

MASSES FOR THE WEEK December 17, 2023
Gaudete Sunday (The Third 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.

<u>Monday 8:00 AM:</u>	Mary Gardill	By: Parishioner Of St. John's
<u>Tuesday 7:00 PM:</u>	Rose Restly (B'day)	By: The Restly Family Reunion
<u>Wednesday 8:00 AM:</u>	Doodle Restly (Anniv)	By: The Restly Family Reunion
<u>Thursday 8:00 AM:</u>	For Healing For Jan Marie Shannon	By: Carol Hranek
<u>Friday 8:00 AM:</u>	Margaret Lynch	By: George & Carol Will
<u>Fourth Sunday of Advent:</u>		
<u>Saturday 6:00 PM:</u>	Irene Hankinson	By: Josephine Suhrie
<u>Sunday 8:00 AM:</u>	Karen Will	By: Greg Will and Family
<u>Sunday 10:30 AM:</u>	For The People	
<u>Sanctuary Candle:</u>	For Peace	
<u>St. Peregrine Candle:</u>	Cindy (Miller) Bearer	By: Patti Hankinson and Family

Mass Readings for the Week:

Monday:	Blessed Anthony Grassi Jeremiah 23:5-8/PS Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 (R/cf.7)/Matthew 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Blessed Urban V Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a/PS Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 (R/cf.8)/Luke 1:5-25
Wednesday:	St. Dominic Of Silos Isaiah 7:10-14/PS Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R/cf.7c and 10b)/Luke 1:26-38
Thursday:	Optional Memorial Of St. Peter Canisius, Priest And Doctor Of The Church Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a/PS Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 (R/1a;3a) Luke 1:39-45/2 Timothy 4:1-5/PS Psalm 40:8a and 9a/Matthew 5:13-19
Friday:	Blessed Jacopone da Todi 1 Samuel 1:24-28/PS Psalm 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R/cf.1a)/Luke 1:46-56
Saturday :	Optional Memorial Of St. John Of Kanty, Priest Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24/PS Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 (R/cf. Luke 21:28) Luke 1:57-66/James 2:14-17/PS Psalm 112:1/Luke 6:27-38
Sunday:	Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/PS Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Romans 16:25-27/Luke 1:26-38

"I am the voice crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

St John The Baptist Catholic Church

Box 10 New Baltimore, PA 15553 Phone: 733-2210 Hall: 733-4113
Email: dwambaugh@dioceseaj.org Website: <https://newbaltimorecatholic.com/>

<u>Fr. Mark Pattock, OFMcap</u>	Pastor	<u>Sacramental Emergencies: 724-272-5474</u>
Fr. Roman Kozacheson, OFMcap-	In residence	
Fr. Stephen Shin, OFMcap	In residence-Pastor of Ss. Philip & James, Meyersdale & St. Gregory, MacDonaldton	
Br. Stephen Wright OFMcap	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:

Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday Of Advent)



Third Sunday of Advent:

This Sunday we light and reflect upon the third advent candle which is rose or pink in color. Pink or rose represents joy or rejoicing and reveals a shift in the season of Advent away from repentance and toward celebration. It is named the shepherd candle or candle of joy.

The **Third Sunday of Advent** is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is derived from the Latin word "gaudo" meaning "to rejoice or to be glad". This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

Extended Confessions will take place on **Tuesday December 19th** from **6:15 PM to 6:45 PM (Retreat Center Entrance near the Chapel)**.

We'll Leave The Light On:

We will leave the light on for you **Wednesday December 20th** from **6:00 to 9:00 PM** for the opportunity to go to confession. **Confessions will be held in the confessional in the main church.** Please take advantage of this additional time being offered.

Decorating The Church For The Christmas Season:

The church will be decorated for the Christmas Season beginning at **10:00 AM on Thursday December 21st** and **10:00 AM Friday December 22nd** for anyone interested in helping.



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 17th**.

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.

Christmas Schedule:

The mass schedule for Christmas is: on **Sunday Christmas Eve at 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM**, and then on **Monday Christmas Day at 9:00 AM**.

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

PRAYER LIST

Abby Barnes, Debbie Brady, **Cindy (Miller) Bearer**, 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, 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 Janachowski, 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, 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: \$639.00	Sunday Adults: \$3120.00	Total Sunday: \$3759.00
Local Needs: \$20.00	Christmas Flowers: \$1558.00	Retirement Fund For Religious: \$488.00
Immaculate Conception: \$560.00		

We're always collecting non-perishable food items for our local foodbanks. Items can be placed in the bins in the back of church.

Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday Of Advent) - A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar:

Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact

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.



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

O COME EMMANUEL!

My Soul Rejoices in my God!

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ - CCD RETREAT INFORMATION:

All **Diocesan Required Retreats** for our **9th, 10th and 11th 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 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
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
March 10, 13, 17, 20, 24 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 rsuzanneth@bethanyministries.org or by phone at (814) 263-4177.



With Deepest Sympathy:
We extend our sympathy to the Gaffron family at the death of **Robert Gaffron** who passed away on **Saturday December 9th**. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.



Robert Conrad Gaffron, 72, Berlin, went to be with the Lord on December 9, 2023 at home. Born October 7, 1951 in Greensburg, son of Carl and Hilde (Thalheimer) Gaffron. Preceded in death by parents, wife the former Shirley Brueggman, brother Leonard, and mother-in-law Margaret Brueggman. Survived by daughters: Jenny (Jonathan) Woytek, Katie (Brendan) Nicholson, Annie (Andrew) Bargielski, Elizabeth Gaffron, and Olivia Gaffron and boyfriend Ethan Sailor; grandchildren: Lucas, Hayley, and Joshua Bargielski, and Patrick and Henry Nicholson; brother Carl Gaffron; sisters: Heidi (James) Gurksnis and Susan Gaffron; sister-in-law Lorie Gaffron; numerous nieces and nephews; and faithful canine companions Atticus and Merlin. He was a 1969 graduate of Norwin High School, a 1974 graduate of Cal U. of PA in education, and also graduated from the Municipal Police Academy. He was a former teacher at Newport High School, was a retired teacher from Somerset High School, and also was a retired Park Ranger at Laurel Hill and Shawnee State Parks. Member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, New Baltimore, where he taught confirmation classes, Knights of Columbus, Allegheny Bird Dog Club, where he was the secretary, and he also taught hunter's education. He enjoyed hunting, being outdoors, his church, and spending time with his family. Family will receive friends from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Deaner Funeral Home, Berlin, where a Vigil Service will be held at 6:45 p.m. Funeral Mass 10 a.m. Thursday at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, New Baltimore. Rev. Mark Pattock OFM Cap. Celebrant. Committal church cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be given to Friends of Laurel Hill, 1454 Laurel Hill Park Rd., Somerset, PA 15501. DeanerFuneralsAndCremations.com

Diocesan News & Upcoming Events:

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.

Echoes of a Polish Christmas :
All Saints Parish in Boswell (Somerset County) will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy or Pastoralki) on **Sunday, January 7th, at 2:00 PM** at the church (325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell). The hymns will be sung by their Polish choir. Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and refreshments. Kolędy help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience the time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information please call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

REJOICE! Happy Joyful Third Sunday Of Advent!

Stewardship Reflection For Sunday December 17, 2023 —Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday Of Advent):
 Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. 'Gaudete' is a Latin word meaning 'rejoice'. The Christian steward should be characterized by a spirit of rejoicing. The more we embrace the stewardship way of life, the more we will be filled with joy. We can become like John the Baptist, in today's Gospel passage from the Book of John. We read this description of the prophet: "A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light. ... He was not the light, but came to testify to the light." This is our calling too, to testify to the Light, our wonderful Savior, by the way we make use of the time, talent and treasure He has entrusted to our care. Our actions and our priorities themselves give testimony to all that God has done in our lives. What a privilege! When God himself is the source of our joy, it cannot be taken away from us. There is still time, this Advent season, to clear away any 'clutter' in our lives that may take our focus away from Him. Let us strive to detach from any of these things so that we can be free to truly rejoice in God on Christmas Day.

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)-317-2843. 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

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

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.
 Bellefonte



*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 fiancé(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
 CHRISTMAS FUN



12/17/23

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

12:00pm-12:30pm Live Nativity

12:30-3:30 Activities and Games



Please RSVP for breakfast

Sign up in the back of church or

call/text: 814-979-2205

email: kmsivec@gmail.com

