

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK 

12-12	Mon	9:00 AM	Special Intention for 2 nd Wedding Anniversary of Charlie & Jean McKilligan
12-13	Tues	9:00 AM	Christopher Carr By Judith Kenny
12-14	Wed	9:00 AM	Mark Granan By Dan, Ginni & Andy Brandt
12-15	Thurs	9:00 AM	All Deceased Parishioners
12-16	Fri	9:00 AM	Communion Service
12-17	Sat	5:30 PM	Father Joe By Gene & Terry Walsh
12-18	Sun	8:30 AM	Michael Gregory Jr. By the family
	Sun	10:30AM	Father Joe By Ray & Rose Hillman

Christmas Sign-up for Eucharistic Ministers
The sign-up for Eucharistic Ministers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Please sign-up if you can serve at any of these Masses. Thank you!

Advent Penance Service 

Communal Advent Reconciliation Service
The celebration of the Communal Advent Reconciliation Service will take place on Sunday, December 18th at 4:00 PM in the church. There will not be individual confessions at this service. Individual confessions are always available on Saturday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:00 PM. Please do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity to encounter the Lord in prayer, in his saving word and the sacrament of reconciliation. You are all encouraged to attend!

The Rosary Society is meeting on December 14th after the 9:00 AM Mass. Members are asked to bring a donation for the Food Bank and/or BirthRight to the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

Daily Mass is now being held in the Chapel in the Parish Center. Holy Days and weekend Masses will continue to be held in the church.

Third Sunday of Advent

"The secular world is taking over our Christian heritage. In the stores, malls, and other public buildings, Christmas jingles are being played and gearing people up for the Christmas season. Why don't we sing Christmas Carols in our church during Advent?" That was the question someone asked me the other day. I am sure some of you also do or hear other people ask this same question. When people express such sentiments to me, I always tell them to pause for a moment and then think about the difference between the Advent and Christmas seasons. Advent prepares us for Christmas and in fact beyond. So it is premature to begin doing Christmas songs in Advent. We risk losing the richness of the Advent season if we allow the secular tide or pressure to rush us to Christmas. We should appreciate the hymns prescribed for our Advent journey such as "O Come, O, Come, Emmanuel. On Jordan's Bank, The king shall come when morning dawns or People look East etc. These hymns and several others are so uplifting and help us to prepare our minds and hearts worthily for the celebration of the joy of Christmas.

After patient waiting in Advent, we then move happily to the Christmas season beginning on Christmas Eve to sing our hearts out. We sing some of our familiar hymns such as: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Or O Come, all ye faithful! Hark, the herald angels sing!" etc. I encourage all of us to keep to the proper sense of the church's liturgical calendar.

We have now reached the midpoint of our spiritual preparation for Christmas. Today is the third Sunday of Advent, traditionally called "Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday." The spirit of joy pervades our liturgy. The music, the prayers, and the scripture readings prescribed for today's celebration bring us to rejoice because our redemption is close at hand.

Today, we light the rose colored candle together with the other two purple candles on our advent wreath to symbolize our joy and gladness in the promised Messiah.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah presented a picture of an arid steppe blooming with abundant flowers and the exiled people singing and rejoicing in the Lord. Isaiah told those in suffering captivity in Babylon to fear not because God would ransom them. The Lord would use King Cyrus of Persia to free them from their oppression and bring them home to Jerusalem. Even the wilderness and desert will be glad in those days. Those who are feeble or too weak to travel will be strengthened and they will reach their destination singing and praising God's greatness, majesty and glory.

Saint James exhorts us in the second reading to be patient and not lose heart while waiting for the Lord's coming. He advises us to learn from the farmer who sows the seed and patiently waits for it to germinate, nurture it and for it to grow until harvest.

As Christians we need to wait patiently on the Lord. We need to continue to wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Messiah into our lives and our world.

In the gospel, John the Baptist sent his disciples to Jesus to ask him the question: "Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?"

John the Baptist was in prison through no fault of his. While in jail he had heard about all the mighty works Jesus was performing. He wondered whether Jesus might be the long awaited messiah or not. Jesus told the emissaries from John to judge for themselves what they have heard and seen. Here is someone who restores sight to the blind, heals the lame and the deaf, cures the lepers, raises the dead, and proclaims the good news to the poor. And blessed is the person who takes no offense at him.

Just as it was with the disciples of John the Baptist, so it is for us. In this life of faith we are called to make sense of the signs of God's presence around us. God comes to us in our everyday life experience especially in this advent season. He enters our lives through his word and the sacraments to nourish and strengthen our feeble souls. Let ask the Lord renew the hope that is within us and like the prophet Isaiah bring each of us to speak words of hope and joy to frightened and despairing hearts.
God bless.

Weekend of December 17th & 18th, 2022

First Reading-Isaiah 7:10-14

Saturday 5:30 PM

Celebrant: Fr. Ben

Lector: Sheri Youngs

Eucharistic Ministers Bill Babbage

Altar Servers: Anderson & Garret Callender

Second Reading-Romans 1:1-7

Sunday 8:30 AM

Fr. Ben

Ray Keckeisen

Carole Ostrander

Ayla, Quinn & Liam Gronwall

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gospel-Matthew 1:18-24

Sunday 10:30AM

Fr. Ben

Marge Suriano

Terry Maggio

Brock & Easton Porter

Offerings of December 3rd & 4th, 2022 Regular, \$2,263.00; Fuel, \$75.00; Building Maintenance, \$219.00; Religious Education, \$40.00; Evangelist, \$5.00; Immaculate Conception, \$75.00; Christmas Flowers, 120.00



December 11th - Classes for Pre-K-10th grade 9:20-10:20 AM
 December 18th- Classes for Pre-K-10th grade 9:20-10:20 AM
 Communal Penance Service 4:00 PM

The weekend of December 3rd & 4th, 2022 the regular collection, and Immaculate Conception amounted to \$2,338.00. The budget for the regular collection is \$2,736.00 . Last weekend, the regular collection was \$473.00 below our budget. Since July 1, 2022, we have collected \$56,387.00, which is \$6,240.00 below budget. The total for the year reported last week should have been \$54,049.00.



Lighting of Advent Wreath

We invite individuals and families that would like to light our advent wreath at weekend Masses to please sign-up after Mass. A sign-up sheet is posted in the vestibule. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who has responded so far to our special fuel/insurance collection.



We have collected \$13,945.00 as of Wednesday, December 7, 2022! Sacred Heart is truly a generous beyond measure family!



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 bulletin at a future date. Please place your envelopes in the collection basket.

Friends Near Me Grief Support Group

All those experiencing grief and loss this holiday season are invited to a support group that will meet at the Community Cultural Center on Monday, December 19th at 7:00 PM. The cost is free but donations are accepted. Contact Beatrice Bishop for more information at 607-563-3531

December Bulletin Quotes

"O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free."
 USCCB, "Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita"



Our assessment for 2022-2023 is \$14,944.00. To date \$11,832.00 in pledges and donations have been received by the Diocese. Thank you for your continued support of the Diocesan Appeal.

Upcoming December Meetings and Events

All meetings are held in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted

- Dec 13 Advent Scripture Study 10AM-12 PM
- Dec 14 Rosary Society meeting after 9:00 AM Mass
- Dec 17 Knights of Columbus Christmas Party
- Dec 18 Communal Penance Service in church 4:00 PM
- Dec 19 Knights of Columbus meeting 6:30 PM
- Dec 20 Advent Scripture Study 10AM-12 PM

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 Joan Barber at 607-563-1392 to get a shawl for someone special.

Project Rachel is the Catholic Church's ministry to those who have been involved in abortion. The tagline of Project Rachel is *No matter what you are feeling, you are not alone*. It is the hope of Project Rachel that a healing approach of options and resources can help each person know that God loves them, forgives them and wants to be in their life. Project Rachel is a diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, and laypersons who provide a team response of care for those suffering, both women and men. Call our confidential helpline 518-312-3825.

There has been a delay in the delivery of church envelopes. Cathedral is working to process our order as quickly as possible. They are sending temporary envelopes for our use. They will be available in the vestibule when they arrive.

Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers: Avery Maggio, Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Terry Dermody, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Bettye Pete George Mertz, Kimberlee Roe, Grady Charles Weigand, Kevin, Michael Bell, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, Andre' Lundstrom, Mark & Andrea, Kim Sumski, Elaine Ferretti, Dorothy Kashuda, Alyson Sabillon, Linda Falk, Jake Delay, 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 Basket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter, Darline Smith, Daniel, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Jeremy Matviak, Sandy Kemp, George Walters, Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Jane Artis, Kathryn Wickham, Frannie Robinson, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Mary Kolerמוש, Clare Sterchak, Terry Cristofaro, Joan Kaiser, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Moratwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Liliana, Terry Yackel, Fr. Hearn, Jack Yackel, Marian Heeps, Alice Walters, Mariah Pierce, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Tammy Byrnes, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Susan Chidester, Sandy Grooms, Agatha Trikourr, Maureen Joy, Ines Warlock, Alyce Hopkins, Bob Oliver, Mark Granan, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Rose LoGasci, Timothy Bell, Jamie Mathewson, Barb Doyle, Ruth Glaum, Tom DeMulder, Holly North, Jim Mylotte, Natalia Ciborowski, Dixy Pflug, Maryann Cottrell, Tony & Lila Donnolo, Stefanie Smith, Celeste Hartman John Alksnis, Sarah Pressler, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, Assunta Siniscalchi, Tina Klein, Leon Matthews, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Amanda Maggio, Alfredine Duguay, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Mike Andersen, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Theresa Horton, Olivia Ross & family, Steve Barber, Anne Terzo, Eric Roll, Regina Mathewson, Vicki Czapnik, Paul McCarthy, Barbara Haynes, Jess Johansen, Tasha, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolfino, Margaret O'Hara, Sean Granan, Charlie Washburn, Father Gordon, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Mary Cittadino, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Bonnie Tabone, Anne Powell, Father Peter, John Miller, Pat Nabinger, Jenne Barber, Maty Weishan, Ed Abbott, Tony Barber, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Gabriel Rivera

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

