



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

- Mt 1:24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Sunday Mass @ St Cecilia has been moved to 4pm for the winter months.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Dec 24th, Wed, Christmas Eve Vigil/Children's Mass– St. Cecilia 4:00pm
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass – Sacred Heart Church 6:30pm

Dec 25th, Thursday, Christmas Day Mass – St. Cecilia 8:15am
Sacred Heart 10:15am



The Music Ministry of St. Mary's Church presents a concert featuring hymns of Advent & Christmas sung by members of our Spanish Ministry, Children's Choir, and various soloists on Sunday, December 21 at 2pm at the church. Free will offerings will be accepted and will go towards those in need in our community.



† Wine & hosts for the altar at **Sacred Heart** for the month of **December** have been graciously sponsored in loving memory of **Peter & Virginia Szyjkowski**, by **Lorrie & Tony Stellato**.

† Wine & hosts for the altar at **Saint Cecilia** for the month of **December** have been graciously sponsored in loving memory of **Sal Furnare**, by his wife **Michelle & family**.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. Dec 20, 4:00 pm (SH) - † In loving memory of **Helen & John Rajter**, requested by **Alan & Lucy Abele**.

Sun. Dec 21, 9:00 am (SC) - 1.) † In loving memory of **Karen Ford**, requested by **Joey & family**.
2.) † In loving memory of **Bailey Alexandria Field**, requested by **Mom, Dad & Sammy**

Sun. Dec 21, 4:00 pm (SC) - For the people of the parish.

Tues. Dec 23 thru Sun. Dec 28, 2025

Tue. Dec 23, 8:00 am (SH) - Blessings of peace and healing for **Pat Grandy**, requested by the parish.

Wed. Dec 24, 4:00 pm (SC) - Children's Mass - † In memory of the passing of **Winfield Wray**, requested by his son, **Jim**.

Wed. Dec 24, 6:30 am (SH) - Blessings of peace and healing for **Jim Wray**, requested by the parish.

Thurs. Dec 25, 8:15 am (SC) - For the people of the parish.

Thurs. Dec 25, 10:15 am (SH) - For the people of the parish.

Fri. Dec 26, 8:00 am (SC) - For the homebound, ill and bereaved of **St. Cecilia's**, requested by **Christian Services**.

Sat. Dec 27, 4:00 pm (SH) - † In loving memory of **Helen & Steve Pawloski**, requested by **Barbara Minch & family**.

Sun. Dec 28, 9:00 am (SC) - 1.) † Birthday remembrance of **Francis G. Dimond**, requested by **Roy & family**.

2.) † In loving memory of **Donald Thum**, requested by his loving wife, children and grandchildren.

Sun. Dec 28, 4:00 pm (SC) - For the people of the parish.

Second Collections

Dec 21 (SC) Cemetery Support
Dec 25 Christmas

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Dec 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

-Father John Muir
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Lector/Eucharistic Ministers

Dec 20 (SH)	Katherine Downing Mark Caffrey	Dec 27 (SH)	Volunteer Cathy Parry
Dec 21 (SC)	Kathy Marcais Bill Quinn	Dec 28 (SC)	Ann Mahon Dave Marcais

Counters Schedule

Dec 22 (SH)	Kathy Avery Barb Bilins	Dec 29 (SH)	Deb Swarczewski Katherine Downing
Dec 22 (SC)	Flo Stanton Margaret Smith	Dec 29 (SC)	Sandy Hayes Kathy Marcais

Food Pantry



Dec 23 (Tue) (SC)	Andrea Moran Margaret Smith Michele Furnare
Jan 7 (SH)	Jamie Lemiszki John Nigro



Sunday Mass at St. Cecilia: The Sunday Mass at St. Cecilia has been moved to 4pm for the winter months.

Mass Cancellations, Winter Protocol: During the winter months, if FFCS has a delay or cancelation, Mass will be canceled on that day.

Food Pantry Donations: With the holiday season upon us, the need for food is even greater. There are baskets in the vestibule of each parish, placed there for food donations for the pantry.

Sacred Heart Pie Raffle: Our weekly pie raffle has returned, just in time for the holidays. Purchase your tickets in the vestibule before Saturday's Vigil Mass

Sunday Raffle at St. Cecilia: We will gladly accept donations as we continue our Sunday raffle. As always, we appreciate your support.

Faith Formation Bottle Drive: Donations for our Faith Formation Bottle Drive will be set up at the Fultonville Redemption Center through the month of December. You may also drop your bottles at the hall of St. Cecilia.

*150th Anniversary Commemoration of Sacred Heart Parishioners
~Dec 21st thru Dec 27th*

*Baptisms
12/21/1986 Raymond Michael Ludwin JJ*

*Deaths-Funerals
12/21/2010 Clara Buanno
12/22/1970 Elizabeth Casey
12/27/2010 Gloria Nelli*

Thank You!



Your church relies on your contributions 52 Sundays per year and the second collections to pay bills. We are thankful for your contributions in support of our parish.



Christmas Mass Schedule



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Christmas Eve Vigil/
Children's Mass - St. Cecilia 4:00pm

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2025-26 Diocesan Appeal: We will begin tracking our contributions in January. Both parishes have a \$5,000. assessment. Your gift helps our parishes and our diocese, serve others and spread the Gospel in meaningful, lasting ways.



COLLECTIONS TOTALS - DEC 13/14/7

<u>COLLECTIONS:</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>SC</u>
AMOUNT NEEDED	1589.00	1794.00
WEEKLY COLLECTION	1429.00	1344.00
ATTENDANCE	57	84

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT



Priest: Our theme is responding with peace.

***Assigned Family Lights All Four Advent Candles**

Family: Father, as we continue our Advent pilgrimage, we light a Candle of Peace. And grant my Family (mention your names) and all of us the courage to act & respond always in Peace. **All:** Amen.

Priest: God of the ages, like Mary, may our souls reflect your greatness and our spirits rejoice in you, for you have looked with favor on us and done marvelous things. May our lives be a response to the peace you have shown us in Jesus, born of Mary, who lives... ever. **All:** Amen

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