

• FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT •
BLESSED ARE YOU.

• THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD •
**A SAVIOR
 HAS BEEN BORN.**

December 22, 2024

December 25, 2024

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

HOLY SPIRIT FAMILY OF PARISHES
 United in Faith, Hope, and Service to the Community

St. Augustine Church (SA)



St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)



Queen of Martyrs Church (QM)



St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School

138 Gramont Ave. Dayton, OH 45417
 937-268-6391

www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org

Principal: Debra Johnson

Our Vision

“We, the members of the Holy Spirit Family of Parishes, will foster discipleship by making the Eucharist the center of our lives as we form, live, and share our faith.”

Our Lady of Grace Parish (OLOG)



Corpus Christi Church



Our Lady of Mercy Church

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DAY 2024

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Sat., December 21, 2024 *St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

4:30 p.m. at CC

4:00 p.m. at St. B

Sun., December 22, 2024 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:30 a.m. at St. A Stephanie Tozzi +

9:00 a.m. at OLOM

10:30 a.m. at St. B Amato Family +

11:00 a.m. at QM Tim Williams +

Mae & Mike Meyring +

Judi Baker Anniversary

Mon., December 23, 2024 (No Mass or Communion Service) *St. John of Kanty, Priest*

**Christmas Eve -
Tuesday December 24**

· **St. Augustine 4:00 pm Mass**

· **Corpus Christi 5:00 pm Mass**

Timothy Stewart +

**Christmas Day - The Nativity of the Lord
Wednesday December 25**

· **St. Benedict 10:30 am Mass**

· **Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am Mass**

Thurs., December 26, 2024 *St. Stephen, The First Martyr*

8:30 a.m. at QM Carl and Dorothy Mann,
60th Wedding Anniversary

Fri., December 27, 2024 (No Mass or Communion Service) *St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*

Sat., December 28, 2024 *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

4:30 p.m. at CC Ed Finn +

4:00 p.m. at St. B

Sun., December 29, 2024 *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

8:30 a.m. at St. A Kathy Bowers +

9:00 a.m. at OLOM

10:30 a.m. at St. B Jim Driscoll +

11:00 a.m. at QM The Royer Family

- **Prayer Chains, Sacrament of the Sick**
Call office 937-268-6697
- **Weddings, RCIA/RCIC:**
Call office 937-268-6697
- **Baptisms:**
Call office 937-268-6697
Deacons Ken Stewart & Victor Obasuyi,
and Marty Phillips, instructors

Sacrament of Reconciliation

*Saturdays before the 4 p.m. Mass at SB,
or after daily Masses at CC, OLOM, QM
or by appointment.*

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, December 28, 2024 4:30 p.m. at CC

Presider: Fr. Benoit

Lector: Pam Eyink

Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Gill / Dorothy Mann

Server:

Saturday, December 28, 2024 4:00 p.m. at St. B

Note: New time Change

Presider: Fr. Francis

Lectors/Readers:

Petitions: Eucharistic Ministers:

Sunday, December 29, 2024 8:30 a.m. at St. A

Presider: Fr. Francis

Lector: Randall Klotz

Eucharistic Ministers: Joan Cameron, Fran Delegado
Marie Klotz, Jim Adkins

Server: Mary Hickle

Sunday, December 29, 2024 9:00 a.m. at OLOM

Presider: Fr. Benoit

Lectors: Ellen Hopkins

Eucharistic Ministers: Beth and Arthur Siwecki

Server:

Sunday, December 29, 2024 10:30 a.m. at St. B

Presider: Fr. Francis

Lectors: 1st Reader – Jim Lorow
2nd Reader – Emmett Orr

Petitions: Deacon Victor O'Basuyi

Eucharistic Ministers:

Rita Ellicott, Sharon Hairston, Carolyn Day (R);

Susan Smith, Mary O'Basuyi, Robin Craft-Bell (L)

Deacon Victor O'Basuyi (C)

Sunday, December 29, 2024 11:00 a.m. at QM

Presider: Fr. Benoit

Lector: 1-Steve Koob 2–Louann Geel

Eucharistic Ministers: Teresa Huntley / Jim Miller

Server: Carl Meyer

Music Ministers

(SA) Denise Jasek denisejasek@gmail.com

(OLOG / QM) Michael Kastner

mkastner@ourladyofgracedayton.org

(SB) Gabe Lawson gabe.lawson.1609@gmail.com

Religious Education

(SB) Dominique Akpore dakpore@stbenedictdayton.org

(QM) Marty Phillips mphillips@qmdayton.org

Parish Council for Holy Spirit Family of Parishes

Chair: Randall Klotz **Vice Chair:** Consuella Wilson

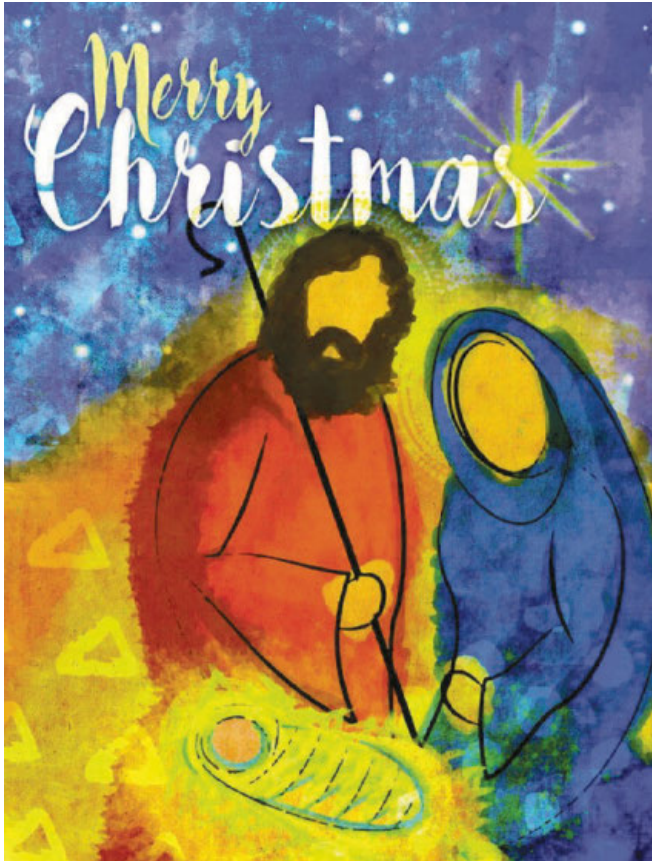
**HOLY SPIRIT FAMILY OF PARISHES
WEEKLY CALENDAR**

THANK YOU
for your generosity

Weekend Collections

To Be updated

Please check
with your various group leaders for
activity schedules through the Holidays!



Please note that due to holiday schedules at our publisher, bulletin deadlines are irregular this time of year. If you want to be certain of when your submission will be published, please call Marty 937-307-3568, and leave a message. I will return your call. The normal schedule will resume after the first week of January.

BULLETIN DEADLINE
Monday at noon

Send bulletin information to:
mphillips@qmdayton.org

PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp
sajares@yahoo.com 937-268-6697 x1002

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Benoit Mukamba, C.S.Sp.
benoit92@ourladyofgracedayton.org
Fr. Benoit Regional Phone: 937-972-3079

Deacons:
Kenneth Stewart krstewart@woh.rr.com
Osagie Victor Obasuyi vobasuyi@yahoo.com

Parish Administrators
Regional Parish Assistant Liz Gadola
lgadola@ourladyofgracedayton.org
(SA/OLG/QM) Fran Delegato frandelegato@gmail.com
(SB) Janice Kwofie admin@untiedinhope.org
(SB) Damita Norton-Green btribejudah@gmail.com
(QM) Marty Phillips mphillips@qmdayton.org

Sacristan and Facilities: (OLG) Natinka Siwecki
nsiwecki@ourladyofgracedayton.org

Bible Studies

St. Benedict Bible Study Beginning October 2nd we will go to a “Virtual” Bible Study session. We will continue virtual for the fall & winter months. We plan to return to “in person” Bible Study after Daylight Savings begins in March 2025

We will use Google Meet as our virtual meeting tool, below is the link information. Start time remains 6:00pm, Wednesday evenings. Holiday seasonal break from Bible Study begins November 20th through 2nd week January 2025.

Hangouts Meet joining info
<https://meet.google.com/hpy-pmvp-fvt>

Or dial: +1 402-921-2290 PIN: 708 666 706#

Queen of Martyrs Bible Study Wednesday Mornings
9:30 am to 11:00 am. McAuley Hall. Year round.

**Join your church family in praying the Rosary
for the community and each other.**

St. Benedict Rosary is every Monday at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary **Dial-In Available at:**

New Dial-In Number: 6677701427 Access Code: 556136

St. Augustine Rosary is in person every Wednesday a 6:30 pm. Holy Hour every First Thursday of the month

Queen of Martyrs Rosary is in person every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., just before the 11:00 a.m.. Mass

PASTOR'S CORNER

4th Sunday of Advent

The Blessed Virgin teaches us the secret to being blessed, happy, and full of joy. When Elizabeth, her cousin, greets her, she calls Mary “blessed” for two reasons, her motherhood of Jesus, and Our Lady’s belief that “there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord” (Luke 1:45). Mary is “blessed” entirely because of her relationship to the Incarnation of God in Jesus, and for no other. This of course makes perfect sense, because as the Lord, as God-in-the-flesh, her son is the source of all blessedness, life, and joy. Mary is blessed because of her contact with Jesus, and by her faith in him.

So, it is with us, too. We become blessed by our “motherly” contact with Christ in our souls through baptism. He lives in us and grows to maturity within us. We bear him to the world. This requires unshakeable faith that his promises to us will be fulfilled, despite all the problems and difficulties that plague us. We become blessed, happy, and joyful in the measure that we are in contact with Jesus and trust in him.

Advent challenges: 1.) This week go to someone who has borne the love of Jesus to you and tell her or him how they have been a blessing to you. 2.) Name someone in your life now to whom God has sent you to bring Jesus’ presence. Pray: “Lord, thank you for the blessing of sending me to bring your presence to this person. Help me bear you faithfully to him/her.”

— Father John Muir



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Hidden Truth

If you have ever been visibly pregnant, chances are that someone, somewhere, whom you do not know, has reached out to touch your stomach.

I’ve had this happen to me, and sure, it’s a little strange. Generally, I prefer people to ask before they touch me. But it’s also very sweet, this great mystical excitement inspired by a pregnant belly. We know that belly is special. We know enclosed within it is hope and potential — the very future of our world. Hidden, but real. How can we help but venerate it?

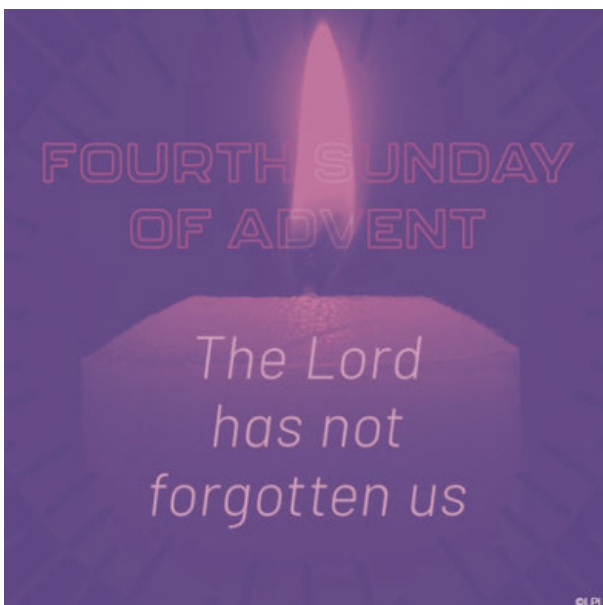
It’s why the pregnant Madonna is my favorite devotional image. I even prefer it over the depictions of the Madonna and Child because I find in the sight of Mary’s swollen belly more to meditate upon than I find in the unveiled face of the Christ Child. Salvation and redemption, enclosed in flesh, moving, and growing and breathing, but I cannot see it. It’s real and it’s true and it’s there.

And it is hidden.

There is much about God that we know with certainty. But there is so much that remains beyond our sight, beyond our comprehension. Questions of evil and sorrow. Pain and tragedy. Life and death. Why don’t we have all the answers? We grow very impatient about this. We’re like teenagers who want to be trusted with all the family secrets. We hate feeling left out of the loop.

But truth, like life, does not come to us showing its face. Perhaps this is because we could not bear its terrible beauty. Perhaps it’s because we would not recognize it if it was laid bare for us to see.

But it’s there, right in front of us. We can reach out and touch it. We may not see it. We may not understand it. But we can know it.



DECEMBER 22—25, 2024

CHURCH INFORMATION

St. Augustine Church

6939 Weaver Rd. (Church), Germantown, OH 45327
6891 Weaver Rd. (Rectory)
937-855-2289 Email csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com
Website catholicsmart.com

St. Benedict the Moor Church

519 Liscum Dr., Dayton, OH 45417
937-268-6697 Email admin@unitedinhope.org
Website unitedinhope.org
Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday 10:00 to 2:00 pm

Our Lady of Grace

Corpus Christi Church Our Lady of Mercy Church
527 Forest Ave. 533 Odlin Ave.
Dayton, OH 45405 Dayton, OH 45405
Our Lady of Grace Parish Center (Office)
220 W. Siebenthaler Ave. Dayton, OH 45405
937-274-2107 info@ourladyofgracedayton.org
Website <http://ourladyofgracedayton.org/>
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Queen of Martyrs Church

4134 Cedar Ridge Rd. (Church), Dayton, OH 45414
4144 Cedar Ridge Rd. (Office)
937-277-2092 queenofmartyrsdayton@gmail.com
Website <http://qmdayton.org/>
Office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Prayer for Advent Joy

Dear Jesus,
The news of your coming was met with
boundless joy —
fill us anew with the wonder of your presence.
You are Emmanuel, God with us.
Amen.



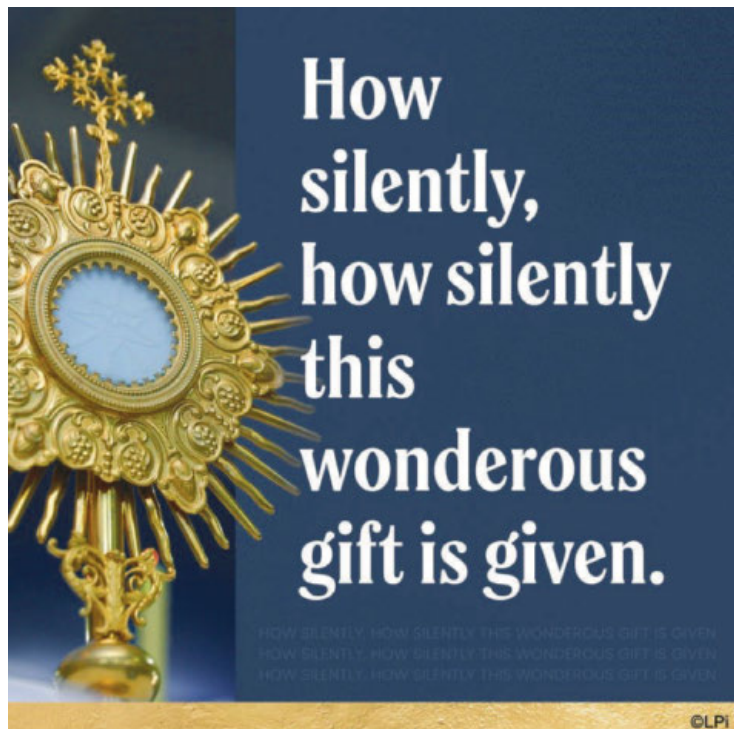
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS:

*Mary Helen Spanish, Pat Bell,
Betty Jones, Susie Roberts, Angelina Matin,
Nancy Green, Mary Dudley,
Keno Hampton, Sherman Mosley, Juanita Newell,
Robert Florence, Loure Hayes,
Renee Raisch, Joyce Merch, Imogene Broyles
Sue & Frank Kozarec, Marie Hodapp, Craig Powell,
Al Cochran, Mike Mobley, Rachel Woods,
Peggy Neff, Wanda Offenberger, Fran Rickett,
Pat Meyer, Norm Magoto, Kira Prikkel,
Dave Hoerner, Pat Chirco, Keith Jones,
Teresa Bond, Doncella Parks,
Jeanne Sipniewski, Mikayla Powley, Ken Pendery,
Deloria Harris, Samantha M., Joan Means,
George Noeth, June Phillips, Carla Arnold,
Kevin Oleckniche, Julie Moreo,
Ryan Ravestein, Toni Schilling, Andrea Kittel,
Betty Meehan, Karen Kuritar, Dorianne Minnelli,
Fred Caudell, Mary Foster
Carl Meyer, Mildred Singleton,
Ann Heaney, Jerome Johnson, Carol,
LaVerne Dorsey, Elizabeth Wolfe, Virgil Scott*

PLEASE CALL 937-274-2107 EXT 3001 TO ADD OR
REMOVE A NAME ON THE PRAYER LIST

NURSING HOMES

Laure Hayes—Laurels of Kettering



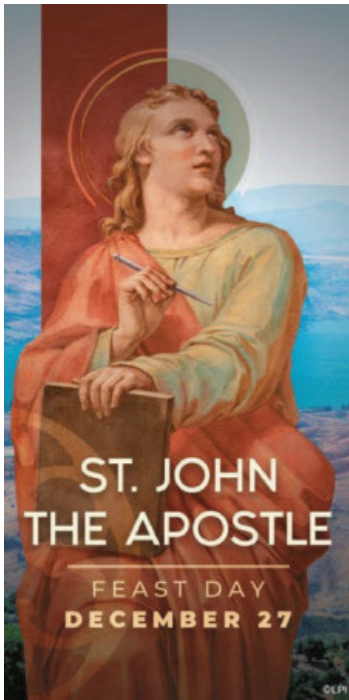
WE SALUTE OUR MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

*Major Matthew Fecke, Tiffany Kracus Lewis,
Sgt. Matthew Stull, Lance Corporal Patrick Nevius,
Caleb Weaver, Spc. Phoebe Moreo, Adam Wilhelm,
Martha Moreo, Capt. U.S. Space Force
EM3 Douglas R. Sortman, Major Darren Ward,
Staff Sgt. Jacob Naas, Spc. Jonathan Gladden,
AB Makayla Picker, Ssgt. P. J. Picker,
Angelica Tomlinson, USN*

DO YOU NEED PRAYERS?

Please call Pat Wilson at 937-836-2006
and she will pray for you.

ENRICH YOUR FAITH



Saint John the Apostle | December 27

Saint John was one of the Twelve, part of Jesus' inner circle, among the few that witnessed the Transfiguration, the raising of Jarius' Daughter, and the Agony in the garden at Gethsemane. He and his brother James were the sons of Zebedee and Salome. When Jesus called them, they left their father mending nets and followed him. Jesus called the brothers "Boanerges," meaning "sons of thunder" — they were passionate in their faith and Jesus had to rebuke them for their fiery zeal on more than one occasion. John, the younger

brother, possibly the youngest disciple, was the only one present at Jesus' death.

Saint John the Apostle is traditionally thought to be the author of the fourth Gospel, the three Epistles of John, and the Book of Revelation. However, there has been some debate among scholars from antiquity to the present. Tradition also gives him the title Beloved Disciple and John's Gospel sees him seated next to Jesus at the last supper and the one to whom Jesus gives the care of Mary at the crucifixion.

Although Church tradition says that John survived the other disciples, living a long life, much of it is steeped in myth and legend. Some say he retired to Ephesus after the crucifixion with Mary and remained there until he died. But in other traditions he is more active. For a time he remained in Jerusalem with the other disciples, then founded churches in Asia Minor. In a legend of his persecution, during the reign of the Emperor Domitian, John is taken to Rome and thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil but preserved from death. He is then exiled to the island of Patmos where the Book of Revelation was written.

Most accounts agree that after his exile and the Assumption of Mary he returned to Ephesus where he died sometime after 98, during the reign of the Emperor Trajan.



Christmas Gifts

Question:

Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

Answer:

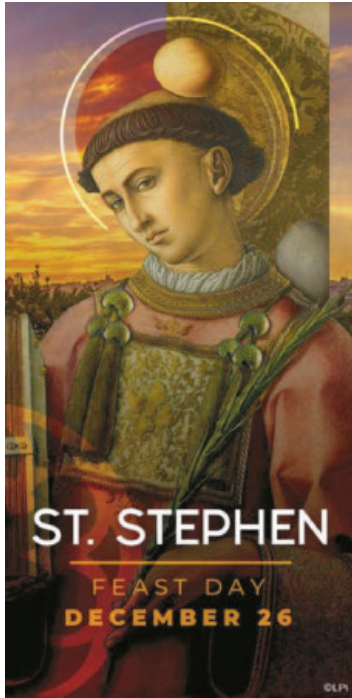
Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.

In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

*Merry Christmas, Happy New Year
Holy Spirit Family of Parishes*



**St. Stephen |
Feast Day December 26**
The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the

blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death. Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.



**Donations for Christmas Flowers
for St. Benedict's:**

The Flower Committee is accepting donations for Christmas flowers to decorate the church. Please give your donations to Arvilla Crawford or Jacqu

Glover after Sunday Mass or place your donations in the offering (annotate the memo line of your check with "2024 Christmas flowers" or place your donations in a separate envelope with a note).

Thank you for your support and Have a Merry Christmas!

Save the Date!

Saint Benedict the Moor Location will be Hosting a Movie Day on Saturday January 18, 2025.

From 12-3:30pm in the multipurpose room.

You are invited to stay for Mass, which starts at 4pm.

Save the Date!

Queen of Martyrs Location will be Hosting a Movie Night on Monday January 13, 2025.

6:30 pm in McAuley Hall

We are currently watching Season Two of *The Chosen*

**Christmas / New Year
Mass Schedule**

Christmas Eve - Tuesday December 24

- **St. Augustine 4:00 pm Mass**
- **Corpus Christi 5:00 pm Mass**

Christmas Day - Wednesday December 25

- **St. Benedict 10:30 am Mass**
- **Queen of Martyrs 11:00 am Mass**

New Years Day - Wednesday January 1

- **Our Lady of Mercy 8:30 am Mass**
- **St. Benedict 10:00 am Mass**



St. Augustine

Quarterly "Sonshine in a Bag" Report August 16, 2024, until November 30, 2024

From August 16th until November 30th. There were 12 large cans of green beans, and 11 large cans of corn donated in the box at the foot of the stairs. There were monetary donations given on Sundays that let us purchase 1056 large cans of corn and 1068 large cans of green beans for "Sonshine" at roughly \$.52 a can. Sonshine is deeply grateful for our Church's contributions, and help packing. At our last packing there were 197 students in the Valley View school system receiving food for the weekends from "Sonshine." Seven of those are students with allergies who cannot get some of the other food items "Sonshine" provides. Because of this they asked us if we could help them by supplying some Complete Dinner meals for those students. Because of the generosity of our parishioners, we were able to provide them with 55 of those meals for a cost of \$1.48 each instead of the \$2.25 they were paying. Our focus will remain on providing the vegetables for them and only helping with the dinners as funds allow. St. Augustine's parishioners have indeed shown **Love in Action** with the monetary contributions that have let us supply all of this to "Sonshine" and the more importantly the students who receive the food.

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