

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

4 pm Mass Fr. Tom Fanta, Presider - Youth Choir

6 pm Mass Fr. Tom Fanta, Presider - Vocalists

10 pm Mass Fr. Tom Fanta, Presider - Adult Choir

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

11 am Mass Fr. Tom Fanta, Presider - Adult Choir

New Years Day

Saturday, December 31

5 pm Mass

Sunday, January 1

9/11:15 am Mass

Feast of the Epiphany

Saturday, January 7

5 pm Mass

Sunday, January 8

9/11:15 am Mass

REJOICE

and be glad!

...because together, we celebrate

the coming of our Saviour.

We look forward to sharing with you

the spirit of peace and joy

that accompanies this wonderful season.

May God bless your family

in the coming year and always.

In Christ,

The St. Dominic Parish Staff



The Church of St. Dominic

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Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122

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Advent Christmas

2011

*The Church of
St. Dominic*



REJOICE

Advent Series

Mondays, December 5, 12, and 19

Searching for the Light: Guiding Your Family Toward Christmas Hope in a Time of Grief

The Advent and Christmas seasons are a time of great hope and joy for Christians around the world. For someone who has experienced loss, however, the approach of the holidays can cause a sense of overwhelming anxiety. Whether you are grieving yourself or want to better understand and support a family member or friend who is grieving, please join us for three Monday evenings, December 5th, 12th, and 19th at 7pm in the Large Meeting Room. We will pray; share; discuss the emotional, physical, and spiritual sides of grief and learn ways to help ourselves and our families during the holidays so that we might all journey toward Christmas with a renewed sense of hope.

Please contact Russ Petrus, Pastoral Associate, at 216-991-1444 or by email russpetrus@gmail.com if you have questions or would like more information.

Wednesdays, November 30, December 7 and 14

Prepare Your Heart For Christmas

Come join us in a 3 part reflection series as we explore our Catholic faith and our beliefs about the season of Advent. We will be exploring the meaning of Christmas and other topics such as Mary, the Saints, and heaven. Take the time for yourself to remember what the season is all about. Wednesdays 11/30, 12/7, 12/14 in the Large Meeting Room, 7pm-8:15pm. Contact Lisa Factora-Borchers: factora.borchers@gmail.com

Advent Family Night

Saturday, December 3, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Celebrate Advent by reconnecting with your family at Advent Family Night.



The evening begins with 5:00 pm Mass. After Mass, families are invited to join us for a pizza dinner and a family-centered activity. The activity is designed to engage all family members, and to help the disadvantaged in our communities.

Families with last names beginning A-M should bring a side dish or salad. Families with last names beginning N-Z should bring a dessert. All are welcome; however, pre-registration is required. Please call Maria Keohane in the PSR office at 216-561-0856 or email at psr@stdominicchurch.net by November 28th.

Project Serve Christmas Market

Sunday, December 4

Please join us on Sunday, December 4th for our Project Serve "Christmas Market." Mission teams from the last year have purchased beautiful handcrafted items from El Salvador to be sold as unique Christmas gifts. All proceeds will benefit Santo Domingo Parish. Mission team representatives will also be available with pictures and stories from their trip. The sale will take place in the cafeteria during the coffee and donut social after both Sunday Masses.

Little Folks Shop

Sunday, December 4, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

The St. Dominic Little Folks Shop is taking place on Sunday, December 4th from 10 am until 1 pm in the Large Meeting Room. This is a fun opportunity for young children to independently purchase inexpensive holiday gifts for family members and friends. Items available for purchase include ornaments, bookmarks, scarves, jewelry, and books, and range in price from one to five dollars. Volunteer "elves" walk the children through the room and help them choose gifts for members of their family. Mark your calendars- we hope to see your children there!

St. Dominic School Open House

Sunday, December 4, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

The halls and classrooms of St. Dominic School will be alive with excitement as we host our all-school Open House. If you know a child (or grandchild) ages 3 to 12, please take this opportunity to meet our staff and learn more about the top-notch, faith-based education we offer to children in grades K through 8. With music, crafts and Christmas cheer in abundance, there will be something for everyone.

Holiday Band Concert Preview & Lunch

Tuesday, December 13

Join the St. Dominic Senior Ministry as we enjoy a FREE Holiday Concert performance by our own Student Concert Band at 10:30am in the Bishop Amos Center. Following our Christmas entertainment, we carpool to Balaton's Restaurant at Shaker Square. Hot lunch specials start at \$12.95. Dine with us on delicious Hungarian cuisine in a private dining room. Reservations are required by December 9th.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

*Wednesday, December 7 - Masses: Vigil, 6:30 pm
Thursday, December 8 - Masses: 6:30 am & 8:30 am*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, December 3 4 - 4:30 pm
Saturday, December 10 4 - 4:30 pm
Saturday, December 17 4 - 4:30 pm
And by appointment with Fr. Tom

Annual Choir Concert & Parish Christmas Party

Sunday, December 11, 5:00 pm

Join us Sunday, December 11th from 5-6:30 pm as the Music Ministry presents their Annual Christmas Concert. This year's program features dramatic excerpts from A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens accompanied by a vast array of music performed by our parish choir, youth choir and instrumentalists. The music will include traditional English carols, Irish fiddle tunes, Motown, music of Gabriel Faure, James Taylor, and more. Our Annual Parish Christmas Party follows in the Bishop Amos Center. A simple supper will be served. Please bring the following items to share in a disposable container: last names A-M bring cheese and crackers or veggies and dip; last names N-Z bring Christmas cookies. Donations will support Keep the Fire Burning: A Salvadoran Christmas Project. Invite your neighbors, friends and family for this special evening. Please return your reservation form for the party found in the bulletin or call the rectory and tell us how many of your household will be attending and what you will bring to share by December 5th!

St. Dominic Giving Tree

November 26 - December 11

During the Advent Season, all parishioners are invited to visit the Giving Trees in church. The trees are decorated with ornaments identifying items requested by local organizations for families in need, including the West Side Catholic Center, Family Promise, L'Arche community, Womankind, St. Malachi Center, Thea Bowman Center, Maggies Place, and Rose-Mary Center.

You are invited to select an ornament from the tree, purchase the requested item, attach the ornament to the package, and return the item to the front of church. Your donations must be returned by Sunday, December 11 at noon. For additional information, contact Jackie Hutcheson at (216) 295-1849.

New Music Ministry CD: We Are One



Available December 3

This Advent season the Music Ministry will release We Are One: A Collection of Sacred Songs & Arrangements by Jim Carr. This new recording features music unique to our St. Dominic community including: We Are One, Say the Word and We Raise the Cross.

Available starting the weekend of December 3-4, CDs will be \$15 each; 2 for \$25, or \$10 each when you buy 3 or more. Proceeds benefit our Liturgical Celebration Fund which supports our arts and environment, and all aspects of our Music Ministry. Receive a complimentary CD with a donation of \$50 or more to the Liturgical Celebration Fund. The Liturgical Celebration Fund donation form is found on our website, in the bulletin and our rectory office.

Christmas Tree Sale

November 27 - December 18



Get your holiday wreaths and Christmas trees right in our own backyard! Thanks to the Bulldog Club, fresh holiday greens are available in our parking lot beginning November 27. Purchase your tree and wreaths on Thursdays and Fridays from 6-9 pm or on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am - 6 pm. Come stop by to view our beautiful trees, drink some hot coffee or cocoa and say hello to the Bulldog volunteers who are braving the weather.

Please join our crew of volunteers by calling Rich Duval at 216-577-4874. Proceeds from this sale will help support our parish youth athletic programs and athletic facilities.

Youth Ministry Christmas Parties

JHYG - Wednesday, December 14th

HSYG - Sunday, December 18th

The Junior High Youth Group Christmas party will take place on Wednesday, December 14th and the High School Youth Ministry party will be on Sunday, December 18th. Both will run from 7-8pm in the Youth Group Room. Please join us for Christmas inspired games, music, food, and fun. While there is no charge for the event, we will gladly accept free will offerings of \$5 to help purchase ovens for our brothers and sisters of Santo Domingo Church in El Salvador through the parish-wide program, "Keep the Fire Burning." More information on "Keep the Fire Burning" can be found in this brochure.

Women's Spirituality Group

Sunday, December 18, 10:00 am

All women of the parish are invited to a morning of faith sharing, community formation, and spiritual reflection on Sunday, December 18th at 10am in the Small Meeting Room. You must register to attend as space is limited for this session. Contact Lisa Factora-Borchers: factora.borchers@gmail.com

Project Serve in Action During Advent

During this season of giving, St. Dominic parishioners are giving back to the community in many different ways. Parishioners will be serving at the West Side Catholic Center, Thea Bowman Center, and Ronald McDonald House. These service opportunities already have volunteers scheduled, but the following community service programs are still in need of volunteers. Please contact Nick Borchers (borchersn@gmail.com) if you are interested in serving others at either of these agencies.

Green Road Developmental Center
Tuesday, December 13, 6:30-7:30 pm
Visiting and celebrating Mass with the residents at the Center.

Cleveland Foodbank
Thursday, December 15, 6:00-8:00 pm
Sorting and packing food to be given to local families in need.

Keep the Fire Burning:

A Salvadoran Christmas Project

All Christmas Masses



In this season of luscious Christmas Feasts, ovens are taken for granted in our society. Yet for the people of Santo Domingo Church in El Salvador, the task of collecting wood for cooking fires consumes hours each day. Unfortunately, these cooking fires fill their homes with a smoky haze leading to numerous respiratory problems.

We hope to bring some relief to this ongoing problem. Engineers have designed an inexpensive, new concrete stove which uses 90% less firewood and almost eliminates smoke from cooking fires. The stove can be used as both a skillet and a grill and the families presently using these stoves have been delighted with the results!

THE MISSION: To purchase stoves that will help improve the health and quality of life for our friends in El Salvador.

THE GOAL: There are 1400 families at St. Dominic. We would like to purchase 1000 stoves at \$40 each to give to families in El Salvador.

THE IMPACT: The stoves reduce time spent gathering firewood for families and improve respiratory problems by reducing smoke inhalation.

At the Christmas Masses, we will take up a second Collection to "keep the fire burning" in El Salvador. Please watch the bulletin and the upcoming special mailing for more details.