

Saint Patrick Parish

175 St. Patrick Street † McEwen, TN 37101
Parish Office: (931) 582-3633 † Fax: (931) 582-3303

December 24, 2017 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Parish Administrator:

Father Zack Kirangu ext. 321
Emergency Cell: (931) 622-0398
stpatspastor@bellsouth.net

Bookkeeper/Secretary:

Lea Eichhorn
stpatsfinance@bellsouth.net
stpatsoffice@bellsouth.net

Director of Religious Education:

Alyssa Ginter (931) 209-6859
jandaginter@comcast.net

School Principal:

Sr. Mary Grace Watson, O.P.
ext.302
Srmarygrace.watson@sps-tn.org

School Secretary:

Vicki James ext. 301
Vicki.james@sps-tn.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm
Phone: (931) 582-3633
Fax: (931) 582-3303

School Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 7:30am-3:30pm
Phone: (931) 582-3493
Fax: (931) 582-6386

Irish & More Store

Appointments, call (931) 582-3633 or
(615) 337-5189

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

(931) 582-8454
Svdp.mcewen@yahoo.com

Prayer Intentions:

Marcella Moran (931) 296-4399

Website Contact:

stpatricks.webmaster@gmail.com

Prayer Chain:

prayerchainSPC@gmail.com



Entrance Antiphon:

**“Let the earth
bring forth a
Savior”**



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil - 5:00pm
Sunday - 9:00am

WEEKDAY MASS

8:00am - Monday, Tuesday
Thursday, Friday, Saturday

HOLY DAYS

As Announced

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sundays: 8:00 - 8:45am Saturdays: 4:00 - 4:45pm
Also by appointment

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

January 5, 7pm Penance Service

New to the Parish? Welcome! To register as a parishioner of St. Patrick Church, please contact the Parish Office.

Are you Connected? If you would like to sign up for our phone tree, which offers updates on Mass changes etc., please contact the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Church law directs that Catholics receive marriage preparation and be married in the Church. Please contact the office at least four months prior to the wedding. Advent and Lent are Penitential Seasons; weddings are discouraged during these seasons.

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism should take place A.S.A.P. following birth. Expectant parents should contact the office for baptismal preparation.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick: Anyone in danger of death from illness, the elderly, anyone anticipating surgery or who are seriously ill should receive this sacrament. Please contact Father Zack.

Religious Education (CCD):

Is available for Grades K - 8 at 10:15am on Sunday during the school year.

www.stpatrickmcewen.org

MASSES & INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: 2 Sm 7:1-5,8B-12,14A,16, Ps89:2-5,27,28,
Rom 16:25-27, Lk 1:26-38

Mass Intentions: 9:00am - St. Patrick's Parish

Monday, December 25

Christmas Morning

Readings: Is 52:7-10, Ps98:1-6, Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18 or
Jn 1:1-5,9-14

Mass Intentions: 9:00am - Anthony Stewart

Tuesday, December 26

Feast of Saint Stephen

Readings : Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59,Ps 31:cCD-4,6,8AB,17,
Mt 10:17-22

Mass Intentions: NO MASS

Wednesday, December 27

Feast of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

Readings: 1Jn 1:1-4, Ps97:1-2,5-6,11-12
Jn 20:1A,2-8

Mass Intentions: NO MASS

Thursday, December 28

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Readings: 1 Jn1:5—2:2, Ps124:2-5,7CD-8, Mt2:13-18

Mass Intentions: NO MASS

Friday, December 29

Readings 1Jn 2:3-11, Ps96:1-2A,2B,5B-6, Lk2:22-35

Mass Intentions: NO MASS

Saturday, December 30

Readings 1 Jn2:12-17, Ps96:7-8A,8B,-9,10,Lk 2:36-40

Mass Intentions: 5:00pm - Minnis Family

Sunday, December 31

The Holy family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Readings Sir3:2-6,12-14, Gn15:1-6;21:1-3,
Col 3:12-21, Lk 2:22-40

Mass Intentions: 9:00am - St. Patrick's Parish

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

During Advent, the opening hymn is replaced by the Entrance Antiphon. It is sung by the cantor and congregation in the same way as the Responsorial Psalm that is sung after the First Reading.

The Entrance Antiphon Response this week is:

"Let the earth bring forth a Savior"

WEEK AT A GLANCE

December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 25 :

♦ Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 26:

♦ NO MASS, FATHER AWAY

♦ **Wednesday, December 27:**

♦ NO MASS, FATHER AWAY

Thursday, December 28:

♦ NO MASS, FATHER AWAY

Friday, December 29:

♦ NO MASS, FATHER AWAY

Saturday, December 30:

♦ N/A

Sunday, December 31:

♦ NEW YEARS EVE

Monday, January 1:

♦ NEW YEARS DAY

	12/16	12/17	12/23	12/24
LECTOR	Lou Lomber	Kathy Brewster	Lou Lomber	Kathy Brewster
	William Minnis	Terry Coleman	William Minnis	Terry Coleman
EMOHC	Tom Powers	Barbara Hooper	Tom Powers	Vince Brewster
		Vince Brewster		Dan Cesario
	Cathy Abou-Sakher		Cathy Abou-Sakher	
		Dan Cesario		Barbara Hooper

5PM VIGIL MASS READINGS:

Is 62:1-5, Ps 89:4-5,16-17,27,29,
Acts 13:16-17,22-15, Mt 1:1-25,
or Mt 1:18-25

SUNDAY, 5PM, NATIVITY OF THE LORD VIGIL

Lector #1 - Dan Cesario, #2 - Lou Lomber
EMoHC - William Minnis, Tom Powers, Vince Brewster

MONDAY, 9AM, NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Lector #1 - Lynn Frost, #2 - Steve Bartlett
EMoHC - Barbara Hooper, Cathy Abou-Sakher,
Mary Chaney

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Saturday, December 23rd, 5pm - David & Nancy Daniel
Sunday, December 24th, 9am - Moran Family

BRING BABY JESUS TO THE MANGER

Sunday, December 24th, 5pm - Cross Family

GIFT BEARERS & VOCATION CUP

Sunday, December 24th, 9am - Lester Collier Family

Christmas Letter 2017

Dear Friends

For nine months Mary was expecting the birth of Jesus. During that time, like any mother, her heart was filled with joyful hope because of her baby. She had to wait for the birth. At times waiting is difficult – a test for patience. She had to live with many unanswered questions because of the unique circumstances surrounding the conception; what the angel said, pregnant and yet not having relations with a man and how would things work out with Joseph? At the same time she had to get on with living each day; preparing for the birth, doing her work, visiting her cousin Elizabeth.

In the run up to Christmas we can run off our feet with all we have to do and all we are expected to do because Christmas is coming. Christmas can be a difficult time with dark days and excessive challenges to our resources. I too often find myself so busy with the work of the Lord that I forget about the Lord of the work. I have to make a big effort to stop myself getting lost in the whirlwind of the weeks and days before Christmas. I don't want to miss the point of it all because Christmas contains the truth about me, who I am.

After nine months of waiting and preparing and wondering, Jesus is born. Like every child, he is born into particular circumstances of his time and place and family. But more than anyone else, he is the fulfilment of dreams and promises and prophecies that went back for centuries and centuries before his birth. He is the long-awaited Messiah, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. His birth is not an end. It is a new beginning for the world, for each human being.

At Christmas it is fitting to remember that we have no other light but Jesus, who is born to us today. He came down from heaven in this unique way to be our light, our life and our hope. He came, as he assures us, to be our way, by which we return to the Father. By choosing us as his preferred dwelling place, he invites us to choose him as our preferred dwelling place. This is the mystery of the Incarnation.

We were blessed with another good year 2017. Our ministries are continuing to take root and flourish; Daily Masses, 1st Friday adoration, 1st Saturday Devotion, CCD, RCIA, Book Club, Youth Mass, Liturgical Ministries, Liturgical Art, Home Visitations, Charities and of course our lively Music. We are gradually identifying other ministries we need to develop so that the Good News brought by Jesus can be better known in our Parish. For the last four months I have been asking people: What is the special gift that distinguishes our Parish from other Parishes? Answers come quickly that focus around two words: 'family' and 'support'. There is a strong sense among people that we have a wonderful Parish.

There are challenges ahead of course as we look the future. With our collective charism of 'family' and 'support' we can be assured that we will be strong enough to address the challenges as they arise over these next years.

I wish you and your family every Blessing and Happiness this Christmas and a happy New Year.

May our celebration of the birth of Jesus bring us all freshness and new hope.

Fr. Zack
December 19, 2017

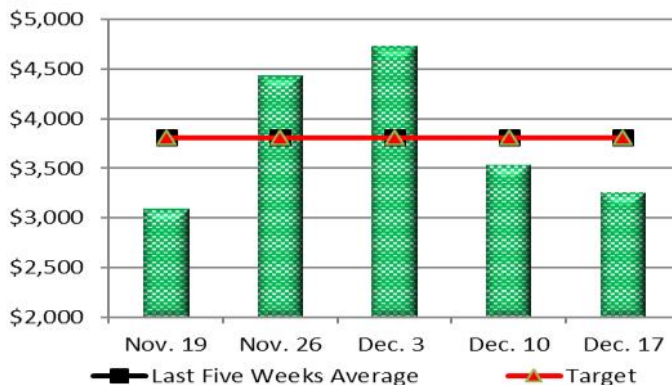
OFFERTORY REPORT - DECEMBER 17, 2017

Collection Summary

Envelopes & Loose Checks	\$3,097.00
Regular Collection Loose	\$ 157.00
TOTAL—Regular Giving	\$3,254.00

St. Vincent de Paul N/A

The last five weeks' average Regular Giving is \$3,811 or 100% of our target of \$3,812 per week.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

VINCENTIAN MEDITATION

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest



FOOD DRIVE VOLUNTEERS

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is asking for volunteers to help pass out food. Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month we have a perishable food route at St. Patrick's. Please arrive at noon & join your fellow parishioners to help with this ministry. *Next Food Drive Dates: January 9 & 23*

THANK YOU!

There are too many names to list to thank for the generosity of time, talent and monetary donations for our Giving Tree, Christmas hams and food for our Neighbors and all the behind the scene work done for the Christmas party for the children last Saturday. We thank Santa for stopping by, the cooks, the servers, the SVdP Youth Group and their beautiful songs to enliven our party, the photographer, the loaders, the people giving time to be there and assist in every way needed, and visitors from Erin who volunteered their time. The gifts for our Neighbors are the only gifts our children will see under their tree. It is most gratifying that our Lord put us in this position to help. SVdP gifted 34 families, 64 adults and 86 children.

You are the very heart of our Ministry. Many lives have been changed because of you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

YOUTH GROUP

Next Meeting: January 7
Meet in the church for Vespers at 6:30pm.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Sunday, February 11, 2018 is World Marriage Day. There will be a special Mass at 2pm followed by a reception at the Cathedral of the Incarnation for couples celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage in 2018. Our new bishop, Most Reverend J. Mark Spalding will be our main celebrant. Please contact the parish office if you would like to be sent an invitation to this wonderful celebration. For additional information contact Deacon Tom Samoray at: tom.samoray@dioceseofnashville.com.

CALLING ALL YOUTH! We need you!

Help show the parish who you are by serving at Mass, particularly the last Sunday of each month. Ministry roles to be filled for this liturgy include Lector, Cantor, Musicians, Gift Bearers, Ushers, Altar Servers, and Choir. The next opportunity is December 31. Please call or text Alyssa Ginter at [\(931\) 209-6859](tel:9312096859) to join in.

FUN VOLLEYBALL NIGHT

On Friday, January 5, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. please, join us in the gym for volleyball. Everyone is invited to join in the fun. Come by for just a few minutes or the entire time. No skill is required. Drinks will be provided. Get your new year started with a great way to get some exercise and have a lot of fun!

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW FAMILIES

All are welcome to attend our Open House on Sunday, January 21 from 1:00-3:30pm and experience the St. Patrick's difference! Take a tour, meet teachers, parents and students, ask all of your questions! A presentation will be given in the library at 1:30pm and 2:30pm. You are also welcome to call the school office at 931-582-3493 to schedule a personal tour or shadow day for your child. Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will begin in January.

Visit our website to learn more: www.spstn.org. Please spread the word to your friends as well!

WANTED:

Liturgical Art for Ordinary time between Christmas and Lent. Submit by January 1 to the Church Office. Contact Michelle Minnis (931) 582-7782 for more information.

NOW SEEKING COLLEGE AGE ADULTS FOR THE TOTUS TUUS MISSIONARY POSITION

Come spend your summer building up the Kingdom of God in Nashville! Throughout the summer, you will help young people encounter Jesus Christ through prayer, relationship, and catechesis. As college-aged students, Totus Tuus missionaries have a unique opportunity to accompany young people in their lives of faith.

MISSIONARY APPLICATIONS:

<https://www.dioceseofnashville.com/totus-tuus>