



Mass Intentions for the Week

Solemnity of Mary Holy Day of Obligation

12-9	Mon	9:00 AM	All deceased parishioners
12-10	Tues	9:00 AM	All deceased parishioners
12-11	Wed	9:00 AM	All deceased parishioners
12-12	Thurs	9:00 AM	Special intentions of Charles & Jean McKilligan on their 4 th wedding anniversary
12-13	Fri	9:00 AM	Communion Service (weather permitting)
12-14	Sat	4:00 PM	Kathy Reynolds By Marge Suriano
12-15	Sun	10:30 AM	Samuel C. Rivera II By the family

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.) There will be one Mass at 9:00 AM.



2025 Envelopes

Please pick up your envelopes in the vestibule this weekend. If your number changed there is a letter standing up in your box of envelopes. A contribution of \$5.00 in the initial offering envelope will help defray the cost of the envelopes. After January 1, 2025 all remaining boxes will be in the office.



Roof Construction

The replacement of the roof on the church is expected to begin sometime during the week of December 9th-13th. Pews, altars and other areas will be covered in plastic sheeting to help keep as much dust and debris off them as possible. We ask for your patience and understanding as work on this project begins. Work will proceed as quickly as weather permits.

2nd Sunday of Advent

Preparing for the arrival of the Lord into our lives

We are in the second week of our Advent journey. Today, we light the first and the second purple candles on our Advent wreath representing our longing for hope and peace in our lives and the world.

The readings for this second Sunday of Advent call us to remove the things that hinder us from drawing closer to God. The readings urge us to repent from our sinful ways and be renewed in God's grace and holiness.

In the first reading, the prophet Baruch proclaimed a message of hope and comfort to his despairing people in exile. He called them to take off their robe of mourning and misery because their redemption was near at hand. He assured the exiles in Babylon that God would intervene in their situation, set them free and lead them safely home to Jerusalem.

The message of Baruch is our advent invitation. We too are like the ancient people of Israel wandering and suffering in exile. We suffer from the slavery to sin. Our human weaknesses impede the grace which God desires to bestow on us. Our sins cause us shame and pain.

Advent calls us to turn to God for repentance, forgiveness, and restoration. The holy season invites us to take off the dress of sorrow and distress and step into the bright light of Christ.

In the gospel, John the Baptist tells us to turn to the right path. John the Baptist proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins to the people of his time. He echoed the prophecy of Isaiah "Prepare the way of the Lord and make straight his paths" (Isaiah 40:3).

We all have mountains and hills in our lives that need to be lowered. Our crooked ways need to be straightened out. We have mountains of hate to bring down and deep valleys of pride, prejudice and indifference to fill in with humility, openness, love, respect, acceptance, and care.

In the second reading, Saint Paul gave thanks to God for the Christian community of Philippians. He prayed that the Christians may be filled with joy as they waited for the day of the Lord. He was hopeful that God will bring the good work in the believers to complete fruition. Saint Paul had affection for all of them and wishes the same for us.

God planted the seed of faith in each of us at the time of our baptism. He wants us to keep growing in love and faith and trust in his bigger plan for us. Each day we need to cooperate with God and follow his path. In this time of waiting and joyful hope and anticipation, let us seek to renew and deepen our relationship with God. Let us return to the Lord in the sacrament of reconciliation so we can experience forgiveness, freedom, and peace in our lives.

God bless,
Fr. Dr. Ben

Weekend of December 14th & 15th, 2024

First Reading-Zephaniah 3:14-18

Second Reading- Philippians 4:4-7

Third Sunday of Advent

Gospel- Luke 3:10-18

Celebrant:

Saturday 4:00 PM

Fr. Ben

Lector:

Sheri Youngs

Eucharistic Ministers

Ginni Brandt

Altar Servers

Jack, Henry & Ella Grigoli

Sunday 10:30AM

Fr. Ben

Lorraine Keckeisen

Terry Maggio

Brock Porter & Gabriel Harris

Offerings from November 30th & December 1st, 2024 Regular collection, \$2,041.00; Fuel, \$30.00; Repairs, \$55.00; Campaign for Human Development, \$15.00; Christmas, \$50.00; Flowers, \$162.00



Religious Education 2024-2025

12/8 9:00-10:15 AM Classes for grades Pre-K-10th
12/15 9:00-10:15 AM Classes for grades Pre-K-10th

Adult Faith FORMATION

An Advent Scripture Study over Zoom

Led by Dr. Joy Galarneau

10:00 AM-noon December 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

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.



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.

Communal Advent Reconciliation Service

The celebration of the Communal Advent Reconciliation Service will take place Sunday, December 22nd at 4:00 PM in the church. There will be individual confessions at this service. Also, individual confessions are always available by calling the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.



Advent Candles

Thank you to Father Ben for providing Jessica Wheeler and the decorating crew with the inspiration for the new Advent candle display on the altar. It is a beautiful and inspirational display for the Advent season.

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.
USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting"

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



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 but donations are always appreciated. Contact the Faith Formation Office to get a shawl for someone special.

Free Community Christmas Meal



There will be a free community meal at the Elks Club in Sidney on December 25th from 1:00-4:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve the meal. If you are interested in helping contact Gene Schmidt at 607-610-4030



Daily Mass

As we have done in previous winters, to conserve on our fuel oil expense, daily Mass is now being 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.

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 Morotwe, 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 & Alfredeine 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.

