



Mass Intentions for the Week

- 12-4 Mon 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners
- 12-5 Tues 9:00 AM Anna Schuck
By the family
- 12-6 Wed 9:00 AM Catherine Humes
By Marge LaFave
- 12-7 Thurs 9:00 AM For the souls of those who
died in combat
By Charles & Jean McKilligan
- Vigil Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
- Thurs 5:30 PM All deceased parishioners
- Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
- 12-8 Fri 9:00 AM Carmie Mirabito
By the Mirabito family
- 12-9 Sat 4:00 PM Pearl Smith
By Gary Smith
- 12-10 Sun 10:30 AM Richard Munetz
By Ray & Mary Munetz

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Patronal feast day of the United States of America (December 8, 2023)

On December 8, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (This feast is a holy day of obligation for dioceses in the United States.) On this feast, we celebrate Mary's conception free from the stain of Original Sin, and we recognize that Mary's life began the moment she was conceived in the womb of St. Anne. So, too, does every human life begin at the moment of fertilization, when it is lovingly knit together by God the Father.

Annual Christmas Cantata

A Gospel Christmas celebration by a choir of voices from many local churches will be presented at the Sidney United Methodist Church on Friday, December 15th and Saturday, December 16th at 7:00 PM under the direction of Jack Doyle. Please join us for an uplifting celebration of the "Love" of Jesus.



Please wish belated birthday greetings to Claire Sterchak. She turned 95 on November 21st!

1st Sunday of Advent

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. It is the beginning of a new liturgical year.

We start a new church year with expectant hope and deep longing for the coming of the Lord into our lives, our homes, and our world. During the four weeks of Advent, we take time to prepare ourselves spiritually for a new encounter with God. We make use of the sacrament of confession, to reconcile ourselves with God and others and to be renewed in God's grace and holiness.

In the first reading, we learn about how the chosen people longed for God to restore their fortunes. After the many years of suffering captivity in Babylon, the Jewish people were allowed to return to their homeland in Judah. They knew that it was due to their unfaithfulness to God why they ended up as slaves in exile. Back home, the Jewish people were remorseful, repentant, and they turned to God for mercy and compassion. In a prayer, the prophet Isaiah pleaded on behalf of his people for God's forgiveness. The prophet Isaiah spoke with deep emotions, "O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand" (Isaiah 64: 8).

Like the Israel of old, we too, have sinned and wandered from the path of the Lord. We also see the need to return from the exile of sin and restore our broken relationship with God and others. We place our lives in God's hands and ask him to shape and mold us to become what he intends each of us to be.

In the gospel, Jesus admonishes us to be watchful and alert because we do not know what day or the hour his final return will come. He tells us the parable of a master who went on a long journey and entrusted his house to the care of his servants and commanded the doorkeeper to be on the watch. The master expected his servants to be wide awake and attentive while he was away so his sudden return does not catch them off guard.

Jesus exhorts us to be faithful and trustworthy servants. He wants us to act responsibly, to always do what is right and just.

In the second reading, Saint Paul praised God for the Christian community at Corinth for the grace and the spiritual gifts bestowed upon them. He was confident that the Lord will keep the Christian believers firm to the end. Saint Paul has all of us in mind and he encourages us to remain steadfast in our discipleship as we patiently wait for the coming of the Lord at the end of time and or at the hour of our death.

In this season of Advent, we receive the invitation to be awake and alert to God's presence in our daily lives. We are offered the opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and our awareness of his presence in our daily lives. You and I can do this through prayer, scripture reading and meditation. Let us do well to turn away from the many noises in the world that compete for our attention and allow the Lord to speak to the depths of our hearts.

Let us spend time with the Lord and seek to be sustained in his love and strengthened in his grace and holiness.

Have a fruitful Advent season!

God bless,

Rev. Dr. Ben

Weekend of December 9th & 10th, 2023

First Reading- Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Saturday 4:00 PM

Celebrant:

Fr. Ben

Lector:

Lorraine Keckeisen

Eucharistic Ministers:

Ginni Brandt

Altar Servers

Anderson & Garret Callender

Second Reading- 2 Peter 3:8-14

Second Sunday of Advent

Gospel- Mark 1:1-8

Sunday 10:30AM

Fr. Ben

Jose Estevez

Terry Maggio

Brock & Easton Porter

Offerings of November 18th & 19th, 2023 Regular, \$1,921.00; Fuel, \$20.00; Repairs & Improvements, \$105.00; Campaign for Human Development, \$419.00



December 3rd - 9:00-10:15 AM PreK-10th grade classes
 4:00 PM Family Advent Reflection Evening
 December 10th - 9:00-10:15 AM PreK-10th grade classes

The weekend of November 25th & 26th, 2023 the regular collection was \$1,921.00. The budget for the regular collection is \$2,395.00. To date we have collected \$47,340.00 which is \$172.00 above budget.



Diocesan Appeal 2023-2024

Mail solicitations from the Diocese for the Diocesan Appeal have been sent to most parishioners. If you have not received your envelope in the mail or are new to the parish, there are now envelopes at each of the exits. Our assessment for this year is \$14,576.00 which is \$368.00 less than our 2022-2023 assessment. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the Diocesan Appeal and help Sacred Heart to reach our assessment once again!

12 Signs of a Christian in Name Only vs. One Who Lives the Faith

Nominal Christians might limit their religious activities to church on Sundays. In contrast, those living their faith integrate their beliefs into every day, seeking to embody Christ's teachings constantly.

To be continued next week
 ~provided by guide2Free

Rosary Society

We are looking for new members and new ideas for the Rosary Society. We meet the second Tuesday of each month after morning Mass. On December 12th at 12:30 PM, we are gathering for our Christmas brunch. Miguel Dumay will be preparing our meal. We will need your response by December 5th if you plan to join us. Call the Parish Office or RaeAnne Lakin at 607-287-6489.

"Zoom" With Us Into Advent

On Tuesday December 5th, 12th, and 19th from 10:00 AM to noon join us as we take an Advent journey into the New Testament to uncover the portrait(s) of John the Baptist. See the flyer on the bulletin boards for more information.

December Bulletin Quotes

"The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the 'least of these' in our world's estimation." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
respectlife.org/live-the-gospel-of-life

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Thank you for your generous support of the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised \$609.00 to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" under "Resources".



2024 Calendars

Calendars are available to be picked up at each of the exits after Mass. Thank you to C.H. Landers and Mirabito Energy Products for generously sponsoring our 2024 calendars.

Little Blue Books

There are Little Blue Books with daily prayers for the Advent and Christmas seasons at each of the exits. Please take one as you leave Mass today.

How do you experience God? Where is God in your life? What might God be speaking to your heart? As Christians we believe that God is always with us, every minute of every day, in every encounter. Meeting with a spiritual director regularly can help you discern where God is leading you. This ancient practice of a trained Christian walking with another Christian helps to deepen our faith experience with Jesus Christ. Sessions with a spiritual director are typically held once a month and last for an hour. If you are interested, contact Cindy Korb, C.S.D at 607-267-0539 or at listeningpresence518@gmail.com or the Consultation Center in Albany.

Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers: Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Bettye Pete, George Mertz, Kimberlee Roe, Grady Charles Weigand, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, Andre' Lundstrom, Mark & Andrea, Kim Sumski, Dorothy Kashuda, Alyson Sabillon, Linda Falk, Debra Barnard, Diane, Bonnie La Voie, Doug Williams, Faith Williams, Don Butler, Debra Patterson, Ed Nicol, Dawn Maruszewski, Carey, Madlyn Sumski, Alex Roberts, Paul J. Hamilton, Sr., Ray & Mary Munetz, Jazmers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Bosket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter, Darline Smith, Daniel, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Sandy Kemp, George Walters, Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Kathryn Wickham, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Marian Heeps, Mary Kolermous, Clare Sterchak, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Terry Yackel, Jack Yackel, Jim Mylotte, Alice Walters, Mariah Pierce, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Tammy Byrnes, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Susan Chidester, Ines Warlock, Alyce Hopkins, Bob Oliver, Rose LoCasci, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Timothy Bell, Barb Doyle, Ruth Glaum, Tom DeMulder, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Tony & Lila Donnolo, Stefanie Smith, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, Assunta Siniscalchi, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Mike Andersen, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Olivia Ross & family, Anne Terzo, Eric Roll, Barbara Haynes, Jess Johansen, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolino, Charlie Washburn, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Grashans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Anne Powell, Father Peter, John Miller, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Marlena, Pat Elbrecht, Dorothy Cronin, Anthony Barber, Jr., Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, James Rattrie, Danielle Guglielmo, Ellen Reuter, Francis & Alfredine Duguay, Chelsi Byrne, Jaxson Beadle, Joan Rice, Joe Santorelli, Jaime Mathewson, Theo Williams, Joan Barber, Stephanie Soldinger, Eileen Donohue, Rowan DeCocker, Bonnie Tabone, Nancy Peck, Mike Blincoe

Please Note: All names will remain on our list and will be prayed for unless our office is notified to remove an individual.