

Follow The Star: Christmas At St. Charles Join your family and friends for the “Follow the Star: Christmas at St. Charles,” a celebration in preparation for the feast of Christmas. The residents of St. Charles Senior Living Center are opening their doors to the community from 12:30 to 7 p.m. Dec. 16 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 17 with events for all ages.

- Cookies and Milk with St. Nicholas at 1:30 p.m. Hear the story of the real St. Nick.
- Hayrides around the property from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and 5:30 to 7 p.m. weather permitting.
- Mass at 4 p.m. in Assumption Chapel followed by a glowing procession to the live nativity.
- Stations of the Nativity display depicting 14 moments surrounding the birth of Jesus.
- Polar Express electric train display with our magical conductor Brother Tim Cahill.
- Festival of Trees* presented by local parish youth groups and religious education programs. Visitors vote on favorite tree by dropping \$1, \$5, \$20 or \$100 in the donation box by the group’s tree. The winning group will receive prize money to be used for their ministry.

Beautiful decorations created for St. Charles by a host of decorating angels.

Sunday, Dec. 17 will be a day of reflection and prayer from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the Stations of the Nativity at 1 and 2 p.m., and A Festival of Lessons and Carols at 4 p.m. in Assumption Chapel.

St. Charles Center is located at 2860 U.S. Route 127 in Carthage, Ohio. Watch our Facebook page for more information at Follow the Star: Christmas at St. Charles.

**Trees decorated by Our Lady of Guadalupe CCD, Immaculate Conception School Students, and Immaculate Conception CCD will be in the Festival of Trees. They are working hard on decorating their trees and would love to have our parishioners come out to support them and help their tree win!*

Confirmation Class Project - IC IC Parish is such a giving parish! Many of us participate in the Angel Tree Program by buying toys and clothes. In addition to that, the program has a “Bonus Table” that has bags of socks and bags of underwear along with other small items. The Confirmation Class is collecting packages of **NEW** socks and underwear that will be given to the Angel Tree Program. If you would like to help us out, please purchase socks or underwear (size Toddler to Adult Small) and bring them to the Religious Ed Office, the Parish Office, or the table in the back of church sometime **before December 1**. Students in our Religious Ed Program can bring the donations to class with them. Thank you so much! May we all count our many blessings during this special time of year! God bless you!

Save the Date Advent Lessons & Carols December 17th | 6:30pm at Holy Rosary

Christmas Bazaar News-IC Yes, the Bazaar is being held on SUNDAY, December 3rd, from 9am until 3pm at the Parish Activity Center. The gift room and bake sale will be held in the gym. Coffee and doughnuts will be available for shoppers in the morning and lunch will be served from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Plan on shopping and fellowship!!!

FORMED – Advent Series For this Christmas season, Formed has released two new Advent series, *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree This Advent* & *Drawing Closer to God*, to help you and your family prepare for the Messiah’s coming. *Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree This Advent* is hosted by Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and consists of 22 seven-minute reflections that helps Catholics apply Scripture to daily life using the Jesse Tree model traditionally practiced by families. *Drawing Closer to God* invites families to join art teacher Ms. Kim as she teaches children to draw different scenes from the Nativity story. As kids learn new art skills, they also begin to see the connections between the big picture of God’s story and their place within it. To find these two great series, Go to www.formed.org and search the series by title.



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Operation Christmas Child Christmas Boxes were delivered to the collection point on Wednesday, Nov. 16. The total number of boxes turned in was **470 boxes!** A big thank you to everyone involved in making this program incredibly successful! The gratitude knows no bounds. Below is a message from the President of Samaritan’s Purse, Franklin Graham.

"Thank you for making it possible for more children around the world to hear about God's Greatest Gift, Jesus Christ. We value your prayers as shoebox gifts go to over 100 countries. Trained volunteers share the Gospel and hand out the shoebox gifts at outreach events. Praise the Lord that 209 million boys and girls have heard God's Word through Operation Christmas Child and that 50 million children have been disciplined through programs such as The Greatest Journey. We give the Lord all the glory! May God bless you."

The generous assistance of sixth-grade students from Immaculate Conception School in loading boxes into the van ensured timely delivery to the collection point. We extend our gratitude to these students for their kindness and dedication, which made this possible!

May our Lord bless and protect our youth!

