MASSES FOR THE WEEK December 10, 2023 The Second Sunday Of Advent

Please note that all daily masses will be held in the chapel unless otherwise noted. In the event of a funeral mass there will be NO (8:00 AM) daily mass.

Monday 8:00 AM:

Tom & Virginia Allen

By: Carol Hranek

Tuesday 7:00 PM CHURCH: Carl Gardill

By: Mary Gardill

Wednesday 8:00 AM:

Simona Morandi

By: Carol Hranek

Thursday 8:00 AM:

Tom Wambaugh

By: Harry & Diana Feather

Friday 8:00 AM:

Susanna Miller

Dick & Alzine Hoffman

Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday Of Advent):

Saturday 6:00 PM: Sunday 8:00 AM:

Michael Hadwen (Anniv) Larry Engbert (B'day)

By: The Restly Family Reunion By: Richard & Cheryle Engbert

Sunday 10:30 AM:

Phil Huston

By: Paul Fochtman

Sanctuary Candle: St. Peregrine Candle: For Peace **Cindy Miller**

By: Patti Hankinson and Family

Mass Readings for the Week:

Monday: Optional Memorial Of St. Damasus I, Pope

Isaiah 35:1-10/PS Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 (R/.Isaiah 35:4f)/Luke 5:17-26

Acts 20:17-18a, 28-32, 36/PS Psalm 110:4b/John 15:9-17

Tuesday: Feast Of Our Lady Of Guadalupe

Zechariah 2:14-17/Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/PS Psalm Judith 13:18bcde,19 (R/.15:9d)

Luke 1:39-47

Wednesday: Memorial Of St. Lucy, Virgin And Martyr

Isaiah 40:25-31/PS Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Matthew 11:28-30

2 Corinthians 10:17-11:2/PS Psalm 31:6/Matthew 25:1-13

Thursday: Memorial Of St. John Of The Cross, Priest And Doctor Of The Church

Isaiah 41:13-20/PS Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab (R/.8)/Matthew 11:11-15

1 Corinthians 2:1-10a/PS Psalm 37:30a/Luke 14:25-33

Friday:

Isaiah 48:17-19/PS Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 (R/.cf. John 8:12)/Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/PS Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 (R/.4)/Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday:

Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday Of Advent)

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11/PS Psalm Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (R/.Isaiah 61:10b)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/John 1:6-8, 19-28

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." -Mark 1:1-8

St John The Baptist Catholic Church

Box 10 New Baltimore, PA 15553 Phone: 733-2210 Hall: 733-4113

Website: https://newbaltimorecatholic.com/ Email: dwambaugh@dioceseaj.org

Fr. Mark Pattock, OFMcap

Pastor

Sacramental Emergencies: 724-272-5474

Fr. Roman Kozacheson, OFMcap-

Fr. Stephen Shin, OFMcap

Br. Stephen Wright OFMcap

In residence In residence-Pastor of Ss. Philip & James, Meyersdale & St. Gregory, MacDonaldton

In Residence

Mass Schedule:

Mon: 8:00 AM Tues: 7:00 PM

Wed - Fri: 8:00 AM Sat: 6:00 PM (Vigil)

Sun: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Secretary Office Hours:

Mon:8:00 AM-1:00PM

Wed: 8:00 AM-1:00PM

Thurs: 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Fri:8:00AM-1:00 PM

Baptism:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

Confessions:

Saturday 5:00 - 5:45 PM

Holy Communion:

Low Gluten hosts will be available for anyone with a low gluten tolerance. If you have a low gluten tolerance, please tell the priest before mass so a low gluten host can be placed in a pyx for you.

Matrimony:

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

Rosary: Saturday Evenings beginning at 5:25 PM

Parish Mission Statement

St. John the Baptist Parish is a Catholic Christian Community centered in rural New Baltimore, Pennsylvania. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to live as entrusted stewards using God's gifts responsibly, intelligently, prudently, and gratefully to bring about His kingdom. As stewards of our time, talents, possessions, and faith, we are called to put our lives in proper focus and to live in accord with one another giving love and caring support, to accept Christ's challenge as related in the Gospels- to serve one another.



St. John's News & Upcoming Events:

Second Sunday Of Advent



Second Sunday of Advent:

As we progress through the spiritual journey of Advent, the second Sunday traditionally symbolizes the virtue of Faith. The second purple candle that is lit on this day is known as the "Bethlehem Candle" and represents peace. This candle reflects on the journey of Mary and St. Joseph to Bethlehem during the weeks leading up to the first Christmas is a good way to remain in a spirit of humble reflection and penance.

Purple and Pink:

While the rest of the world is focusing on red and green, we focus on purple and pink during Advent. Purple is the color of penance and preparation while pink is the color of rejoicing. During Advent, we wait and prepare for both Christ's first coming (at Christmas) and second coming (at the end of the world). As you are drinking your Advent Hot Chocolate with your family, take a moment to discuss why this is so important

Advent Prayer Service

All are invited to a special evening of prayer, here in the Church on **Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00 PM**. In the midst of this busy season, here is an opportunity to pause and direct our minds and hearts to the coming of Jesus Christ, our Messiah. There's no better way other to prepare your heart and mind for the coming of Jesus than to spend it in prayer! The evening will begin with mass and include liturgy of the hours, a brief homily and conclude with the recitation of the rosary in honor of that day's Feast Day which is The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Advent Reflection Books: There are free Advent Reflection books on the table in the back of the Church. Please take one!

Extended Confessions: During Advent Extended Confessions will take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:15 PM to 6:45 PM (Retreat Center Entrance near the Chapel).



Christmas is the season when our Sanctuary comes alive with candles, trees, evergreens, and poinsettias. If you would like to donate to our Christmas flowers fund, please use the envelope in you packet. All monies will go towards buying flowers for the Church. If you would like to make an offering "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one please include that on your envelope. Only the names submitted by December 17th will be published.



Hat and Mitten Tree:

Our Hat and Mitten Tree will be located in the basement of the Church and will again offer us an opportunity for sharing with those who have less and who will benefit from our generosity. Please add hats and mittens to our tree through **December 17**th.

SJTB Christmas Fun Event and Breakfast With Santa Sign-Up:

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the Christmas event or plans to attend Breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 17th should sign up in the back of the church.

Christmas Eve Musicians:

Prior to the 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass, the choir will be singing a variety of Christmas pieces. It would be wonderful if we also had special music prior to the 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass. If you or someone you know would be interested in performing prior to that service, please contact Linda Gardill @ (814) 285-1366 or lgardill@comcast.net. Vocal solos, duets, trios and or instrumental numbers would be welcome.

PRAYER LIST

Abby Barnes, Debbie Brady, Fr. Mark Begly, Jane Beyer, Ed Boyer, Tonya Brown, Mark Bruck, Carol Burcaw, Macy Burke, Doug Burkett, Kara Bussard, Randy Clites, Denis Crum, Andrew Davenport, Sara Davenport, Michael Davis, Larry DeArmitt, Thomas DeArmitt, Jane Diamond, Joyce Dively, Tara Dively, Lisa Easter, George Faidley III, Tabitha Flick, Bradley Fochtman, Harry Fochtman, Myrna Fries, Debbie Foor, Carol Ann Gallagher, Jarrett Gowatty, Paisley Goetzl, Donald Grasser, Helen Greenway, Kelsey Grove, Grayson Gumbert, Pam Habinyak, Sam Hall, Ron Hagens, Eugene Hankinson, Phyllis Harris, Mary Jo Harrington, Elizabeth, Ken & Kennaley Heider, Sandra Herzing, George Hickey, Ida Mae Hillegass, Missy Hillegass, Tara Hillegass, Todd Hillegass, David Hinson, Amy Jo Hoffman, Phyllis Hoppert, Tina Hoover, Ernest Imgrund, Mary Janachovski, Pam Kach, Martha (Lewis) Kalbach, Matt Karns, David Krieie, Fr. Robert Kaylor, Todd Kline, Jerry Kochinski, Virginia Lambert, Teresa Lamens, Tim Landis, Kelly Legarski, Bruce Leonard, Linda Leonard, Carol Leppert, Gordon Leppert, Katie Lewis, Barry Leydig, Barlow Luhn, Don Lynch, John Lynch, Jane McGregor, Toots Maddy, Martha Marker, Justin Martin, Tim Martin, George Maser, Declan McCahan, Tony and Janet Miele, Cindy Miller, Micki McCahan, Linda McCahan, Shirley McVicker, Virginia Meslovich, Betty Meslovich, Terry Metevier, Mary Meyers, Erica Miller, Ray & June Miller, Tara Miller, Mike Montreal, Reed Morgan, Tracey Mowry, Bonnie Murphy, Doug Murphy, Kai Musselman, John Myers, Ashley Nail, Eugene Nickelow, Charlene Norris, Laird Ober, James O'Bryon, Shannon Plush, Michael Price, Fr. Gavin Quinn, Sabina Restly, Cindy Robb, Katherine Rosenbaum, Nancy Schrock, Roberta & Steve Sontus, Barb Sarver, Paula Saunders, Shirley Sechler, Greg Seeley, Jordon Seville, Rodney Shaffer, Sandra Shaffer, Terry Shaffer, Harold Shannon, Tom Shippy, Daniel Smith, Eddie Smith, JoAnne Smith, Marie Smith, Merdith Speicher, Michelle Speicher, Margaret Ann Stevens, Tommy Stiffler, Pat Stoe, Jim Suhrie, Leo Suhrie, Toni Suhrie, Gary Tataleba, Carol Taylor, Mary Jane Thomas, Michael Valentine, Gail Wade, Anna Lee Wambaugh, Tom Warren, Jr., Aaron Weiss, Bonnie Welsh, Dee Werline, Bob & Mereada Werner, John & Doris Werner, Christina Whetstone, Logan Weyand, Charlotte Will, George Will, Jan Will, Pat Will, Tracy Williams, Larry & Alice Winegardner, Nicholas Winegardner, Angie Wolfhope, Ron Wolfhope, Steve Wolfhope, John Wolfhope, Shirley Varchetti, Fr. Allen Zeth

If you added a person's name to the prayer list and they have since recovered, please call to remove their name from our prayer list.

OFFERTORY

Sunday Loose: \$544.00 Sunday Adults: \$3119.00 Total Sunday: \$3663.00 Local Needs: \$285.00 Catholic Charities: \$20.00 Immaculate Conception: \$60.00 Christmas Flowers: \$160.00 Christmas: \$10.00 We're always collecting non- perishable food items for our local foodbanks. Items can be placed in the bins in the back of church.

Second Sunday Of Advent - A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar:

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

The Pope's Prayer Intention For December:

For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Offertory Envelopes:

The 2024 Offertory Envelopes can now be picked up in the church basement.



WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS PART OF OUR FLOCK. Keep in touch with us via email and text. Just simply Text BALTIMORE to 84576 Or Connect with Us Online At: newbaltimorecath.flocknote.com

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ - CCD RETREAT INFORMATION:

All <u>Diocesan Required Retreats</u> for our <u>9th</u>, <u>10th</u> and <u>11th</u> grade students will be held virtually this year. All Students are required to attend these retreats as part of the formation process for confirmation. Please review dates of the actual retreat and the deadlines to register by with the parish office.

Virtual Baptism Retreat (3 Zoom Sessions)

9th Grade or any 10th or 11th Grade Student

Sunday, Wednesday 8:00PM, Sunday 7:00 PM

January 7, 10, 14 Register at parish office no later than Friday December 17, 2023.

January 14, 17, 21 Register at parish office no later than Friday December 29, 2023.

This retreat is designed for student and an adult. Adult may be parent, Godparent, or Confirmation Sponsor.

Explore the sacrament of Baptism and the gift it is in our faith life. We will look at the gift of Baptism as the foundational sacrament of the Catholic Faith as well as the Apostle's Creed as it outlines Catholic beliefs and doctrine. There are two opportunities to choose from.

Virtual Confirmation Retreat Discipleship (5 Zoom Sessions)

11th Grade Students Only

March 10, 13, 17, 20, 24

Sunday, Wednesday, Sunday Wednesday 8:00pm, Sunday 7:00 PM

February 18, 21, 25, 28, and March 4 Register at parish office no later than Friday January 29 2024

Register at parish office no later than Monday February 19 2024

Explore the role of the Disciple and the connection of Baptism and Confirmation through the reflection on the baptismal prayer of being anointed to be priest, prophet and king. Emphasis is made on the springboard of moving forward in one's faith journey of being a priest, a prophet, and a king in our church and culture today. There are three opportunities to choose from.

Final registration needs to be sent from the parish office at least 2 weeks before retreat begins to Sr. Suzanne Thiabult. There is no cost to the student as it will be covered by the parish. All retreats are conducted via Zoom by Sr. Suzanne Thibault of Bethany Youth Retreat Center. Sr. Suzanne Thibault has been presenting youth retreats since 1986. She is best known for the ability to engage students and adults on retreat. The Virtual Retreat format includes live presentations on the Zoom Platform. Each session is 30-45 minutes in length and includes breakout rooms with small group sharing. Each session is followed with discussion and reflection work for the student and sponsor to take a deeper look into the presented material. The reflection work is returned to the presenter before the next zoom session. Make Up Sessions Must Be Arranged by the Candidate directly with Sr. Suzanne. This Virtual Retreat would be presented in as an 8-10 hour in-person retreat with large group, small group and one-on-one sharing between student and sponsor. For more information or questions please contact Sr. Suzanne at the Bethany Youth Retreat Center: Bethanyyouthcenter@gmail.com or srsuzanneth@bethanyministries.org or by phone at (814) 263-4177.



Diocesan News & Upcoming Events:

HOLY NAME ADVENT PRAYER SERVICE:

All are invited to a special evening of prayer, story, and song to be held in the church on **Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM**. In the midst of this busy season, here is an opportunity to pause and direct our minds and hearts to the coming of Jesus Christ, our Messiah. The service will feature music by the Adult Handbell Choir (preludes beginning at 6:45 PM) and a presentation of the cantata "Emmanuel, God with Us" by the combined Men's and Women's Choirs. Following the service, light refreshments will be served in the Narthex.

Good Shepherd Parish located at 867 Gray's Woods Boulevard, Port Matilda, PA 16870 sincerely invites you to join us as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary who gave us our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and calls us to surrender our lives to Him. The celebration of *the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*, Patroness of the Americas, will take place on Tuesday, December 12th. It will begin at 4:30 with the prayer of the Holy Rosary, then at 5:00 PM the music and singing will be offered by a professional band from Washington D.C. area called "Mariachi Esmeralda". The band will also lead the congregation in singing during the mass that will begin at 5:30 PM. After the celebration of the Eucharist a reception will take place in the parish hall.

Hollidaysburg 2nd Annual Nativity Festival:

Last year, St. Mary and St. Michael parishes in Hollidaysburg hosted their first ever Nativity Festival as a gift to the community area. It was a huge success! Over 200 nativity scenes were on display and well over 600 people attended the two-day event. The festival encourages attendees to reflect on the humble birth and life of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and is a self-guided, free public event. It features magnificently crafted nativity sets loaned by parishes, parishioners and friends. These works reflect the culture and perspective of artists around the world. This year we are excited to be featuring the nativity scenes from St. Catherine, St. John, St. Patrick, St. Thomas More and St. Joseph Parishes AND the personal nativity scenes of their parishioners. The FREE event is for the whole family and has been extended to three days and includes a LIVE nativity scene, and a free Christmas Concert by the Altoona Community Band. The event will be held in the St. Mary social hall (312 Clark St- Hollidaysburg) on Friday, December 15 from 3 – 7 PM, Saturday, Dec. 16 from Noon to 7 PM and on Sunday, December 17 from 8:30 AM - 6 PM. The Live nativity will be outside the festival on Saturday from 4:30 PM

MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH COOKBOOK

Reprint of the 1991 Italian & American Parish Cookbook (Over 175 pages of Italian, American, and other nationality recipes) Can be purchased for \$20.00 (Cash or Check) at the Mount Carmel Parish Office, 806 11th Street, Altoona 16602 [Monday—Friday from 9:30 am—11:30 am; 1 pm—3:30 pm] Please receive an Order Form by email, please email the Parish Office at olomcaltoona@dioceseaj.org or call Virginia Seidel at 814-943-5321

Basilica of St. Michael, Loretto, 2023 Christmas Concert:

All are invited to "A New and Glorious Morn!" A night of Christmas music performed by the Basilica Choir and the St. Michael Children's Choir. 6 PM Wednesday December 27, 2023. Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel, Loretto, Pennsylvania.

Stewardship Reflection For Sunday December 10, 2023 —Second Sunday Of Advent:

Today's readings on this Second Sunday of Advent can be summed up as equal parts comfort and warning for the Christian steward. We serve a merciful and patient God – in His kindness, He warns us that we will be called to make an account one day for the way in which we made use of the gifts He has given us. The most precious gift He has given us is His own Son, Whose birth we are preparing to celebrate. Through the readings today, we are to assimilate two truths – the merciful love of God and the responsibility that comes with the privilege of living as His disciple. St Peter tells us we should conduct ourselves "in holiness and devotion" and that we should be "eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace." Indeed, this is the goal of our Advent 'reset' – to return to (or intensify) living lives focused on Christ, in gratitude for all He has done for us. In practical terms, this means that we as Christian stewards must make good use of the gifts of time we have been given this Advent season. Let's be sure to get to Confession, prioritize a daily reading of the Scriptures, and reach out to someone in need with a word of comfort or an act of service. In this way, we will honor both the mercy and justice of our God, and we will be prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ and give account for all His gifts to us.

"Prepare the way of the Lord" -Isaiah 40:3

The Feast Of Our Lady Of Guadalupe On December 12th:

In Mexico in 1531, Spanish forces had violently taken over the land and oppressed the indigenous people there. It is in this context that the Blessed Mother appeared and chose a poor, indigenous man to bring her message of compassion and peace to his nation and all the world. On December 9th, 1531, Juan Diego was on his way to Mass, when beautiful music coming from Tepeyac hill caught his attention. Suddenly, a beautiful lady dressed as an Aztec princess appeared to him, spoke to him in his own language, and - declaring herself to be "Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live" - sent him to the bishop of Mexico to request that a chapel be built on the hill in her honor. Juan Diego obeyed, and persisted in making this request of the bishop, who initially dismissed him. On December 12th, Our Lady instructed Juan Diego to fill his cloak (tilma) with roses that miraculously bloomed on the rocky hillside and to take them to the bishop as proof of her presence. When he did so, he emptied the roses onto the ground and discovered a perfect image of Our Lady imprinted on his tilma. Then the bishop believed, and a chapel was built in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who has remained a beacon of hope to all who look to her. As we gather to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, let us hold in our hearts the blessing of Our Lady: "I ... give all my love, compassion, help, and protection, because I am your merciful mother, to you, and to all the inhabitants on this land and all the rest who love me, invoke and confide in me." With the knowledge that her tenderness extends especially to our vulnerable and marginalized brothers and sisters, may we remember that "what our Lady did for Juan Diego, she continues to do for each of us: bringing us close to her Son, Jesus; mothering us into discovering our own innate self-worth and dignity; and assuring us of God's loving presence and protection"

2024 MARRIAGE PREPARATION SERIES

- Pre-registration required. Early registration advised—some series fill up months in advance.
- Cancellation due to weather: For classes in all locations, call the Family Life Office at (814)-317-2643. A recorded message will list cancellations. If you cannot attend a session due to an unexpected situation, contact the Family Life Office for make-up instructions.
- COST: \$70 per couple (includes all sessions in a series). "Register by e-mail.
 Fee payable at the first session. Make check payable to "Family Life Office".
 Please come 15 minutes early to the first session for registration purposes.

January 6 and 20

Altoona

*Snow date: Jan. 28
Sat. 9:00 am-12:45 pm
Cathedral of the Blessed
Sacrament Church Hall
One Cathedral Square

January 20 and February 3
*Snow date: TBD

Sat. 9:00 am-12:45 pm Resurrection Oratory 324 Chestnut St. Phone First Johnstown

March 9 and 16

*Snow date: TBD Sat. 9:00 am-1:00 pm St. Peter Parish Hall 433 W. Church St. Somerset April 15-22-29

*Snow date: TBD Mons. 7:00-9:30 pm St. John the Evangelist Church Hall 309 Lotz Ave., Lakemont Altoona

June 6-13-20 Thurs. 7:00-9:30 pm

Our Lady of Victory Activity Center 820 Westerly Pkwy. State College



Sept. 24 - Oct. 1- 8 Tues. 7:00-9:30 pm St. John the Evangelist School Auditorium 116 E. Bishop St.

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*Advance reservations required and can be made online: www.dioceseaj.org. (Ministries, Marriage Preparation)

Or email information below to: familylife@dioceseaj.org

Type "Marriage Prep" in subject line.

 Include: Parish and town where series is held, names, phone, e-mail addresses, Catholic or interfaith marriage, and wedding date.



ENGAGED COUPLES MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKENDS



- Informal presentations by a team which includes married couples.
- Time to plan and talk with your flancé(e) about your future marriage.
- Fulfills the diocesan marriage preparation requirement.
- Register early; some weekends fill up quickly!

2024 DATES

No WEEKENDS SCHEDULED IN OUR DIOCESE AT THIS TIME. Check the Marriage Preparation webpage for updates at www.dioceseaj.org Click on Ministries/Marriage Preparation.

Weekends offered through Catholic Engaged Encounter are acceptable marriage preparation for our diocese. Dates and locations available at www.engagedencounter.org.



JOIN



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

FOR A DAY OF

Photo Booth

12/17/23

9:00am-12:00pm Breakfast with Santa

12:00pm-12:30pm Live Nativity

12:30-3:30 Activities and Games

Like Exceps Rooms? Try our Brackent Bessel

Please RSVP for breakfast
Sign up in the back of church or

call/text: 814-979-2205

email: kmsivec@gmail.com