

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer for the 1st Week in Advent ~

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come
Born to set your people free;
Free me from fear,
Release me from my sin,
Let me find rest in you.**

**You are the hope of all the earth,
You are the desire of every nation,
You are the joy of every longing heart.**

**You are born to rescue me —
A child,
And yet a king.
You are born
to reign in my heart forever.
Bring your gracious kingdom to me.**

**Fill me with your eternal spirit,
Rule in my heart forever.
And by your grace,
Bring me to your glorious throne.
Amen.**

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560. e-mail: jbesc@ix.netcom.com

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS:

On the table in the narthex of the Chapel are several Advent devotionals to assist you in your spiritual journey during this season of Advent. We hope that you will make use of them for you and your family. [1] **The Little Blue Book** with daily readings and devotions. This book corresponds to “The Little Black Book” that is so popular during Lent. [2] The daily scripture devotion, **The Word Among Us**, is available. It lists the scripture passage for the day along with a short reflection on one of the passages.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

We are beginning our annual Advent-Christmas outreach program earlier this year because many have expressed concern that they have not had enough time to participate as they would like. Our Lady Chapel is again joining hands in partnership with several Parishes and social service agencies in an effort to share our lives together. The *Adopt a Family* project and the *Giving Tree/Adopt a Child* programs have been a tradition at Our Lady Chapel for many years. This year, we will again be serving these parishes and agencies in these two ways.

[1] **Giving Tree/Adopt a Child.** Our Lady of Fatima Community Center, the West Side Catholic Center, and St. Adalbert Parish are all trying to serve the needs of the less fortunate during this Advent-Christmas time. They need hats, gloves, socks, underwear, sweaters, sweat shirts, hoodies, throw blankets, infant needs, books, toys and games for children, ages 3 to 16 years. People will be able to pick an ornament off of the tree — located in the narthex of the chapel — with a child’s age and an item needed. [There will also be a tree located in the front lobby of the Lower School]. These items would then be gathered, UNWRAPPED, please, and the tag [ornament] taped onto the gift. **Our goal would be to have all items assembled by December 17th, for pickup by the various agencies.**

[2] **Adopt a Family.** Last year our Community adopted 25 or so Families through St. Adalbert’s Parish. This year we would again like to adopt between a minimum of 30-40 families. This is a bigger project than “Adopt a Child”. St. Adalbert identifies families — most often single parent, below poverty level families; each member of the family makes known an item or two that they would like to have “under their tree”. Adopt-a-family gifts should be WRAPPED. This is a project that the entire family can get involved in. In addition, if possible, we also try to provide a Christmas meal for the family [non perishable items in a food basket]. Those from our chapel family who participated in this project last year spoke very highly of the benefit of this project to their own families. Families can be matched according to family size, ages, etc. It was truly inspiring. **Pick-up dates would be December 20th**, but since we would be dealing with a specific family, there is more flexibility. **Please call Patty at the Chapel Office [440-473-3560 or szaniszlop@gilmour.org] if you and your family would like to participate in this program, or if you have any questions.**

CHILDREN’S BULLETINS:

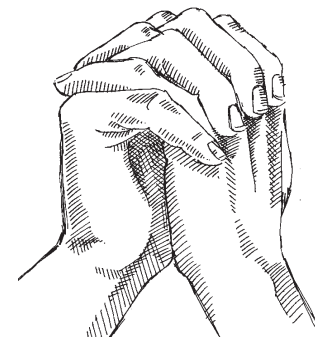
Each week, we are making available a **Children’s Worship Bulletin**. There are **two editions: [3-6] and [7-12]**. They are available on the table as you leave. The Bulletin focuses on the readings for the week. These are wonderful tools for your children to learn more about the scripture readings for the week. We hope you will take them for your families or your grandchildren. Thanks.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Allison Sanborn, who is recovering from multiple surgeries.
- For Patricia Weaver who is ill.
- For Janice Feenstra, sister of Lisa Habe, aunt of Jack [‘19] and Will [‘20] Habe who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Matt Barry [‘13], son of Dean [‘84], brother of Timothy [‘12], who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For Douglas Edens who is ill.
- For Catherine King, who is under the care of hospice.
- For John Russo, father of Jennifer [‘93], who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Rory Bourke [‘60] who is recovering from serious surgery.
- For Betty Hersch who is critically ill.
- For Dora Lukacevic, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- For Janet Mehling, sister-in-law of Sister Mary Ann Mehling, who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Ronald Connolly who is undergoing treatment for pancreatic and liver cancer.
- For Steve Hovancsek, uncle of Christian Horvath [21], who is critically ill with cancer.
- For Dennis Jancsy who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Emily Kuhar, niece of former Middle School Administrator, Patricia Brockway, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Brother Bernard Klim, C.S.C., who is hospitalized for medical testing.
- For Moddie Davis, mother of Glenda [‘13] Davis who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- For Barbara Carr who is seriously ill with brain cancer.
- For Brother Paul Kelly, C.S.C., who is undergoing treatment for Leukemia
- For Anne Travassos, who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For Michael Shea, brother of Lower School Teacher, Theresa Stark, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Monica Starks, mother of Faith [‘20] and former Gilmour student, Monica Joy, who is undergoing treatment for kidney disease.
- For Phylis McGinley, grandmother of Middle school Head of School, Elizabeth Edmondson, great-grandmother of Mollie [‘21] and Abigail [‘23] Edmondson, who is seriously ill.
- For Christian Connors, son of technology associate, Kevin Connors, who is continues in rehab
- For Mary Kampman, mother of Mark [‘81], Matthew [‘85], Dean [‘86], and Douglas [‘88] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Stephanie Batt [‘04], daughter of Debbie Moss Batt, who is undergoing medical testing.
- For Karen Wanders, mother of upper school teacher, Jonathan, who is undergoing treatment resulting from a brain aneurysm.
- For Dan Hathey, technology associate, who is undergoing treatment for cancer and a stroke.
- For Betty Herten, aunt of Hope [‘13] and James [‘15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For Dan Houlahan who is in rehabilitation following a brain aneurysm.
- For Sister Barbara Johns, I.H.M., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For June Nugent
- For Carol Pike, mother of former Gilmour student, Libby Pike, aunt of Bryon ['08] and Natalie ['11] Pike.
- For Annabelle Breitsch, relative of Brother Ken Kane, C.S.C.
- For Catherine Chesser
- For Sheila Haroch
- For Ruth Baeslack
- For Brandon Watts
- For Marian Kral.
- For Brother Roger Robillard, C.S.C.
- For Martin Bibbo, nephew of Evelyn Bibbo.
- For Dorothy Dipietrantonio, aunt of Natalie Collins ['17].
- For David Giglio
- For Lawrence Cassesa, father of Strength/Conditioning Coach, Mike Cassesa.
- For David Tibaldi, nephew of Charlene and Dennis Kavran.
- For Nina Schauer, mother of Phil, grandmother of Theresa and Isabella Schauer.
- For Nicola DiLallo, father of Anthonio ['90] and Ralph ['96] DiLallo
- For Ed Stephens, father of Darren ['85] and Saul ['91] Stephens.
- For Denise Yuko
- For John Thompson, grandfather of Upper School teachers, Erin Thompson, and Whitney Daley.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Bob Meyo, brother of former Gilmour Trustee, Ray Meyo, uncle of Lisa ['93] and Joe ['94] Meyo, who is under hospice care.
- For Chris Biggins who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Cheryl Arndt, Gilmour housekeeper, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Pastor Henry Charles who is ill.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For all who are called and who live consecrated life.
- For an end to the Ebola crisis.
- For patience and understanding.
- For an end to human trafficking..
- For the unemployed.
- For those who struggle with family relationships.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For a special intention.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

FAITH EDUCATION:

Here are the dates for Faith Education for the months of December and January — **December 7th and 14th**, and **January 11th and 25th**. Our Sessions go from **8:45—9:45 AM** each time we meet, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass**. We have a number of families who attend the chapel regularly who have children who attend non-Catholic schools. Our **Faith Education Program** will help to fulfill your on-going religious education. Our program runs from grades K-8. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate in our Life Teen Program. **Please contact Patty in the Chapel Office (440)473-3560 if you have any questions.** Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, November 30: 1st Week in Advent	10:00 AM
Monday, December 1:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Tuesday, December 2:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Wednesday, December 3: St. Francis Xavier	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Thursday, December 4:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Friday, December 5:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Saturday, December 6: 2nd Week in Advent	5:00 PM
Sunday, December 7: 2nd Week in Advent	10:00 AM

MEN’S RETREAT — DECEMBER 2nd:

The Fall Men’s retreat has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, December 2nd**. Come and share in this evening of prayer and reflection sponsored by Our Lady Chapel and the Gilmour Men’s Club. The retreat brings together men of the Chapel and Gilmour Communities in an evening of spiritual conversation. The retreat begins with **Mass in Our Lady Chapel at 5:30 PM** followed by **dinner and discussion in the Lennon Board Room**, concluding around 9:00 PM. Even if you can't make the Mass at 5:30, please join us when you are able to get there. **Cost for the evening is \$15.** [Please know that ability to pay for the retreat is not a condition for attendance]. **Reserve your spot today by signing the “sign-up” sheet located on the easel in the narthex of the chapel, or by contacting Patty in the Chapel Office [440-473-3560].** We hope to see you at this wonderful spiritual opportunity for the men of Our Lady Chapel and Gilmour Academy.



REFLECTION ON THE THEME FOR THE WEEK:

This year Advent is almost as long as it can be — we almost have four full weeks. So there is no reason for us not to be prepared for the great celebration of God’s becoming earthy. The more there is of the pre-Christmas jingle, the more we pray for freedom from the commercial jangle. We have time — and we need time — for our spiritualities to catch up with our “hecticities.” The important prayer of this season has to be the coming-to-awareness of our need for a Savior. We can never be too aware and alert to all the various ways that God is trying to enter our world and our individual lives. Christ’s coming is an “always” event, but during this liturgical season of Advent we are invited to take time for ourselves — the ones to whom He comes.

Isaiah begins to shape our awareness by making some dramatic statements [Isaiah 63:16-64:8]. Some are pleas, some chide God, and some are humble reflections on our own guilt and shame. When all is said, there is much that needs to be done.

Israel experiences itself as distant from God and pleads that God would look down from heaven and come right down here and change our behavior. There is a hint that it is actually God’s fault that Israel has wandered away and been so sinful — if God were closer, Israel would be better. And for all their mild and prayerful complaining, the Prophet Isaiah does recall the name of God in Israel is “Abba” and “Potter”. And Israel, who was created as God’s people, now admits it needs to be refashioned, renamed, and recreated.

Isaiah, speaking for the people of Israel, expresses a deep longing to belong again. There are some pitiful cries for God to not seem so far away, but to return to the intimacy of ages past. Our human condition is equally scattered and quite unsure to what or whom we belong. Our personal prayer is that of all humanity — “Why do you let us wander? Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down.”

Mark’s Gospel for this 1st week in Advent speaks about the ending of things. For all the images of coming disasters possible, Jesus is exhorting His followers to be in a state of readiness — “Be watchful. Be alert. Watch!” These are strong words which catch the ear of His disciples. They are also words by which Jesus Himself has lived His personal mission of redeeming this world. Awareness can be a function of fear, but also of love. If being redeemed is our final end, and if Jesus’ mission was to redeem us and bring us all back to the Hands of the “potter” — the Creator — then fear of His coming is not the final disaster, but the final revelation of God’s creative love.

Jesus uses a little image which is very important — but it can be easily overlooked. Jesus uses the image of a land owner who goes on a journey, but leaves his servants “each with his own work” to do. The challenge is not just to stay awake, but to be awake so as to do the work of bringing light and life to God’s world. Waiting and watching out of fear is passive and paralyzing; waiting in faith is eager and exciting. We can wait expecting to be caught, or expecting to be caught up in our part in His coming into this world.

As we get older, we find ourselves more actively waiting for Christmas — we enjoy Advent more. As a younger person, Advent was easily endured because we have our eyes on the prizes of Christmas underneath the largest of Christmas trees. Emptiness in our living room was replaced with branches whose fullness promised completion. Darkness was replaced by as many lights as our electrical system

**DRESSES FOR HONDURAS:**

One of the nurses in our Gilmour Clinic is involved in a **dressmaking project** for the children of Honduras. They have devised a method of making sundresses out of common pillowcases, and then adorning them with other items for decoration. And that is where you come in. **If you have any old buttons, ribbon, ric-rac, lace or other sewing trim**, please bring them in. The group would like to collect these items to help decorate the dresses they are working on. This is an on-going project; the dresses will be sent to Honduras every time there is a mission trip. The next trip is scheduled for March of 2015. There will be a **basket in the narthex of the Chapel** to collect any donations you may have. Thank you for your help!

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

Monday:	Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Isaiah 11:1-10, Luke 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Isaiah 25:6-10, <attjew 15:29-37
Thursday:	Isaiah 26:1-6, Matthew 7:21-27
Friday:	Isaiah 29:17-24, Matthew 9:27-31
Saturday:	Isaiah 30:19-26, Matthew 9:35-10:1

2nd Week in Advent: Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

AMAZON.COM:

Please remember that when you want to buy something from Amazon.com, you need to first go to www.ourladychapel.org and click on the Amazon logo at the bottom of the home page! Because of this simple step — and at no cost to the purchaser — Our Lady Chapel receives a percentage of all purchases that are made from Amazon.com. Ever since we have begun this program, we have consistently been receiving significant checks from Amazon that are being credited to help pay for chapel expenses. This affinity program remains in effect throughout the year, so we ask everyone to continue to remember to start your purchases at Amazon on the Our Lady Chapel home page! Thank you.

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY GATHERING:**

‘Tis the Season for **Christmas Family Gathering, Sunday, December 7, 11 AM to 1 PM**, in Gilmour’s **Athletic Center**: All families are invited to attend the Lower School’s Christmas Family Gathering. This is a family-friendly event filled with holiday cheer, including crafts, music, an appearance by Balloon Bender Dave, hot brunch, exclusive silent auction and photos with the one and only Santa Claus! There will also be an exciting raffle. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children [ages 3 – 18] and children 2 and under are free. Gilmour families will receive an invitation in the mail! Others are welcome to join us. To volunteer for this event or if you have any questions, please contact LSPO President **Caren Nakhooda** at cnakhooda@gmail.com.



THE FUTURE IS NOW:

We all can identify with Isaiah's request that God "rend the heavens and come down" [Isaiah 63:16-64:8]. It's difficult facing life without God being a physical part of that life — "You, O Lord, are our father," the prophet proclaims. "We are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." Given that relationship, it certainly would be nice if God were around when we needed Him.

Yet there might be some occasions when we prefer God not to be deeply embedded in our lives — "Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags." In other words, maybe it's not a bad thing that God is looking at us from a distance.

No doubt the fear of God coming at the wrong time in the wrong place is why Mark's Jesus tells his people to "Be watchful! Be alert!" [Mark 13:33-37]. The evangelist is still expecting Jesus' Second Coming to take place during his and his community's lifetime. At this point, expecting an imminent Parousia is almost an essential part of the Christian faith. But interestingly enough, Mark shares Isaiah's fear — "You do not know when the time will come." May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

Paul, writing at least ten years before Mark, also believes Jesus' Parousia is just around the corner. Yet he's little more confident than the evangelist that the Corinthians will be busy doing the right things when the risen Jesus arrives — "God will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" [I Corinthians 1:3-9]. Paul's confidence revolves around his belief that no one in the Corinthian church is "lacking in any spiritual gift." Those special gifts of the Spirit are the down payment on Jesus' promise of eternal life for his followers.

But those familiar with Paul's letter to the Church at Corinth knows that one of the reasons that Paul writes this particular letter is to confront the misuse of those gifts. Some in the church are employing them for their own benefit instead of for the benefit of the community. Instead of unifying the church, they're splitting it into factions. In the mind and experience of Paul, there's no more serious Christian sin.

It must have amazed the Apostle that God's presence — rooted in the gifts of the Holy Spirit — was so lightly regarded by some who had received them. Those misguided Christians forgot they were members of the Body of Christ. Their faith was not their own personal business. If God were to rend the heavens and come down, it was not to meet their needs — rather it was to meet the needs of the community.

The historical Jesus always stressed that God is present, working effectively in our lives. But he also stressed that in order to experience that presence, we had to go through a "metanoia" — a total change in our value system. Such a repentance helped his followers put others and their needs before their own — to die and rise as Jesus died and rose, by giving themselves to others.

Paul never wanted his people to take their eyes off Jesus' Parousia. But he also never wanted them to take their eyes off the presence of the risen Jesus right here and now. Though certainly Paul was disappointed that Jesus' Second Coming never happened in his lifetime, he certainly wasn't disappointed in the presence of the risen Jesus among us — especially in the Body of Christ.

Wouldn't it be nice to wake up one day and realize that what we're expecting in the future is already here — if we know what to look for? Best we stay awake.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet



would permit. Silence was moved out by carols and stories of the old times. We kids enjoyed it all of course, but it was all about having and waiting for more.

There is the song from the musical play, *Mame*, whose main line is: "We need a little Christmas, right this very minute." But the truth is that before we need Christmas, we need a little emptiness, darkness, and silence. These Advent days do get busier, packed, brighter and louder. What we all need is some sense that we need to be redeemed, recreated, renamed, and reborn. If we were aware of this, then we would be more watchful and alert to how loved we are, and how many ways there are to bring Christ to life in the world around us.

So, the ultimate question as we begin this journey is: what kind of Christmas am you waiting for this year? So stay awake, alert and watchful for what — or who — is coming next.

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

WORLD YOUTH DAY & KRAKOW, POLAND 2016:

The time has come for us to take the next step in our Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2016. **It is time to start putting down deposits so that we can finance this trip over a period of time.** We will begin to contact those who have expressed interest. We have a link to the presentation which Chris Dube from Dube Travel did for us, so that you will be able to get all the details of our pilgrimage. Our pilgrimage to WYD will begin with our departure on **Saturday, July 23**. Monday, we will visit Auschwitz and the German concentration camps, and see the place where St. Maximilian Kobe was martyred. We will then begin our trip to Krakow, stopping at Czestochowa — home to the monastery at Jasna Gora and the famous icon of the Black Madonna. During our stay in Krakow, we will journey to Wadowice — the home town of St. John Paul II, and visit the Church of the Divine Mercy and the Shrine of St. Faustina Kowalska. We will be staying at a hotel located on the square in Krakow, within walking distance of almost all of the events of WYD.

We will be attending catechetical sessions each morning, followed by evening cultural and spiritual events — daily Mass, the sacrament of reconciliation, adoration, and many other experiences. Our group will officially welcome, celebrate mass, and take part in the Stations of the Cross with the Holy Father, Pope Francis.

We will return to Cleveland on **Monday, August 1**. Over 40 people have expressed an interest thus far in this pilgrimage. The invitation remains open to **Our Lady Chapel Families** as well as all **Gilmour Families**. Chaperones must be 21+ years old. Children under 16 years of age will be required to be accompanied by a parent. **Please contact the chapel office — Father John or Patty at 440-473-3560 to confirm your place on this life-changing pilgrimage**

ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector.** These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, **please give your name to Father John**. You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**



FINDING YOUR WAY:

A dramatic picture appeared in a newspaper. It was a young man dead from a drug overdose in his cherry red Corvette. The car was parked beside a parking meter that read “TIME EXPIRED.” But so, too, is my clock expiring — so is yours! No wonder Jesus says today: “Stay awake.” An auto decal reads: “Jesus is coming back. Look busy.” Mark’s Gospel affirms that Jesus will return for each of us [Mark 13:33-37]. Rod McKuen’s ballad sets Mark’s theme — “We’ve all grown older. Come see where we have been, out here rusting in the rain.” Not too long ago, in a twenty four hour period, I learned of the sudden death in separate incidents of three friends. Each was younger than I. And so with the coming of this fresh Advent I am reminded vividly that I do not know “when the Master of the house is coming.” Their death tells us that we all live “in the shadow of eternity.” The disciple asked: “How do we prepare for death?”

The hermit replied simply: “By living.” Somehow these next four weeks, we must learn to live as if the Christ was crucified yesterday, rose this early morning, and will return for us at any hour. Would that we could all come to remember the words of the prophet Isaiah — God is the potter and we are but the clay! To paraphrase a *Time* magazine article: “Advent is the season in which we Christians preside over the reinvention of ourselves.”

We strive to climb out of our deepest problems by reimagining our Christian lives. It should be, as Thomas Merton advises, “the beginning of the end in us of all that is not Christ.” The Church wisely gives us these weeks of Advent to let us know that Jesus is not enchanted with us. Yet, even a quick self-examination tells us that we are unhappy with our own situations. Each of us is shot through with potentialities which we have been fearful to actualize to this point at least. Change and growth frighten everyone. Yet, John Powell advises us that “there is an old Christian tradition that God sends each person into this world with a special message to deliver, a special song to sing for others, and a special act of love to bestow.” Were a scientist to warn us that an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter scale was fast approaching, we would take every precaution imaginable. Yet, unhappily, the Master’s prediction that He shall return does not move us to make even accidental changes in our lives.

But, given the “on target” correctness of the prophecies concerning Jesus’ first coming — as told in Micah 5:2-6 and Isaiah 9: 6-7 — one would think that we would be smart enough to act accordingly. Should we decide not to do so, we can hardly fault the Early Warning System that God has today put in place in Mark’s Gospel — “Be on your guard.” Many of us think that we’re too old to renew ourselves. Knowing that, Glen Van Ekeren put together statistics. George Burns won an Oscar at 80. Golda Meir became Prime Minister of Israel at 71. At 96, George Bernard Shaw broke his leg when he fell out of a tree he was trimming. Grandma Moses began painting at 80. Michelangelo was 71 when he painted the Sistine chapel. Albert Schweitzer was performing surgery at 89. Casey Stengel was managing the Mets at 74. Do you still think you’re too old?

“Yesterday”, we are told, “is a memory. Tomorrow but a dream.” Now is the only time on which eternity depends. A story comes to us from Eastern mysticism that we might want to make our own this Advent. “Abbot, what has God’s wisdom taught you? Did you become divine?” “Not at all.” “Did you



intimacy that we don’t mean, lack of respect for previous commitments, disregard for the wider relationships of family and community, or failure to respect long-range happiness and health. Annie Dillard’s metaphor basically captures it — there is a fault in our chastity when we put a candle to the cocoon so as to unnaturally rush the process.

Chastity is about proper waiting and waiting is about patience in carrying the tensions and frustrations we suffer as we live the unfinished symphony that constitutes our lives.

There are some wonderful refrains in apocalyptic literature around the importance of waiting. Before the messiah can be conceived, gestated, and given birth to, there must always be a proper time of waiting, a necessary advent, a certain quota of suffering, which alone can create the proper virginal space within which the messiah can be born: “God is never in a hurry!” “Every tear brings the messiah closer!” “It is with much groaning of the flesh that the life of the spirit is brought forth!”

All of these phrases say the same thing — what is sublime depends upon there first having been some sublimation. A feast can only happen after there has first been some fasting; love can only be a gift if the gift is fully respected; and as Carretto so poignantly puts it, we must learn to wait for God, for love, for the bride, and for Christmas.

—taken from the writings of Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I., which appear on the internet

ATTENDANCE:

If you attend Mass regularly here at Our Lady Chapel, it would be helpful if you filled out a form [name, address, phone number, children, etc.] indicating this fact, if you have not already done so. Such information not only helps us to know who is attending Our Lady Chapel; it also is of great assistance to us in record keeping [for our friend, the IRS] of any contributions which you may make.

ENVELOPES:

- When you need a **new supply** of envelopes, please feel free to take a supply of them from the table in the vestibule, or call Father John at the Campus Ministry Office [473-3560].
- When you **use** your envelope, please make sure that **your number** is on it. If you need to know your number, please call the Campus Ministry Office. Thanks.

WEEKLY OFFERING:

Baskets will be passed during the “Preparation Rite” and will be brought to the altar as part of the Offerings to help offset chapel daily operating expenses. When you choose to use the envelopes, your donations to Our Lady Chapel will be acknowledged so that you have a record for the IRS.

Total Offerings: Saturday [11/22/14] ----- \$ 1,122.00

Total Offerings: Sunday [11/23/14] ----- \$ 747.00

Total Offerings: Thanksgiving [11/27/14] ----- \$ 80.00

R.C.I.A [Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults]:

We are beginning to plan for our RCIA program which will begin in a few weeks. If you know someone who has been away from the Catholic Church for a while, or who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, or who presently is not a Catholic but would like to pursue this avenue of faith; if you know someone who is not fully initiated [Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation] in their Catholic faith — then consider having them join our RCIA program. **Please contact Father John [440-473-3560] for more information.**



ADVENT — A TIME TO WAIT:

Carlo Carretto, the renowned spiritual writer, spent many years living alone as a hermit in the Sahara desert. He wrote a number of books from that place of solitude — including one entitled, *Letters from the Desert*. In that book, he has a message for those of us who live busy lives in the world: “What is God trying to say to us in our busy lives?” He suggests this: “Be patient! Learn to wait — for each other, for love, for happiness, for God!”

Learn to wait! That’s not something we do easily, and many of our problems flow from that. We often don’t wait properly for things.

Annie Dillard shares this story about proper waiting. She had been watching a butterfly emerge from its cocoon and was fascinated by the process — until she grew impatient with how long it was taking. To speed things up, she took a candle and heated the cocoon — albeit very gently. The experiment worked, but it was a mistake in the long run. The butterfly emerged more quickly; however, because adding heat violated something within the natural process, the butterfly was born with wings too weak to fly. Haste and prematurity had stunted and deformed a natural process. Some things can’t be rushed.

Dillard understood immediately what had gone wrong. A certain chastity had been violated. Impatience had triggered an irreverence that had interfered with and damaged the natural order of things. In essence, the Christmas gift had been opened too early; the bride had been slept with before the wedding; a process that needed an allotted period of time had been short-circuited. There hadn’t been enough advent.



Advent means waiting. Among other things, it celebrates the idea that the messiah must be born from a virgin. Why? Is sex something unworthy of God? If Jesus had been born in a natural way, would that somehow have given him less dignity? This is a dark underside in some spiritualities, but Jesus’ birth from a virgin has nothing to do with that. Scripture and Christian tradition emphasize that Jesus was born of a virgin to underscore the fact that he had no human father, and also to teach an important truth — namely, that in order for something sublime to be born there must, first, be a proper chastity, a proper time of waiting, a season of advent. Why?

The answer lies in properly understanding chastity. Chastity is not something to do with sex — chastity has to do with how we experience reality in general — all experience. To be chaste is to have proper reverence towards God, towards each other, towards nature, towards ourselves, towards reality in general, and towards sex.

Lack of chastity is irreverence — in any area of life. And reverence is a lot about proper waiting. We can see this by looking at its opposite — to lack chastity, to be irreverent, is to be impatient, selfish, callous, immature, undisciplined, or boorish in any way so that our actions deprive someone else of his or her full uniqueness, dignity, and preciousness. And we do this every time we short-circuit waiting.

Thus, it is understandable why the prime analogate for chastity is proper reverence in the area of sex. Sex — because it so deeply affects the soul — speaks most loudly about chastity or lack of it. Sex is only chaste when it is not short-circuited by impatience, selfishness, or lack of respect. Sadly, because sex is so powerful, these things are often short-circuited. We violate chastity in sex whenever there is prematurity, unfair pressure, subtle manipulation, crass force, taking without giving, posturing an

become a saint?” “No, as you can clearly see.” “What then, O Abbot?” “I became awake!”

The Abbot might have been reading Mark’s Gospel — “Be on your guard, stay awake.” Charles Lindberg flew across the Atlantic Ocean solo and nonstop in 1927 from New York to Paris in 33 hours and 30 minutes. To get himself ready for the ordeal, he often refused to go to bed. When asked why, he replied: “Just practicing to stay awake all night.”

This is the attitude that Christ would have us bring to this opening day of Advent — “Stay awake. You don’t know the day nor the hour when I will come for you.” Here are suggestions to start your reformation: “Become a volunteer at a local hospital. Help a friend with a project he or she is working on. Offer comfort to someone unhappy. Stand up for someone being treated unfairly. Reconcile with someone you have quarreled with. Wish people you meet a good day — and help make it so.”

—taken from the writings of Father James Gilhooly, which appear on the internet.

SOULCORE:

“SoulCore” is a core workout that is meditative on the rosary and similar to yoga or Pilates in style. It’s a deep sensory experience that combines candlelight, aromatherapy, and spiritual music to provide participants the opportunity to renew and strengthen body, mind, and soul while contemplating the mysteries/fruits of the rosary.

“SoulCore” was born out of the desire — the calling — to strengthen our physical bodies, while at the same time, strengthening our souls through prayer. The logo of “SoulCore” — the A intertwined with the M — means “Under the Protection of Mary.” We deepen our devotion to Jesus and Mary by praying the rosary; it helps us to remain aware that we are constantly under the protection of Jesus and Mary. Richard Beyer beautifully described this experience: “In meditating on the mysteries of the rosary, Jesus also helps us to interpret and understand the meaning of his life and death. The more we reflect on the lives of Jesus and Mary through the mysteries, the more we become like them in mind and heart. By means of the rosary, the Spirit of God gradually transfigures our hearts and minds to resemble those of Christ and his Mother.”

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 PM or Friday mornings at 8 AM in the Athletic Center’s Upper Room for one hour of “SoulCore”. [The Upper Room in the Athletic Center by following these simple directions — When you enter the Athletic Center, turn right and go through the doorway into the hallway to the pool locker rooms. ON your right you will find steps that lead up to the Upper Room]. During each session we will meditate on a different set of the mysteries. Please bring your own exercise mat and a set of light handheld weights. Please note also that everyone is welcome — no matter your fitness level. Every exercise we do in “SoulCore” is an invitation — and you are encouraged to participate at your own level. Prayer and meditation is the true focus of “SoulCore”.

Contact Karen Hostoffer at KLHostoffer@gmail.com with any questions or concerns that you have. Karen, is a member of our chapel community. There is no charge for the sessions, although a free will offering of \$5 to \$10 is appreciated to help defer the cost of insurance, licensing, and continuing education. If you would like more information about the program, also check out the “SoulCore” website — www.SoulCoreProject.com. Hope to see you there.

BE A LIGHT:

As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

—Marianna Williamson



TIMES OF WAITING:

Three times in Mark's Gospel Jesus warns us to "stay awake" [Mark 13:33-37]. And staying awake is what being a Christian is all about. Alertness, watching, and waiting — these are the themes of Advent. But they are actually also the program for a truly Christian life.

Don't take this in a literal sense because Jesus is here using spiritual language. Don't think he means that Christians should stay up all night and never go to bed! If we did that, we would soon be a sorry lot and wouldn't be fit for anything — let alone for living the Christian life. No, Christ means that we ought to stay awake spiritually — He means that we should be constantly on the alert, vigilant, and watchful.

But for what or who do we wait? For Christ, of course! We wait for Christ and specifically we wait for his second coming. We are in that period between Pentecost and the Second Coming — it is an era of expectation, a time of hope, a period of longing for Christ to come and bring his Kingdom to its complete fulfilment. Mark's Gospel is very relevant because it describes very precisely this period between Pentecost and the Second Coming [Mark 13:33-37]. The master has physically left us; he has put his servants in charge, each with his or her own task, and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake to be on the alert for his return.

We are both the servants, each with our own task, and the doorkeeper on the alert for Christ's return. We work and we watch. We strive to make the Kingdom a reality, and we are constantly looking out for the coming of Christ.

Of course, most of us much better at working than at watching. Working is something we all know about — we do it every day. Maybe we went through a phase of laziness in our lives — perhaps in our early teens — but as soon as we realized how much there was to be gained in this life by work we found a new focus. A lot of us are very good at working — maybe some of us are too good, for we work to the exclusion of most other things.

But working for the Kingdom is not the same as any other work. It is actually quite subtle and it is not a question of just putting more energy into it. It is about making connections between people; it is about saying the right thing at the right time; it is about being in the right place; it's about touching the lives of others; it's about reaching out; it's about loving, caring and healing. Working for the Kingdom involves going the extra mile; it means thinking about the needs of others; it means biting one's tongue' it means teaching, praising and forgiving.

All of this really is work! But it is quite specific and involves a great deal of thought and care.

Now if you think that working for the Kingdom is hard, then watching is much, much more difficult — it involves different skills such as patience, perseverance, and alertness. But it also involves skills that we haven't been forced by life to cultivate — such as being still, listening to the voice within, being sensitive to the action of God in the world, and so on.

What we are watching and waiting for is Christ's coming. But it is in the very nature of Christ to be always coming — always arriving in lots of different ways and in many varied guises. In the season of Advent, we think most about two comings — first, Christ's coming into the world in human form on the first Christmas Day — the Incarnation — and second, his coming at the end of time — the Second



Christ came to release the world from the power of evil. He came to free you and me from the power of evil. He did this through his death on the cross. His total sacrifice to the will of the Father was the supreme act of love for His Father's creation. He did this for you and for me. Blessed Mother Theresa used to tell people to hold out a hand and say this on each finger: "He did this for me."

Now, He calls us to make a new commitment to His Love. And so we watch for Him to come into our lives. We watch for the Divine Healer to come and lead us into His love. We watch for the times — more than we could imagine — when God extends His love to us. We watch for the times when we can serve His love by serving others.

We watch for the opportunities to unite ourselves closer to His love through prayer and sacrifice. We wait. We watch. We watch for opportunities to grow. Advent — the time of watching — reminds us that our entire lives must be a watching for ways that we can grow more spiritual, grow closer to Christ. And He will come. Advent is a time of hope "Our hope is in the Lord, who made heaven and earth" [Psalm 124]. We call on Him throughout Advent and throughout our lives: "Tear a hole in the wall between heaven and earth, rend the heavens and come down. Show us your power, your awesome deeds, and heal us with your love. For our hope is in you, O Lord. You are far more powerful than we are. We cannot create any horrible situation, any mess, that you in your love cannot or will not heal." Marantha — Come, Lord Jesus. —taken from the writings of Father Joseph Pellegrino which appear on the internet

GOD'S NOT DEAD:

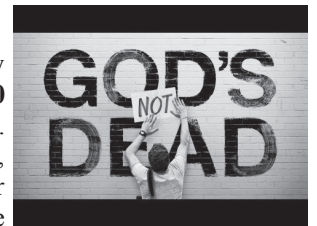
Our Life Teen and EDGE groups would like to invite the Chapel community to a very special Advent experience. On **Sunday, December 14th at 11:30 AM**, we will be showing the movie *God's Not Dead* in **Our Lady Chapel**. *God's Not Dead* weaves the stories of several students on a college campus, an outspoken professor, a local pastor, and several other characters together into a very interesting film. The storyline is one of conflict on a college campus where worldviews collide with living one's faith. In the movie, Professor Radisson challenges his philosophy students to acknowledge that God is dead by writing those three little words on a piece of paper. Josh Wheaton refuses to deny God in front of his peers, and finds himself challenged to defend his belief in God in a series of debates with Professor Radisson in front of the class. The class gets to serve as judge and jury.

As the movie unfolds, one quickly realizes that the movie is not about whether God is alive or dead, but rather whether or not we are willing to bow to God as King.

God's Not Dead causes people to think about God, and how they relate to God in a world filled with distraction. The movie also shows how the Bible is truly a Book of Faith. **A note to parents** — the movie is rated PG. We hope that you will bring your family to the Advent special event. **Please feel free to bring snack foods to enjoy during the movie, but we will all pitch in to clean the Chapel when the movie has ended.** Thank you.

BOOK FAIR:

Support the Lower School library by doing your holiday shopping on **Sunday, December 14th from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM at Barnes & Noble at Eton Plaze**. Hear the Lower School Choir perform holiday music and listen to librarian Allison Snyder present a special holiday story. In addition, teacher wish lists of books will be available. Or talk to Allison for suggested titles. Proceeds will go to Gilmour's Lower School library. Bookfair ID #11484656. If you have any questions, please contact Allison Snyder at snydera@gilmour.org.



WAITING FOR CHRIST TO COME AND HEAL US:

Isaiah has been called the “prophet of Advent”, for his words are key to our understanding of Advent. The prophet calls upon God to come down from heaven. He says that when the Lord does come, he will come in power. God is an Awesome God. No ear has heard or eye has seen the might of God. We are the clay, he is the potter. We are the work of his hands [Isaiah 63:16-64:8].

Six hundred years after Isaiah spoke his words, St. Paul quoted these words of Isaiah recognizing that the prophet was speaking about Jesus Christ and the power and might of the Kingdom of God, and our role in that Kingdom [see Romans 9]. What is significant here is when the prophet voices the complaint of the Hebrew people against God. He knows that the people have been responsible for their own pain and suffering, but they complain to God: “Why do you let us wander from your ways?” We recognize the devastation caused by sin — our own sin and that of others — we get angry with God for allowing us and others to sin.

Perhaps you have complained: “Why, Lord, did you let me go there? Why, Lord, did you let me be so hypocritical? Why, Lord, did you let me destroy my life and the lives of others?” Take divorce for example — the man has an affair, gets caught, and then sees his marriage come to an abrupt end, resulting in his losing the only woman he ever really loved, going from a devoted Dad to a weekend visitor, and seeing his meager finances get destroyed as he now has to support two residences. He complains to God: “Why did you let me do this?”

Or the young woman who did her best to avoid big problems, falls for the lie that she is missing a lot of good times by not trying drugs, or getting drunk, or having sex. She’s a high school girl now — or maybe a college girl. Her fall is worse than she could ever imagine. Then she gets caught by the police who raid the party. She has to face her parents’ disappointment in her. She has to deal with the possibility of losing a scholarship. She even starts worrying that she might be pregnant. She complains to God: “How did you let me get into this mess? Why didn’t you stop me?”

Sadly — in some ways, to some degree or other — most of us can relate to the cheating spouse or the fallen Teen. And, like the human beings that we are, we blame God for letting us wander from Him. Of course, we try to blame God to lessen our own guilt. We certainly don’t want to be reduced to animals and not have free will, not have the ability to make choices in life. But we have to cast the blame to someone other than ourselves; so we blame God: “Why do you let us wander from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we no longer fear you, O God?” But then Isaiah says that God will come in power to heal us, to free us from the devastation of our lives. We have to wait for Him. This is the theme of the First Sunday of Advent.

We have to trust in God, hope in God, and wait for Him to come to set us free from the mess — whether this mess is the mess of humankind who continually chooses hatred and sin over love and virtue, or the messes created by every person who choose selfishness over sacrifice. Like the loving Father that He is, God sees our hurt, our pain, and hurts for us, even if our wounds have been self-inflicted. He promises us a Savior to free the world from its chaos and to free you and me from our turmoil. Jesus



Coming, the Last Day. In this season of Advent, we feel very much at one with those who waited for the coming of the Messiah. But we only have to wait for five weeks — they waited their whole lives, and the vast majority did not see his arrival. In fact, when he finally did come, only a very few recognized him — and not the ones you would expect. Those who recognized him were insignificant people like shepherds, wise men from the East, Elizabeth, Simeon and Anna.

It is a firm doctrine of our faith that Christ will come in glory at the end of time — in fact that theme was at the heart of last week’s Feast of Christ the King. We hope for and long for Christ’s coming on the Last Day to bring all things under his dominion. And while we don’t know when that day will be — it could be tomorrow or it could be many centuries in the waiting — the one thing we do know is that it certainly will come.

These are the two definitive comings of , but he is constantly making other kinds of appearances in our world and in our lives. For those with eyes to see, Christ comes daily. For those who recognize him, Christ is always around. And this is what watching is about. It is developing some very particular skills so that we are enabled to recognize him each day. We need to train ourselves to be alert to him, to notice the signs of his arrival, to be aware of his presence. And most of all, perhaps, we need to be able to enjoy his coming — especially his coming to us in prayer.

The world in which we live is very selfish. Many people don’t understand why any one would want to put themselves out for someone who can offer nothing in return. They can’t comprehend our generosity. But for us, there is nothing to understand — it comes naturally. We are serving Christ in our midst.

Another thing a lot of people can’t understand is the time we spend in prayer. As far as they are concerned, this is lost time. There are much better things that they think they could do with their time. But for us, prayer is time spent with the best friend we’ve got.

And let’s face it. There are many times when we pray that we feel like we don’t connect with the Lord. This is a time of waiting for our oldest friend to come and visit us. We are content to wait —, to sit quietly and to enjoy the memories of previous visits and looking forward to the joy of his arrival.

Working and watching — these are the things a Christian does. These are the themes of Advent; these constitute the program of our life.

—taken from the writings of Father Alex McAllister, S.D.S., which appear on the internet

CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS AND SERVE OTHERS:

Fall is here, and winter will be fast approaching. Another change in seasons, and another time to once again clean out the closets. Clothing that no longer fits, or which was replaced by new items, becomes great items for others. Always remember the words of Jesus: “The poor you shall always have with you” [Matthew 26:11]. Please continue to bring your *gently used* men’s, women’s and children’s clothing to the Lennon Board Room, or place it in the cedar chest which is located in the chapel narthex of the Chapel [just press the key button to open the chest]. We partner with Fatima Center to help provide clothing for general use. Also, **business work clothing for this season is especially needed. The Fatima Center helps men and women prepare for job interviews.** If you have some of these items, this would be a good time to send them along. Clothing for all seasons is accepted, but please try to keep in mind that storage facilities are limited at Fatima — so it would help if you could focus on winter items at this time. You may pick up a tax form when you drop off the clothing here at Our Lady Chapel — there are forms in the cedar chest. Clothing may be brought on the weekend, or during the week. Thank you. **If you have any questions, please contact Patty in the chapel office [440-473-3560].**



WHEN THINGS DON'T GET BETTER — FINDING GOD IN UNHAPPINESS:

I was a bundle of happiness in high school — I loved my community, my teachers, my friends, and my faith. I woke up full of life and ready to share my joy. I won't say that I never got stressed or anxious, but when these times did come, it was easy to remind myself that I had no reason to freak out. After all, life was great.

But now things are different. Now it's not as easy for me to wake up in the morning and say: "Gee, everything is awesome!" I've got a lot of uncertainty, fear, and doubt getting in the way. I was happy, but now it's not that easy. Especially after having known inner peace and constant joy, unhappiness is a tough concept for me grapple with. "Where does God fit into all of this?" I often find myself asking.

Unhappiness is a cross. It makes us feel inadequate. It robs us of our awe and wonder at the beautiful life that God has blessed us with. Often, the things that leave us feeling this way are out of control — fueled by our deepest doubts and fears.

How we react to such things, however, is completely up to us. We can approach lack of joy as a curse, and allow it to plunge us deeper into the darkness. Or we can seek purpose in our suffering and reach toward God's light — trusting it's there even if we can't see it.

Perhaps unhappiness is even a blessing. When everything around us is dark, our light has a greater impact. When all that we once treasured is gone, all we have left to cling to is Christ. It forces us reflect on simplistic dependence on Christ. If we take away the rainbows and butterflies, do we still flock to His embrace? Do we still trust His unending love?

If we are to call ourselves Christians, then we must believe that God loves us and would never allow for us to experience suffering without purpose. Therefore, there has to be purpose in the cross of unhappiness. Whether we struggle with depression for months on end, or just experience a day lacking fulfillment, perhaps these are opportunities to shine brighter and cling tighter. Perhaps there is purpose in our pain.

God doesn't want an unhappy life for us — or even a "bearable" one. Rather, God wants an extraordinary life. In fact, St Irenaeus reminds us that "the glory of God is man fully alive." God does not delight in us hanging on to life by a thread — or in us "kinda sorta" being alive. God delights in us being fully alive, fully in love, and fully dedicated to finding and pursuing passion and zeal in all aspects of life. It's all in or nothing.

God wants to see us alive even when we're unhappy. But how on earth can we do that? How can we find passion when we can't even find purpose? How can we emanate hope if we ourselves don't feel it? St. Paul offers us some pretty good advice: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" [Philippians 4:8].

If you are stressed, anxious, depressed, full of doubt, suicidal, or just having a terribly bad day, I'm speaking to you — and so is St. Paul. If you find absolutely nothing at all that is worthy of praise in this world, I ask you — in fact, I urge you — to think about these things.

Think of Jesus Christ crucified on the Cross for you. Think of the guardian angel that God has sent to stand beside you at all times. Whatever it is, find something that glorifies God, and remember it when you are unhappy. Some days, you'll feel as if you don't have the strength to make it — you'll feel like you can't possibly handle the cross God has given you — the fight He has asked you to fight. Remember: "God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" [1 Corinthians 10:13].

Don't grow discouraged. In all situations, there is a way out. There is a way to turn suffering into

sanctification and sinners into saints. If we trust God with childlike submission, if we believe that the pain we are experiencing will ultimately work to make us better, then we can navigate through the unhappiness with hope.

Another thing. Remember that it's okay to not be okay. If you aren't happy, though, I invite you to make a decision — choose happiness. Spreading unhappiness won't bless anyone. So make a conscious effort to remember the good, to put on the armor of Christ, and to choose joy. It's not inauthentic to fake it until you make it ; rather, it is trusting that there is reason to hope even if your heart begs to differ.

Amid suffering, don't hesitate to often ask God to take this cup away. But we must also realize that there is a better way to approach the issue — "Thy will be done," is all that we need to say. Because if God's will is done — and we trust this will — then everything else will fall into place.

—written by Faith Noah, an associate of the Bible Geek.

LIFE TEEN:

Our next gathering will be on **Sunday, December 7th**, when we will discuss the season of Advent. And then we will meet again, on **Sunday, December 14th**, to watch the **Movie "God's not Dead"** [see the announcement on page 13]. Life Teen normally meets right after Sunday Mass — from **11:30 AM—1:00 PM** in the **Lennon Board Room**. Life Teen is open to **all high school aged young people**. **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming**. We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. On **Sunday, November 23rd**, we will be making **Advent Wreaths for your homes**. [see the announcement for this below]. Come and try us out. We have a great deal of fun together and we grow in our faith at the same time. **Respond to your texts and/or emails, or call the chapel office [440-473-3560] to be notified**. Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in your prayers.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — THE EDGE:**

Our next gathering will be on **Sunday, November 23rd** when we will be making an advent wreath for our home. **Instead of having lunch, we will enjoy donuts after Mass before beginning our advent wreath**. Our next gathering after that will be on **Sunday, December 14th**, when we will watch the **Movie "God's not Dead"** [see the announcement on page 13]. Bring your friends. Come and find out what **the EDGE** is all about. If you have not joined us before, that's OK. **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming**. We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. Our **EDGE Youth Group** has a Faith-Service-Social component, and we need your help. Join in on an exciting happening. **Call the Chapel Office at 440-473-3560**. Join us for a fun filled faith experience. All are welcome.

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:**

On **Wednesday, December 17th**, at **7:00 PM**, we will celebrate our Advent communal **Penance Service**. This service will consist of scriptural reflections by those involved in the Christmas story. There will also be songs and hymns, and a time to straighten the paths of our lives to ease the arrival of our God. Each of us needs to truly hear in our heart the message of John the Baptist: "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand." The service will last about 45 minutes. There will be an opportunity for individual reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the service. Please join us.

