

2325 HIGHLAND RD, HERMITAGE, PA 16148 Phone: (724) 981-5566 / website: httpS://notredame-pa.org Email: churchoffice@notredame-pa.org



### SUNDAY DECEMBER 10 2023

#### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

M—TH: 9 am-12 pm & 1-3 pm Friday—Closed

#### MASS SCHEDULE Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4 pm Sunday: 8 am and 11 am <u>Weekday Masses</u> Tuesday: 9:00 am Thursday: 9:00 am Friday: 9:00 am Saturday: 9:00 am Saturday: 9:00 am

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Pastor Fr. Richard Allen

<u>Deacon</u> Dcn. Frank Hannah

Director of Faith Formation Mr. Joseph Ranelli

Director of Adult Education Mrs. Kathy Higgins

Liturgy/Music Coordinator Mrs. Gretchen Wagner

> Secretary Mrs. Carrie Hannah

Religious Education Secretary Mrs. Mary Lou Hornyak

> Business Manager Mrs. Ann Miller

#### PARISH REGISTRATION

If you would like to join our parish and become part of the Notre Dame Church family, please complete this form and return by mail or drop in the collection basket.

#### **REQUEST FOR PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name:

Address:

City/State:



Video Mass 12/10	+Brian Dempsey [Debbie Dempsey]
MON 12/11	NO MASS
TUES 12/12 9AM	+Bill Feigert [Skip & Becky Feigert]
WED 12/13 7PM	Advent Penance Service
THU 12/14 9AM	+Lynn Knott [Family]
FRI 12/15 9AM	+Jim Sheasley [John & Sherry Swetz]
SAT 12/16 9AM	+Anna Quartini [Linda Driscoll & Family]
SAT 12/16 * 3-3:30PM * Confessions	
SAT 12/16 4PM	+Irene DeAngelis [Marcella Manning]
SUN 12/17 8AM	+Albert & Jean Herman [Rick & Anne Herman]
SUN 12/17 11AM	+Margery Buzzeo [Husband, Pat]



Next Sunday's "Pantry Shower" Item is **SANDWICH, QUART, & GAL-LON SIZE STORAGE BAGS.** The upcoming item will be salad dressing.

Thank you for your care and concern for God's needy.

## **BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE**



Please keep the families of *Laura Albright Rosemarie Trindle Emil Stone* in your prayers.



"Into your hands Oh Lord we commend our brothers and sisters"

#### CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Teaching Kids to Be Smart About Social Media: There are plenty of good things about social media – but also many risks and things kids and teens should avoid. To help your child find the balance, it's important to talk with your kids about how to use social media wisely. Emphasize to your child that it's important to: 1.) Be nice. Mean behavior is not OK. 2.) Think twice before hitting "enter". Remind them that what they post can be used against them. 3.) Use privacy settings. 4.) Don't "friend" strangers. If you don't know them, don't friend them. 5.) Teach kids not to share anything on social medial that they wouldn't want their teachers, college admissions officers, future bosses – and even gramma – to see.

For additional resources on recognizing and reporting child abuse visit **www.eriercd.org/childprotection**/

## PRAYER Line

Keeping those in need in our prayers. If you, a family member or a friend are in need of prayer please call the prayer line with your request.

Prayer Line, Kathy Higgins #724-342-7858



Rob, Jon, & Barb & George, Andrew & Morgan

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2023**

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

#### **SCRIPTURE - Questions of the week**

#### **First Reading:**

The prophet Isaiah offers comfort and hope to the Israelites who were captive in Babylon in proclaiming that the glory of the Lord is returning to Israel. Do you have family or friends who could use words of encouragement from you?

#### **Second Reading:**

Peter speaks of being at peace while we wait for the promise of new heavens and a new earth when Christ returns. What gives you peace of mind these days?

#### **Gospel:**

Fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah, John the Baptist proclaimed the arrival of Jesus, "one mightier than I...(who) will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Where do you sense the Holy Spirt present in your life?

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Christ is making a journey into each of our hearts this Advent. Clear away whatever blocks his way. Make straight the path. Invite him in.

## **RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

#### The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." -2 Peter 3:13

## GOD IS MAKING A WAY



REMINDER: ALL **unwrapped gifts**, along with the attached identifying stocking must be returned no later than **December 13<sup>th</sup>.** 

You may also purchase items from the Prince of Peace Center's Amazon Wishlist at the following link:

#### www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/U3C8C057C5TN?ref =wl share

Gifts will be delivered to families on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please call the Prince of Peace Center 724-346-5777.



#### <u>TAIZÉ PRAYER</u> <u>THIS WEEKEND</u> <u>DECEMBER 10 – 7:00 PM</u> <u>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</u>

On Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, the choir and folk group of Notre Dame Musicians will be having an Advent Taizé prayer gathering. It is a time of quiet in the midst of a very busy December, when it is tempting to skip through Advent and get right to Christmas.

Taizé prayer began in Eastern France where people of all faith backgrounds gather to pray to be a sign of reconciliation among divided Christians in a world in need of peace. It is composed of light, gathering around the Cross, song, scripture, and silence. Please plan to join us for one hour in Advent. **There is no charge.** 

## **CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS**

Oplatki (Christmas Wafer) and the order form for the Wendall August Forge **2023 "Heart of Christmas" Ornament** are in the back of the church Foyer. Many of our church families have collected these beautiful Ornaments for over 30 years. The ornament has our "Notre Dame Church" stamp on the back and will be available for pick up on the Sundays of Advent.

The Ornament prices are: Aluminum- \$12.50 and Bronze-\$15.50.

We are again very grateful for Wendell August Forge for continuing this beautiful tradition with a discount for our parish church.

The Christmas Wafer (Oplatki), an Eastern European prayer tradition typically used for Christmas Eve family meals for blessing the members are **\$1.25 for a package of Four (4) wafers.** 

Please call the parish office if you are needing more than ten packages as our supply is limited.

### **Retirement Fund for Religious Sisters**

We are so grateful to all who gives so generously to this collection to assist our Diocesan Religious Sisters, we are reminded that these women called to a variety of ministries, maintained vows of poverty, "lived simply and received very little salary during their times of ministry. The majority of these sisters have aged and no longer can work outside their community and need our financial support and prayer". If you were not prepared to give this week, a donation can still be made in the envelope marked *Retirement Fund for the Religious Sisters* and dropped in the Sunday collection basket.

## <u>ADORATION</u>

Tuesday 9:30 AM—11:00 PM Wednesday 9:00 AM—11:00 PM Join us for an hour of *Prayer*, every Wednesday during Adoration at 7pm For more information call: Feeney 724-699-3340 / Monica 724-977-7665

