



*Mass Intentions for the Week*

- 12-2 Mon 9:00 AM Clara Aubut  
By Fran & Alfredine Duguay
- 12-3 Tues 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners
- 12-4 Wed 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners
- 12-5 Thurs 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners
- 12-6 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service
- 12-7 Sat 4:00 PM Anna Schuck  
By the family
- 12-8 Sun 10:30 AM Mark Granan  
By the family

**Daily Mass**



As we have done in previous winters, to conserve on our fuel oil expense, beginning tomorrow, Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> daily Mass will be held in the Chapel in the Parish Center. The heat will be turned down in the church but it will continue to be open for private prayer and devotion.



**Christmas Flowers**

In your packet of envelopes there is one for Christmas flowers and there are envelopes 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.

Please see the flyers on the bulletin boards for information on a 50/50 Raffle and fund raising dinner being held on December 13<sup>th</sup> at Saint John's Church in Bainbridge.

**Change in Schedule**

Please note that the Penance Service scheduled for Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> on the calendar has been moved to Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 PM.

**2nd Sunday of Advent: Be Vigilant and always pray**

We concluded the church year last Sunday and now we are into a new liturgical year which begins on this first Sunday of Advent. During Advent, we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Christ at Christmas, in the present and the future at the end of time. We strive to slow ourselves down, and draw closer to God by listening for his voice through prayer, reading, and reflecting on sacred scripture.

All three readings for this first Sunday of Advent highlight the rich themes of hope, vigilance, and patient waiting. The readings bring us to learn from the experiences of the ancient Israel on what it means to be people of hope. The chosen people experienced many years of captivity in Babylon because of their infidelity to God. They were consumed by despair and hopelessness. Amid their exile and hopeless situation, the ancient people longed for the dawn of their redemption.

In today's first reading, God instructed the prophet Jeremiah to speak to the weary people that their redemption is near at hand. God promised to liberate them and restore their fortunes. He assured the house of Judah and Israel that a righteous branch will spring up from the line of David to reign over them in the ways of love, goodness, truth, justice, and peace. Jesus is this virtuous branch who came to fulfil God's promises. He brought us salvation.

In the gospel, Jesus predicts catastrophic events such as frightening signs on the earth and in the heavens and tribulations that will take place before the end times. He tells us to always be vigilant and pray that we have the strength to escape the horrors that are imminent and to stand before the son of man. He cautions us against the lure of the world, especially complacency, moral laxity, excessive drinking, and the anxieties of life so we are not caught off guard like a thief by his sudden return. The Lord wants us to be awake and vigilant for his final coming. To be awake and alert means living in righteousness or doing what is right and just. It means growing in love and holiness.

St. Paul urges us in the second reading to live in a manner pleasing to God. He prays that we may increase and abound in love for one another and be found blameless before God.

In this holy season, we are offered the opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and one another. We can make the most of this grace-filled season by engaging ourselves in some spiritual exercises such as participating in a group bible study, devoting time for self-examination and prayer.

As we enter a new church year, it is important that we renew our hope and trust in God's steadfast love and goodness for us. Along with the psalmist we lift our eyes and hearts to God and ask for his guidance. We join our voices together in prayer as we say, "To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth, and teach me, for you are my Savior, and for you I wait all day" (Psalm 25:1b).

God bless,  
Fr. Dr. Ben

**Weekend of December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

First Reading-Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading- Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

**Celebrant:**

Fr. Ben

**Lector:**

Chris Berkeley-Hartjen

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Bill Babbage

**Altar Servers**

Anderson & Garret Callender

**Second Sunday of Advent**

Gospel- Luke 3:1-6

**Sunday 10:30AM**

Fr. Ben

Kerri

Lorraine Keckeisen

Quinn & Ayla Gronwall

Offerings from November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular collection, \$2,494.00; Fuel, \$3.00; Repairs, \$20.00; Campaign for Human Development, \$557.00; Christmas, \$10.00



### Religious Education 2024-2025

12/1 No Classes  
12/8 9:00-10:15 AM Classes for grades Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup>

## Adult Faith FORMATION

### An Advent Scripture Study over Zoom Led by Dr. Joy Galarneau

10:00 AM-noon December 3, 10, 17

Join us to delve into the Christian Scriptures and beyond to uncover the wisdom buried there through the study of Jesus' family tree and the women named there; Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary. What do we know about these women? Why were they included in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus? Cost: \$110.00 to be divided by the number of participants

### Eucharistic Consecration

Beginning Wednesday, December 4, 2024 the Albany Diocese will be taking part in a Eucharistic Consecration as part of our prayerful preparation for the Jubilee year. A book study using "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory" will be held here at Sacred Heart and thanks to a generous donation from a parishioner in Hancock the book is available for free to all interested parishioners. The Consecration will end on Sunday, January 5, 2025 and a Mass officially opening the Jubilee year will be held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. See the letter from Bishop Scharfenberger on the vestibule bulletin board for additional information.

The 2025 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 requests in writing to the Parish Office.

### The Giving Tree

Helping Those in Need



**All unwrapped gifts must be returned by this weekend, December 1** so the distribution can begin. Please attach the tag to the bag/gift bag to ensure that it is delivered to the correct child. Gifts may be placed in shopping bags or gift bags and placed under the tree. Envelopes for cash donations may be placed in the collection basket or brought to the office.

### 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](http://respectlife.org/live-the-gospel-of-life)



There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule for the lighting of the Advent Wreath. Individuals or families are invited to come on the altar at the start of Mass to light the candle. Please see Father Ben if you have questions.

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Thank you for your generous support for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. As a parish, we raised \$762.00 to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late! Visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections) and click "How to Give" under "Resources."

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Patronal feast day of the United States of America  
(December 9, 2024)

On December 9, 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.

**Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers:** Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Kimberlee Roe, Kevin, Michael Bell, Grady Charles Weigand, Barbara Bennett, 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., Ray & Mary Munetz, Jazmers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Bosket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter Darline Smith, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Sandy Kemp, George Walters Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Marian Heeps, Mary Kolermous, Clare Sterchak, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwie, 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 Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Ines Warlock, Susan Chidester, Bob Oliver, Rose LoCasci, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Timothy Bell, Barb Doyle, Tom DeMulder, Ruth Glaum, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Olivia Ross & family, Eric Roll, Barbara Haynes, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolfino, Charlie Washburn, James Rattrie, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Pat Elbrecht, Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, Ellen Reuter, Danielle & Phil Guglielmo, Jaxson Beadle, Francis & Alfreidine Duguay, Joan Rice, Rowan DeCocker, Stephanie Soldinger, Bonnie Tabone, Austin Kilmer, Daniel, John Gilmore, Will Sterchak, Donna Khan, Anthony Barber, Jr., Payton Lakin, Theresa Zieno, Joan & Tony Barber, parishioners with COVID, Kyle Roy, Phyllis Blincoe, Maggie Hoffman, Marybeth Modinger, Jacqueline Richardson, Celeste Aber, Max & Kyle Cochrane, Teri Frallich, Rochelle Knapp, Caceres, Gustavo, Rios, Alonso, & SantaCruz families, Andrea Emilia Bernabey

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