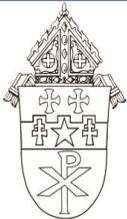




# Holy Family

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



### Save the Date:

Here is a list of upcoming activities. Listed below are some of the dates you will want to reserve in the coming months.

#### December:

**Bible Study:** Wednesday's in the Social Hall 9:00-11:00 AM

**Faith Formation:** Check your schedule for times, location and dates

**Holy Name Society Meeting:** 1/12 at 9:30 in the Social Hall

**CCM Christmas Party:** 12/15 at Gary's Chuckwagon

#### January:

**Lessons and Carols:** Jan 5 @ 2PM, rehearsal on 1/2 @ 6:30 PM,

*Please check the bulletin and insert for Mass times*



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019

**Reverend David J. Nazimek, Pastor**  
dnazimek@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Rev. Richard J. Zelik, OFM Cap.**  
Weekend Assistance: 724-872-6123

**Lauretta Stanley, Faith Formation**  
724-872-2106

**Eric Blanda, Director of Music**  
412-582-2512

**Robin Stahl, Organist**  
rstahl@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Paula DeClaudio, Parish Secretary**  
724-872-6123 Cell: 724-787-1989

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 11:00 AM

#### Weekday Masses

Tuesday & Wednesday

8:00 AM

#### Confessions

Saturday

3:00-3:30 PM

\*Holy Days

Vigil-7:00 PM

\*See Insert for detailed information

#### Weddings—Baptisms:

Contact Parish Secretary for appointment.— 724-872-6123

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE



**4:00 PM | Saturday, December 14**

**Lector**

Dan Landini

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Larry Risku, Bill Hughes, Volunteer

Altar Servers

Stan Materkowski

**11:00 AM | Sunday, December 15**

**Lector**

Christina Teaters

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Armand Luzi, Aleta Keegan, Volunteer

**Altar Servers**

Mary Ryckman

**4:00 PM | Saturday, December 21**

**Lector**

Pat Beneccio

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Barry Beneccio, Ginger DeBlasio, Mary Houseman

Altar Servers

Armand Luzi

**11:00 AM | Sunday, December 22**

**Lector**

Noah Lehner

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Bill & Mary Ryckman, Aleta Keegan

**Altar Servers**

Nick Boyer

**Saturday, December 14**

4:00 PM

*Vigil-Third Sunday of Advent*

Nino Lombardozi by Family

**Sunday, December 15**

11:00 AM

*Third Sunday of Advent*

Patricia & Edward Delduca, Mem. Wedding Anniversary  
By Jim & Sharon Williams

**Tuesday, December 17**

8:00 AM

Weekday

Julia Candelore by Peg Brown

**Wednesday, December 18**

Deceased members of Kemmery Family by Family

**Saturday, December 21**

4:00 PM

*Vigil-Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Steve Halahurich by Lillian and Family

**Sunday, December 22**

11:00 AM

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Edwin R. Hogan by Aileen & Fred Kucinic



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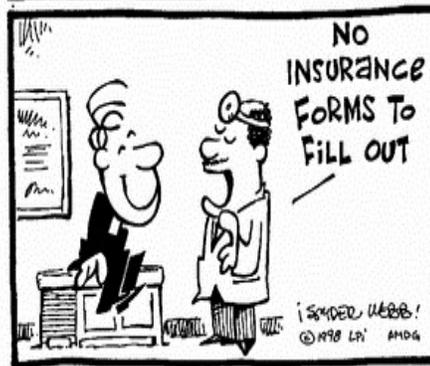
## WEEKLY BELL CHIMES

DAY	NOON	6:00 PM
SAT	12/14	
SUN	12/15	
MON	12/16	
TUES	12/17	Jack Toman
WED	12/18	Priscilla & Ed Hogan Anniversary Helen & Raymond Connolly
THURS	12/19	Sherri & Jack Fabean Anniversary
FRI	12/20	CDA Court Miriam #1315
SAT	12/21	Betty & Bill Kubic Anniversary
SUN	12/22	Albert Krempasky Michael Sweeney

Blank spaces are available for celebratory/memorial/honorary Bell Chimes.

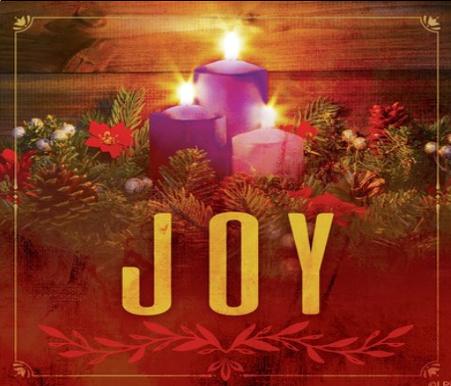
## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INSPIRATION

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ADVENT



### Scripture Verse

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." - Mt 11:10-11



### Concerns Regarding Sexual Abuse

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221

**3rd Sunday of Advent** - In the pre-Vatican Council II days with the Latin Mass, the priest would approach the altar, following the prayers at the foot of the altar, reverence the altar and recite a verse from scripture while the choir was still singing the opening hymn. On this, the Third Sunday of Advent, the opening verse came from Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:4 - 5) - "Rejoice in the Lord always!" ( and in Latin - "Gaudete in domino semper") - thus - Gaudete Sunday.

This Third Sunday of Advent is a time for rejoicing because Jesus Christ is near. His birthday is nearer to us than when Advent first began. We feel also the nearness of His second coming as we have reflected throughout this holy season upon the end of time and Jesus' return in glory as our king. On this Sunday, we pray that more and more people might look at their lives and the world around them through the eyes of faith, enabling them to see the glory of God all around us.

In the Bible readings for this weekend, the prophet Isaiah encourages the exiled Jews in Babylon to rejoice because their God is going to liberate them from slavery and lead them safely to their homeland. In the Epistle, James the Apostle encourages the early Christians to rejoice and wait with patience for the imminent second coming of Jesus. And in the first part of today's Gospel reading, Jesus encourages John the Baptist, who is in prison, to rejoice by casting away his wrong expectations about the Messiah and to simply accept Jesus' healing and preaching ministry as the fulfillment of the messianic prophecy of Isaiah.

We all face difficult moments in our lives. They can be as varied as you can imagine: job loss, family problems, faith crisis, living alone and loneliness, and so on. We can take heart in knowing that if John the Baptist, even after having had a direct encounter with Jesus the Messiah had his doubts about Jesus and His teachings, we too can have our moments of asking questions such as - "Does God even care about me?"

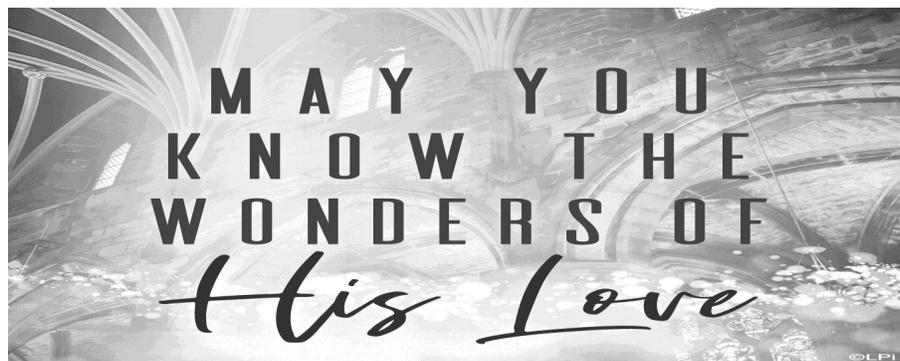
Sometimes we tend to give up hope for restored health, or our own personal problems. We think that miracles, such as Jesus performed 2000 years ago, don't really exist today. Or do they? If John the Baptist can persevere to the end, so can we. He sees his life as not being in vain - even though he is now in prison. His patience is not pointless. These direct us to the power of God's goodness and love, for which he is prepared to suffer for the sake of others. Sin and selfishness have no place in the believer who trusts in God's promise.

We are not immune to the troubles of this world, nor to the agonies that cause people to despair. But the seed of hope has been planted in each of us, and hope is bright. The risen Christ now has many hands and hearts to assist Him in His work. He offers His healing touch through the many people who form His body - the Church. These folks do not deal in spectacular wonders. Rather, they touch us in more ordinary ways: a smile, an encouraging word, a hug, a listening word, and the list could go on. Isaiah, in our first reading, shares a similar idea - we extending God's healing grace to those whose hands are weak, whose knees are feeble, and whose heart is fearful. Whatever positive we can do for others, these bring what Jesus gave - healing and good news. This, then, is the reason we rejoice on this third Sunday of Advent - giving to others what God gives to us.

In our prayer this week, let us remember with grateful hearts the people who have touched us with healing and hope and the good news of Jesus Christ. Let us also take part in Jesus' healing mission with our prayers for all who suffer in mind or body, especially those who feel most trapped or alone, helpless or hopeless. Let us pray for the Conversion of the World & for Peace.

Let us pray for the conversion of the world & for peace.

Welcome Home - Once again during this Holy Season of Advent, as we prepare for the Birthday of our Savior, let us look around and ask ourselves whom we haven't seen in church for a while. Their absence could be the result of many reasons - health, inability to drive, past hurts by another, spiritual "slumber" or apathy, among many other possibilities. Perhaps as you read this, you may realize that you haven't been to church for a while. Whatever the reason, we know that there are among us, perhaps our neighbor or a family member, those who haven't shared the Lord's Supper with us on a regular basis. I am asking each of you to assist me in spreading the message of Good News and to invite someone "home" for Christmas. This is a season of spreading His peace, His love, His forgiveness, and His welcoming arms. Let each of us in our own ways assume the role of Ambassador for Christ, as, together, we open our doors and welcome all back home to the House of the Lord.





# December

### Decorating our Church

The Holy Name Society invites **all parishioners** to help with the decorating of our church for the Christmas ❄️ season. On December 22 at 6 PM the decorating of the inside of church will begin. Any and all parishioners are welcome to help.

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 12/9/2019

Parish Income:

Offertory: \$ 2725	Accent	\$8
Loose: 202		
Candles: 84		
Monthly: 10		
Imm. Concept: 481	Total:	\$ 3632
Christmas	Parish Budget:	\$ 4000
Flowers: 85	Over Budget:	
Sol. Of Mary: 5	Under Budget:	\$ -368
Christmas 40	Total Offertory:	\$ 3640



## Holiday Schedule

### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

#### HOLY FAMILY:

EVE: 7PM DAY: 8AM

#### CHURCH OF ST. ANNE:

EVE: 5PM, 10:30 PM DAY: 10AM

#### SEVEN DOLARS:

EVE: 4PM DAY: 10:30

#### ST. EDWARDS:

EVE: 6PM, 12AM DAY: 10AM

#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST:

EVE: 5:30 PM, 12AM DAY: 10AM

### CCM News

CCM Christmas Party – Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>, following the 11:00 AM Mass at Gary’s Chuckwagon – LeGrande Room. Any questions: Barbara Saxberg (724/872-9116) or Christy Sweeney (724/872-4785).

Christmas gifts for St. Anne’s Home and Mt. St. Macrina – please bring to the Christmas party.

Sponsored by the West Newton Association of Churches, our CCM is participating in **"Operation Santa Claus"** in conjunction with the Salvation Army and the W. N. Presbyterian Church. Food Baskets (previously handled by the Lion’s Club) and toys for needy children in our community will be provided. Volunteers are needed to help assemble the food baskets on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 AM – 12:00 at the Presbyterian Church. More information: call Barb Sleith (724/331-1601).

**ATTENTION: All our "Little People"**  
**There is a special basket in the Church vestibule that has lots of crafts and items in it just for you for this Joyous Season of Advent and Christmas -- from the C.C.M.**

### Youth Ministry

Grades 9-12

Youth Ministry begins Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Anne after the 4:30 Mass. All youth from St Anne and Holy Family are encouraged to attend. The Youth Ministry will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month at St. Anne following the 4:30 mass.

### RICA

Anyone interested in pursuing the journey to becoming a Catholic or to explore the Faith is welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings, 7PM, at Holy Family. (*They will not be meeting on Wednesday Dec 25 and Jan 1*).

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Weekly, on Wednesdays from 9-11AM, in Church Social Hall



### BOOK OF INTENTIONS

A book is located in the back of the Church where any one may write their prayer requests/intentions and all may pray for those listed. Sponsors of the Book of Intentions are the members of Confraternity of Christian Mothers.

**SUNDAY'S READINGS****First Reading:**

Here is your God,  
He comes with vindication;  
with divine recompense  
He comes to save you. (Is 35:4b)

**Psalm:**

Lord, come and save us. (Ps146) or Alleluia

**Second Reading:**

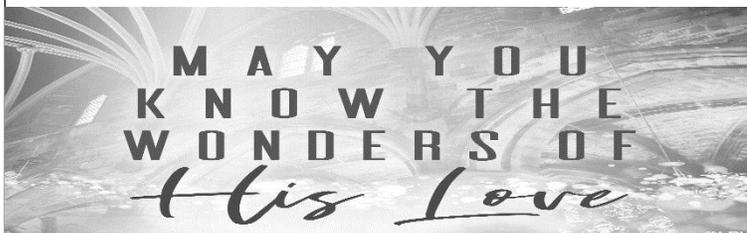
Make your hearts firm,  
because the coming of the Lord is at hand. (Jas 5:8b)

**Gospel:**

"This is the one about whom it is written:  
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you." (Mt 11:10)  
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for  
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in  
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

**Readings for the week of December 15, 2019**

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11  
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27  
Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17  
Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25  
Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25  
Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38  
Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45  
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

**Penance Services**

All Services will be held at 7 PM except \*Seven Dolors, Yukon

Dec. 16:	St. Sebastian	Belle Vernon
*Dec. 16:	Seven Dolors (6:30 PM)	Yukon
Dec. 17:	Church of St. Anne	Rostraver Twp.
Dec. 19:	St. John the Baptist	Perryopolis

We will not be having a penance service at Holy Family Parish for the Christmas Season. However, we will be holding the Penance Service here for the Easter Season.

**Hanukkah**

As we Christians and Catholics prepare to celebrate our "Season of Lights" with the birthday of Jesus – the Light of the World, our Jewish brothers will be celebrating their Season of Lights beginning – this year – on December 22 at sunset.

The events that inspired the Hanukkah holiday took place during a particularly turbulent phase of Jewish history. Around 200 B.C., Judea—also known as the Land of Israel—came under the control of Antiochus III, the Seleucid king of Syria, who allowed the Jews who lived there to continue practicing their religion. His son, Antiochus IV Epiphanes, proved less benevolent: Ancient sources recount that he outlawed the Jewish religion and ordered the Jews to worship Greek gods. In 168 B.C., his soldiers descended upon Jerusalem, massacring thousands of people and desecrating the city's holy Second Temple by erecting an altar to Zeus and sacrificing pigs within its sacred walls.

Long story short - Led by the Jewish priest Mattathias and his five sons, a large-scale rebellion broke out against Antiochus and the Seleucid monarchy. When Matthathias died in 166 B.C., his son Judah, known as Judah Maccabee ("the Hammer"), took the helm; within two years the Jews had successfully driven the Syrians out of Jerusalem, relying largely on guerilla warfare tactics. Judah called on his followers to cleanse the Second Temple, rebuild its altar and light its menorah—the gold candelabrum whose seven branches represented knowledge and creation and were meant to be kept burning every night.

According to the Talmud, one of Judaism's most central texts, Judah Maccabee and the other Jews who took part in the rededication of the Second Temple witnessed what they believed to be a miracle. Even though there was only enough untainted olive oil to keep the menorah's candles burning for a single day, the flames continued flickering for eight nights, leaving them time to find a fresh supply. This wondrous event inspired the Jewish sages to proclaim a yearly eight-day festival

**CHOIR****REHEARSAL**

The choir will be singing for the 7:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass, beginning with a Prelude at 6:30 PM. All are invited to participate in the Christmas Choir. They rehearse on Thursdays at 6:30 PM

**Lessons and Carols**

Our Third Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, January 5, at 2:00 PM. This service of nine readings from Sacred Scripture with seasonal music is a great way to celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Some of our high school youth will serve as readers. The Confraternity of Christian Mothers will provide light refreshments after the service. Plan now to join with our parish family in this annual tradition.

**Rehearsal for Lessons and Carols** will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2020, at 6:30 PM, in Church. All Youth Readers and Choir members who will be participating in Lessons and Carols are asked to attend.