



**Fr. Fox's Forum** *Festival update.* I'm a little late following up on this. We had a good meeting several weeks ago with our key volunteers, and many observations, ideas and suggestions were reviewed. I wanted to be there, but I got double-booked. Because we have so many weddings here (which is great), that means I have a lot of meetings with engaged couples; and because of their schedules, many of those meetings happen on Saturdays and Sundays. But it's my fault for not staggering my meetings a little better so I might at least have been at part of the festival discussion.

The discussion was good. There's no question we need more volunteers—in the five parishes I've been associated with as a priest, that is always a problem. And there is no debate about our desire to make our silent auction more successful, and we are developing some ideas for doing that.

Meanwhile, we had the normal differences of opinion about music! This may be the hardest thing because what appeals to one group won't appeal to another. We'll see what we can do to strike a good balance.

So while there is more planning to do for next year, I think we're doing the right thing thinking about it well in advance.

*The Pope goes to confession every 2 weeks!* Good for the pope; that's better than I do, so pray for me to follow his good example! How about you? We have an Advent Penance Service Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7 pm. We'll begin with exposition of the Holy Eucharist, and during a time of adoration, we will have four priests to hear confessions. Also, remember we have confessions every Saturday at 3:30 pm and Sundays at 10 am.

*Immaculate Conception.* Because Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Monday, Dec. 9 this year, it's not an obligatory holy day—but it's still a holy day. And it is one of our parish feast days. This was the day our church was consecrated in 1869. We'll have one Mass that evening at 7 pm and our choir will take part. We'll try to make it as special as we can in honor of the moment when Mary was conceived without sin in the womb of Saint Ann, her mother—*Fr. Fox.*



**Please Join In The Celebration**

On next Sunday, December 8th during the 8:00 a.m. Mass Mr. Tony Baker will be Confirmed and celebrate his First Holy Communion. Please join us after the Mass in the parish center for brunch and to congratulate Tony.

**Confirmation**

**HCI Young Adults - Soul Supper**

Since the first Soul Supper was such a success the HCI Young Adults have scheduled a second Soul Supper for Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00pm tentatively at Next Chapter, 940 Pavilion Street in Mt. Adams. The evening will begin at 6:00pm with a social hour. At 7:00pm Fr. Fox will make a presentation on a topic of interest, followed by an open forum of comments and questions. The evening will wrap up at 8:00pm. For more information contact Paul Stenger at [hciyoungadults@fuse.net](mailto:hciyoungadults@fuse.net).



**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, November 30 - Anticipation-First Sunday of Advent**  
4:30 p.m. MARCELLA ELFERS Birthday Remembrance (Roy & Dixie)

**Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent**  
8:00 a.m. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
11:00 a.m. STANLEY & NORA SCHACK AND WM & MARY BIETING (Mary Kay Arnold)

**Monday, December 2 - Blessed Rafal Chylinski**  
*No Mass*

**Tuesday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier**  
8:00 a.m. MARY STICKLEY (Nancy Savage)  
6:00 p.m. ED BERNINGER (Mike & Gayle McCafferty)

**Wednesday, December 4 - St. John Damascene**  
8:00 a.m. RONALD SMITH (Carol Smith)

**Thursday, December 5 - St. Sabas**  
*No Mass*

**Friday, December 6 - St. Nicholas First Friday**  
8:00 a.m. JEANNE "CHICK" RIESENBECK (Ray & Carol Simpson)

**Saturday, December 7 - Anticipation- Second Sunday of Advent**  
4:30 p.m. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

**Sunday, December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent**  
8:00 a.m. RAY "BUD" FETICK (Paul & Sally Simon)  
11:00 a.m. ROBERT CHERRINGTON (Roy & Dixie)

**This Sunday** the 11:00 Mass time will permanently change to **10:30.**



Second Collection  
**Retirement Fund For Religious**  
December 7th and 8th  
For more information go to [www.retiredreligious.org](http://www.retiredreligious.org)

**Christmas Flowers And Music**  
Each year the expense for our Christmas décor is offset by generous donations to the Christmas Flower Fund. Donations may be made in honor of or in memory of loved ones and are acknowledged in our Christmas Eve/Day bulletin and Worship Aid. You also may chose to support our Christmas music ministry - just write "music" on your envelope.

**Envelope** users will find envelopes provided in parishioner contribution packets or simply place your donation in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket.

**Faith Direct** participants can access their account and select *Christmas Flowers\** and then enter your donation amount. The donation designation can be placed in the *Notes* section.

Deadline for acknowledgement in the Christmas Bulletin is **Sunday, December 15th.**

**Pastoral Council Elections-Still Open To Nominations**

The Pastoral Council is charged with assisting the Pastor in the planning to carry out the mission of our Church. In November of each year elections are to be held for two of the nine members of the Council. A third person is appointed each year by the Pastor. Please consider becoming a candidate for election. If you are interested in being considered as a candidate or if you have any questions, please contact Fr. Fox at the parish office.

**Gifts of Financial Participation November 23, 2013**

Envelopes (105)	
Sunday Collection	\$3,617.00
EFT/Credit Card	\$709.00*
Votive	\$124.00
Other Revenue	\$698.00
<b>Total Regular Revenue</b>	<b>\$5,148.00</b>

Weekly Average: \$5,204.64

\*Reflects electronic donations received once per month.  
Designated Monthly - Reported Once  
Designated Weekly - Portion Reported Each Week

**Fight Poverty in America. Defend Human Dignity.**



**Catholic Campaign For Human Development**

**Thank you** for your contributions to the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Your generous gifts will help CCHD end poverty in America through better education, improved housing, and overall economic development. Through CCHD and its beneficiaries, we manifest Catholic social teaching and carry out Jesus' mission to "bring glad tidings to the poor . . . to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free" (Lk 4:18).

**Ringing of Bells - Holy Cross-Immaculata Church**

*When the bells ring in our tower, may they be a reminder to all of your unconditional love and ever-abiding presence in every moment of our lives. May they ring to celebrate the faith you inspire within us. May they ring to call all of us to discipleship in Christ.*

BELLS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE



To schedule a special bell ringing date or gift sponsorship opportunities email [bells@hcparish.org](mailto:bells@hcparish.org) or call (513)721-6544.

Weekday-\$10.00, Weekend-\$15.00, Holy Day-\$25.00

**HILLTOPPERS**

Join the Hilltoppers on Wednesday, **December 11<sup>th</sup>** for a visit to Krohn Conservatory to see the holiday displays and programs, including a live nativity. The day will begin with Mass at 9:00 a.m. at HCI and conclude with lunch at the restaurant at the Cincinnati Art Museum. To RSVP or arrange for transportation call Nancy Feldman at 513.621.9152.

**Giving Tree 2013 - Be Someone's Secret Santa!**

Our Giving Tree is back! This year our Giving Tree will again focus on three groups of recipients - Hope Emergency, Old St. Mary's (OSM), and Tender Mercies . It is easy to participate - just select an ornament, go shopping and prepare the gift according to the agency guidelines (provided at the side exits). Return date is on the back of each ornament. Additional information on the table near the side exit.



**Let Us Know!**

If you know of a parishioner that is hospitalized, having surgery, sick, home bound, etc. please contact Elaine Fuell with our Outreach Ministry at the parish office.

**UPCOMING RCIA SESSIONS**

Location: St. Xavier Church, 607 Sycamore St, (513) 721-4045  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Date: December 3, 2013

**History of the Christian Community and the Church**

Presenter: Fr. David Endres

Date: December 10, 2013

**8: The Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic**

Presenter: TBA

All parishioners are welcome to attend RCIA sessions!



- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 12/01 Craig Rossi        | 12/06 Stephen Hancox |
| 12/02 Michael McCafferty | Cheri Linz           |
| Jenny Sandmann           | Ella Weber           |
| Edward Schultz           | 12/07 Mick Bryson    |
| 12/03 Beckham Hyslop     | 12/08 Janet Eichberg |
| Theresa Klein            | Rebecca Stanley      |
| Bess Platen              | Jacob Wetzel         |
| Jeffrey Schloemer        | 12/09 Bill Moran     |
| Coby Sweeney             | Kevin Schuitema      |
| Jennifer Sweeney         | 12/10 Matthew Wolke  |
| 12/04 Laura Cassidy      | 12/11 Josh Ruth      |
| Vincent Gibley           | 12/12 Matthew Devitt |
| Jeanne Harper            | Mike Hyslop          |
| 12/05 Molly McDaniel     | Mary Litzenger       |
| Eric Oelgoetz            | Barbara Mackison     |



**Advent & Christmas Mass Schedule**

**December 9, 2013**

*Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

7:00PM

*Not A Holy Day of Obligation*

**December 24, 2013**

*Nativity of the Lord, Vigil of Christmas*

Vigil Mass at 4:30PM

**December 25, 2013**

*Nativity of the Lord, Christmas Day*

Mass at Midnight - 12:00AM (prelude at 11:30PM)

Mass during the Day - 10:00AM

The **Advent Penance Service** will be this Thursday, **December 5th at 7:00 pm.** The following priests will be available to hear confessions:

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Fr. Martin Fox     | Fr. Earl Fernandes    |
| Fr. Kyle Schnipple | Fr. Cy Whitaker, S.J. |



**HCI Calendars Available**

The 2014 Holy Cross-Immaculata calendars are available at the exits of the Church.

Thank you to **Schaefer Busby Danner Funeral Home** for continuing their sponsorship of our parish calendar year after year.

