

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

Rememóerínġ
Dec. 5 - Dec. 11

Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 4, 2016
Second Sunday of Advent (A)
Is 11:1-10
Rom 15:4-9
Mt 3:1-12

MONDAY

8:00 AM (SJ)

† Donald Dietz
Jessica Mueller

TUESDAY

12:00pm (SP)

† Henry Bousson
Ray & Carol Proulx

WEDNESDAY

Immaculate Conception

Vigil 7:00pm (SP)

† Joseph Umberto
Wife, Catherine

THURSDAY

Immaculate Conception

8:00am (SJ)

† Deceased Members of
The Farr and Nason
Families
The Family

FRIDAY

No Mass

SATURDAY

4:00 (SJ)

† Phyllis Cordova
Mr. & Mrs. John Hess

5:30pm (SP)

† Col. Steven Dutkus
Jean & Rich Mecionis

SUNDAY

7:30am (SP)

† Megan Bolehala
Bryan & Beth Bolehala

9:00am (SJ)

† Jerry Dilger
The Family

11:00am (SP)

† For the People of
St. Joseph and
St. Patrick Parishes

Preparing Ourselves

John the Baptist was the first prophet in Israel in more than 200 years. Some even thought he was the Messiah. He preached with authority, and people traveled from all over Judea to hear his words.

His message was to prepare the way. As any pope, king, or president announces his intentions in advance so preparations can be made, John was sent to announce the coming of the Son of God and to tell the people how to prepare.

Jesus comes to the world in three different ways: first, when he was born in Bethlehem and walked the earth; second, when he comes again at the end of time; and finally, when he comes to us constantly in the sacraments and liturgy. Preparing for his arrival is

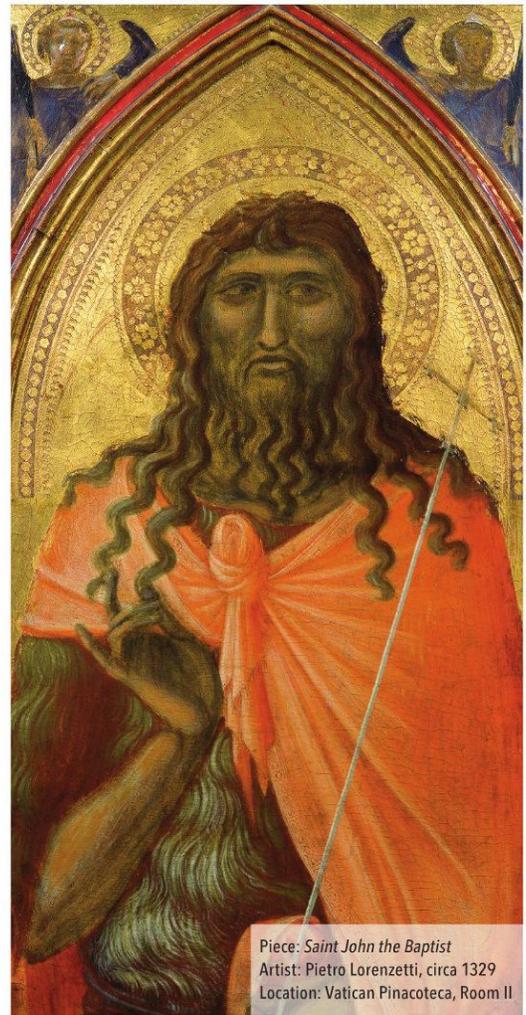
For Reflection

How does John the Baptist's call to repentance challenge me? Where do I need to ask for God's mercy?

not a matter of fixing roads, painting houses, or organizing a parade. Our king desires a transformed spirit: "Not by appearance shall he judge..." John warns that we cannot hide behind the faith of another; each one of us needs to show the fruits of our own faith. Yet we need not fear, for he who comes has every intention of saving us. He appears as Lord and invites us to accept his kingdom. He is also a teacher who shows us the way back to the Father. Above all he is a friend who forgives unconditionally and accepts our sincere yet feeble efforts.

This week, reflect on this image of John the Baptist, heed his words, and imitate him: Cry out for repentance, cleanse others from their sins, and prepare the way to God.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: Saint John the Baptist
Artist: Pietro Lorenzetti, circa 1329
Location: Vatican Pinacoteca, Room II

"And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones" (Matthew 3:9).

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. If needed, please contact your Parish Office to register.

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.

A LITTLE BIT OF HEAVEN!

An original Broadway-Style Musical Comedy The Saint John Neumann Players (combined Deanery and other Choirs, along with St John Neumann Youth Group), will be presenting an original Broadway style musical comedy on Friday, Dec 16 and Saturday Dec 17 at St John Neumann Church Hall in Lord's Valley, PA. The Saturday show will be a dinner theater, with dining room service by the St John Neumann Youth Group. Ticket prices are \$10 for Friday evening show, and \$20 for Saturday evening show with dinner. A generous portion of the proceeds will be donated to Food for Families, a social ministry program of St John Neumann Church. Reservations are now being taken for both dates by calling Linda at 570-775-0727.

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

The Poinsettias that will be placed in the Sanctuary at both St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes during Christmas can be memorialized. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes are at the entrances to both Churches. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelopes into the collection basket or at your respective Parish Office. Deadline for your response is December 19th. A list of the memorializations will appear in the December 25th Bulletin.

MASS IN SPANISH

For The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Monday, December 12th at 7pm St. Mary's Church, Ball Street, Port Jervis, NY. Confessions will be heard before Mass at 6:30pm in Spanish or English.

NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General, Monsignor Thomas M.

LOOKING AHEAD.....

The Immaculate Conception

Thursday, December 8th

Vigil Mass Wednesday, December 7th at St. Patrick's 7:00PM

Mass December 8th, at St. Joseph's 8:00AM

Advent Penance Services

St. Ann/St. John Neumann Sunday, December 11th 2:00pm at St. Ann's, Shohola

St. Vincent de Paul, Dingmans Ferry Wednesday, December 14th 7:00pm

St. Joseph/St. Patrick, Monday, December 19th 7:00pm at St. Joseph's, Matamoras. **(Please note the new date and time.)**

Christmas Eve Masses

Mass Saturday, December 24th at St. Joseph's 4:00PM

Mass Saturday, December 24th at St. Patrick's 6:00PM and 10:00PM

Christmas Day—Sunday, December 25th

Mass at St. Joseph's 9:00AM

Mass at St. Patrick's 10:00AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY

We will follow our normal weekend Mass schedule.

Offices will be closed between Christmas and New Year's

WINTER STORMS-(Daily Mass only)

Both Parishes will follow the Delaware Valley School District closings. If there is a 2 hour delay or a school closing there will be no daily Mass. This does not include Holydays. To find out if there is a delay/closing call 570-296-1800 or visit the Delaware Valley School District Website www.dvdsd.org

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

An emergency phone number has been established for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's parishes should you be in need of a priest for life threatening emergencies, Anointing of the sick or death. The number is (570) 591-1405 please leave your name, phone number and a brief message. Only messages with the emergencies mentioned above will be returned. This number is available to you on both Parishes answering machines.

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION TODAY

Aging religious need your help Senior Catholic Sisters, brother and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others - educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

The Catholic Community of St. Joseph

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
December 10-11

Saturday 4:00pm
Lector <i>Stanley Lazarczyk</i>
Eucharistic Minister <i>William Fells</i>
Altar Servers <i>Lukas Schutz</i> <i>Eric Cabrera-Agostini</i>
Sunday 9:00am
Lector <i>Makayla Csencsits</i>
Eucharistic Minister <i>Jackie Padgett</i>
Altar Servers <i>Mikaela Parker</i> <i>Joseph Loughney</i>
November Altar Server Of the Month: Daniel Bradley
Milford Senior Care 12/4 Jack Reilly 12/ 11 Jack Reilly

BROTHER JUNIPER



The
Sanctuary Candle
burns

In Memory of
Robert Rombousek

by
The Bensley Family

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The "Advent Giving Tree" is in our Vestibule along with the 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. The gift that you donate will be given to the Tri-State Pregnancy Center for distribution to needy families... Thank you for your generosity!

POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

The Poinsettias that will be placed in the Sanctuary during Christmas can be memorialized. The cost will be \$20.00 per plant. Special RED Envelopes are at all entrances to the Church. Please fill out the front of the envelope (please print) and enclose your payment. You may drop the envelope into the collection basket or at the Parish Office. Deadline is December 19th. A list of the memorializations will appear in the December 25th Bulletin. Only the Special RED Envelopes will reserve your Poinsettia...Thank you!

RELIGIOUS FORMATION BOOK DRIVE

The Book Drive was a HUGE success! Thank you to all of the parishioners who donated books, money, gift cards, wrapping supplies, refreshments, etc. to our service project. The kids collected, sorted, wrapped, and labeled over 300 books to be distributed to area children in need. This was a wonderful day of putting our faith into action! Thank you all!

ALTAR & ROSARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Thank you to all who attended, volunteered, and donated to the Annual Holiday bazaar. It is with all of you that we are a success!

This year's Raffle Winners: \$500 Sue Mills, \$100 Sue Clayton, \$50 The Yakupcin Family, Beer Brew Shop Kris Savarese, Winter Wreath Mary Gaa, Girl Pillow Cases, Vase & Picture, & Fall Pumpkin Nancy Vocci, Boy Pillow Cases Irma Aschoff, Thanksgiving Décor' Kathryn Helms, Christmas Tree Carol Simmons. Congratulations to all!

CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES

Can be picked up in your child's CCD Class. Children that are not registered in CCD can pick up their Envelope Box from the counter at the front entrance to the Church.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

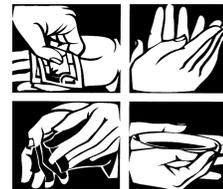
Every Monday in the Rectory after the 8:00am Mass. Come join Father Vito and discuss current events, Church happenings, or anything on your mind. All are invited!

FOOD PANTRY - Our next food pantry will be Friday, December 16th from 6 - 8pm (Team C). To volunteer please call Clare Nied at 570-296-2506.

COFFEE SOCIAL - Our next Coffee Social will be Sunday, January 15th. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods please call Lee Kenney at 570-491-2620.

Weekly Offering
November 28, 2016
\$ 3774.20 (1st)
\$ 556.00 (2nd)

Last Year
November 29, 2015
\$ 3845.80 (1st)
\$ 434.00 (2nd)



Thank you for your generosity!

"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."



RELIGIOUS ED. VOLUNTEER NEEDED

It is with much regret that our 3rd grade Teacher, Colleen McCarthy has resigned. We wish her happiness and good health in all she does. She will be greatly missed. If anyone is interested in becoming a 3rd Grade teacher, please contact JoMarie Totten, the Director of Religious Ed at 570 296-7451.

CHRISTMAS MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S I

In addition to the Christmas Mass Schedule that has been in the bulletin, please note that we have **added** Christmas Day Mass at 10:00am here at St. Patrick's.

RELIGIOUS ED. AND YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

The Christmas Party and Pageant will be Saturday December 17th following the 5:30 Mass. We ask each family to bring a dessert and/or juice to share. If your child is in grade K-4 and would like to participate please e-mail JoMarie Totten by November 27th at patsdre@ptd.net or call the Parish office at 296-7451. If you child is in grades 5-8 and would like to be narrators or help please me know. Practices are during class on December 11th and another one Wednesday December 14th. These practices are essential as we only have two practices this year. The Christmas party will immediately follow in the church Hall. If you have any questions, please give Jo-Marie a call.

SH! WE ARE EXPECTING SOME SPECIAL GUESTS!

YOUTH GROUP

Meeting Sunday, December 4th at 12:00 in the Parish Hall to discuss the Children's Christmas Party; Saturday, December 17 following the 5:30 Mass to volunteer at the Children's Party. We will have pizza after; Friday, December 23—Food Pantry at 6:00pm.

FOOD PANTRY

St. Patrick's Team will serve on December 23rd at 6:00pm.

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

The Angel Tree is being placed in the Narthex starting the weekend of November 26 & 27th. Please remember to take an ornament off the tree and bring the gift back with the tag securely attached to the present or the gift bag by Sunday, December 11th. The gifts are being distributed that week.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

The original Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was sculpted by Jose Lledim in 1946 following indications given to him by sister Lucia. It was solemnly crowned on May 13, 1947 in Portugal and from that day has traveled around the world promoting the message of peace and love. The legion of Mary here at St. Patrick has a replica of this statue and parishioners may have the Pilgrim Virgin "visit" their home. Anyone interested may contact Catherin Umberto 570 491-5820.



Weekly Offering
November 27, 2016
 \$3,514.00
Last year
November 24, 2015
 \$5,722.00

Weekly Mortgage Offertory
November 27, 2016
 \$928.00
Year to Date July 16' - Current
 \$31,092.04
 Goal for the Year \$100,000
Thank you for your generosity!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 10-11

Saturday 5:30pm
Lector <i>Ray Proulx</i>
Communion Ministers <i>Janet Finnerty, Jeanne Ryan</i>
Altar Servers <i>Lauren and Nicole Weinrich</i>
Sunday 7:30am
Lector <i>David Stine</i>
Communion Ministers <i>Clorinda Alfano, Angela Gleason</i>
Altar Servers <i>Samantha Becker, Jakob Fortunato</i>
Sunday 11:00am
Lector <i>John Wroblewski</i>
Communion Ministers <i>Ricardo & Veronica Sequeira</i>
Altar Servers <i>Vincent & Isabella Sasaki</i>
<i>The Sanctuary Candle burns for Krystyna Chudowolska Daughter, Teresa</i>

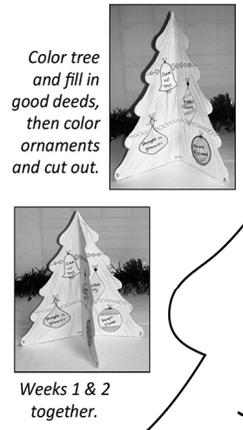
St. Patrick's Parish is the presence of the Catholic Church in a diverse and vibrant area of northeastern Pennsylvania. As disciples, we dedicate ourselves to hearing, learning and sharing the good news of God's Word as we reverently celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Together, 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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DIRECTIONS

- [1] Color tree green and write your good deeds on the ornaments and color.
- [2] Cut out and fold at right angle to stand up by itself.
- [3] Each week of Advent complete the tree and repeat steps 1-2.
- [4] After you have 4 weeks of trees colored, filled in and cut out, attach **week 1 to week 2** by matching the corner letters and gluing or taping halves together up to the fold line. Do the same for **week 3 and week 4**, which will then attach to **week 1 and 2** to complete.



FOLD

FOLD

A Week 2 B

Different angles of completed tree.

All of God's children are blessed with a variety of time, talents and treasures. This Advent, make a "gift to others" of your abilities, then write what you do on the ornaments on your "Share Me" tree.

There will be a tree for each week of Advent, and the 4 stand alone pieces will be joined together into a 3-D tree; just in time for Christmas!

Your finished tree is a wonderful gift to baby Jesus on Christmas! (Jesus loves when we help everyone around us.)

Calendar

- Monday**
 December 5
 Advent Weekday
 Is 35:1-10
 Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday**
 December 6
 Advent Weekday
 Is 40:1-11
 Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday**
 December 7
 St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 Is 40:25-31
 Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday**
 December 8
 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Gn 3:9-15, 20
 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
 Lk 1:26-38
- Friday**
 December 9
 Advent Weekday
 Is 48:17-19
 Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday**
 December 10
 Advent Weekday
 Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
 Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday**
 December 11
 Third Sunday of Advent
 Is 35:1-6a, 10
 Jas 5:7-10
 Mt 11:2-11

Daily Prayer this Week

Finding intimacy with God in the midst of our busy lives begins with getting in touch with our own desires. Advent is a wonderful time to ask myself, "What am I looking for? What do I desire? What longing can I recognize in my heart?" The answers to those questions will be our best guide for daily prayer. The readings this week offer some possible ways to talk with the Lord about our desires.

We can begin by trying to get in touch with a part of my heart that is divided, perhaps with a desert separating the two parts. For example, is there a disconnect between my primary commitments and the amount of time and attention that I give to them? Is there a distance between who I say I am and who I actually am? Do I experience something missing between what I believe and how I live those beliefs? We all have these contradictions and inconsistencies within us. These are the places into which we can let our Advent desiring grow.

This week, we can imagine the prophet saying, "There will be a path between what is separate or divided or at a distance in your life!" or "What is desert, barren, dry and life-less in you will come to life!" We can hear, "You will find freedom and comfort, where you have been finding yourself in a captivity to pattern and routine, where you have felt weak and weary." "Learn from the Lord and learn real wisdom."

When one or more of these desires really strikes a chord in our hearts, Advent begins for us. Each morning this week, we can turn to our God, when we first wake up, while in the shower or getting dressed, and simply ask: "Come, Lord. Come into this place, into this embarrassing place of need in my life." We may be able to be specific and ask, "Please, Lord, come and be with me and bring life and hope into my morning as I face this meeting." As we go to work or do laundry or shop, or head home from work, we might ask even more specifically for the grace to love - to take the liberating journey across the desert and let the Lord bring us home to a place of comfort, healing and peace.

Advent is about our coming to a felt sense of our need for a Savior and letting our Savior into our hearts to save us. Advent comes alive for us as we identify our desires and let them be expressed as longing and expectant hope. Into this space our Lord comes with good news, healing and a peace the world can't give. As we taste our desires and longing grow, we can give thanks each evening before we go to bed, to acknowledge we are being given a great grace of a growing intimacy with our God, right in the midst of our very busy days.