

# Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church

*Our Mission: To Proclaim the Kingdom of God for the Salvation of Souls*

*Sunday, December 5, 2021*

305 N. Prince St.  
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1321  
www.olvshippensburg.org

## You Tube-Shippensburg Catholic

Church ..... (717) 532-2912  
Campus..... (717) 477-1244  
Fax ..... (717) 532-3905

## Office Hours

Monday-Thursday ..... 9:00 am—4:00 pm

## Pastor and Campus Minister .....

Rev. Ben Dunkelberger  
frbdunkelberger@hbgdiocese.org

## Office Manager .....

Tracy Plotner  
tplotner@hbgdiocese.org

## Religious Education Coordinator.....

Jolene Cramm  
jcramm@hbgdiocese.org

## Finance Chairperson .....

Charlie Albright  
calbright@rocketmail.com

## Parish Council Chairperson .....

Lyn Solder  
lyndasolder@gmail.com

## Ladies Auxiliary .....

Donna Bonitz  
ddbbonitz@gmail.com ..... (717) 860-4909

## Knights of Columbus .....

Mike Connor  
mconnor2001@gmail.com ..... (717) 530-5165

## Greeter Ministry .....

John Thornton  
johnnie7746@gmail.com ..... (508) 868-5640

## Weekend Masses

Saturday..... 5:00 pm  
Sunday..... 8:00 am and 11:00 am

## Daily Mass

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday ..... 8:30 am  
Wednesday..... 6:30 pm  
First Saturday of the Month ..... 9:00 am

## Reconciliation

Saturdays ..... 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
First Friday of the Month ..... 7:30 am – 8:20 am  
First Saturday of the Month ..... 8:00 am – 8:45 am

## Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the Month ..... 7:30 am – 8:30 am

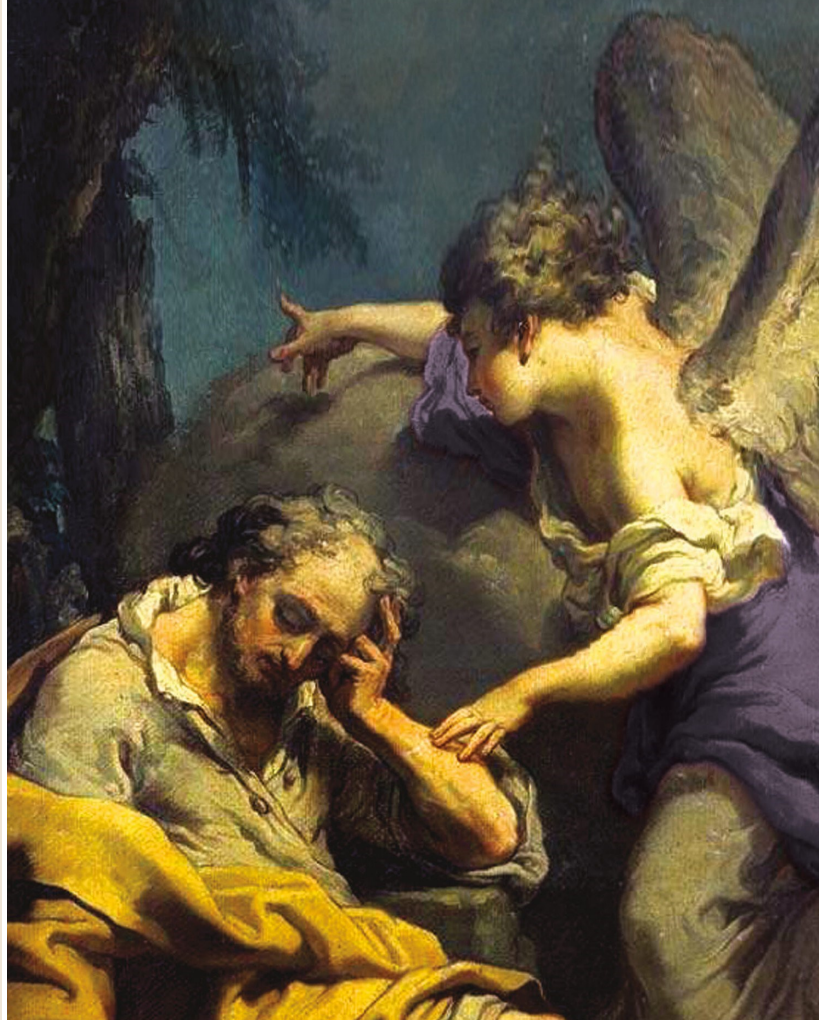
## Religious Education

Sundays ..... 9:30 am – 10:45am

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT  
YEAR C

PEACE

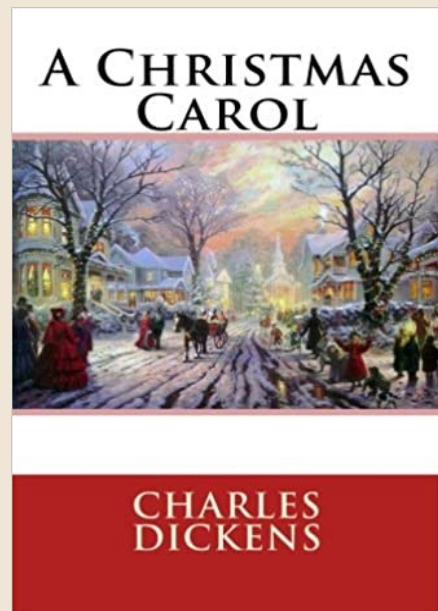
*all flesh shall see the salvation of God*



**BOOK OF THE MONTH**  
**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

For the months of November and December, we will be switching lanes a bit and reading a somewhat well-known fiction novel *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens! You may remember the basic story or the movie illustrations of this Christmas classic, but we will be especially reflecting on the spiritual reflections, significance, and depth found in this story. It is a very short book overall, so I encourage you to take your time when reading it and think about how different interactions between the characters

might lead to a greater understanding or perspective of how we are currently living our relationship with God or with others. Of course, this is an enjoyable read as well based on Dicken's style and the flow of the story, even though it is a bit more serious of a novel than, for example, the Muppets movie illustration. Just one practical note: **any version you purchase** should work well, so you don't have to purchase the same exact version as shown in our picture. We will be discussing this book on Wednesday, January 5th at 7:00 pm in the social hall, and I hope you will consider joining us! God Bless you.



**Saturday, December 4**

9:00am Intentions of Renee Romano  
5:00pm People of the Parish

**Sunday, December 5**

8:00am In Memory of Bud & Marie Miller  
11:00am In Memory of Berthold Wendeln

**Tuesday, December 7**

8:30am In Memory of Duane Evans  
6:30pm In Memory of John & Helen Kanc

**Wednesday, December 8**

8:30am In Memory of Bill Dechene  
6:30pm People of the Parish

**Thursday, December 9**

8:30am Intentions of Charles Hammond

**Friday, December 10**

8:30am In Memory of Janice Illo

**Saturday, December 11**

5:00pm In Memory of Robert Francis Benhart

**Sunday, December 12**

8:00am People of the Parish  
11:00am In Memory of Janice Illo

**CALLING ALL BAKERS & CRAFTERS!**



The Ladies Auxiliary bake sale will be held this year on Dec. 18th and 19th after all Masses in the back of the church! If you would like to donate any baked goods, holiday plates or crafts that you've made, please bring them to the Social Hall kitchen on Friday, Dec. 17th at 5:00. Mark your calendars for this event! Please contact Ana at 717-532-2250 for additional information.



**All members of the parish are invited to attend the annual Parish Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12th**

**from 4:00-6:00PM in the church social hall.** The event is an opportunity for our parish community to gather for fellowship in anticipation of Christmas. The evening will include pizza and other snacks, crafts for children, and a special visit from St. Nick. All children who attend will have an opportunity to have their picture with Santa. Bring your cameras!

There is no cost to attend, but donations will be accepted. Please RSVP either by the sign-up sheet located in the back of the church or via email to Chris Meehan at [cpm9294@yahoo.com](mailto:cpm9294@yahoo.com). This event is co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary. All are welcome. **Please join us!**



**Please join us on Sunday, December 19th for our Religious Education Christmas Program. The program will start at 10:00am in the church. Our students will present to you the story of the first Advent & Christmas.**

**You won't want to miss it!**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

**Saturday, December 4th "Run with a Priest"** (or bike, or walk). Meet outside of the social hall entrance at 10am

**Wednesday, December 8th "Adoration"** 9am -6:30pm

**"Confession"** 5:30pm-6:20pm

**Saturday, December 11th "Youth Ministry"** 6-8pm - (Grade 6-12) Please meet in the social hall. Please bring a friend!

## Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study is coming to OLV!!

This 6 week Bible Study is for any woman who wants to let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships, heal past friendship wounds, and cultivate lasting bonds.



**When:** Beginning January 2022—Tuesdays, 7-8:30 pm

**Where:** Mary's Kitchen

**How:** Please sign up in the lobby of the Church

Cost: \$20 + S & H (book purchased through Walking with Purpose) <https://shop.walkingwithpurpose.com/collections/study-guides/products/reclaiming-friendship-bible-study>

Books are presently backordered. If you sign-up for the study now or know you plan to attend, order your book now so it arrives in time for the study. The first two lessons are available for download on the site in case your book does not arrive in time for the first study date.



The gift sharing Angel Tree in the church lobby is for anyone who would like to purchase gifts for needy children in our area. We have a large number of families with children that need help with Christmas. Information regarding age, gender, sizes, and gift ideas are on the angels. Please bring your WRAPPED GIFTS WITH ANGELS ATTACHED SECURELY to church and put them near the tree. Gifts may be placed in the church lobby anytime, but must be received by 12 noon on Sunday, December 19, so they can be delivered that day. HELP WILL ALSO BE NEEDED ON December 19 at 12 noon to sort and deliver gifts. If you have any questions or would like to help sort and deliver gifts, contact Bob or Sue Kiley at 717-423-6297.



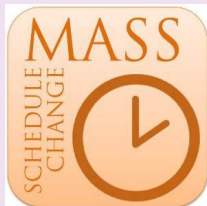
## Knights of Columbus & The Ladies Auxiliary

**The next KOC meeting will be Thursday, December 16th at 7pm in the parish hall.**

For more information contact Mike Connor at [mconnor2001@gmail.com](mailto:mconnor2001@gmail.com) or 717-530-5165.

**The next Ladies Aux. meeting will be Tuesday, December 7th at 7pm in the parish hall.**

For more information regarding the Ladies Aux. contact Donna Bonitz at 717-860-4909 or [ddbbonitz@gmail.com](mailto:ddbbonitz@gmail.com).



## Daily Mass Change and Advent Adoration on Wednesdays!

We have moved our Wednesday daily mass from the old time of 8:30 am to an evening mass at 6:30 pm. This will allow people who work or also any students to more easily attend

at least one daily mass during the week. Morning Prayer will be at 8:30 am Wednesday mornings. Fr. Ben will also hear confessions from 5:30—6:20 pm on Wednesdays!

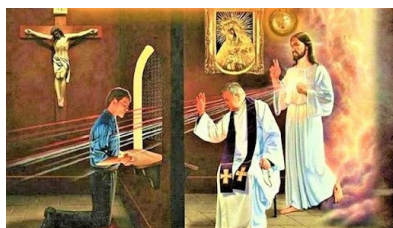
In addition, during the Advent season this year, we are going to try to have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays from 9:00 am—6:30 pm, as well as from 7:00—8:00 pm after the daily mass in the evening. This will simply take place in the main church, and I invite you to sign up for 30 min time slots in the back of the church! Come and experience Christ's love in silent prayer before the Eucharist!!

## November 20-21 & 27-28, 2021

Weekend Collection:	\$6,565.25
Building Improvements:	360.00
Parish Youth Education:	185.00
Social Outreach:	240.00
All Saints:	50.00
All Souls:	50.00
Votives/Donuts	73.92
Matthew 25:	1,406.00
Christmas Flowers:	85.00
Immaculate Conception:	5.00
Retirement for Religious:	25.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$9,045.17</b>

**Online giving made easy! Please visit the following link:**

<https://olvshippensburg.weshareonline.org>



On **Wednesday, December 15th at 7:00 pm** in the Main Church, we will be celebrating our **Advent Penance Service**. After a very short prayer service, there will be a group of visiting priests (including Fr. Ben) helping out to hear Confessions. There is nothing better than experiencing Christ's mercy in the Sacrament of Confession! Guides for Examinations of Conscience and the prayers will also be provided when you arrive.

# Holy Day or Holiday?!

## *Understanding Holy Days of Obligation in the Catholic Church*

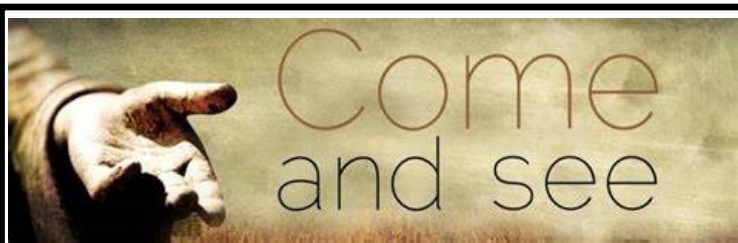
In light of this current holiday season, where most of our nation greatly enjoyed Thanksgiving and is already looking forward to Christmas and New Years , I wanted to write a quick article both explaining the idea of Holy Days of Obligation in our Catholic Faith as well as try to clear up any confusion about this year's upcoming Mass schedule! Now there are many Catholics who are very familiar with the idea of ***Holy Days of Obligation***, but this is meant to be so much more than just another day that Catholics are required to come to Mass (even though the requirement is real!...more on that in a bit). The origin of the word *holiday* comes from the Old English word *haligdaeg* (*halig* = holy, *daeg* = day) or Holy Day. When most of our nation in the U.S.A. hears that it will be a holiday weekend, our first thought is very commonly to think about a big party or a some sort of fun event or get-away that we can enjoy. **This celebration is not a bad thing, but traditionally any *haligdaegs* in the Catholic Faith would be celebrated with the same enthusiasm while also incorporating God and the church family as a part of this celebration.** This is because *halidaegs* were always an extension of the central Holy-Day in our faith, Sunday, the Lord's Day, and the New Sabbath Day, the Day of Resurrection! From the very beginning of the Church, Jesus' Last Supper meal was understood as a fulfillment of both the Jewish Passover and the Jewish Sabbath. Therefore, our new Passover, Easter Sunday, when Jesus rose from the dead, also became our new Sabbath, the Sunday Eucharist or Sunday Mass. In other words, every Sunday is meant to be a celebration of Easter and Jesus' Resurrection. Holy Days were simply an additional extension of this celebration, and they can end up either on particular days of the week (like the Ascension of Jesus, which is on Thursday after the 6th Sunday of Easter) or particular days of the year (such as December 8th and the Immaculate Conception of Mary). Overall, the main point is that, yes, we are following the commandment to keep holy the Sabbath Day (and ultimately most weeks, the minimum requirement is to spend 1 hr in praise and worship of God...not bad considering His love and life will make us happy and fulfilled for eternity!), but we are also called on by the Church to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection and our salvation on 6 other days during the year. These are the six Holy Days of Obligation, but they should really be thought of as the Holy Days of Celebration! Here is a calendar to help you!

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • <b>January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</b>                                   | • <b>November 1 – All Saints' Day</b>  |
| • The Ascension of Our Lord – Observed on the Thursday after the sixth Sunday of Easter | • December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (2021—6:30 pm Dec. 7th, 8:30 am & 6:30 pm) |
| • <b>August 15 – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>                          | • December 25 – Christmas, The Nativity of Our Lord  |

Now the Catholic Church understands that we no longer live in a Catholic culture, which might give days off work for these Holy Days, and the Church is trying its best to help those that are heavily burdened by true busyness. Therefore, in the U.S. three of these six days, **Jan. 1, Aug. 15, and Nov. 1**, are not official requirements **when they fall on a Saturday or a Monday** (but the faithful are still encouraged to come to Mass and to celebrate!). However, December 8th and December 25th are always Holy Days of Obligation even on Saturdays and Mondays, which brings us to this year's Mass schedule at OLV, which is bit confusing due to the Saturdays. Long story short, here is how you fulfill the obligation this year (**come Dec. 8th!**):

- **FIRST**— Attend one Christmas Mass; Dec. 24th & 25th (5pm, 8pm, midnight {all Friday night}, or 10am Sat.),
- **SECOND**— Attend one Mass on Holy Family Sunday; Dec. 26th (8am, 11 am, or 1 pm....Christmas is too important, so we can't do a Sat. vigil; this is why I added a 1:00 pm Sunday Mass this year),
- **THIRD**— Attend one Mass on Epiphany Sunday; Jan 1st & 2nd (5pm Sat, or, 8am or 11 am Sun).
  - January 1st the feast of Mary is on a Sat., so it is not an official requirement this year, but please come if you can!!

God Bless you, and take care. - Fr. Ben (*if you'd like even more practical details and background, just ask!*)



### Catholic Charities Come and See Appeal

Because of the continuing challenges with the coronavirus pandemic, there will not be an in-person Catholic Charities Come and See Dinner this year. However, your support of this appeal is still very much needed. Donations to the Come and See Appeal raise important financial support for the Catholic Charities Homes for Healing - Evergreen House (for women recovering from addiction), Interfaith Shelter for Homeless Families, and Lourdeshouse Maternity Home. Secured online contributions can be made via the [www.cchbg.org](http://www.cchbg.org) website. For more information, contact Christopher Meehan, Catholic Charities Director of Development, at [cmeehan@cchbg.org](mailto:cmeehan@cchbg.org) or 717-657-4804 ext 284. Thank you for your consideration and generosity!



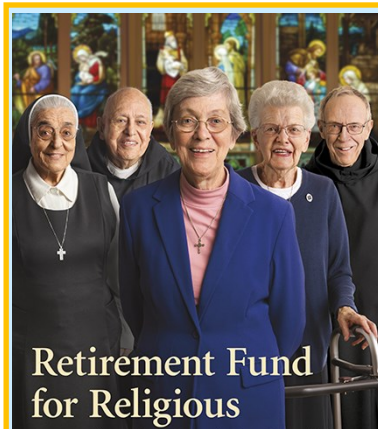
Is the Holy Spirit asking you to be "a shepherd he feeds his flock" in the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life?

Call Father Jonathan Sawicki (717) 657-4804, or write: [frjsawicki@hbgiocese.org](mailto:frjsawicki@hbgiocese.org).



### Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition

AmeriCorps VISTA, an organization on campus has asked our parish to be part of the Hounds Pack. Hounds Pack sends a backpack of food home for the weekend for needy families. Last year they provided over 100 packs each week. We are being asked to supply ONLY child friendly canned soups like chicken noodle and tomato, although they will accept any canned soups. There will be a container back by the confessional, next to the food bank container. They also can use volunteer help. It is usually one or two days a week for about 1-1/2 hours. Any questions, please call Bobbi Staver 717-816-5309. Thank you for your generosity.



### Give to gratitude.

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection

### Retirement Fund for Religious

helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Christ's Heart Exposed for us

Every Wednesday during this Advent Season, we are trying out something very close to my heart and my conversion, which is to have all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There was an adoration chapel open 24/7 on my college campus, and I powerfully experienced Jesus' love many times in the silence of that chapel while praying before the Eucharist exposed before me in the beautiful monstrance. We have our very own monstrance, and I'd really like to encourage each of every one of you to come and to pray in silence before our Lord in this way.



The climax of the Mass every Sunday is when the priest says the prayers of consecration, and it is Jesus Christ Himself who says those words and also transforms the bread and wine into His very own Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity for our sake. This Eucharist, Jesus' real presence among us, is also reserved in our Tabernacle every day of the year. During Adoration, the Eucharist is exposed to us in a particular way, and His Divine Love has a powerful opportunity to speak into our lives and our hearts if we place ourselves before Him. Please consider either signing up for a half-hour slot or more, or at least stopping in one Wednesday this Advent in order to place yourself before His presence and His love. God Bless you. - Fr. Ben.