

# **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

12/8 Mon 9:00 AM Alfredine Duguay

By Vic & Pat Tartaglia

5:00 PM Katherine Humes

By Marge LaFave

12/9 Tues 9:00 AM Alfredine Duguay

By Joan & Tony Barber

12/10 Wed 9:00 AM Jeanette Siniscalthi

By Tom & Vicky Cardi

12/11 Thurs 9:00 AM Alycia Consuelo & Family

By Family Friend

12/12 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service

12/13 Sat 4:00 PM Theresa Zieno

By Phyllis & Patrick Blincoe

12/14 Sun 10:30 AM Patricia Houghton

By Ada Rice

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

Patronal feast day of the United States of America (December 8, 2025)

On December 8, 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.

## **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.

## The Giving Tree

Thank you for your overwhelming support of the Giving Tree. Sixty-three children will have a brighter Christmas because of your generosity, May the joy you bring to the children also be your gift throughout Advent and Christmas.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Trusting in God's Enduring Faithfulness

Life often reveals the fragility of human promises-spoken with hope, yet so easily broken, forgotten, and left unfulfilled. But unlike our fleeting words, the Word of God never fails. The Lord is faithful, and His promises endure through every generation: steadfast, eternal, and life-giving.

On this second Sunday of Advent, the scriptures draw our minds and hearts to God's enduring promises of peace, reconciliation, justice, and renewal-promises fulfilled in Christ. They remind us that lasting peace is found not in human assurances, but in the Lord's abiding presence.

In the first reading, Isaiah speaks to a weary people, offering them a vision of hope: "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse." From what seemed lifeless and cut off, new life will spring forth. This tender branch embodies God's promise of justice and peace, a reign that restores harmony not only to Israel but to the whole world. Israel held fast to this promise, trusting that the Messiah would come to fulfill it.

The responsorial psalm echoes this vision, proclaiming a king whose reign is rooted in justice, and who gathers all people into the fullness of eternal peace.

In the second reading, Saint Paul urges the Christians in Rome to accept one another in love and harmony. His words remind us that in our families and communities, we too are called to patience, kindness, and unity-becoming living signs of God's

In the Gospel, John the Baptist calls us to prepare the way of the Lord through repentance, urging us to turn toward Christ, to walk in a new direction, and to bear fruit in renewed lives. Jesus is the joy of every longing heart, the tender shoot from Jesse, the fulfillment of God's promises. He brings mercy, peace, and renewal to our lives.

As we journey through Advent with the candle of peace lit this week, let us lift our hearts to the Lord, asking that His peace may be born anew within us. May His presence transform our lives into radiant signs of His kingdom. In a world longing for reconciliation and hope, may Christ shape us into instruments of His love, and may our lives bear witness to His promises-true, steadfast, and leading us to everlasting life in heaven. God bless you,

Fr. Dr. Ben

## **Christmas Bazaar**

Thank you to everyone who gave their time and talent to make the Christmas Bazaar so wonderful and successful. May God bless you for your generosity.

# Weekend of December 13th & 14th, 2025

First Reading-Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 Second Reading- James 5:7-10

Saturday 4:00 PM

Celebrant: Father Ben Lector: Chris Berkeley - Hartjen **Eucharistic Ministers** Pat Tartaglia, Jane Artis, Ginni Brandt

Jack, Henry & Ella Grigoli Altar Servers

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 Sunday 10:30AM Father Ben Kathy Saludo Paula Ciborowski, Josh Gronwall, Emelinda Gromwall Anderson & Garret Callender

Third Sunday of Advent

Offerings from Nov. 29th & 30th, 2025: Regular, \$2554.00; Fuel, \$20.00; Repairs, 185.00; Evangelist, \$5.00; Christmas, \$50.00; Immaculate Conception, \$20.00; Votives, \$43.00; Christmas Sale, \$607.00



## Religious Education 2025-2026

Classes for Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup> grade 9:00-10:30 AM – Third Sunday of Advent 12/14 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.

Tuesdays Dec. 9, 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 requests INTENTIONS in writing to the Parish Office.

## Question of the Week

This is the one (John the Baptist) of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."(Matthew 3:3)

Adults: What do you need to change so that others can learn from watching you that Christ walks among us?

*Kids:* What good thing have you done so far during advent to be 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 Faith Formation 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. 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.



### Peace

The second Sunday centers on peace, emphasizing the tranquility that Christ brings into the world. This theme invites individuals to seek inner peace and harmony in their relationships. It reflects the biblical promise of peace that Jesus offers, encouraging believers to embody this peace in their daily lives.

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, 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, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Terry Yackel, Jack Yackel, Jim Mylatte, 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, 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 Soldinger, 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



