



Church of NOTRE DAME



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SUNDAY
DECEMBER 4
2022

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

Weekday Masses

Monday: NO MASS

Tuesday: 9:00 am

Wednesday: NO MASS

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 9:00 am

Saturday 9:30 am -
Confession

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Richard Allen

Deacon

Dn. Frank Hannah

Director of Religious Education

Mr. Joseph Ranelli

Director of Adult Education

Mrs. Kathy Higgins

Liturgy/Music Coordinator

Mrs. Gretchen Wagner

Secretary

Mrs. Carrie Hannah

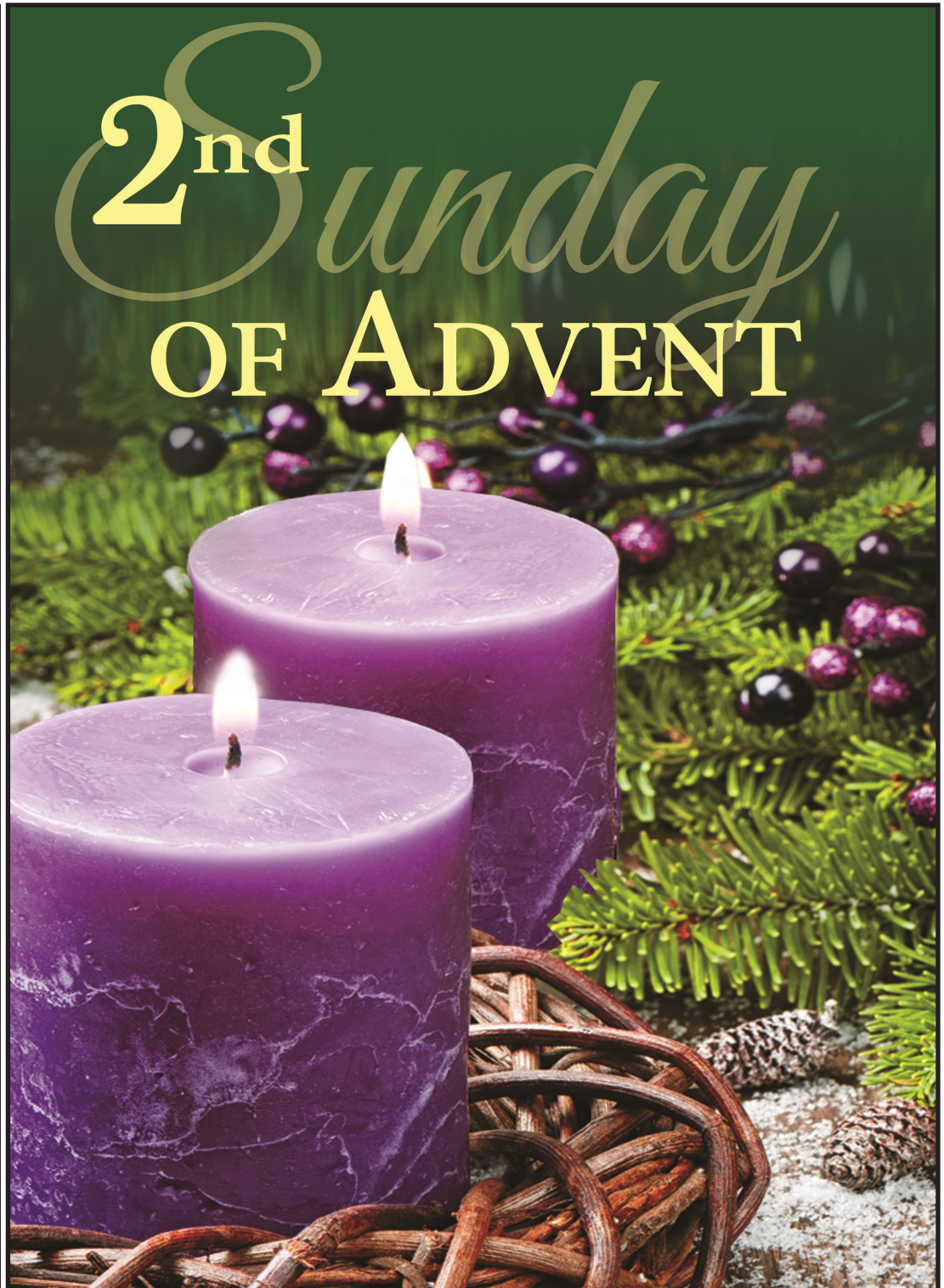
Religious Education

Secretary

Mrs. Mary Lou Hornyak

Business Manager

Mrs. Ann Miller



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4, 2022

- Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
- Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- 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 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

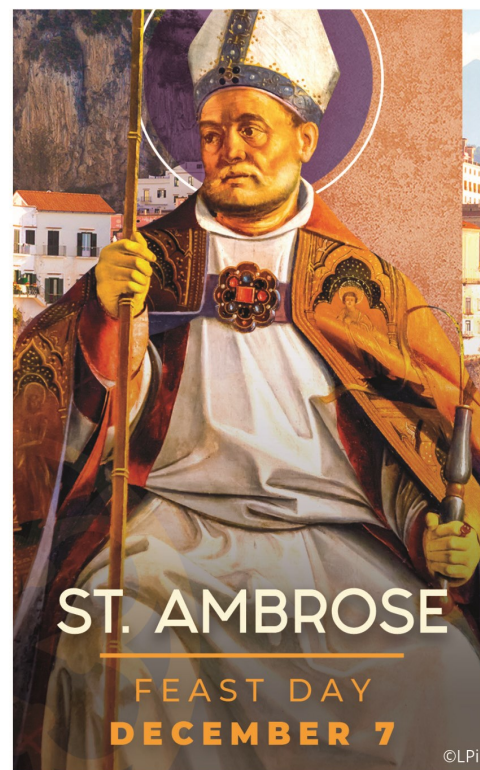
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 4, 2022

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent; St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Tuesday:** St. Nicholas, Bishop
- Wednesday:** St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Friday:** St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
- Saturday:** Our Lady of Loreto
- Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent; St. Damasus I, Pope

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

The God in whom we believe is “the God of endurance and encouragement.” Have you ever thought about God in those terms? Our sight can become limited by the concerns of the world and our individual lives. We can look to the past and see what is happening in the present, but the future is primarily left to our imaginations. God has a clear vision for the future. It is one where the “wolf shall be a guest of the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the kid.” It is a vision of harmony and gentleness where all will live as one. We can see the complete picture of life in God. We see what we may be, what may come, and who we can become. Preparing the way for the Lord means moving beyond the limitations of ideology, time, space, preference, and self-focused concern so that we can see as God sees. God will give us what we need to endure whatever comes, and the encouragement we need to get where we can be.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Ambrose was born to an aristocratic Roman Christian family in 339 in what is now Trier, Germany. One popular legend tells of a swarm of bees alighting on the infant Ambrose's face and leaving behind a drop of honey which his father took as a sign that Ambrose would be an eloquent speaker with a 'honeyed tongue.'

Ambrose was educated in law and rhetoric in Rome. Like his father, he went into public service and was made governor of Liguria and Emilia about 373. In the second year of his governorship, he went to moderate the election of the bishop of Milan because the heretical Arians were challenging the succession. Unbaptized and untrained in theology, Ambrose was called by popular acclamation to be bishop. Though he attempted to flee, he was found and within a week he was baptized, ordained, and consecrated bishop on December 7, 374.

As bishop Ambrose studied scripture and the writings of Church fathers, he gave his property and wealth to the poor, and became an impactful orator, hymn writer, and renowned teacher. He highly praised consecrated virginity, likely influenced by his sister who took the veil. A contemporary with St. Martin of Tours, he also defended the faith against the Arian heresy (which questioned Christ's divinity), and against the state. Ambrose required Emperor Theodosius do public penance after the massacre of Thessalonica. His classic education contributed to his writing and sermons which attracted and converted Saint Augustine of Hippo who Saint Ambrose baptized.

Saint Ambrose is one of four original doctors of the Church. He died in 397 in Milan, Italy. His remains can be seen today at the Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio, where he lays with Saint Gervase and Saint Protase.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

Not by appearance shall he judge,
nor by hearsay shall he decide,
but he shall judge the poor with justice,
and decide aright for the land's afflicted.
(Is 11:3-4)



PSALM

Justice shall flourish in his time, and
fullness of peace for ever. (Ps 72)



SECOND READING

Welcome one another, then, as Christ
welcomed you,
for the glory of God. (Rom 15:7)



GOSPEL

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in
the desert of Judea
and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom
of heaven is at hand!" (Mt 3:1-2)

*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.*



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

At sixty years of age, Maria and Paul had a beautiful life. High school sweethearts, they had four children, five grandchildren, a successful business, good friends and a fabulous beach house. They felt very blessed. Their strong faith in God saw them through some difficult challenges. Without warning, Paul died suddenly. Maria was devastated. Why did God do this? Why did God allow this to happen? An indescribable depth of sadness weighed heavily upon her heart. She felt betrayed by the God she thought was looking out for her. She was overwhelmed by despair. Have you ever experienced such incredible and deafening sadness? Where is God in all of the pain?

We often want God to fix things or intervene and change nature's course. When He doesn't act as we desire, it shakes our faith. We do not always understand or appreciate why things happen as they do. There is much that is beyond our control. John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and Jesus is the way to God. There is something more going on in life than what we can see with human eyes. We are on a sacred path, and God is with us. God is with us in our confusion, suffering, doubts, and intense sadness. Jesus announced God's vision for humanity and taught people to see God and themselves for who they are. There is a way through and beyond all hardship and suffering. God does not abandon us.

God has a clear vision for the future, both for us individually and for our world. It is a vision of harmony and gentleness where all will live as one and the "wolf shall be a guest of the lamb." God is not indifferent. He is the God of "endurance and encouragement." In God, we see what we may be, what may come and who we can become. When Maria opened herself to God's creative presence, she learned to trust. She began to realize that she could endure more than she had imagined. She also discovered a spark of encouragement, bringing her through the sadness to where she could be. In retrospect, Maria knew that God's reassuring presence was with her.



VIDEO MASS 12/4	+Eugene & Georgiana O'Connell
MON 12/5	NO MASS
TUES 12/6 9AM	+Mary Szugye [Marianne Bianco]
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Vigil	
WED 12/7 7PM	+Charlene McConnell [Djakovich Family]
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
THU 12/8 9AM	+Jeffrey Turnbull [Tiefenthal Family]
FRI 12/9 9AM	+Denise Condo [Corky & Deenie Costar]
SAT 12/10 9AM	+Anna Quartini [Churlik & Kocis Families]
SAT 12/10 4PM	*Mass for the People
SUN 12/11 8AM	+Bill Feigert [Skip & Becky Feigert]
SUN 12/11 11AM	+Barbara Anne Stawaisz [Stawaisz Family]



Next Sunday's "Pantry Shower" item is **LARGE GARBAGE BAGS**. The upcoming item will be paper towels.

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

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SAT 12/10 4PM		
LECTOR J. Spatara	EUCCHARISTIC MIN. C. Esmond / J. Miller B. Palisin / T. Spatara	ALTAR SERVER Volunteer Needed
SUN 12/11 8AM		
LECTOR J. Pursel	EUCCHARISTIC MIN. T. Brandenstein P. Clark / A. Joseph R. Mentrek	ALTAR SERVER A. Zahniser
SUN 12/11 11AM		
LECTOR K. Higgins	EUCCHARISTIC MIN. R. McGoff / C. Nawrocki K. Stephenson O. Yoursh	ALTAR SERVER M. Tarbay
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - VIGIL		
WED 12/7 7PM		
LECTOR M. Multari	EUCCHARISTIC MIN. A. Costar / T. Pagliaroli D. Palisin / P. Thornburg	ALTAR SERVER Volunteer Needed
*ATTN VOLUNTEERS! Please sign-in prior to Mass		

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MASS SCHEDULE:

DAILY :		WEEKEND:	
MON, WED, FRI	TUES	SAT	SUN
7:30 AM	6:00 pm / *6:30 PM Confessions	5:30 PM	9:30 AM

BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE



Please keep the family of
Chris Higgins
in your prayers.

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

The HERMITAGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of their Christmas Tree Tours

Stewart House
5465 E. State St., Hermitage PA
724-877-7996

Christmas Tree Tours

Theme: Fun Time Christmas
Dates: December 9, 10 & 11
Times: Friday 5-8 PM
Saturday & Sunday 1-5 PM



Advent Penance Service



SUN, DEC 11	
2:00 PM	Beloved Disciple, Grove City
5:00 PM	Immaculate Heart, Mercer
MON, DEC 12	
6:30 pm	St. Bartholomew, Sharpsville
WED, DEC 14	
6:30 PM	Good Shepherd, West Middlesex
THU, DEC 15	
6:30 PM	St. Joseph, Sharon
SUN, DEC 18	
2:00 PM	Notre Dame, Hermitage
MON, DEC 19	
6:00 pm	Our Lady of Fatima, Farrell

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades: **Pre-K - 11th** / Sunday Mornings: **9:15AM - 10:45AM**
Use Grotto entrance of SJPII School

****December 2022****

- 4 Class**
11 Class - Confirmation Luminaria making following 11am Mass / Multi Room
18 Class
24 Confirmation Luminaria placing & lighting / 2pm church campus
25 NO CLASS - Confirmation Luminaria clean-up / 2pm church campus

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS CONTINUE:

Oplatki (Christmas Wafer) and the order form for the Wendell August Forge **2022 Ornament "Home For Christmas"** 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 Second Sunday of Advent.

The Ornament prices are:

Aluminum - \$12.00 and Bronze - \$14.00

The Christmas Wafer, an Eastern European prayer tradition typically used for Christmas Eve dinner, are **\$1.25 for a package of Four (4) wafers**.

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Eucharistic heart of Jesus is central for the Sisters of Life

The Eucharist is the life of the Sisters of Life. Our faith in Christ's presence in the Eucharist helps us to discern his presence in every human life, especially when that life is vulnerable, silent, hidden or diminished in any way. As we process to an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe each night, I often remember the tiny, beating heart from the ultrasound (of a young woman the Sisters of Life helped) as I gaze on her black sash, indicating that she is with child. In Mary's womb beats the hidden, little heart of Jesus. As our founder John Cardinal O'Connor loved to say, "The Christ that she fed within her womb is the Christ who feeds us in the Eucharist. It is the same Christ. Mary is the womb of the Eucharistic Christ." Jesus, in the womb of Mary and in the Eucharist, makes himself totally dependent, utterly vulnerable and small enough for us to approach. His love — incarnate, crucified and risen — reveals the truth of the beauty of every human person, created in God's image and likeness. In response to such love, we join Christ in laying down our lives in poverty, chastity and obedience, and vow to protect and enhance the sacredness of every human life. ~ Sr. Catherine Joy Marie

PRINCE OF PEACE

PEGGY'S STOCKINGS TOY DRIVE

GIVING CHILDREN HOPE

NOVEMBER 13TH—DECEMBER 14TH

Brighten the lives of children this Christmas by choosing one of "Peggy's Stockings" and purchasing a gift for one of the 300 children [ages 14 and under] in need. Each of these children receiving gifts is enrolled with the Prince of Peace Center's food pantry—OR will be an identified child in need whose parents are not registered with any food pantry within the Community Food Warehouse network.

To participate, simply take a "Peggy's Stockings" tag and purchase a toy or item for the age and sex of the child. Return the **unwrapped** gift, along with the identifying tag attached, no later than December 14th. While we ask that gifts be offered unwrapped, feel free to include wrapping paper for parents to wrap the gifts themselves. Gifts will be delivered to families on December 15th - Christmas Eve.

If you have any questions, please call Annette Morrison, Director of Operations, Prince of Peace Center 724-346-5777.



40TH Anniversary Dinner
Prince of Peace Center

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, February 18, 2023

6:00 PM

Avalon At Buhl Park

ST. ANTHONY

**Sarma (Stuffed Cabbage) Sale
and
Cookie Walk**

TAKE-OUT ONLY

Sarma Pre-Orders Only
to place an order call:
Launa (724) 342-2489
Cost: \$3 pc.

COOKIE WALK
\$4.00 - 1/2 dz.
\$6.00 dz. - Traditional
\$7.00 dz. - Specialty

Deadline to place an order for Sarma:
Monday, December 12

11:30am - 2pm Sunday, December 18

PICKUP IN ANTONIUM