



*Mass Intentions for the Week*

<b>Christmas Eve</b>			
12-24	Sun	4:00 PM	Theresa Pickens By her family
<b>Christmas Day</b>			
12-25	Mon	10:30 AM	Jim Suriano By the family
12-26	Tues	9:00 AM	Joe Geisler By his wife Sheryl
12-27	Wed	9:00 AM	Jim Suriano By Marge LaFave
12-28	Thurs	9:00 AM	All deceased parishioners
12-29	Fri	9:00 AM	Communion Service
12-30	Sat	4:00 PM	Theresa Horton By Dick & Audrey Regan
12-31	Sun	10:30 AM	James Householder By Mom & Victoria

**2024 Envelopes**

Please pick up your envelopes in the vestibule this weekend. There have been changes to assigned numbers so be sure to double check the list to ensure you are taking the correct box of envelopes. A contribution of \$4.00 in the initial offering envelope will help defray the cost of the envelopes. After January 1, 2024 all remaining boxes will be in the office.

**Correction!**

Please note that the publication put out by "4 Towns Forward" incorrectly listed our Mass times. The correct times for our Christmas Masses are Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM and Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM. An announcement notifying the public of this correction is being made on WCDO.



The Parish Offices will be closed Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of Christmas. The offices will also be closed Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 and Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, in observance of the New Year holiday.

**4th Sunday of Advent & Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve both occur on the same day. Catholics have two separate obligations to fulfill this weekend. We are required to fulfill our obligation for the Fourth Sunday of Advent by attending either a vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23 or Sunday morning Mass on December 24.

We are also obliged to go to Mass either on the Christmas Eve, December 24 or Christmas Day, December 25.

In view of these two distinct obligations, I tried to focus my reflections on the readings for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the feast of the Nativity of the Lord.

The readings chosen for the Fourth Sunday of Advent emphasize God's plan of salvation for the world. The readings teach us to surrender will to God and cooperate with his divine plan for our lives.

In the first reading, King David desired to build a house (a temple) for God. King David wanted to prepare a dwelling place for the Ark of the Covenant. God turned down David's plan. He instead, promised to establish an everlasting throne and lasting dynasty for David.

In the second reading, Saint Paul glorified God for blessing him with divine strength to proclaim the gospel message to the world. Saint Paul declared that God's mystery, hidden for long ages was made known to all nations through Jesus Christ.

The gospel from Saint Luke recounts the familiar story of the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary, a young woman of Nazareth who was betrothed to Joseph. The angel Gabriel announced to her that she has found favor with God and that she will bear a Son who will be called the Son of the Most High. The Virgin Mary was deeply troubled by this message. She asked a reasonable question: "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man"? (Luke 1:34). The angel assured the Virgin Mary that the Holy Spirit will come upon her and the power of the Most High will overshadow her.

Mary gave her unconditional yes to God's invitation. She said "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, may it be done to me according to thy word" (Luke 1: 38). This generous response shows Mary's faith and obedience to God. It is what made God's plan of salvation possible and also brought us the joy of Christmas.

Each Christmas, we receive the invitation to join with the heavenly host to rejoice at the birth of Jesus Christ. We hear the joyous news that the angels announced to the shepherds who were keeping watch over their flock by night. The shepherds were told: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today, in the city of David, a Savior has been born for you who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10).

All of us are called to share the wonderful news of the birth of Christ with our families, friends, neighbors, and our world. I pray that as we gather to celebrate the mystery of the incarnation, all of us may find joy, peace, and love in our hearts.

This Christmas, let us follow Mary's example of self-surrender and openness to God's will so the Christ child may be born once again in the Bethlehem of our hearts and dwell in the manger of our lives.

I wish all of you, your families, and loved ones, a Merry Christmas!

God Bless

Rev. Dr. Ben

**Weekend of December 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

First Reading-Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Second Reading-Hebrews 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

<b>Celebrant:</b>	Fr. Ben
<b>Lector:</b>	Ginni Brandt
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Jane Artis
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Brock & Easton Porter

**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

Gospel- Luke 2:22-40

**Sunday 10:30AM**

Fr. Ben
Paula Ciborowski
Pat Tartaglia
Anderson & Garret Callender

Offerings of December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular, \$1,885.00; Fuel, \$5.00; Repairs & Improvements, \$20.00; Christmas, \$100.00; Christmas Flowers, \$295.00; Immaculate Conception, \$10.00



December 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> - No Classes

### January Calendar Correction

The January calendar insert in this week's bulletin incorrectly states there is a parent meeting on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. There is not a parent meeting on this date, my apologies for any confusion this may cause.

The weekend of December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the regular, Immaculate Conception and Christmas collection was \$1,995.00. The budget for the regular collection is \$2,395.00. To date we have collected \$54,185.15 which is \$167.85 below budget.



### Diocesan Appeal 2023-2024

As of December 11, 2023 \$8,784.00 in pledges and donations has been collected for Sacred Heart. We are \$5,792.00 away from meeting our assessment of \$14,576.00. 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

For some church is a social engagement rather than a sacred assembly. A true believer, however, values church as a community for worship, growth and accountability.

To be continued next week

~provided by guide2Free

### Christ's Call to Paul and Us

A free virtual webinar is being offered on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:40 PM. Fr. Richard Fragomeni will reflect on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. To register go to [https://us02web.zoom/webinar/register/WN\\_VcWxE7SRQ60i5ujpWrSRHQ](https://us02web.zoom/webinar/register/WN_VcWxE7SRQ60i5ujpWrSRHQ). See the flyer on the bulletin board in the vestibule for more information.

### December Bulletin Quotes

"O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
Prayer for Radical Solidarity ([www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity](http://www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity))

### Christmas Flowers



Donations were given in memory or in honor of the following: Pat Materazzo, Congetta Materazzo, Caterian Coluni, Angelina Pacifico, Zaczek family, Muller family, Hillman family, Helena Dirig,

Father Gordon, Fred & Anna Schuck, Joseph Schuck, Michael & Frances Gregory, Judy Cardoni, Helen & Steve Tiska, Bernadine & Fred Boardman, David Tiska, Soddy & Carmie Mirabito, Reagan family, McGunnigle family, Glory to our Lord God, Deceased members of Knapp family, Deceased members of Robinson family, Carl Griffith, Abe Saludo, Butch Artis, William & Jane Pahl, Clifford & Ethel Artis, Ciborowski, Komornik, Cronin and Damato families, Ed Hogan, Clare & Ed Hogan, Ellen & Joseph Mertz, Mertz family, Hogan family, Theresa Horton, James Balla, Bud Shifflett, Eugene & Teresa Crane, Charles, Leslie, & Gertrude Crane, Robert & Nellie Holmes, Rosalie Gatto, Maruszewski family, Brown family, Joan & John Kaiser, Heilman family, Munetz family, Helfrich family, Laurel Alksnis, Veronica Shupperd, Charles Shupperd, Theresa Horton, Martha Smith, TonyBartirolo Sr., Anne & Bud Walsh, Angie & Antonio Bartirolo, Chuck LaFave, LaFave/Humes families, Julia McCann, Bob Strom, Olivia Kenedy, Edward A. Abbot, Scott Franco, Emily Franco, Gladys Gronwall, Marion Zanazzi, William Yaiser, Antonia & Harold Cooper, John R. Smith, Jim Ives, The Kinch family, Doris & Bill Dean, Bettye Laird, Miguel Dumay Sr., Maria Dumay, Danny Vitello, Janina & John Kruszka, Mary McKinley, James Sliney, Bartolo & Nancy Liberatore

Thank you to all who made donations in honor or memory of loved ones. Please accept my apologies in advance if I have incorrectly spelled a loved ones name!

  
*For unto us,  
a Child is born....  
Isaiah 9:6*

**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, Marlana 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 Pondolfino, Charlie Washburn, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Anne Powell, Father Peter, John Miller, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Marlana, 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.*