

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022
MASS INTENTIONS

December 5, Monday: Advent Weekday
12:00AM+ Carol Kepner (Cheryl Kepner)

December 6, Tuesday: Saint Nicholas, Bishop
12:00PM+ Susan Hyle (Dr. Dennis & Mrs. Betsy Flynn)

December 7, Wednesday: Saint Ambrose, Doctor of the Church
12:00PM+ Geraldine Kines, Birthday (Sharon Yanchik)

Vigil: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
5:30PM + Frederick Drexler (Dr. & Mrs. Robert Budd)
December 8, Thursday: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
8:00AM Pro Popolo/ For the People
12:00PM+ Susan Burkey (Sisters and Brother)

December 9, Friday: Advent Weekday
12:00PM Special Int. Carole Clemens (Mary Gene Vogel)

December 10, Saturday: Advent Weekday
12:00PM+ Marian & Thomas Swires (Children)
Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent
5:00PM All God's People (Catholic Daughters)

December 11, Third Sunday of Advent
8:00AM+Deacon John Rys, Birthday (Family)
10:00AM+Ann Rhodes (Tom & Beth Moore)
5:00PM Pro Popolo/ For the People
Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Parish is at 11:30 A.M.



Daily Mass Schedule

Effective 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 December 4, 2022

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-1

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 are 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 27, 2022 \$ 9,456.37
Thank you for your financial and spiritual support.



We plan to decorate the Cathedral beginning at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 22.

Our Christmas Mass schedule is: Mass on Saturday, Christmas Eve at 5:00 P.M. and Masses at Midnight, 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. on Sunday, Christmas Day. There will be a Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Parish on Christmas morning at 11:30 o'clock.



We have two buses available 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. Parishioners from the Cathedral and Our Lady of Fatima parishes, as well as friends and guests are welcome to come along. Please call the rectory (814-944-4603) 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

The Prophet Isaiah continues the theme of journey towards the holy mountain, the Kingdom of God. It is a kingdom of peace, justice, and harmony among all God's creatures. St. Paul encourages us to focus, "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." The idea of welcoming others as Christ welcomes us is the essence of Christian hospitality and is vital to stewardship living. This kind of hospitality involves seeing people as God sees them and being ready to invite others into our lives whenever and however God asks; it is an attitude we take with us whenever we go.

As we "straighten the path" of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes, and parish. We climb farther up God's holy mountain and attract others to join us on the path toward holiness. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior. (Stewardship Reflections, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, 2022/11/01)



Eucharistic Adoration

On Wednesday, December 7th, Cathedral Parish will have Eucharistic Adoration from 12:30 P.M. until until Benediction at 5:15 P.M. (we have a vigil Mass for the holy day beginning at 5:30 P.M.). A sign-up sheet is located on the cross aisle table to mark your time for visitation before the Blessed Sacrament. It is essential that there be people in the Lord's presence during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

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.

December 4, 2022

For six years I lived with a priest from Iraq. His hospitality was amazing. Every single morning, he would greet me with gracious words and a friendly tone. "Father, good morning! It's good to see you, my friend!" He never stopped doing it, even though we lived in the same house for years. It was remarkable, and I never forgot it.

It's not easy to welcome those we live with, is it? Familiarity, grudges, resentments, fatigue, and distractions gunk up our daily interactions. Saint Paul says in Romans 15:7, "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." How has Christ welcomed us? With mercy, tenderness, joy, and above all, love... not because we deserve it, but "for the glory of God."

New year challenge: This morning, how did you greet the first three persons you encountered? If you're like me, it was a bit routine, token, and love-less. I invite you this week to increase the love with which you greet people — especially if you see them every day. Instead of saying, "Hey" try "Good morning, beautiful." Instead of "Hi" try "It's really good to see you, how are you?" and so on. Above all, greet them with love. That's how the Lord welcomes us. — Father John Muir ©LPI



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



What a wonderful float! Gratitude is extended to all those who dedicated so many hours and shared so much talent in preparing the Cathedral parish's float for Altoona's Christmas Parade.

A group of parishioners joined the members of our parish's Communications Media/Community Outreach Committee in creating an awesome entry. The theme of this year's parade is "Christmas on the Silver Screen." A more detailed thank you note will be in next week's bulletin.

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.

ANOINTING 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. Barchak, 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



Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by GOD, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved from all stain of original sin....



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.

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