



Church of NOTRE DAME



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



**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 3
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

Weekday Masses

Tuesday: 9:00 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 9:00 am

Saturday 3:00 pm – Confession

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. Richard Allen

Deacon

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

"THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH."

—JEREMIAH 33:14

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:

Zip:



VIDEO MASS 12/3	+
MON 12/4	NO MASS
TUES 12/5 9AM	+Walter Trkula [Family]
WED 12/6	NO MASS
THU 12/7 9AM	+Edward Kurelko [Family]
THU 12/7 7PM	
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	+Pete Kaczmarczyk Sr. [Family]
FRI 12/8 9AM	+McGinty & Stawaisz Families [Stawaisz Family]
SAT 12/9 9AM	+Oscar & Theresa Geroni [Daughter, Ann]
SAT 12/9 * 3-3:30PM	* Confessions
SAT 12/9 4PM	*Mass for the People
SUN 12/10 8AM	+Bill Feigert [Skip & Becky Feigert]
SUN 12/10 11AM	+Barbara Anne Stawaisz [Stawaisz Family]



Next Sunday's "Pantry Shower" Item is **TOILET PAPER**. The upcoming item will be sandwich, quart, & gallon size storage bags.

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

BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE



Please keep the family of
Margaret "Peg" Kolbrich
Ann Baldarelli
Linda Anne Thompson
Jerry Elliott



in your prayers.

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

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

November was - National Homeless Youth Awareness Month: We consider our homes to be safe places for our children, but in the United States up to 2.5 million youth experience homelessness every year. Each year up to 50,000 youth sleep on the streets for six months or more. One of the main causes of youth homelessness is family instability, which includes child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse and family conflict. The website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (www.nctsn.org) offers information on a range of child safety topics.

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

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SAT 12/9 4PM LECTOR M. Bradac	EUCH. MIN. D. Boller / B. Palisin D. Palisin / P. Thornburg 2 - Volunteer Needed	ALTAR SVR A. Bowser
SUN 12/10 8AM LECTOR Volunteer Needed	EUCH. MIN. T. Brandenstein / T. DeCaprio 4 - Volunteer Needed	ALTAR SVR Volunteer Needed
SUN 12/10 11AM LECTOR K. Wagner	EUCH. MIN. 6 - Volunteer Needed	ALTAR SVR Volunteer Needed

***ATTN VOLUNTEERS! Please sign-in prior to Mass**

ST. BARTHOLOMEW MASS SCHEDULE:

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

Advent Penance Service

SUN, DEC 10 2:00 PM 5:00 PM	Beloved Disciple, Grove City Immaculate Heart, Mercer
MON, DEC 11 7:00 pm	St. Bartholomew, Sharpsville
WED, DEC 13 7:00 PM	Notre Dame, Hermitage
WED, DEC 20 7:00 PM	Good Shepherd, West Middlesex
THU, DEC 21 7:00 PM	St. Joseph, Sharon
<i>Time listed below are in addition to the regular scheduled times.</i>	
FRI, DEC 8 7:00 - 8:00 PM	Immaculate Heart, Mercer
FRI, DEC 15 & 22 6:00 - 7:00 PM	Immaculate Heart, Mercer
SUN, DEC 17 - FRI, DEC 22 12:30 - 1:30 PM	St. Joseph, Sharon

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

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2023

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next 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

SCRIPTURE - Questions of the week

First Reading:

In prayer, the prophet Isaiah grieves over our sins that separates us from God. What sorrow or distress have you experienced over the past week?

Second Reading:

Paul offers up a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the many gifts the believers have received because of their faith in Jesus. As we begin the season of Advent, for what are you thankful?

Gospel:

Each Advent, the Gospel reading begins with Jesus instructing his disciples to watch carefully for the end times. How often do you think about the Second Coming of Jesus and judgment day?

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Advent is a time for waiting, for hoping, for praying. It is a time for reflecting on the special work to which God calls us all. Stay alert. Show Him you are listening.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Memento Mori

Just this week, my husband and I signed our wills, and the lawyer was careful to couch our transaction in gentle, abstract language: “When we lose you” she kept saying, instead of “When you die.”

It’s very uncomfortable to dwell on our death. But the Christian life does not just encourage us to do so: it demands that we do.

I once came upon a prayer consecrating the last two hours of life to the Blessed Mother. I have since found variations of the prayer online with different phrasing, but the sentiment of them all is the same: let me not be caught sleeping. Let me be ready.

“You can’t do all your homework at the end,” a deacon who ministers to the dying once told me. “Good Friday is waiting in the wings for all of us.”

I think of that a lot when I don’t particularly feel like praying, when I think I’m too busy to go to confession or when feelings of resentment fester inside me on Sunday mornings as I pack my family off to church. *All our good deeds are like polluted rags*, says the prophet. *We have all withered like leaves*.

You can’t do all your homework at the end. God is faithful. Are we?

“May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”
— Mark 13:36

PRINCE OF PEACE
PEGGY'S STOCKINGS
TOY DRIVE
GIVING CHILDREN HOPE
NOW—DECEMBER 13TH



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 13th. You may also purchase items from the Prince of Peace Center's Amazon Wishlist at the following link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/U3C8C057C5TN?ref=wl_share

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 14th.

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

Retirement Fund for Religious Sisters and Brothers

Next week, Sunday, December 9th, our Diocese of Erie will collect to the annual retirement fund this year. In our valley, we know of the dedicated and hard-working effort by the many communities of sisters (Benedictine, Mercy and Sisters of St Joseph) who staffed and taught in our schools and religious education programs. We have special memories of the generosity and hard work of the Sisters of St. Joseph as they began: our Notre Dame school: Sr. Marie Corde (first Principal), Sr. Mary Timothy (Sr. Ann), Sr. Dominic, Sr. Cecelia and for the Shenango Valley Religious Education programs: Sr. Mary Paula, Sr. Mary Ann and Sr. Mary Rita.

In the 1990's, Sr. Mary Drexler, Sr. Joyce Lowrey and Sr. Ann Donahue SSJs returned and were among our Notre Dame school administration and teaching staff. Sr. Margaret Pellerite, SSJ, has been in her teaching and ministry work since the beginning of Kennedy Catholic High School in the 70's.

In a special way we remember Sr. Joyce Lowrey and Sr. Ann Donahue, both Sisters of St Joseph who died last year. Their ministry of teaching extended through their entire careers in many schools throughout our Diocese of Erie.

TAIZÉ PRAYER DECEMBER 10 – 7:00 PM SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On Sunday, December 10th 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.



2023 - 2024 Religious Ed FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

*Mass schedule: Saturday 4:00PM / Sunday 8:00 & 11:00AM
 *Grades: **PreK-10th** / Sunday Mornings **9:15-10:45AM**
 *Grades: **11th - 12th** / First Sunday of every month / **9:15-10:45AM** /
 Facilitator: Deacon Frank Hannah
 *Director: Joe Ranelli / Secretary: Mary Lou Hornyak /
 Email: Religioised@notredame-pa.org / Phone: 724-981-5566

December 2023

- 3 Class
- 10 Class [Taize' Prayer / 7PM Church]
- 17 Class [Confirmation Parent/Candidate meeting following 11AM Mass in Chapel]
- 24 **NO Class** [Christmas]
- 31 **NO Class** [New Year]

January 2024

- 7 **NO RE Class** due to Confirmation Retreat [begin with 11am Mass - 6pm]
- 14 Class [First Penance Parent Meeting following 11am Mass in the Chapel]
- 21 Class [First Penance Parent Meeting following 11am Mass in the Chapel]
- 28 Class



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Ring a bell...help change a life

We all continue to experience higher prices for food, clothing, rent etc. Many families in the Shenango Valley who were already struggling can no longer provide for their families without help. Increasing numbers are turning to our Sharon Salvation Army for food and help with housing. While demand has increased for food banks all over our country, food banks are at their lowest inventory.

Again, this year the Salvation Army is asking local churches to partner with them by providing volunteer help to staff the Red Kettles. All the money collected stays in the Shenango Valley.

The Salvation Army is very pleased that Notre Dame Church will be participating again this year! We will be ringing the bells at Kraynak's rear entrance in **2 hr. shifts** from **9AM - 7PM** on the following days:

WED Dec. 6 GREEN	WED Dec. 13 PURPLE
THU Dec. 7 RED	THU Dec. 14 ORANGE
FRI Dec. 8 BLUE	FRI Dec. 15 PINK
SAT Dec. 9 BLACK	SAT Dec. 16 YELLOW

Ringling The Bells to help our neighbors in need is a very rewarding experience. Your gift of 2 hours of your time will be greatly appreciated! You can serve alone, with a spouse, a friend, or with a child. This is a wonderful service experience for people of all ages!

There will be Signup Sheets in the church entrance. Each day will have its own Color- Coded SignUp Clipboard (**See color beside date**). Please include your phone number and email! A more detailed General Information instruction sheet will be available at the SignUp Table. Hand Warmers be available in the church entrance on the Dec 2/3 week-end.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call or text Pat Galsky at 724-977-0914. Pat will call to remind you of your scheduled time.



NOTRE DAME CHURCH YOUTH CHOIR

Under the direction of Rhonda Paglia, the Notre Dame Church Youth Choir will be singing once again at the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass, Dec. 24th.

The practice schedule is: All Sundays: Dec. 3, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17th. All practices will begin at noon and last for about 45 minutes.

If you have any questions, or your child/ children would like to participate, please contact Rhonda at 724 977-0847.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY'S ANNUAL

COOKIE WALK AND SOUP SALE

HOMEMADE COOKIES \$7/DOZEN
(Specialty cookies slightly more)

HOMEMADE SOUP \$9/QUART

Lottery Trees Raffle Winners and 300 Club will be drawn after 11am Mass

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER
10**

IMMACULATE HEART
100 PENN AVE
MERCER, PA 16137
GALLAGHER HALL
1 (724) 662-2999
9A-12:30P

NOTRE DAME Book Club

Thursday, December 14th / 6:30 PM

Note: DATE CHANGE

We will be reading, The Only Woman in the Room, by Marie Benedict.

A few books will be available outside the parish office.

Please join us!