 in the joy of your heart." (Isiah 30:30). Today's Gospel sheds the undimmable light of the voice in the wilderness, preparing the Lord's way. That voice is none other than John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus, and herald of God's promise fulfilled. It describes John as a radical, unassuming, wild man of sorts. Yet all the same, he had a following (including eventual followers of Jesus) because the truth holds no assumptions, no agenda, no popularity contest.. It just IS. As attributed to St. Augustine, "the truth is like a lion, you have only to set it free and it will defend itself." Coincidently, the symbol of Mark's Gospel (where our reading is from today) is a lion because of John's zealous proclamation of truth, "Prepare the way of the Lord!" Are we ready for him?

Fun fact: each Gospel writer has a symbol attached to it.
Matthew: A Man, signifying the genealogy of Jesus that begins his Gospel and His human lineage.
Mark: A Lion because of it's opening from John the Baptist, unapologetically strong, like a lion of truth! Luke: An Ox because Zachariah (John the Baptist's father) was sacrificing an Ox at the beginning of his Gospel when Gabriel appeared to him. John: An Eagle because of his understanding of God's light of Truth like an eagle's ability to stare straight into the sun.

December 12th~ Our Lady of Guadalupe


Tuesday December 11th... By now the Christmas trees at St. Colette have been up for quite some time! You'll see them soon enough... for now we wait! Perhaps a tree adorns your home as well with the tradition of just how that occurs - real or fake, white or colored lights, homemade or decretive ornaments, or both, a star or an angel. A German tradition, the Christmas Tree is a sign of life amidst dead of winter, color amidst the brown of a dormant season. As Christians, the symbolism of this is so obvious, and on a personal level for each of us, so meaningful. As you enjoy the glow from your tree tonight or anticipate the coming occasion you decorate it... or remember the memories from Christmas trees of yester year, let that life revive your spirit and the colors refresh your perspective on the rest of the week. A "Golden Hail Mary" is said to be one prayed with one's whole mind, heart, and soul, priceless in Mary's eyes. In honor of this feast day and of Elizabeth's greeting to Mary in today's Gospel, let's pray a Golden Hail Mary today- heart, soul, mind. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## Wednesday December 13th - The Feast of St. \&ucy

Sweden in particular, though many European countries celebrate Santa Lucia Day! (St. Lucy Day) with lots of Christmasy festivities centered around light. St. Lucy is the patron saint of eyes and blindness. It is said that she used to bring food to the imprisoned and illumined the path to the cells with a candle wreath she placed on her head. At many Santa Lucia festivals, someone plays the roll of St. Lucy wearing this iconic wreath. May her glorious martyrdom, life for Christ, and undimmable light of God illumine our Advent journey. St. Lucy, pray for us!
Saint Lucy's Prayer:
Saint Lucy, you did not hide your light under a basket, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation -- every corner of our day. Amen

## Thursday December 14thSt. John of the Crodis

May I never boast, except in the Cross of Our Lord, Jesus Christ (Galatians 6:14). Come to daily Mass today at 11am, or if you can't, stop by the church today.... And if you can't, the next time you're here, be sure to pop in our Mary Chapel (off the back sacristy). There's a beautiful painting of St. John of the Cross hanging there. It serves as a beautiful reminder that our lives are not meant to be comfortable... but COMFORTED by the love of a savior who knows just how we feel.

## Saturday December 16th

On this the eve of the third Sunday of Advent, let us call to mind how blessed we are to be Christian, to be Catholic... to walk these days of preparation for Christmas with not only the "Christmas magic" of the North Pole, but of the Light of Truth, Wonder, Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace who's real, who's light, who's Emmanuel... God with us! Don't forget that in your Monday through Saturday, in a wish of a "happy holiday" over a MERRY CHRISTMAS, in your holiday plans on $12 / 25$... He's the reason, He's the light, and he loves you so much!... Allow Him to be a part of you.

Thank you St. John of the Cross for your witness to that love... pray for us!

Friday December 15th...
10 days to go!! How's the shopping going? Have you finished your baking, started wrapping, have the kids seen Santa, don't forget the cards, the giving tree, the company party, recitals, and ... How's your heart doing? How's your advent prayer? Is there room for Jesus in your Christmas? There's a beautiful song by Casting Crowns called "Make Room." Give it a listen... in a quiet moment on your own. Give it a listen... make some room.


My dear friends in Christ,
This second week of Advent, as we light the second candle on the Advent wreath, we pray for PEACE.

How desperately our world needs PEACE with all the conflicts and war that abound. And so, we pray. We ask God to bring peace to our hearts and to our families and to our homes. From this epicenter of God's grace, we extend His peace to our neighborhoods, workplace and to all those we meet.

May we encounter GOD'S PEACE here at St. Colette as a constant outpouring of courage and strength. It flows from the altar to our souls and beyond.

PEACE, that is what we pray for this week putting everything in God's hands acknowledging our total dependence on Him.

God bless you!
PEACE,
Fn fin

Thank you! To all who helped make Christmas Village a wonderful day for the little ones of our parish. Special mention goes to Dusty and Patty Shell and their dedicated kitchen staff, Matt Lombardo, Jo-El Fuller and the kids of Pray and Play, The Holy Name Society for their time, talent, and treasure in "Gingerbread Land," and all of the amazing volunteers. Thank you for bringing your light, and your spirit to our Christmas at St. Colette! Until next time!


## Sacred

Art... a lens to the eternal...
There's actually a whole section in the Catechism of the Catholic Church dedicated to the importance of Sacred Art. Truth is beauty, and beautiful art, music, movements and the like lead us, draw us closer to the Eternal One. You may have appreciated the beauty of St. Colette in her art and decorations throughout Advent. Thanks to the time and talents of Helena Piller, our Church glistens with the glory of God. Every flower, evergreen, and sparkle has been placed as her form of prayer... and how beautiful! Thank you for sharing your prayer with us, Helena, and allowing us to enter into the truth more deeply through your art. May God bless the work of your hands!

## PSCF CORNER

The Second Graders are preparing to experience God's love and forgiveness in the Sacrament of
Reconciliation, and to receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. They have been learning the Ten Commandments, the Act of Contrition Prayer and how they can grow in love for God and others!

The Second Graders have also begun preparing for the Advent Season, creating their own Advent wreaths to take home and to recite with their family, the accompanying prayers. They will be using the Kindness Advent Calendars to countdown the days to Christmas and spreading kindness during the Season!


## THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS WEST

## For Adults 40 \& Over Join us Monday, Dec. 11 at

 Copper Cup (Ironwood Café) 688 Dover Center in Westlake. Sacred Art in Liturgy! Join us as Fr. Terry Grachanin, Pastor at St. Noel Parish Willoughby Hills, discusses: Beauty: A Glimpse of Eternity

Cost is $\$ 15.00$ per person which includes light appetizers \& refreshments. Cash Bar is also available. Advance tickets highly recommended as space is limited. Register in advance: www.theologyontherockswest.com
Doors open at 6:30pm.
Program begins at 7pm.

# ATTENTION * ALTAR SERVERS 

Please sign up, based on your availability, for Christmas Mass times in the Vesting Sacristy before or after Mass! Thank you!
$\square$
Oplatki are shared on Christmas Eve with the head of the table saying a prayer, thanking God for the family's blessings and asking forgiveness of anyone he or she has injured. A piece of the oplatek (singluar form of oplatki ) is broken off and shared, then the oplatek is passed to the next person and the ritual repeats itself.

Oplatki are available in the Atrium.

## 

A concert by Music Ministry<br>On December 18th at 7:00PM

Join us for a beautiful evening of uplifting songs of the Season with Cindy, Ralph, Todd, Erin, Claudia, Sara, and CHRIS (home for the holidays)!!
Special guest pianist, John Blasko BACK, Cleveland Music Sensation:
"Becky Boyd" (Claudia's Mom)
An evening you won't want to miss!
Join us for a Christmas Cookie and coffee reception in
Corbie Hall to follow! Make it extra specially sweet and bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share! You may drop them off at the Parish Office on Dec. 17 or 18th!


## St. Colette's Confirmation

 Class and Pray and Play... a gift to the parish!Confirmation calls us to witness to our faith, what we've learned, and the joy of the Lord who created us. It calls us to serve those around us and be a part of $\mathrm{CH} U R C \mathrm{H}$.
Thank you to members of the class and youth group who assisted in the set-up for Christmas Village and the Advent/Christmas season.
Keep shining your faith, keep living your witness! Our next Pray \& Play is 12/14 at 7pm... Be a part of something good!

## MASS INTENTIONS \& READINGS

| Tuesday December 12 | Our Lady of Guadalupe |  | 11:00AM | $\dagger$ | Aaron Kerschen | Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Thursday December 14 | St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church |  | 11:00AM | $\dagger$ | Maria DeBlasis | Is $41: 13-20 / \mathrm{Ps} 145: 1$ and 9 . 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15 |
| Saturday December 16 | Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent |  | 4:00PM | $\dagger$ | Deacon Thomas Grasson | Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and $3 \mathrm{~b}, 15-16,18-19 / \mathrm{Mt}$ 17:9a, 10-13 |
| Sunday December 17 | The Third Sunday of Advent |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 8:00AM } \\ & \text { 10:00AM } \\ & \text { 11:45AM } \end{aligned}$ | $\dagger$ $\dagger$ $\dagger$ $\dagger$ | Nathan \& Ryan Przeslica Henry Kiernozek Walt Kaltenbach | Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 |
| Additional Weekly Readings |  |  |  | Please pray for those serving in the Military |  |  |
| Monday, December 11 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Is } 35: 1-10 / \text { Ps } 85: 9 a b \text { and } 10 \text {, } \\ & 11-12,13-14 / L k 5: 17-26 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Wednesday, December 13 |  | Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 |  |  |  |  |
| Friday, Decemb |  | Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/M+ 11:16-19 |  |  |  |  |
| Our friends and relativeswho are ill. May God grantthem Healing and strength. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Please email updates to nschrader@stcoletteparish.com |  |  |

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& \text { Rev. Mr. Scott Cerrito } \\
& \text { Permanent Deacon } \\
& \text { SCerrito@stcoletteparish.com } \\
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& \text { Sacramental Assistance } \\
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& \text { Nathan Smee | Damian Webb } \\
& \text { Building \& Grounds } \\
& \text { (Contact Parish Office) } \\
& \text { Sunday School: Aileen Armstrong } \\
& \text { PSCF Directors: Larry \& Chris Pizon } \\
& \text { Becoming Catholic: Lisa Radey } \\
& \text { Baptism Class: Sara Kronholz } \\
& \text { Pre-Cana: Lisa Radey }
\end{aligned}
$$

Holy Mass: Sat. 4pm | Sun. 8AM, 10AM, 11:45AM
Tues. \& Thurs. 11 AM

## Reconciliation: Sat. 3-3:30PM

Baptism: After 11:45AM Mass on the second \& fourth Sunday of the month. Baptism class required for first child.
Matrimony: Congratulations! Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with the priest!
Anointing of the Sick: Contact Parish Office
Holy Orders: Connect with Father to learn more about discernment!

## CONNECT WITH US!

Address: 330 W. 130th Street | Brunswick, OH 44212
Parish Office: 330-273-5500
PSCF Office: 330-273-1355
Sacramental Emergencies: Option 9 after hours
Office \& Gift Shop Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9a-5p | Fri. 9a-3p Sat. CLOSED | Sun. 8:30a-1p
Closed 12:00-12:45pm Daily for Lunch

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Contact Parish Office Lectors: Christina Dinklocker - 330-421-2883 Altar Servers: Renate Elber - 330-273-1567 Ushers: Glen Stout - 440-773-9183

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Sara Kronholz | Cindy Indovina | Claudia Schieve | Ralph Holstein Chris Charlillo |Todd Schrader | Erin August | Greg Paparizos

## SPIRITUAL \& SOCIAL

Senior Christian Travelers: Bill \& Joni Dyer - Contact Parish Office OLPH Prayer Ministry: Karen \& Tom Bandwen - 330-239-0120 Catholic Works of Mercy with St. Ambrose: 330-460-7300 Youth Ministry: Matt Lombardo - Contact Parish Office Daughters of St. Colette: Lillian Morisky - 216-534-1948 Holy Name Society: Don Feverstein - 216-338-3457 Brothers in Faith: Mark Henderson - 630-886-1890 Widows Web: Renee Arasim - 216-215-3092 Care Ministry: Cathy Thies - 440-429-0181 cchurch.com |Facebook.com/StColette



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