1st Sunday of Advent

Two weeks ago our gospel talked about signs, signs that would be harbingers of the end time. Today, as we begin the season of Advent, we talk about beginnings, as we begin the preparation for the greatest sign that humankind has ever or will ever see. God is going to send his only son to come and live among us, to share our sorrows and our joys, our highs and our lows. “Stay awake”, our gospel tells us, because great things are about to happen. Our reading from the prophet Isaiah tells us that if we remain awake and practice what this Son of God and Son of Man will teach us, then “one nation shall not raise the sword against another” and we will “walk in the light of the Lord.”

PASTORAL STAFF
Deacon Jim Bower-Administrator; Deacon Ron Ste-Marie

Monica Edwards & Josephine Payne, Bookkeepers
Liz Fusco, Faith Formation Coordinator for Grades K/1st—6th
Susan Baldwin, Office Manager/Secretary/F.F.C
Michael Young, Finance Manager
Deacon Ron Ste-Marie, Facilities Supervisor
St. John the Baptist’s Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m.

St. John the Baptist’s Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m.
Monday & Wednesday 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Please contact parish office SIX months in advance. One year for those who are under age of 21. Pre-Cana is expected. Wedding dates are scheduled after meeting with Deacon Bower.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Can be administered at any stage of a person’s illness. If possible, one SHOULD NOT wait until someone is near death before requesting an anointing.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: St. John’s—Saturday 3:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m. Sts. Anthony and Joseph’s—5:25 p.m.—5:50 p.m. on Saturday.

FUNERALS—are held on Monday thru Thursday and Saturday.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS—Please contact Vicar for Vocation Office at (518) 453-6690

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 1, 2019

St. John the Baptist’s Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:00 a.m.
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Wide-Open Eyes

When my first child was born, we had a nursery created for him that featured images from “The Beginner’s Bible” painted on all the walls. (You may have seen this Bible before, where the Biblical figures in the book all had large wide-open eyes.) Images of Adam and Eve, David and Goliath, and Jesus were displayed on all four walls. On the largest wall was a big picture of Noah’s Ark with lots of animals. As our son got older, we would point to images on the wall as we read bedtime stories to him. Our son is now in his 20’s and living several hours from us, so those days are far behind in our rearview mirror of life.

We prepared quite a lot for his birth. When our next two children were born, the preparation time had decreased significantly. Most parents know what I am talking about. The newness of your first-born brings with it so much emotion that you are compelled to spend countless hours preparing. When the next children are born, you are certainly excited, but you act differently and with a little more reserve.

For most readers, this is not your first Advent. It probably won’t be your last. If you approach these December days simply as a way to prepare for Christmas, you may find yourself just doing the same old thing as last year. However, if you spend this time reflecting on the time when Jesus returns or when you shall see him face to face, you might be able to stir up some of that emotion of anticipation within you. Jesus is coming again. When people of all ages understand that reality, it can be a cause for large, wide-open eyes indeed.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR A

Today’s Scripture readings can be found in the Gather Hymnal # 991

Our Prayer’s response is: “Lord, hear our prayer”

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question:

What’s the story behind the Advent wreath?

Answer:

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn’t falter with the changing seasons. It remains always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God’s love.

ST. JOHN’S SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Regular Collection 11/24/19: Not Available
Human Development 11/24/19: Not Available

This week’s second collection: Christmas Flowers
Next week’s second collection: Immaculate Conception

If you are away, please remember the parish with your envelope gift on your return. We appreciate your ongoing support.

The Mohawk Valley Choral Society and Orchestra under the direction of Randy Davis will perform The Many Moods of Christmas on its annual Christmas concert, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, December 15th at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, 2222 Genesee St. in Utica. Arranged by Robert Shaw, The Many Moods of Christmas are traditional Christmas carols for orchestra and chorus. Included on the program will be child prodigy Dominic Fiacco at the organ. Tickets are $12 in advance or $15 at the door and may be purchased by calling 315-826-3092.

STS. ANTHONY & JOSEPH FINANCIAL CORNER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection Date</th>
<th>Collection Amount</th>
<th>Year to Date Total</th>
<th>Year to Date Required</th>
<th>Cumulative Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/17/19</td>
<td>$2,095.00</td>
<td>$47,222.00</td>
<td>$70,000.00</td>
<td>-$22,777.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/24/19</td>
<td>Not</td>
<td>Available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The weekly amount needed from collection is approx. $3,500 for the fiscal year from 7/1/19 to 6/30/20.

Next Weekend’s second collection is for Immaculate Conception

Money Counters—December 2, 2019
H. Tangorra, P. Tripolone, P. Bono

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST—BISHOP’S APPEAL 2019

“THANKS TO YOU”

Goal: $27,723.00
No. of Gifts: 78
Pledge Amount: $14,532.00
Collect Amount: $12,877.00

Sts. Anthony and Joseph’s Boiler Fund

The cost of the replacement of the boiler is $64,000.00. As of 11/18/19, we have collected for this fund $20,586.00. Please help our church to meet this goal and to keep our church warm during the winter months.

ST. JOHN’S SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Regular Collection 11/24/19: Not Available
Human Development 11/24/19: Not Available

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS—November 30 & Dec. 1, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Saturday 4:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 8:00 a.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lector</td>
<td>J. Murphy</td>
<td>A. Hennings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cup Minister</td>
<td>A. Choquette, R. Hughes</td>
<td>K. &amp; J. Gizi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host</td>
<td>D. Hughes</td>
<td>S. Butler</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next Weekend—December 7 & 8, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Time</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lector</td>
<td>L. Farber</td>
<td>J. Loiacono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cup Minister</td>
<td>C. Mead, J. Strumlock</td>
<td>E. &amp; C. Cuda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host</td>
<td>M. Schultz</td>
<td>C. McCormack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**Sts. Anthony and Joseph’s Calendar**

**Sunday, Dec. 1st**—No Faith Formation Classes

**Sunday, Dec. 8th**—No Faith Formation Classes

**Monday, Dec. 9th**—Crusader’s Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ Parish Hall

**Tuesday, Dec. 10th**—Christian Srv. Com. Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ Hall

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**Readings for the week of December 1, 2019**

**Sunday:** Is 2:1-5/ Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 1]/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

**Monday:** Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Next Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 19 [cf. 7]/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

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**GIVING TREE**

**Sts. Anthony and Joseph’s Giving Tree will be up until December 15th.**

Please take a tag for one of our children in need.

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**LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK -**

Stay awake! With so many things competing for our attention and so many details to attend to, it is very easy to fall into a slumber. We can find ourselves simply going through the motions of life and losing a sense of purpose and direction. Busy with many things, we lose touch with the things of God, especially the gentle stirrings of His presence. Advent calls us to the challenge of living a wakeful life. Awake from the sleep that life’s demands can put on us, and allow God’s word to transform our hearts. Being ready for the coming of the Lord is life’s priority for the Christian. Let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS—November 30 & Dec. 1, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Saturday 6:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 10:00 a.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lector</td>
<td>A. Baldwin</td>
<td>J. Key</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cup Min.</td>
<td>J. Hutchinson, E. Healy</td>
<td>J. Fahy, T. Powers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**STS. ANTHONY AND JOSEPH PARISH**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS—November 30 & Dec. 1, 2019**

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<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Saturday 6:00 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lector(s)</td>
<td>G. Aceto, A. Putney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cup Ministers</td>
<td>J. Macri, E. Leonardo, L. Sementilli, L. Warner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Sts. Anthony and Joseph’s Calendar**

**Sunday, Dec. 1st**—No Faith Formation Classes

**Sunday, Dec. 8th**—No Faith Formation Classes

**Monday, Dec. 9th**—Crusader’s Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ Parish Hall

**Tuesday, Dec. 10th**—Christian Srv. Com. Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ Hall

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Masses for the week of November 30—December 8, 2019

**Sts. Anthony and Joseph, Herkimer**

**SATURDAY, November 30—Saint Andrew, Apostle**
- 6:00 p.m.—Sam DePalma  Req. Mike and Donna Sciortino
- Angelina Giuliano (month’s mind)  Req. Carolyn Torcia

**SUNDAY, December 1—First Sunday of Advent**
- 10:00 a.m.—Ozzie Hunt  Req. Family
- Joseph and Mary Karecki (Anniv.)  Req. Irene, Dory, and Fran
- Frank and Jennie Peruzzi  Req. Son, Carmen F. Peruzzi
- Phil Vallese  Req. Family

**MONDAY, December 2—Advent Weekday**
9:00 a.m.—Celebrant’s Intention

**TUESDAY, December 3—Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**WEDNESDAY, December 4—Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church**
9:00 a.m.—Celebrant’s Intention

**THURSDAY, December 5—Advent Weekday**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**FRIDAY, December 6—Saint Nicholas, Bishop**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**SATURDAY, December 7—Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
- 6:00 p.m.—Sam DePalma  Req. Harriett Tangorra & Family
- Lud Swietlikowski  Req. Josephine Widay
- Dan D’Amico  Req. Frank Evangelista

**Sunday, December 8—Second Sunday of Advent**
10:00 a.m.—Sandy and Katherine Cushman  Req. Louise and Jack Carney
- Grace and Victor Carney  Req. Louise and Jack Carney
- Angelina Aiello Giuliano  Req. Carol and Jim Ocuto

**St. John the Baptist, Newport**

**SATURDAY, November 30—Saint Andrew, Apostle**
- 4:00 p.m.—Peter Manno  Req. Chris and Joe Mead

**SUNDAY, December 1—First Sunday of Advent**
- 8:00 a.m.—Wanda Lesniak  Req. Family
- William Irwin  Req. Family

**MONDAY, December 2—Advent Weekday**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**TUESDAY, December 3—Saint Francis Xavier, Priest**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**WEDNESDAY, December 4—Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church**
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**THURSDAY, December 5—Advent Weekday**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**FRIDAY, December 6—Saint Nicholas, Bishop**
NO PARISH LITURGY

**SATURDAY, December 7—Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
- 4:00 p.m.—Kathy Murphy  Req. Family

**SUNDAY, December 8—Second Sunday of Advent**
- 8:00 a.m.—Pauline Franco (18th Anniv.)  Req. Joe and Dianne Fiacco
First Reading

In the 8th century B.C., the prophet Isaiah foresaw God’s final judgment and the onset of peace among all nations. Do you think it is possible to establish peace among the nations without divine intervention?

Second Reading

Paul urges the believers in Rome to live a moral life in preparation for the end-times. What do you find challenging about Paul’s instruction?

Gospel Reading

Jesus warns the disciples to be prepared for the coming of the Son of Man since it will occur at an unexpected time. How would you advise to “stay awake” for this event?