

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS

November 28, Monday: Advent Weekday
12:00AM+ John Capouellez Sr Anniversary, (Family)

November 29, Tuesday: Advent Weekday
12:00PM Intentions of Joe Gibbons Birthday (Susan Crooks)

November 30, Wednesday: Saint Andrew, Apostle
12:00PM+ Debbie Capotosti, Birth. (Mother & Family)

December 1, Thursday: Advent Weekday
12:00PM+ Margaret Weakland, Ann. (Brian & Louann Weakland)

December 2, Friday: Advent Weekday
12:00PM+ Carrie Kibler Detwiler (Mom & Dad)

December 3, Saturday: Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
12:00PM+ Herbert Kutruff, Anniversary, (Family)
Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent
5:00PM+ Patrick Duffy (Mitch & Gina Cooper)

December 4, Second Sunday of Advent
8:00AM+Edith & Bernard McLucas Family (Family)
10:00AM+Grace Cowan (Cowan Family)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Parish is at 11:30 A.M



Daily Mass Schedule

Effective this week, the first week of Advent, the noon Mass will normally be our only daily Mass from Monday through Saturday. There will not be a 6:45 A.M. or a 8:00 A.M. Mass. In addition to the Noon Mass on Saturday, there will still be a 5:00 P.M. Vigil Mass. Our Masses on Sunday will be at 8:00 AM, 10:00AM and 5:00PM
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church will be at 11:30 A.M. on Sunday.

Readings for the week of November 27, 2022

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-1

Religious Ed PK-8

Advent Service Project

Hats, scarves, mittens, small toys and personal care items to be donated to the Blair County Domestic Abuse Shelters. Donations maybe brought in to Religious Ed Sunday classes or dropped off at the Parish Office. Thank You!

Religious Ed 9-11 and Confirmation Prep

Advent Service Project

New board games and puzzles, ages PK-8, to be donated to the Gloria Gates Foundation sites.

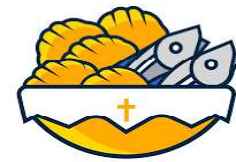
Also, warm socks for the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home. Items may be dropped off at Religious Ed Classes or at the Parish Office, Thank You!



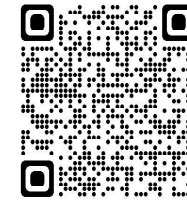
We will be collecting slightly-used winter coats during the Advent Season for those who are in need. You may place your donated coats on the rack in the former baptistry area. Folks in need may take one. If there is an abundance of coats, we will take them to the St. Vincent dePaul Society. It is important that we share our extra coats to those who have none.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, November 20, 2022 \$ 8,278.32
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.



#iGIVECATHOLIC



Our parish, along with the rest of our diocese, will be participating in this year's #iGIVECATHOLIC campaign on Tuesday, November 29. Our goal is \$15,000 and we hope to replace the chairs and tables of our social hall. We are able to make our contributions online or by using an envelope that has been made available. If you want, at this time you can contribute early.

To give online, go to: <https://aj.igivecatholic.org/organizations/cathedral-of-the-blessed-sacrament> or scan the code found below. Envelopes are available at our entrances.



Our parish will be sponsoring two buses to visit Lights on the Lake, one on Tuesday, December 6, and one on Tuesday, December 13. Meet in our parking lot at 5:30 P.M. for the trip to Lakemont. It will be a fun experience for adults and for families with children. Please call the rectory (814-944-4603) by the Friday before to reserve seats. There is no charge.



You are invited to join us in praying sung evening prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Sundays of Advent at 6:30 P.M. The liturgy ends with Benediction.

Stewardship Reflections

Advent is a beautiful season meant for preparing for the celebration of our Savior's birth and the anticipation of His second coming. How can we Christian stewards get ready for the holy celebration of Jesus' birth on December 25 and for His certain second coming at a date we do not know? We can push back against the world's pressure and scale back on the material kind of gift-giving, the complicated menus, the unessential trappings of the season so that we have more time for the spiritual preparations of the "perfect" Christmas: Confession, weekday masses, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, performing acts of kindness.

The intentional and wise use of the gifts of time, talent and treasure is what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. Stay awake and go climb the Lord's mountain as the prophet Isaiah proclaimed! (Stewardship Reflections, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2022/10/25)

Nocturnal Adoration

The next Nocturnal Adoration will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 2716- Broad Avenue, Altoona, on Friday, December 2, from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. All are welcome to spend an hour or as long as you would like.



Gratitude is extended to Kathleen Winter, Connie Novak, Gretchen Packard, and Mary Ann Bell for creating the beautiful cornucopia that decorated our altar for the Feast of Christ the King and for Thanksgiving. A word of thanks is also extended to benefactor Dr. Russell Packard of Bullard, Texas.

Pro-Life Christmas Cards

Citizens Concerned for Human Life, Blair County Chapter, is offering Christmas cards sale. Two beautiful designs are being offered, one entitled "Holy Family with the Infant Jesus". The other card is entitled "Peace on Earth," and illustrates the Nativity scene in silhouette against a nighttime Bethlehem backdrop. Packages of 11 cards are available for \$8.00. Your purchase helps support the pro-life work of CCHL in Blair County. To order, call Pat at 814-946-0681.

November 27, 2022

We can embrace and relish each moment of our lives as a sacred sacrament or nonchalantly and robotically attend to what life presents. We have our feet in two worlds. One is holy and sacred, and the other is profane and secular. Which one has the greater claim on us? To what do we devote most of our energy? We can easily be consumed with the particular demands and essentials of daily life: family, work, obligations, and the like, that we don't really notice anything more than what is right before us. We become masters at "doing" and neglect our need to "savor." Jesus reminds his friends that "as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away."

While certain things require our daily attention, we cannot become so consumed with them that we fail to see the larger picture of what is coming. For the Christian, Advent is the time to pause, reflect, and savor. It is a time to see life as a sacrament of the moment and not just an investment in secular interests, pleasures, and personal obligations. It is easy to get distracted, lazy, preoccupied, and tired. Apathy can quickly wreak havoc on the most dedicated of souls. Whatever we can do this Advent season to be more attentive, focused, alert, and watchful will serve us well. It will make us eager and well-prepared to meet our Lord when he comes. It is for certain that he will come.

Who made me? What is my purpose? What will happen to me when I die? These are pivotal questions that, in life's busyness, we hardly find time to ask and answer. They define who we are, and the answers we provide serve as guideposts and anchors in the seas of our lives. Advent is the perfect time to make friends with our souls. It is a time to perk ourselves up, open our eyes, ears, and hearts and seek God's presence in the simple moments of our lives. God is with us. Ask God to grant you a deeper appreciation for His presence and the gift of attentiveness. ©LPi



**OUR 2023 CALENDAR OF CASH
LOTTERY TICKETS ARE NOW
AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE DURING THE
WEEK AND FOLLOWING MASSES ON
WEEKENDS. THE COST IS \$20.00.**



Advent is the season to prepare for the second coming of Christ and to prepare to celebrate His birth at Christmas. Since Jesus came to reconcile us to God, it is important for us to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this time of year. The Cathedral's Advent Penance Service will be on Wednesday, December 14, at 6:00 P.M.

Here is a list of other services:

Friday, December 9, 5:30 P.M., Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Altoona

Saturday, December 10, 10 A.M., St. Therese of the Child Jesus Church, Altoona

Sunday, December 11, 4:00 P.M., St. Mary Church, Hollidaysburg

Monday, December 12, 7:00 P.M., Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Altoona and St. Rose of Lima Church at 7:00 P.M., Altoona

Sunday, December 18, 4:00 P.M. St. John Church, Lakemont

Thursday, December 22, 5:30 P.M., Sacred Heart Church, Altoona



Our parish will be participating in the Sixteenth Annual Spirit of Christmas Parade scheduled for Thursday, December 1, at 6:00 P.M. in Downtown Altoona. (In case of inclement weather, the parade will be held on Thursday, December 8.)

A group of parishioners has joined the members of our parish's Communications Media/Community Outreach Committee in creating an awesome float. The theme of this year's parade is "Christmas on the Silver Screen."

THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

THE CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA 16601-3315
CHURCH OFFICE: 814-944-4603

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.

Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK:

Upon Request and Communal celebration

MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

DEVOTIONS:

Eucharistic Adoration - First Wednesday - 12:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.

Sunday morning 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.

Sunday Evening 6:15 PM- 8:15 PM

Grades 9 thru 12.

WEB: WWW.ALTOONACATHEDRAL.ORG

FAX: 814-942-4337

E-MAIL: ALTCATHEDRAL@DIOCESEAJ.ORG

<https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofaltoona>

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil)
8:00 AM
10:00 AM
5:00 PM

Weekday: 6:45 AM
12:00 Noon
Saturday: 8:00 AM
12:00 Noon

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, J.C.D., Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Stanley Carson, Administrator

Paula Clemens, Parish Secretary

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 12 - 814-312-7317

Religious Education Office: Sundays - 814-943-7424

E-mail: claraia@dioceseaj.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Leslie C. Thayer, MM, CAGO

Music Ministry Office - 814-944-2044

E-mail: lthayer@dioceseaj.org

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 814-944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 814-944-4603

MAIL MINISTRY TO ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND,
SERIOUSLY SICK, AND GRIEVING - 814-944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 814-944-4014

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE CITY OF ALTOONA SINCE 1851