRAINIAN BANDURIST CHORUS  
and the musicians of  
THE UKRAINIAN BANDURIST CHORUS OF NORTH AMERICA  
cordially invite you to



# A UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS

CONCERT AND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 7:30PM**  
SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH

Experience a 90-minute Christmas program featuring  
Musicians from across North America led by  
Artistic Director and Conductor, Oleh Mahlay

Tickets and more information at:

**[www.bandura.org/events](http://www.bandura.org/events)**

## Mark Your Calendars

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### 4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday, December 23:

5:30PM

Sunday, December 24:

7:30AM, 9:30AM & 11:30AM (Slovak)

#### NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve:

4:00PM (with Living Nativity) &

Midnight Mass

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day:

7:30AM, 9:30AM,

11:30AM (Slovak) & 5:30PM



### \*CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, December 19:

10:00AM-12:00PM &

6:00PM-9:00PM

(\*Many Priests Available)

## Adoration ~ Come Let Us Adore Him

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: THURSDAY, 1:00PM - FRIDAY, 12:00PM**

### A HEARTS DEEPEST LONGING

Polls have shown that more than half of professing Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. We have discussed many different avenues as to why that is the case and offered some practical advice for consideration. We can be intellectually convinced that the self-same Jesus who walked the earth nearly 2000 years ago is the same Jesus we see under the appearance of bread of wine at every Holy Mass. But like the term goes, the longest journey is from the head to the heart.

The great St. Augustine of Hippo once told his listeners, "You (his listeners) say to me, 'help us to understand so that we may believe'. But I say to you, 'believe so that you may understand.'" This holds true for us today just as much as when St. Augustine said it over 15 centuries earlier. If you have been validly baptized you have been infused with the virtue of faith. This means God freely gave to you this virtue without you having to work at strengthening it as we would work through trial and error to perfect the virtue of patience, or prudence, fortitude or temperance.

Faith is the acceptance of the word of another, trusting that one knows what the other is saying and is honest in telling the truth. We exercise faith on a daily basis even outside the realm of the spiritual. We have faith in the word of our automakers that they knew what they were doing when making our vehicle. We have faith in our doctors that they know what they're saying when diagnosing us. So faith is not alien to us.

The question is do you have faith in what Jesus and His Church said of the Blessed Sacrament? Do you choose what to believe and what not to believe according to your own understanding? Do you believe Christ's words are hit and miss, as in some are true and trustworthy and some we can take with a grain of salt? Or is it all or nothing?

Jesus gave us an ultimatum in the book of Revelation. We're either in or out, there is no in-between. He says of the lukewarm, "So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth (Rev. 3:16)." It is up to us to use this infusion of faith which God gave to us and believe in all He taught us or nothing at all.

- Paul A. Ray



**If you have questions about Eucharistic Adoration, please contact: Annette Rudzewicz, (586) 247-7214**