

THE ORATORY OF SAINT PHILIP NERI  
**CHRISTMAS 2025**  
at Old Saint Mary & Sacred Heart

*The Madonna Adoring the Infant Christ* | Pietro Antonio Rotari

# A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

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## *Merry Christmas! Frohe Weihnachten! Buon Natale! Felicem diem Nativitatem!*



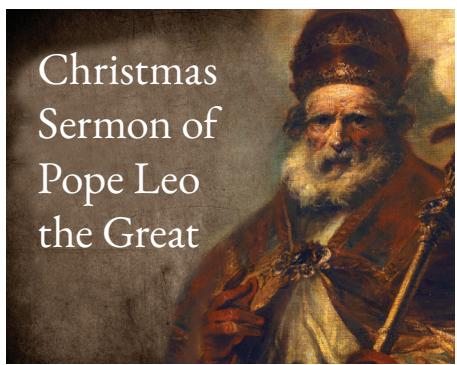
As we gather to celebrate the joyous feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, the Fathers and Brothers of the Oratory extend our heartfelt wishes for a Merry Christmas to each of you and your families. This is a season of profound wonder, when heaven touches earth in the humble birth of Christ, our Savior. May the light of the manger warm your hearts and fill your homes with peace, joy, and hope.

Before we reflect on the timeless wisdom of Pope Leo the Great's Christmas sermon, let us remember that the Incarnation is the ultimate gift of love—a divine invitation to share in God's life. May this holy day strengthen our faith, deepen our charity, and inspire us to embrace one another with the love of Christ.

Rejoice in this sacred season, and may the blessings of Christmas remain with you throughout the coming year.

*Fr. Paul Beach*

### Christmas Sermon of Pope Leo the Great



“Our Savior, dearly Beloved, was born this day. Let us rejoice. Sadness is not becoming upon the Birth Day of Life Itself, which, now that the fear of death is ended, fills us with gladness, because of

Unlike this Holy Nativity, is that of which we read of all men: No one is there free from sin, not even the infant whose life upon the earth is but a day [Job 14:4].a But of the concupiscence of the flesh, nothing has been transmitted in this unique generation; nothing of the law of sin has descended. A royal virgin of the house of David is chosen as the bearer of the Sacred Fruit, who had conceived her divine and human Offspring in her soul, before she conceived Him in her body...

Let us, therefore, give thanks, dearly Beloved, to God the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit; Who, because of the exceeding great love, wherein He has loved us, has had compassion on us. And even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together in Christ [Eph. 2:5], that in Him we might be a new creature, and a new clay. Let us strip ourselves of the old man with his deeds; for being made partakers of the Birth of Christ, let us renounce the deeds of the flesh [Col. 3:9].

Acknowledge, O Christian, the dignity that is yours! Being made a partaker of the divine nature, do not by an unworthy manner of living fall back into your former abjectness of life. Be mindful of Whose Head, and of Whose Body, you are a member. Remember, that wrested from the powers of darkness, thou art now translated into the Light and the Kingdom of God. By the sacrament of baptism you have become the temple of the Holy Spirit. Do not, by evil deeds, drive out from you such a One dwelling with thee, and submit yourself again to the bondage of the devil. Because your price was the Blood of Christ; because in strictness He shall judge you Who in mercy has redeemed you, Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reignest, world without end. Amen.”

our own promised immortality. No one is excluded from sharing in this cheerfulness, for the reason of our joy is common to all men. Our Lord, the Conqueror of sin and death, since there was no one free from servitude, came that He might bring deliverance to all.

Let him who is sanctified rejoice, for he draws nigh to the palm. Let the sinner rejoice, since he is invited to grace. Let the Gentiles exult, for they are called to life. For the Son of God, in the fullness of time, has taken upon Himself the nature of our humanity, as the unsearchable depths of the divine counsel hath decreed, in order that the inventor of death, the devil, by that very nature which he defeated, would be himself overcome.

And in this contest that was undertaken for us, the battle was waged in accordance with a great and wondrous law of justice. For the Omnipotent God engaged in combat with His most bitter enemy, not in the strength of His own Majesty, but in our human infirmity; confronting him with our very form and nature, and sharing likewise in our mortality; but free of all stain.

# FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 2025

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## Old Saint Mary

### Mass Intentions

**SUNDAY** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

7:30 a.m. ♫ Terry Lohrer  
9:30 a.m. Int. of Archbishop Dennis Schnurr  
11:30 a.m. ♫ Nancy Jayne Thomass Kindt  
1:00 p.m. Pro Populo

**MONDAY** **GREATER FERIA OF ADVENT**

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CABRINI**  
7:15 a.m. Int. of Natalie Langenkamp  
12:10 p.m. Int. of Immaculate Heart Mary

**TUESDAY** **GREATER FERIA OF ADVENT**

**ST. THOMAS, APOSTLE**  
7:15 a.m. Intention of Hadley Feiblman  
12:10 p.m. Intention of Daniel Hull

**WEDNESDAY** **THE VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS**

7:15 a.m. Intention of AH  
9:00 a.m.

**THURSDAY** **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

12:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
7:30 a.m. The Oratory  
9:30 a.m. Return and Strength of Catholic Tradition  
11:30 a.m. ♫ Bruni Gerdes  
1:00 p.m. Intention of Anne Dillon

**FRIDAY** **ST. STEPHEN, PROTOMARTYR**

7:15 a.m. Intention of Mike Halm  
12:10 a.m. ♫ George Kinsted

**SATURDAY** **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, APOSTLE**

7:15 a.m. ♫ Rita M. Jones  
9:00 a.m. ♫ Mary A. Nogarmi

**SUNDAY** **THE HOLY FAMILY****THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

7:30 a.m. ♫ Mary Ann Lohre  
9:30 a.m. ♫ Deacon Michael Johnsen  
11:30 a.m. ♫ Nancy Jayne Thomas Kindt  
1:00 p.m. ♫ Albert Merk

## Sacred Heart

### Mass Intentions

**SUNDAY** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9:00 a.m. Intention of Ben and Grace Kenning  
11:00 a.m. ♫ Helen Henz

**THURSDAY** **THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

9:00 a.m. Intention of Trisha Fedders and Family  
11:00 a.m. Intention of the Belluardo Family

**FRIDAY** **ST. STEPHEN, PROTOMARTYR**

9:00 a.m. Intention of CM and SDP

**SUNDAY** **THE HOLY FAMILY /THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

9:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
11:00 a.m. Intention of the Kenning Family

Rest in peace

♫ - For the repose of the soul of...

Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish

Per Annum - During the Year

New Calendar (first) and Traditional Calendar (second)

## Old Saint Mary

**December 14, 2025**

Sunday attendance: 598  
Collections: \$10,007.53

## Sacred Heart

**December 14, 2025**

Sunday attendance: 192  
Collections: \$12,750.25

# NEWS & EVENTS

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## Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

Masses at Old St. Mary will be 7:15 a.m. (Low Latin) and 9:00 a.m. (English) on Christmas Eve morning.

## Christmas Mass Schedule

**At Old St. Mary**, carols will begin at 11:20 p.m. Procession to the crib will be at 11:50 p.m., with Mass at midnight (High Latin). Christmas morning Masses at Old St. Mary will be at 7:30 a.m. (Low Latin), 9:30 a.m. (High Latin), 11:30 a.m. (German) and 1:00 p.m. (English). **Sacred Heart Masses** will be at 9:00 a.m. (English) and 11:00 a.m. (Sung Latin). Note: on Christmas Day there will be no Confessions.

## New Year's Mass Schedule

On Wednesday, **December 31**, Mass at **Old St. Mary** will be at 7:15 a.m. (Low Latin) and 9:00 a.m. (English). There will be a Holy Hour from 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. On **January 1**, Masses at Old St. Mary will be at 9:00 a.m. (Low Latin) and 11:00 a.m. (English). There will be **no 12:10 p.m.** Mass nor confessions at 11:15 a.m. **Sacred Heart** will have Mass at 10:00 a.m. (Sung Latin).

**Please note: there will be no evening Mass or overnight Adoration on January 2.**

## Epiphany Mass

Join us on the Twelfth Day of Christmas, the Epiphany of the Lord, for a Solemn Mass, Tuesday, **January 6**, at 6:30 p.m., at Old St. Mary. There will be no morning or evening Adoration or Confession as well as Catechism.

## Women's Oratory

Ladies looking for spiritual recharging, fellow-ship and community are welcome to our monthly Women's Oratory meeting, held on the first Saturday of the month. Our next meeting is on **January 10**, at Sacred Heart at 10:00 a.m., If you would like to join the email list, please reach out to Lisa Bloomfield at lisamariebloomfield@gmail.com.

## Sacred Heart Monthly Potluck Social

Please join the Sacred Heart Church community for a pot-luck-style social after 11:00 a.m. Mass on **January 11**. Bring your favorite food or beverage and get to know the members of our church family.

**The 2026 calendars will be in soon. Thank you for your patience!**

## Catholics United for the Faith

Catholics United for the Faith is an international lay apostolate founded in 1968 to support, defend, and advance the efforts of the Teaching Church. The St. Francis of Assisi chapter in greater Cincinnati meets at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month on the first floor of the school building at Sacred Heart Church, Room 202. Upcoming meeting will be on **January 12** and will feature Lou Judd, Executive Director of Virtue=Strength. Greater Than the Game: Stories of Grit, Grace and God. For more information, please go to: [www.cufcincinnati.org](http://www.cufcincinnati.org) or [www.facebook.com/cufcincinnati.org](http://www.facebook.com/cufcincinnati.org).

**Please note: there will be no evening Adoration or Confession on Tuesday, December 23 or 30. There will be no Vespers on Sunday, December 28.**

**The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25, Wednesday, December 31 and Thursday, January 1.**

## Gift for the Manger

This year, Old Saint Mary will be hosting a "Gift for the Manger" to support our Pregnancy Center. There will be miniature Christmas trees located in Fr. Felton Hall and the two vestibules in the back of OSM. The ornaments on the trees all have the first name of a mother currently being served by the Pregnancy Center and a gift suggestion. Take an ornament and throughout Advent and Christmas, please pray for that mother and child and bring a gift for them on Epiphany or the Sunday following. Please attach your ornament to the gift so that the mother and child you have prayed for can receive your present. Further details can be found on the flyers in the back of the church. For more information about ordering Everylife diapers (the only pro-life diaper company) with a discount, please contact Naomi Langdon (513)-998-0698.

## Fezziwig Ball 2026

We are excited to invite parishioners 13 and older to attend the annual Fezziwig Ball on **January 16, 2026**, at the Ft. Thomas Mess Hall. For more information and purchase your ticket, visit [thefezziwigball.my.canva.site/](http://thefezziwigball.my.canva.site/)

**Please note: we are now accepting Mass intentions for the first quarter of 2026.**