



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Attention all parishioners:** Sign-up for directory picture sessions will begin on December 13th/14th. We also need candid pictures of church activities for the directory. You can bring those to the church office or e-mail them to [stmaryardmore@hotmail.com](mailto:stmaryardmore@hotmail.com). Photography sessions will begin on Tuesday, January 6th and go through Saturday, January 10th.

Don't look now but Christmas is just around the corner. We are currently getting ready for choir rehearsals for the 10:30 evening Christmas Eve Mass. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church for people interested in singing in the choir. The mass will be filled with some familiar carol tunes you may already know. All ages are invited. The rehearsals will be on Sundays (beginning Dec. 7th) at 7:00pm in the church.

### Men of St. Mary Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser



Sunday, December 7th; 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall.  
 Tickets \$5 at the door. Children 6 & under eat free.



### NATIVITY FOR CHRISTMAS MASS

The church is planning to have a live Nativity again this year. All children are invited to participate - the more the merrier! The children participating need to be sure that their families will be attending the Christmas Eve Family Mass on December 24th at 6:00 p.m. It will be a very simple Nativity - information sheets will go out to the kids at Faith Formation. Practice will be on Dec. 24th from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. If your child wants to participate, they must sign up on the sheet in the vestibule. If you have any questions, please call Julie at 223-0231 or 465-0639.



The Women of St. Mary will have their meeting and Christmas ornament exchange on Wednesday, December 10th in the Catholic Center at 6:30p.m. Please bring a wrapped ornament to the meeting.

**Second Sunday of Advent:** We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care, lest we be the ones about whom John the Baptist speaks today, cautioning us, "Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." See Matthew 3:10

#### COLLECTION: NOV 22 & 23

Offertory Envelopes:	\$ 4283.00
Loose Collection:	<u>\$ 648.51</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 4931.51</b>
Amt needed for week:	\$ 7500.00
Excess/(deficit):	\$(2568.49)

#### COLLECTION: NOV 29 & 30

Offertory Envelopes:	\$ 4902.00
Loose Collection:	<u>\$ 504.61</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 5406.61</b>
Amt needed for week:	\$ 7500.00
Excess/(deficit):	\$(2093.39)

### SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

**THE DILLARD RANCHES**

There will not be a monthly **Men of St. Mary Dinner** in December due to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

**CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE:** At Christmas time, foster parents are not allotted any extra money to purchase gifts for children in their care. There are approximately 142 children in this area in foster care at this time, ranging from birth to 17 years of age. For the last 40 years, St. Philip's has administered a program which obtains Christmas wishlists from foster children, then distributes the wishlists to parishioners who purchase the children's gifts (within certain monetary guidelines). The program also collects money from those simply wishing to donate but not shop. St. Philip's is seeking St. Mary's participation in a variety of ways: parishioners adopting wishlists and purchasing the gifts with their own funds, monetary donations from those who want to help but not shop, or help shopping with the donated funds, gift wrapping, etc. The gifts must be turned into St. Philip's on December 7th. If you are interested in helping in any of the above ways, please contact Anne Stolfa-Beard at 226-5469 H & 490-6777 C. or call the St. Philip's program coordinator, Katie Trembley at 580-222-9027 for information or to volunteer. There will be a red Christmas box labeled for the Foster Children's Christmas in the vestibule where you can place donations.