

## Mass Intentions for the Week

12/15 Mon	9:00 AM	Roger & Mary Jenny By Jim & Bonnie Weibel By Marge LaFave
12/16 Tues	9:00 AM	Joseph Abdella By Jim & Bonnie Weibel
	9:00 AM	John MacDonald By Tony & Joan Barber
12/17 Wed	9:00 AM	Victor Repetto By Jim & Bonnie Weibel
	9:00 AM	Janice Willingham By Gabby Pysnik
12/18 Thurs	9:00 AM	Marilyn Schmidt By Carol Jensen
	9:00 AM	Samuel Rivera By The Family
12/19 Fri	9:00 AM	Communion Service
12/20 Sat	4:00 PM	Michael Gregory Jr. By The Family
12/21 Sun	10:30 AM	Claire Sterchek By Phyllis Blincoe

### Wisdom of the Saints

"First let a little love find entrance into their hearts, and the rest will follow."

~ St. Phillip Neri

### Christmas Flowers

In your packet of envelopes there is one for Christmas Flowers. There are envelopes available in the vestibule if you do not use offertory envelopes. Donations can be made in honor or memory of your loved ones by writing their name(s) on the back of the envelope. A list of names that flowers are given in memory of will be in the Christmas bulletin. Please place your envelopes in the collection basket.

### 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 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM and Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM under the direction of Jack Doyle. Please join us for an uplifting celebration of the "Love" of Jesus.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Waiting in Joyful Hope.

Waiting does not come easily to any of us. It stretches our patience and unsettles our hearts, whether in traffic, a hospital waiting room, or a slow-moving checkout line. These pauses often feel like interruptions, delaying our plans. Yet, through the eyes of faith, waiting is never wasted. What seems like a delay is often God's way of preparing us for what lies ahead.

On this third Sunday of Advent, traditionally called Gaudete Sunday, the church calls us to rejoice because our salvation is near. The rose-colored candle we light today shines as a symbol of joy, reminding us that Christ's coming brings renewal, healing, and peace.

The scriptures reveal signs of God's presence breaking into the world: deserts blooming, captives freed, the blind restored, the lame walking, and the poor receiving the good news.

In the first reading, Isaiah proclaims that the wilderness will blossom and overflow with joy. He urges the ransomed to be strong and not be afraid, for the Lord comes with vindication to rescue and lead them home.

The psalm assures us of God's constant care and justice, turning barren places into paths of promise.

Saint James urges us in the second reading to be patient and strong while waiting for the Lord's coming. He points us to the farmer who patiently waits for the hidden seed to grow and bear fruit.

In the Gospel, Jesus affirms His mission not with words alone but through visible works-imparting healing, freedom and hope. These are living signs of God's reign already breaking into the world. The Lord's mission continues wherever wounds are healed, freedom is proclaimed and hope is shared. Each gesture of compassion, each word of encouragement and each act of justice, becomes a glimpse of Christ's presence among us.

We are called to embody this mission in our daily lives, becoming instruments of healing, voices of freedom, and bearers of hope, so that through us, others may encounter the nearness of God's kingdom.

As we journey through Advent, we are invited to open our hearts wide to the Lord's grace. In the stillness of this season, we wait with patient hearts and joyful hope, rejoicing that our salvation is near. Already, joy, peace, and hope are blossoming within us, preparing us for the fullness of Christ' coming. May these gifts remain with us and shine forth through our words and actions, touching the lives of all we encounter and bearing witness to the nearness of Christ, our eternal joy.

God bless you.

Fr. Dr. Ben

### Weekend of December 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025

First Reading- Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Reading- Romans 1:1-7

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

**Celebrant:**

Father Ben

**Lector:**

Ginni Brandt

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Bill Babbage, Dorothy Yaiser, Carole Ostrander

**Altar Servers**

Ayla Gronwall & Gabriel Harris

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

**Sunday 10:30AM**

Father Ben

Phyllis Blincoe

Nancy Kahane – Bread, Ada Rice, Terry Maggio

Offerings from Dec 6 & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Regular, \$2871.00; Fuel, \$30.00; Repairs, 145.00; Evangelist, \$18.00; Human Development, \$25.00; Christmas, \$191.00; All Saints, \$25.00; Immaculate Conception, \$390.00; Votives, \$69.00



### **Religious Education 2025-2026**

Classes for Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup> grade

12/21 9:00-10:30 AM – Fourth Sunday of Advent  
12/28 No Classes – Christmas Break



### **Advent Bible Study**

There is still time to join for our Bible Study for Advent~  
Joseph, Husband of Mary.  
Tuesday's Dec. 16, 23 – 10AM to Noon in the Parish Center.

### **2026 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 2026 calendars.



### **Mass Intentions**

The 2026 Mass Intention book has arrived. If you have Masses that you would like scheduled for 2025 please call or stop by the office or send your in writing to the Parish Office.

### **Question of the Week**

Jesus Said, "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." (Matthew 11:11)

Adults: How do you prepare to meet Christ in those around you?  
Kids: What good things have you done so far during Advent to like Jesus?

### **Christmas Gifts**



Are you looking for a gift for the person who has everything? Maybe a prayer shawl is the gift you are looking for. There is no charge for a shawl. Contact the Parish Office to get a shawl for someone special.

### **December Bulletin Quotes**

"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother."

Learn how at [respectlife.org/support-her](https://respectlife.org/support-her).

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly"

### **Diocesan Appeal 2026 - Update**

If you have not received your Diocesan Appeal mailing at home, there are envelopes at each of the exits for you to use to make your pledge/donation. Our assessment increased \$8,658.00 this year to \$19,152.00. We have collected as of 11/19/25 \$11,706.00. Please prayerfully consider how you can support Sacred Heart in meeting our assessment. Please be aware that all donations to the Diocesan Appeal should be mailed Directly to Albany. Donations are no longer processed through individual parishes.



### **2026 Envelopes**

Please pick up your envelopes in the vestibule this weekend. If your number changed your name is highlighted on the list. A contribution of \$5.00 in the initial offering envelope will help defray the cost of the envelopes. After January 1, 2026 all remaining boxes will be in the office. **If your number changed please do not begin using the new number prior to January 1, 2026 in order to properly credit donations.**

### **Justice for Orphans**

'Pope Leo reminds us that as disciples of Christ we are called to care for the less fortunate and marginalized. An opportunity to help children in need is coming to our Sacred Heart family. On **Tuesday evening, January 13 at 6:30pm** Gene Knott, coordinator for Delaware County, will give a presentation on Justice for Orphans. We will have an opportunity to join with area churches to provide for the needs of children. Please come and learn about this program.

**Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers:** Gussie Shifflett, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Kimberlee Roe, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett,

Grady Charles Weigand, Daniel Rickard, 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., Mary Munetz, Jazmiers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Basket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter Darline Smith, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Sandy Kemp, George Walters Lorraine Keckisen, Maria LaBar, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Marian Heeps, Mary Kolermous, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Moratwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Terry Yackel, Jack Yackel, Jim Mylotte, Alice Walters, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Starzinger, Alexis Spencer, Ines Warlock, Susan Chidester, Bob Oliver, Rose LoCasci, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Timothy Bell, Ruth Glaum, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Marge LaFave, Olivia Ross & family, Joe Maggio, Eric Roll, Barbara Haynes, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolfino, Charlie Washburn, James Rattrie, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselic, a dear friend, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, Ellen Reuter, Jaxson Beadle, Francis Duguay, Joan Rice, John MacDonald, Rowan DeCocker, Stephanie Soldingier, Bonnie Tabone, Daniel, John Gilmore, Will Sterchak, Donna Khan, Anthony Barber, Jr., Payton Lakin, Joan & Tony Barber, Mathias Mietzelfeld Maggie Hoffman, Marybeth Modinger, Jacqueline Richardson, Celeste Aber, Teri Frallich, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Bill Babbage, Sarah Pressler, Bobbie August, Chris West, Dawn Cronin, Stephen, Josephine Materazzo, Avery Maggio, Barb & Jerry Patrick, Paisley Halbert, John MacDonald, Anne Klopchin, Gloria Parsons, Anthony Naple, Ruling Family, Cumming Family

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