



# Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.  
Pastor*

*Rogelio D'Almeida  
Pastoral Associate*

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Parish Office*

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Web site: <http://www.stwen.org>

Lyceum

2100 E. Madison St.....410-675-3320

*St. Wenceslaus is "twinned" with St. Ann Church,  
at Greenmount Ave. and E. 22nd St.  
410-235-8169*

*Masses at St. Ann: Sunday – 9:45 a.m.  
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

## MASSES

SUNDAY  
WEEKDAYS  
HOLYDAYS

8:00 and 11:45 am  
8:00 am  
As announced in the bulletin

## CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

## DEVOTIONS:

**Infant of Prague Novena** - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena** - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.

**First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations** - 8:30 a.m.

## BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

## MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

## PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Lyceum from 9:30 to 11:30A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Check:

New Registration  Moving out of Parish

Change of Address  Want Envelopes

Catholic Review  Yes  No

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

**SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH**  
**The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Mother of God**  
**January 1, 2017**

## *From the Pastor . . .*

### **My Sisters and Brothers:**

It's no coincidence as we begin the New Year, and celebrate the "*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God*," we are invited to contemplate the following prayer and its promise:

***The Lord bless you and keep you!***  
***The Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!***  
***The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!***

These words, found in today's first reading, were part of God's covenant with Moses. When conveyed to the faithful through his brother Aaron, the Prophet and High Priest, all these things were promised to authentic people of the Covenant (*see Numbers 6:22-27*). Because of these words, the Israelites, the Chosen People, always trusted God's blessings would remain with them! And so, as they began new days, months, and years, they always took comfort in the words of the promises made to them. As we are people of the New Covenant, and sisters and brothers in the Lord Jesus, we believe we have also inherited these promises of God's blessing. And so, as we look to our own futures, we too can be sure God's blessing will be with us.

Isn't this exactly what the Incarnation and birth of our Savior is all about? Because of the Holy Child born of the Virgin in Bethlehem, can't we claim to be blessed, enlightened, and also treated with graciousness, kindness and peace? And can't we say that Mary, because of her sublime cooperation with God's will, was surely and perfectly instrumental in passing on these great blessing from God to all of us? And it's for this reason, she who was chosen to be the mother of Jesus, and the one the Angel Gabriel proclaimed to be "*Full of Grace*," has been called the "*Mother of God*."

She's also been called *Ark of the Covenant, Cause of Our Joy, Cause of our Salvation, Comfort and Help of the Afflicted, Gate of Heaven, Health of the Sick, Lady of Good Counsel, Loving Mother, Mother of Sorrows, Queen of Heaven, Refuge of Sinners, She Who Shows the Way, and Throne of Wisdom*. Any one of these titles, and so many others attributed to her, describe a woman destined by God as a channel of grace and of blessings for all who believe. This is exactly what we celebrate in this Christmas season, and in a special way on this "*Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God*."

On this New Year's Day, as we celebrate the Divine Motherhood of Mary, may we be confident about the blessings we have and will receive through her. We once again contemplate the birth of the Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, and his mother's role in our salvation. These things promise us many graces and blessings for today and for always! And so, may the words of that ancient prayer, given to Moses and spoken through the Prophet and High Priest Aaron, inspire us as well. My friends, with confidence in the continued protection and guidance of *the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God*, and with hope for a bright New Year, let's pray with confidence: ***May the Lord bless us and keep us, may his face shine upon us, and be gracious to us; may the Lord look upon us kindly and give us his peace!***

**Praise God!** *Friar Timothy*

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for our sick and homebound members, especially Arnold Anderson, Donald Benedict, Ava Coleman, Beatrice Hradsky, Irene Gist, Sheila Lambert, Albert J. Novak, II, Mary Schwartz,

Charles Supik, Lillian Tyler and Joan Pittman. Remember also to pray for Fr. Timothy and his family, relatives, friends, our city, those who serve our country in the military and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.



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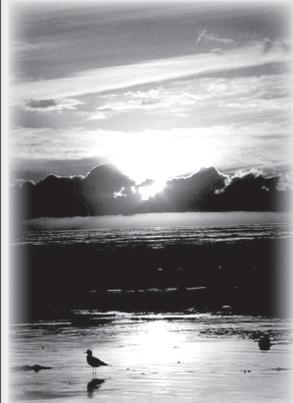
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