

Welcome to the Parishes of St. Joseph and St. Patrick

Rememóeríng
Dec. 16-22

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 15, 2019


Third Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 35:1-6a, 10

Jas 5:7-10

Mt 11:2-11

Monday
8:00am (SJ)

 William Fontana Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. John Hess

7:00pm(SP)
Penance Service @
St. Patrick's


TUESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

 John Saunders
Ken & Pat Corcoran


WEDNESDAY

12:00 pm (SP)

 Father Mullally
The Parishioners
of St. Patrick's

THURSDAY

8:00am (SJ)

 Charles Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Reilly

FRIDAY


No Mass

SATURDAY

4:00pm (SJ)

 For the People of St.
Josephs Parish

5:30pm (SP)

 The Moglia Family
Emil & Arlene

SUNDAY

8:30am (SJ)

 Pat Addio
The Family

11:00 (SP)

 Timothy Greeves
The Family

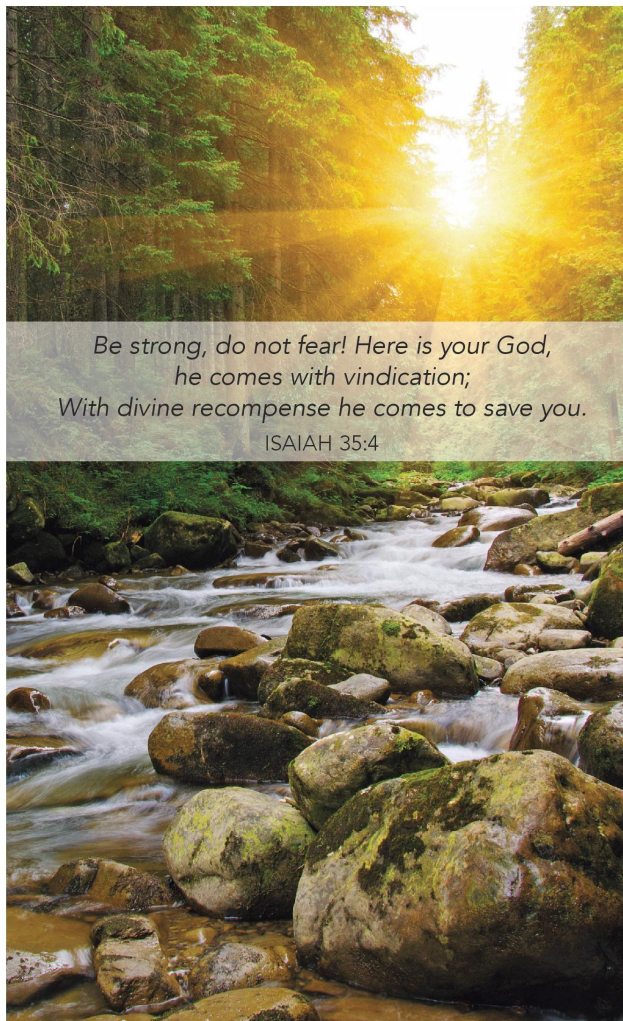
The Splendor of God

"Here is your God!" Who wouldn't run to see this marvel? Isaiah 35 tells us what to look for: nature will explode with excitement and splendor, and the hardships of life will no longer hold us captive. Is this really possible, or is it merely hopeful poetry? Jesus tells the disciples of John the Baptist that it's possible. In fact he, Jesus, is the one who has ushered in the kingdom of heaven. Since that is true, why don't you and I see it?

The reading from James sheds light on this. There is something truly wondrous about earth bringing forth "precious fruit" (James 5:7). Our understanding of how the development and emergence of fruits occur does not make the fact of natural growth any less wondrous. Farmers know this well. They also know that such growth will occur only when human labor cooperates with the laws of nature designed by God. In other words, the farmer provides the labor while God provides the life-giving sun and rain.

If our world does not resemble Isaiah's astonishing portrait or the healing that Jesus was able to accomplish, might it be that we have not done what we can to remedy the hardships of life that hold so many captive? When God enters our lives, he provides us with the power we need to change our world, but we must be willing to allow that power to work through us. If we are open to God in our midst, our world will be rich with life and healing, and everyone will know that God is really here.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
With divine recompense he comes to save you.

ISAIAH 35:4

FOR Reflection

- ★ On what ways might you enrich the life of another?
- ★ What can you do to heal broken relationships in your life?

Welcome

Our entire Parish Families welcome all of you who have come to worship with us today. We encourage you to participate fully in the spiritual, ministerial and social life of our parish community.

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal instruction. Please contact your Parish Office to make arrangements for this opportunity for spiritual renewal

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples contemplating marriage should notify your Parish Office at least six months before the date of their intended marriage.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick is for the comfort and strength of the ill. It is not just intended for those in immediate danger of death. It is a help and comfort to the living. If a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized, please contact your Parish Office.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM (SJ) (No Confessions)

6:00pm (SP) (No Confessions)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30AM (SJ)

11:00(AM) (SP)

DEANERY PENANCE SERVICES

St. Patrick's 12-16 @ 7:00pm

St. John Neumann 12-22 @ 2:00pm

St. Ann 12:22 @ 4pm

BON SECOURS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

in many areas of the hospital. If you would like to join a special group of people, with a special gift to give please contact Amy Moore, Volunteer Manager at 845-858-7162 or email Amy_moore@bshsi.org

DEANERY CHOIR "A CHRISTMAS CONCERT"

Sunday, December 15th at 2:00pm at St. John Neumann Church, Lord's Valley, PA. Family Christmas Party, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will follow. No admission charge or tickets required. All are Welcome.

WARMING STATION NEEDS YOUR

HELP! The Tri-State Warming Station in Port Jervis, is open for its fourth season serving the homeless in our midst. Every night until Spring, the warming station will provide shelter for those without it, along with hot meals and hot showers. The need is real-we welcome as many as 20 guests each night- and it takes a lot of volunteer energy to make this work. Some of your fellow parishioners are already helping out, and you can too. Volunteers to cook and deliver dinner or to stay overnight to help watch over the guests are especially needed. Financial support is welcome, too. To get involved, or for more information, contact Kevin (from St. Joseph's) at kevinwalter@earthlink.net or (570) 296-6902.

K OF C FAMILY & FRIENDS DINNER

There will be no Dinner in the month of December...Dinners will resume in January 2020.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Sponsored by United Way. If you need help with food, paying bills, health care, employment, housing etc. Pike County dial directly 855-567-5341.

ADVENT IS HERE!

Advent, the time of preparation for the Feast of the Nativity begins on Sunday, December 1st. What will you do to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas? Join the parish adult formation team as we explore "The Eucharist in Scripture", an enlightening discussion, based on the writing of Dr. Scott Hahn, to unlock the meaning of the Holy Eucharist as revealed in the Bible. Set aside an hour or two in this busy season to enrich your mind and soul. On Tuesday evenings, December 10, and December 17 at St. Patrick's Church Hall at 7:00pm. On Sunday afternoons, December 8th, and December 15th at St. Joseph's multi- purpose room, 1:00pm. All are welcome: please plan to join us. For further information call St. Patrick's office at 570 296-7451 or St. Joseph's office at 570-491-2618.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

This number is for a death or Anointing of the Sick only for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Any messages or questions left at this number pertaining to regular Office business will not be answered.

TRI-STATE CHORALE AT SAINT PATRICK'S DECEMBER 19

The Tri-State Chorale will return to St. Patrick's Church with "A Tradition of Carols" on Thursday December 19th at 7:00PM. All are welcome to this free holiday concert. You will enjoy performances by 3 different choirs: The Tri-State Chorale, Delaware Valley High School Chamber Choir and the Shohola Elementary School Chamber Choir. You will also be invited to sing along with some traditional carols accompanied by the brass quintet, Brass Reflections and our organist, Rich Gherardi. There will be a "free will" donation jar available and a basket set out for donations of non-perishable food items for the Ecumenical Food Pantry.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec. 21-22 24-25

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector Anna Blackman 12/24 CCD Youth
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Servers Eric Cabrera Agostini Draven Nitecki 12/24 Lukas Schutz Ryan & Eric Schanzenbacher
Sunday 8:30am
Lector Janet Bright 12/25 Tom McMullen
Eucharistic Minister
Altar Server Daniel & Cole Corcoran 12/25 Lucas Helms Robert McMullen
Milford Senior Care 12/15 Carol Cordova 12/22 Lois Lazarczyk 12/29 Chuck Pike

The Sanctuary Candle
burns

In Memory of
John Westfall

By
The Bensley Family

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The "Advent Giving Tree" is in our Vestibule along with a Bassinet. The tree is decorated with ornaments made by our CCD Children. Please take an ornament, purchase the item written on the back, and return your donation to the Bassinet. Your donated gift will be given to the Tri-State Pregnancy Center for distribution to needy families... Thank you for your generosity!

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Again this year the Poinsettia's that will be placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost will be \$15.00 per plant. Special RED envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. Deadline for your response is 12/17. A list of the memorialized will appear in the December 29th bulletin.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 16th 6:30pm in the Multipurpose Room.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER CIRCLE

Anyone who wishes to have prayers said for themselves or another may call Karen Sweeney @570-491-2228 or Tom Hogan @ 570-872-4925. If you wish you may also send the name via email to either Karen at sweeneyfive2002@yahoo.com or Tom Hogan at thogan@ptd.net.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

will be in the Vestibule selling Christmas Ornaments with a picture of St. Joseph's Church on them. The cost is \$10.00 per ornament. The Catholic Daughters will be donating 10% of the Ornament sales back to our parish!

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Our Annual Appeal goal is **\$40,000.00**. to date , **\$35,527.00**. **89%** of our appeal goal has been achieved due to your kindness and generosity. To those of you who have pleased, THANK-YOU! Those of you who have not pledged, please consider. This helps support Catholic, Social Services, Clergy formation, Parish Life and Ministry just to name a few.

COFFEE SOCIAL

Our next Coffee Social will be held next Sunday, December 22nd. A variety of foods will be available including "no sugar added" foods! All are welcome!

FOOD PANTRY

Our next food pantry will be Friday, January 3rd from 6 - 8pm (Team D). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

Weekly Offering

November 24, 2019

\$ 4372.40

December 1, 2019

\$3002.00 (snow storm)

December 8, 2019

\$ 3457.60

Thank you for your generosity!

Last Year

November 25, 2018

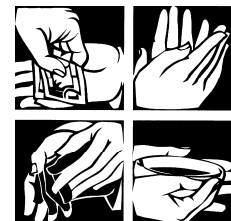
\$ 3061.00

December 2, 2018

\$ 4653.00

December 9, 2018

\$ 4444.41



"We, the parish of St. Joseph's, in union with our Holy Father, our bishop, and our pastor, seek to grow in holiness as a welcoming and caring family reaching out to all. As a faith-filled community celebrating the Eucharist, we strive to enrich our spiritual lives by cultivating a deeper relationship with Christ through the sacraments. We are united in faith and find unity in diversity as we pray for the grace to use our gifts and talents to promote the knowledge of God's love."

SPIRITUAL BOUQUET FOR BRO. ZACK BURNS

Bro. Zack Burns, the son of Maureen and Gene Burns and a son of the Parish Family of St. Patrick, will be ordained a Franciscan priest in the spring of 2020. In thanksgiving and gratitude to him as he enters the service of God and His Church, you are invited to participate in a *Spiritual Bouquet* that we will present to him at Christmas. In the spiritual Bouquet Book located in the Narthex, chose the prayers and actions you intend to offer up (rosaries, prayers, sacrifices, etc.) print your name and number offered. This is a wonderful way to express your appreciation and support his vocation, a vocation that is so needed. God Bless Bro. Zack. May he be an inspiration to other young men to the vocation of the priesthood?

FIRST RECONCILIATION CANDIDATES

This weekend, December 14th the following children made their First Reconciliation with Father Manarchuck. Let us pray that they continue to grow in God's love and learn how to say sorry, knowing that our loving God will always forgive them, amen. Evangeline Aiello, Paul Barcia, Liam Coe, Selena Dolan, Briana Donatone, Jake Ertola, Caitlyn Feely, Olivia Hopper, Jeremy Gesualdo, Orlando Huerta, Andersen Lateer, Cassidy Lentoni, Nyjah Musah, Joellen Nielsen, Gabriel O'Sullivan, Chloe Schwerdtfeger, Miley Sutton, Vanessa Trebilcock.

ST. PATRICK'S PRAYER CHAIN

Anyone who wishes to have prayers said for themselves or another may send via e-mail the name to Tom Hogan at tchogan@ptd.net. Or 570 872-4925.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

The Angel Tree has been placed in the Narthex. Don't forget to pick up an ornament to purchase a Christmas present for that individual. The gifts are due back on Sunday December 15th with the tag securely attached. Thank you for your generosity.

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Again this year the Poinsettia's that will be placed in the Sanctuary will be available for memorialization. The cost will be \$15.00 per plant. Special RED envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print clearly) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. Deadline for your response is 12/17. A list of the memorialized will appear in the December 29th bulletin.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec. 21-22

Saturday 5:30pm

Lector Jack Boyle

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Caterina Catizone, Carli Lock

Sunday 7:15am No Mass

Lector

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Sunday 11:00am

Lector Joe Sudano

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

Abigail & Anna Vogel



Weekly Collection

November 24, 2019
\$3,156.00

December 2, 2019 \$1,327.00

December 8, 2019
\$2,644.00



Weekly Mortgage Offertory

November 24, 2019 \$892.00
December 2, 2019 \$477.00
December 8, 2019 \$466.00

Year to Date July'19- Current
\$20,185.00

Goal for the Year \$100,000

The Sanctuary Candle
burns in memory of
Father Mullally
requested by
The Parishioner's of
St. Patrick's

St. Patrick's Parish is the presence of the Catholic Church in a diverse and vibrant area of northeastern Pennsylvania. As disciples, we dedicate ourselves to hearing, learning and sharing the good news of God's Word as we reverently celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Together, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we seek to know, love and serve God. We strive to promote a culture of love and respect for all human life and for the beautiful world in which we live. We welcome all people to participate in the spiritual and social life of our parish family.

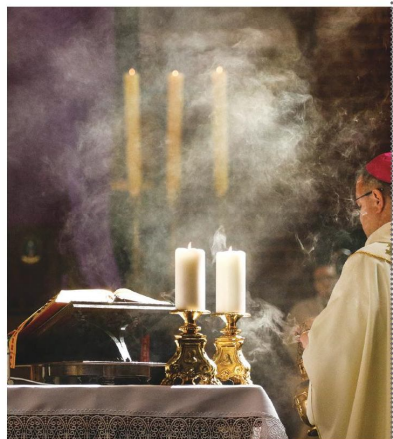
Dear Padre,

The Church is steeped in symbolism, tradition, and “living metaphors,” but it sometimes forgets common sense. Why smell up the church with incense? Why gussy up the Mass with horns, flutes, and guitars, at times turning holy Mass into a pseudohootenanny?

The Mass is our high point of worship. All other sacred actions and activities of the Christian life “are bound up with it, flow from it, and are ordered to it” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 16). The dignity and importance of worshiping the Father in and through Christ at Mass is expressed in communion with fellow believers, and ideally through a full sensory experience with all our heart, mind, and soul. In short, if something is worth doing, it’s worth doing well—especially if “doing” opens us to the mystery of God’s presence through what we see, hear, smell, touch, and taste. “In the liturgy the sanctification of women and men is given expression in symbols perceptible by the senses and is carried out in ways appropriate to each of them” (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [Sacrosanctum Concilium]*, 7).

Not all Mass occasions call for “smells, bells, toots, and flutes,” but the visual beauty of the sacred surroundings, the sounds of sacred music, and the sacred words and actions that connect us to our traditions and to Christ’s memorial institution, are intended to elevate us in our collective prayer to God. At times, such a sublime experience of the transcendent may be inhibited by sheer practicality, efficiency, and mundanity!

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSr
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



UDIA KULIK/MADEIRA/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Your music and your song are a true instrument of evangelization insofar as you witness to the profoundness of the Word of God that touches the hearts of people, and allows a celebration of the sacraments, especially of the Holy Eucharist, which makes one sense the beauty of paradise.

—INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF CHOIRS, NOVEMBER 24, 2018

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Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 16
Advent Weekday
Nm 24:2–7, 15–17a
Mt 21:23–27

Tuesday

DECEMBER 17
Advent Weekday
Gn 49:2, 8–10
Mt 1:1–17

Wednesday

DECEMBER 18
Advent Weekday
Jer 23:5–8
Mt 1:18–25

Thursday

DECEMBER 19
Advent Weekday
Jgs 13:2–7, 24–25a
Lk 1:5–25

Friday

DECEMBER 20
Advent Weekday
Is 7:10–14
Lk 1:26–38

Saturday

DECEMBER 21
Advent Weekday
Sg 2:8–14 or
Zep 3:14–18a
Lk 1:39–45

Sunday

DECEMBER 22
Fourth Sunday
of Advent
Is 7:10–14
Rom 1:1–7
Mt 1:18–24

Daily Prayer

This third week of Advent, our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is near.

For some of us, the great grace will be to ask that expectant hope - and the joy that this can bring - will fill our hearts and replace whatever is heavy or dark or sad there. We can only let our Lord bring good news to us who are poor, if we acknowledge our poverty. He can only proclaim liberty and release to us if we can admit that we are captives and prisoners to so many habits and patterns that inhibit joy.

A week of recognizing ourselves, and recognizing our need for a Savior is a wonderful way to prepare. We can only turn to our God and trust in the safety we find accepting our God as the only god of our lives if we first can name the place in which we are in danger, with the choices we are making. We can surrender our fear of being put to shame by humbly coming face to face with who we can sometimes be. The depths of gratitude and joy come when we can experience the tenderness with which our Lord keeps taking us back.

This is a wonderful week to examine our consciences as we let our daily, prayer-filled background moments interact with some of the places in our daily lives in which we discover the need for mercy and peace. Whenever we encounter some experience of darkness or fear, some struggle with faith or hope, some discouragement about my own generosity or freedom, it is there that we have an opportunity to



pause, in the briefest way and pray, “Come, Lord Jesus; come and visit me here, in this place.” Preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, individually or in common, can be a powerful Advent religious experience. And the one who forgives us deeply desires to heal us and give us his peace.

“Creighton University’s Online Ministries web site: <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>
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