

# SPIRITUS WEEKLY UPDATE

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6TH, 2025

**NEXT GATHERING 12/7**



SPIRITUS FAMILY GATHERING

THIS SUNDAY 12/07

3:00PM

CHAMINADE CENTER MADELEINE ROOM

## Advent Activities

There is a lot going on during these next four weeks of Advent. We have lots of opportunities for fun, prayer, giving, singing, reflecting, and celebrating this wonderful season.

### SPIRITUS ADVENT DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	Last day to RSVP for Holiday Social happening on 12/13 form 2-5 pm <b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	Taize Advent Service Friday 7-8 pm Immaculate Conception <b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
Spiritus Gathering 3 pm. Advent Donation collection. Change and be Changed <b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	Spiritus Holiday Social 2-5 PM @ Bergamo Fireplace Lounge <b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
Spiritus Gathering 3 pm. Last Sunday in Advent <b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	 <b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
Holy Family Mass 10:30 AM at QAC <b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			JANUARY 4 <sup>TH</sup> AND 18 <sup>TH</sup> SPIRITUS GATHERINGS SUNDAY AT 3 PM

[HTTPS://SPIRITUS-MLC.ORG](https://spiritus-mlc.org)



# PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**For all those in our community, those that we love, those who are alone, those who are grieving, those in war torn areas, those without anyone to pray for them and anyone else in need of loving support, prayer, or comfort. For all our prayers in our book of petitions.**

For the uncle of Katie Metzmaier as he recovers from a stroke. That he has good care, progress, and recovery.

For those in our community struggling at this time of year. May they know love, feel peace, and keep the presence of the Holy Spirit close to them through this Advent Season.

For all those who have coworkers, friends, family, and acquaintances who are in need of prayers, support, and love at this time.

## A Christian Prayer for Peace in Our Time

O God, author and giver of peace, in whose image and likeness each of us has been created with a human dignity worthy of respect on earth and destined for eternal glory,  
Listen to the cry that rises from every corner of this fragile earth,  
from our human family torn by violent conflict:

Give peace in our time, O good and gracious God, that peace which,  
as your son Jesus Christ told us and as we have experienced in these days,  
is a peace which the world cannot give.

To world leaders grant the wisdom to see beyond the boundaries of race, religion, and nation to that common humanity that makes us all your children and brothers and sisters to one another.

To those who have taken up arms in anger or revenge or even in the cause of justice grant the grace of conversion to the path of peaceful dialogue and constructive collaboration.  
To the innocent who live in the shadow of war and terror, especially the frightened children,  
be a shelter and strength, their haven and hope.

And to those who have already lost their lives as victims of human cruelty and chemical warfare, open wide your arms and enfold them all in the embrace of your compassion, healing, and everlasting life.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord. Mary, Mother of all and Queen of peace,  
pray for us.

- Peter J. Scagnelli



# COMMUNITY INFO

## Register to help setup SPIRITUS Gatherings

Please sign up online at <https://givepul.se/gw0wzw>, or use the QR code below which will take you to the Spiritus scheduling website. Once there, scroll down to see the published events, then click on the event that you would like register to help.

There are three event shifts available:

- 1) *Setup at 2:00pm:*
- 2) *Greeter at 2:40pm:*
- 3) *Last one out:*

If you have any issues signing up, please email Linda Skinner at [scheduling@spiritus-mlc.org](mailto:scheduling@spiritus-mlc.org). We thank you in advance for your support.



Check out this lovely article about Dave Chesar, former QAC member.

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

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# UPCOMING SPIRITUS EVENTS

- December 7<sup>th</sup>: Spiritus Prayer Gathering, 3:00PM, Madeleine Room
- December 13<sup>th</sup>: Spiritus Christmas Party, 2-5 PM Bergamo Center
  - Fireplace Lounge
  - Food for the Journey - Respite bag assembly
- December 16<sup>th</sup>: Spiritus Prayer Gathering, 3:00 PM, Madeleine Room
- December 28<sup>th</sup>: Spiritus Mass for Holy Family
  - 10:30 am at Queen of Apostles Chapel

Come see some of our members perform in the holiday concert on December 8th for the Kettering Civic Band. Details are on the flyer below.

## REMOTE VIEWING

**Thank you to all those who help with the streaming and make it possible**

**Viewing of all past meetings are available on the Spiritus website. Just click the banner at the bottom of the page for access.**

If you are interested in being trained to stream meetings, please see Kevin Skinner or send inquiries to [contact@spiritus-mlc.org](mailto:contact@spiritus-mlc.org)

To rewatch all past meetings click on the link for our website at the bottom of the page.

[HTTPS://SPIRITUS-MLC.ORG](https://spiritus-mlc.org)





**Free Admission**



# *Holiday Concert*

*Presented by the*

## *Kettering Civic Band*



**Kettering Middle School  
Auditorium**

3000 Glengarry Drive  
Kettering, Ohio

**Monday  
December 8, 2025  
7:00p.m.**



**[www.ketteringcivicband.org](http://www.ketteringcivicband.org)**

With Advent here, Bergamo is excited to roll out a new program: a School of Prayer Advent Series hosted by four of their certified spiritual directors. Please consider taking a step back from your busy schedules to enter more deeply into the meaning of the season. You can attend one, two, or all three sessions (and lunch and coffee are included)!

Follow the link for an extended description and registration information:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1909687740439?aff=oddtcreator>

We hope to see you at Bergamo during the upcoming Advent Season!

*Join us for Bergamo's*

# School of Prayer Advent Series

**Attend one, two, or all three sessions!**

*Deepen your spiritual life this Advent – learn from and pray with the Bergamo Center's spiritual directors!*

**SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER, 9AM-1PM  
(INCLUDES LUNCH AND COFFEE)**

## DECEMBER 6

*Prayers and Prayer:  
A School of Prayer*



JOE MCHUGH



STEPHEN RIVET

## DECEMBER 13

*Gaudete! Rejoice!  
through Visio Divina*



MICHELLE SHERMAN

## DECEMBER 20

*Preparing with Mary for  
the Coming of Christ*



FR. TOM SCHROER, SM

Registration and more info -> QR code or  
[www.bergamocenter.org/adult-programs](http://www.bergamocenter.org/adult-programs)



# SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER

Advent collections will be collected on December 7<sup>th</sup> and at the holiday party on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Please see all the lists on the next page.

## **Miami Valley Immigration Coalition**

The Miami Valley Immigration Coalition, MVIC, pantry has pressing needs for DRIED beans, INSTANT coffee, masa flour, dry or canned milk, cooking oil 32 Oz or smaller, small bags of sugar, holiday treats and mixes. They still need \$25 Kroger gift cards, toddler clothes, and art supplies.

There are still spots that need filled for the Family Promise -adopt a family. Please follow the link on the page below to sign up for a spot.

[HTTPS://SPIRITUS-MLC.ORG](https://spiritus-mlc.org)





SPIRITUS MLC 2025

# ADVENT

## GIVING LIST

### ❄️ FAMILY PROMISE ❄️

This year we have adopted 2 children, a 15 year old girl (HM) and a 12 year old boy (KD). HM likes baggy pants/jeans with pockets (nothing “skinny”) and no pink. KD likes dark colored clothes. Sign-ups will be in the hallway by the St Vincent donations or online [HERE](#)

### ❄️ MIAMI VALLEY ❄️

#### IMMIGRATION COALITION

\$25 Kroger gift cards  
Clothing for toddlers  
Art supplies ( markers, crayons, drawing pads, construction paper, coloring books, etc.)  
Dish soap, laundry detergent, soap, toilet paper, shampoo, toothpaste

### ❄️ CHANGE AND BE CHANGED ❄️

At our December 7 gathering, we will be blessed with a visit from St. Nikolaus, who will be asking us to help fund a scholarship for Bro. Clemens to pursue his doctoral degree in Pharmacy in Tanzania and to purchase a much-needed piece of dental equipment for Kayese. (detailed descriptions at the gathering.)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS OUT TO:  
CHANGE AND BE CHANGED.

They will send you a receipt for your tax-deductible donation. If you will not be attending 12/7 and still want to contribute, contact Chris Bohmer Stewart. However, if you won't be present 12/7, you will miss all the treats prepared by St. Nick's helpers, AKA Thomas, Elisabeth, and Marti!



### ❄️ FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY ❄️

#### Winter socks, hats, gloves, blankets, rain ponchos

These donations can be brought to the Madeleine Room at our gatherings or, better yet, brought to our Christmas Social on 12/13 as they will be distributed to those who receive the respite bags we will be filling during our celebrations.

# MARIANIST FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Check out the new edition of  
Marianist Family Online!  
<https://www.marianist.com/familyonline/>

## STAY CONNECTED !

MARIANIST FAMILY - <https://www.marianist.com>

MARIANIST SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE - <https://marianistsjc.net>

MARIANIST LAY COMMUNITY OF NORTH AMERICA - <https://www.mlcna.org>

MARIANIST ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER - <https://meec.center>

NORTH AMERICAN CENTER FOR MARIANIST STUDIES - <https://www.nacms.org>

# SPIRITUS CONTACT UPDATES

If there is anyone who is seriously ill or facing a significant surgery or procedure the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available.

You can call the Spiritus office and leave a message if it is something that can be scheduled in advance, or if more time sensitive, you can reach out to Fr. Tom. His telephone number is 937-903-0943.

If you need to change any contact information, please let us know by responding to this email or by writing any changes that you need to have made on the clipboard available by the nametags at each Spiritus gathering. We want to make sure that everyone is getting information in a way that is helpful and suits them.

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November 12, 2025

Dear Marianist Family Vacation Retreat Families, Volunteers, and Friends, We send you greetings from Governor's Island and wish to provide some updates regarding the Family Vacation Retreat Program. Last summer, our week was a huge success! We had a full house with 40 family members and staff! The core team is already hard at work planning for summer 2026, when we hope to offer two weeks of this experience which is so beneficial to today's families.

To say that the Marianist Family Vacation Retreat runs on a shoestring budget would be accurate! We work very hard to keep the program as affordable and accessible as possible for interested families.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, we were able to purchase a new grill, new porch chairs, and keep the retreat pricing affordable. Additionally, we offered our first ever "Come & See" day which introduced new young families to our program. We continue to be touched by the myriad donations of time, resources, finances, and prayer by friends like you.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we are reaching out to ask you to discern the possibility of making a financial or other donation to support this important ministry. Please note that this is our only official "ask" of the year.

If you've participated in the program in the past, you may have fond memories of:

- Morning prayer, fabulous skits, and Pecos Mime
- Afternoon tubing on the lake, fishing fun, and silly songs
- Sunset cruises, Family Olympics, and renewing vows in the chapel

If each family, friend of the program, or volunteer were to give a \$50.00 donation it would be a huge help, **but any amount would be appreciated.** If you wish to contribute financially, *please make a check out to "The Marianists" and mail it to*

**Brother Joe Kamis, S.M.**  
**Governor's Island**  
**9636 Lakeshore Drive East**  
**Huntsville, Ohio 43324**

(If you have questions, please contact Brother Joe at 314-753-3219)

Gratefully, Brother Joe Kamis and the Core Team

Erin Bockrath, Angela & Bob Bolton, Tim & M.E. Dillon, Sophia & Timothy Hosford,  
Anne Petratis, Martha Saurine and Bro Don Smith

p.s. Summer 2026 Retreat Dates: **July 7 to 11** and **July 21 to 25**

Feel free to share with interested families or volunteers!

UNPLUG FROM  
DAILY LIFE AND  
REDISCOVER  
YOUR FAMILY  
AND YOUR  
FAITH, WHILE  
HAVING FUN.




## MARIANIST FAMILY VACATION RETREAT

Indian Lake  
Governor's Island  
Huntsville, Ohio

### CONTACT US

Phone/Text: (314) 753-3219

Facebook:

Marianist Family Vacation Retreat

Email: joe.kamis1946@gmail.com

**Governor's Island**

9636 Lakeshore Drive East

Huntsville, Ohio 43324-9520

5 Day Retreat (**July 1 - 5** or **July 15 - 19**)



### OUR MISSION

This unique program for Catholic families is designed to renew and deepen family commitment and unity. It is sponsored by the Society of Mary (Marianists)!

#### What Other Families Have Said:

"The beauty of the lake enhances the spiritual dimension of the retreat."

"Nice balance of fun and depth."

"We loved having our values reinforced to our children by their peers and other families."



5 Day Retreat (July 1 - 5 or July 15 - 19) We Are Proud to Offer Family Friendly Rates \$50 Off if Registered by May 1st! Last Day to Register: May 20th.	
Adults (Parents)	\$125
Young Adults (18 and Older)	\$105
Teens (13-17)	\$85
Children (6-12)	\$75
Children (5 and Younger)	FREE
Meals Included in Rate All Rates Are Per Person	



### Schedule of Activities

Arrive between 12 and 2 PM on Tuesday and Depart at 2 PM on Saturday.

Theme for Retreat: "Discover the Way"

All aboard, mates! It's time to swab the deck, hoist the mainsail, raise the mizzenmast and set out for our next adventure. We are sailing away on the high seas in the spirit of explorers to chart a new course on a voyage of discovery through modern family life. It's a brave new world.

#### Morning Session

- Morning Prayer
- Skit/Presentation
- Peer Sessions

#### Afternoon Session

- Family Fun
  - Boating, Fishing, Swimming, Games

#### Evening Session

- Evening Prayer
- Group Activities
- Peer-Group Social

### Accommodations

- Private Bedrooms
- Private Bathrooms
- Community Gathering Areas
- Home Cooked Meals
- Fantastic Views of Indian Lake

# SPIRITUS CONTACTS

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

Matt Naveau - Community Coordinator -

[matt.naveau@spiritus-mlc.org](mailto:matt.naveau@spiritus-mlc.org)

Linda Skinner - Temporalities Coordinator

[linda.skinner@spiritus-mlc.org](mailto:linda.skinner@spiritus-mlc.org)

Chris Sitko - Formation Coordinator

[csitko24@aol.com](mailto:csitko24@aol.com)

Chris Bohmer-Stewart - Social Justice Coordinator

[bohmerstewart\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:bohmerstewart_1@hotmail.com)

Tom McCrate - Finance Coordinator

[tom.mccrate@spiritus-mlc.org](mailto:tom.mccrate@spiritus-mlc.org)

Open - Spirituality Coordinator

Steve Guilfoos - Community Rep

[sguilfoos@woh.rr.com](mailto:sguilfoos@woh.rr.com)

Sharie McKenny - Community Rep

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Eddie Simpson - Community Rep

[Eddie4087@gmail.com](mailto:Eddie4087@gmail.com)

Fr. Tom Schroer - Spiritual Advisor

[tschroer1@udayton.edu](mailto:tschroer1@udayton.edu)

