

God-like work of putting bread on their family's table.

The invisible, almost anonymous Joseph: chosen by God to provide for his Son, to watch over him, to shape him, to protect and love him and the boy's mother.

[Adapted from **Awake My Soul: Contemporary Catholics on Traditional Devotions** by Paul Mariani.]

In today's Gospel --- Matthew's version of Jesus' birth --- the whole grand event depends on Joseph, whose life has been turned upside down by the angel's news. Joseph accepts the son as his own, not as a matter of biology, but as a matter of love and compassion, of trust and faith. God's birth in our midst depends on human partners --- a Mary, a Joseph, you, me --- willing to claim the unwanted, love the helpless and neediest, put aside our fears and dare to hope that God is with us. In this season and in every season, may we imitate the compassion and faith of Joseph: to seek understanding and acceptance within our families even at the cost of our own expectations and hopes, to be sources of affirmation and support for our spouses and children.

WEEKEND MINISTRY ASSIGNMENT
Saturday, Dec. 25 No 5:00 PM Mass

Sunday, Dec. 26 7:30 AM at St. T.
 Communion Dist: Don Kuether
 Lector: Michelle Kuether
 Usher: Tony Kuether
 Vern Monnin
 Server: Ben Kuether
 Matthew Kuether

Sunday, Dec. 26 9:00 AM at I. C.
 Communion Dist: Rose Roeth
 Lector: Shirley Gerling
 Usher: Fred Roeth
 Server: Stephanie Sanders
 Katelyn Gade

Sunday, Dec. 26 10:30 AM at St. T.
 Communion Dist: Anne Vanderhorst
 Ron Vanderhorst
 Todd Vanderhorst
 Eric Vanderhorst
 Bev Yount
 Lector: Jim Hartzell
 Usher: Doug Yount
 Kevin Rindler
 Server: Rachael Rindler
 Jenna Rindler

DECEMBER 19, 2010
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

BAPTISMS: Contact pastor at 473-2970

WEDDINGS: Contact pastor at least six months in advance of wedding date.

RECONCILIATION:
 AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH
 on 2nd, 4th, & 5th Saturday from 4:00-4:30 pm

AT SAINT TERESA PARISH
 on 1st & 3rd Saturday from 4:00-4:30 pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
 Contact: Elaine Christian 473-2413
 Fr. Simons 473-2970

YOUTH MINISTRY:
 Contact: Alan Capasso 417-2839

R.C.I.A.: Normally done during the school year
Contact pastor for more information.
PASTOR: REV. JIM SIMONS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 448-6220
 ST. TERESA 473-2970

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:
 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 PRES. Patches Trevino 448-2830
 SEC. Sue Vickroy 448-2844
 Pat Smith 448-0404
 Bob Dean 548-0628
 Jerry Paulus 526-4232

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:
 ST. TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS
 PRES. Paul Webb 570-0266
 V.P. Bob Lyons 773-9744
 SEC. Maria Otte 564-3290
 Marcia Lyle 473-5442
 Gerry Monnin 473-5482



Established: 1875

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
 200 CLAY STREET
 BRADFORD, OHIO 45308



Established: 1950

ST. TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS
 6925 W. U.S. ROUTE 36
 COVINGTON, OHIO 45318
 www.stteresacovington.org

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON 12/20 8:30 AM
Immaculate Conception
Mary Rogers

TUES 12/21 8:30 AM
Immaculate Conception
Frank Heider

WED 12/22 8:30 AM
St. Teresa Parish
Stan Hindmarch

THU 12/23 8:30 AM
St. Teresa Parish
Stan Hindmarch

FRI 12/24 6:00 PM
St. Teresa Parish
Greg & Rita Holthaus

SAT 12/25 12:00 AM
Immaculate Conception
Amos & Dorothy Carine
Family
9:00 AM
Immaculate Conception
Mattie Leonard
10:30 AM
St. Teresa Parish
Jean Meyer

SUN 12/26 7:30 AM
St. Teresa Parish
Stan Hindmarch
9:00 AM
Immaculate Conception
For the Parishes
10:30 AM
St. Teresa Parish
Howard Slusher

PARISH PRAYER CHAINS:

Immaculate Conception Church - contact Shirley Richard at 448-2936 to activate the prayer chain.

St. Teresa Parish - contact Boots Speer at 473-2872 to activate the prayer chain.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
December 5, 2010 \$ 476.00
Carpet Fund - 12/12/10 \$ 20.00

ST. TERESA PARISH
December 12, 2010 \$ 761.55
Religious Retirement \$ 136.00

BC YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Dec. 19th - Meet at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall.

Seven youth have signed up to go to the March for Life rally in Washington DC. Your financial support and continued prayers, for these and all our youth, are appreciated.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Women and men religious throughout the country offer heartfelt thanks for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift makes a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

IC CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The children of Immaculate Conception Parish will be presenting the Christmas program "All I Want For Christmas Is Jesus" on Sunday, December 19th at 7:00 pm, with refreshments following. All classes will be participating. All parents and members of the parish are invited to attend.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Memorial flower envelopes for Christmas are on top of the organ at Immaculate Conception and in the back of the church at St. Teresa. Deadline for turning them in is December 19th. Name list will be printed in the bulletin.

ST. TERESA CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The St. Teresa CCD classes will be putting on a Christmas pageant at the 6:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

QUILT TRIP

A three day trip to visit Amish Country has been planned for March 16-19, 2011, and will include two days at the AQS Quilt Show, dinner theatre and visits to the surrounding area. Please contact Sue Vickroy at 448-2844 for details.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve**
6:00 pm at St. Teresa
Children's Mass
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day**
12:00 am (Midnight) at I.C.
9:00 am at I.C.
10:30 am at St. Teresa
No evening Mass
- Dec. 26 Holy Family**
7:30 am at St. Teresa
9:00 am at I.C.
10:30 am at St. Teresa
- Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary**
8:30 am at St. Teresa
Not a Holy Day of Obligation

**May you be blessed this Christmas
Season as we celebrate the birth
of our Savior!**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home...She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:18-24

CONNECTIONS:

Joseph in 10,000 places

He taught his young son how to follow the grain of a piece of olive wood, how to plane it, how to square it and join it firmly to another piece of wood to build a table or chair or, later, a house; he also taught him patience, kindness and justice, and the value of earning a fair day's wages for a fair day's work in order to put bread on the table. Joseph, to paraphrase Gerard Manley Hopkins, "lives in 10,000 places": the man who rises at 2 A.M. to plow deserted snow-clogged roads; the nurse who works the night shift and then a day shift; the cop who walks the lonely beat; the mother with the autistic daughter or paralyzed son; the office worker biting his lip at some slight or racial insensitivity subtly directed at him because he, too, has to put bread on his family's table.

Joseph lives in the sales rep with photos of his wife and kids hanging on the wall inside his cubicle, telling a customer that, as much as he'd like to sell him another car, the customer can still get another couple of years out of the one he's got. Joseph lives in the teacher who gives hours of her time to help the struggling student. Joseph lives in the clerk, the cop, the secretary, the contractor who approach the people they encounter with kindness and respect because they, too, share the