

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday:

8:00 a.m.

Wednesday: NO MASS

December 16, 2018

THE Epiphany OF OUR Lord

ROMAN
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

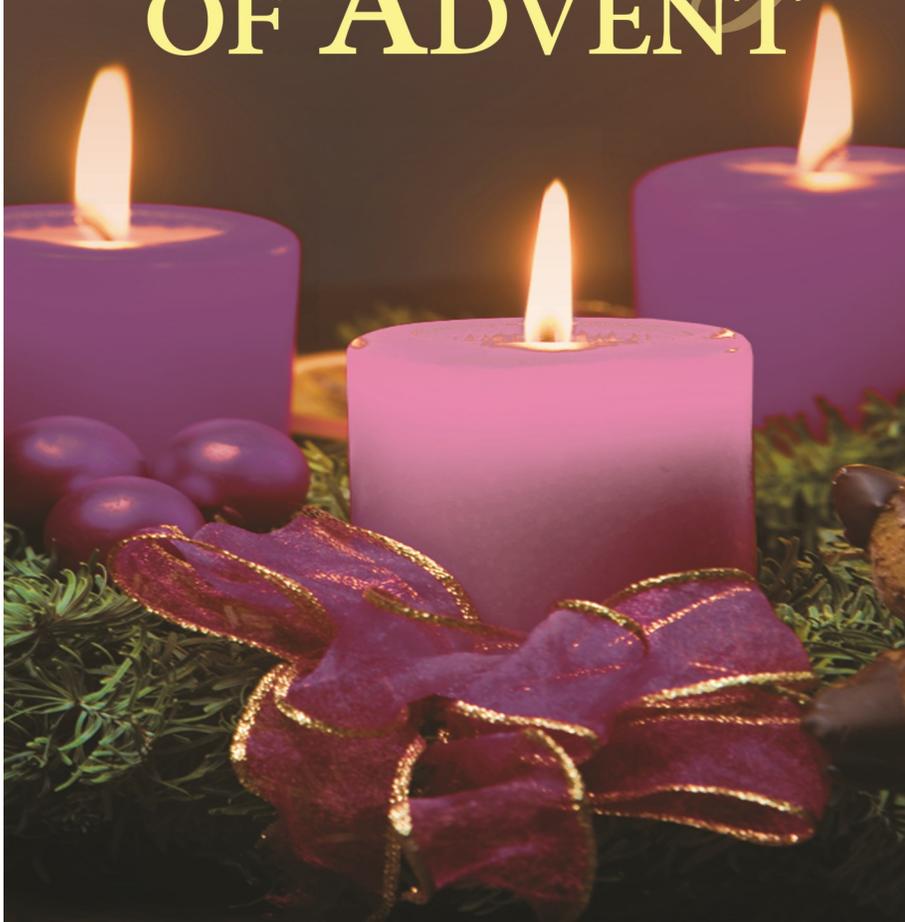


A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST
A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD. • MONESSEN, PA 15062

www.eolparish.com • facebook.com/Epiphany-of-Our-Lord

3rd Sunday OF ADVENT



RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 11:00 am or you may call the office to make an appointment.

BAPTISM

We baptize during all Masses. Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism session prior to the Baptism. Please call the office for more information.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and cannot get to Mass, and they wish to receive the Eucharist, please call the office so arrangements can be made.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Michael Crookston
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Music Director: Gina Covelli
gcovelli@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Faith Formation:

Scott Martin
smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bulletin Sec.: Tara Manderino
tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Any article for the bulletin must be in the office by Monday noon.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 15 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Evelyn Kowell by Paul & Kathy Barton

Sunday, December 16 — Third Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Brad Denman by Cindey & Katie Denman

10:30 AM † James & Lucille Lipari by Jackie Elias

Monday, December 17

8:00 AM † In Memory: Stanley & Irene Ruzich by
Carolyn Bradley

Tuesday, December 18

8:00 AM Special Intention by Patti Bigi

Wednesday, December 19

No Mass

Thursday, December 20

8:00 AM † Mary Sowko by Rose Sowko

Friday, December 21

8:00 AM † Grant Faust by Kristy & Kaylene Chavez &
Joan Torok

Saturday, December 22

4:00 PM † Margaret Young by Dr Joseph & Family

Sunday, December 23

8:30 AM † James & Mary Zimmaro by Ken & Linda

10:30 AM † John B. Harhai by Wife, Dolores

Parish Office:

**44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD
MONESSEN, PA 15062**

Parish Office: 724-684-7661 • Fax: 724-684-8981

Church Hall: 724-684-5512

Religious Education: 724-929-9300

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 12; 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

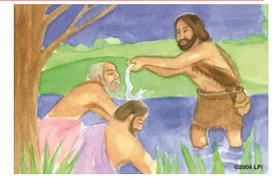
Ministry Schedule — December 22 & 23

Time	Lector	Eucharistic	Altar Servers
4:00 p.m.	M. Sersen	R. Kozar J. Elias S. Surdyn	B. Rizzuto S. Duda
8:30 a.m.	G. Pesi	J. Todd J. Petritis Volunteer	B. Speicher N. Speicher
10:30 a.m.	R. Godla LWC- J. Elias	F. Petrosky E. Yatchyshyn A. Puntuuriero	S. Yatchyshyn S. Puntuuriero

Money Counters - Monday, December 17—Team #3 K. Byron

Gaudete...Rejoice!

This week we celebrate the Third Sunday of the Advent Season which is traditionally referred to as *Gaudete* or “let us rejoice” Sunday. Our readings speak to us of life as it was meant to be lived, rejoicing! In the first reading the



prophet Zephaniah is speaking to a liberated people who were living with many freedoms. After years of being persecuted and enslaved, the people had many things to rejoice about. He told the people that God has forgiven them and their future is one of bright promise and peace. Zephaniah indicated that the “Divine presence” is in their midst, reminding that people that there was no room for pride and arrogance.

St. Paul also speaks of such joy that can be found in the peace of Christ. The kind of joy that he speaks of can lead us to be unselfish, to overcome anxiety and to live with a peace that only God can give. He speaks of a peace that can bring “well-being” and be “life giving.” It is no wonder that in the midst of this season of preparation that we stop and rejoice in the Lord’s peace.

This week we are all called to live lives of peace and justice. The crowds of people asked John “what should we do?” We need to ask ourselves that same question. What should we do to bring about that peace and sense of rejoicing that our liturgy speaks of today? If we listen to what we are being reminded of today, we are told that God changes not only our minds but also our hearts. If we find the love of God, no matter what is going on around us, we can rejoice. If we have that deep faith and trust in God we can rejoice and we are not afraid in life.

Our faith calls us to be in relationship with one another. It calls us to break out of ourselves and live for others. During these weeks before Christmas it is easy for us to see the needs of others. During this season, people do tend to be very generous. But, once Christmas is over, we fall back into our routines of living and become blind to the wants and needs of others. If we are to take seriously the justice that Jesus calls us to live, we need to make an effort to become more aware of others.

John the Baptist is telling us basically to live our lives being honest with who we are and what we have. Listen to the needs of others and help whenever we are able. There are so many ways that we can live out of Jesus’ justice. If we rejoice in what we have and who we are in the way that we are asked to, we can’t help but be people of peace; it is easy.

This week look at what you have in life, and open yourself to sharing whatever you have with the less fortunate. Do not exploit people. Do not threaten people you are supposed to protect. Work to overcome the multiple injustices of our society. Do not abuse the position of authority which you might have. Advent is a time of conversion, as good a time as any to reflect on our lives and the ways in which we translate our faith into action. People need to know us by our actions and not by our pious assertions. When we know God, we will Rejoice!

Weekly Collection Dec. 9

Votive Candles:	197
Utility & Energy	107
Advent	100
Christmas	40
Christmas Flowers	1,024
Accent	27
St. Lucy	84
Imm. Conception	976
Children & Family Services	25
Children & Adult Collection:	\$6,189
Total:	\$8,769

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the families of DOUGLAS DYKY, AND FRANK S. GAUDIO. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their soul to rest in the peace of Christ.

Christmas Giving Tree

I am very proud of our parish for the support that was shown with the Angel Tree project this year. The generosity that you have shown will certainly touch the lives of many people in our community. Because of your goodness, Christmas will be just a little “brighter” for many children. I am grateful to all of you who participated and I thank you all in the name of our parish.

Children and Family Services Appeal

We received a message from the Bishop regarding the second collection at Christmas:

Blessings to each of you in this Advent season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As you are aware, every year the second collection at all *Christmas Masses* has been for those people living within our own diocese who are less fortunate than we are. This collection is titled the “Children and Family Services Appeal.”

Jesus teaches us to put the needs of the poor ahead of our own. I pray that our needs will never be as desperate as those individuals and families who have little food, inadequate clothing or sufficient resources to endure the harsh winter weather and obtain all that is required to keep them and their families safe and warm. When we take care of the poor among us we serve Jesus Himself in a most personal way. Our charity should not have its origin in our pity but rather from our compassion which suggests a “suffering with the other” as Jesus himself did for us.

The needs of the poor in our diocese are ever present and growing even as we speak. As your Bishop, it is one of my most important duties to call to mind our fundamental responsibility as Catholics to care for the needs of these often forgotten and marginalized children of God.

Might I suggest that Christmas is the perfect opportunity to adjust our Christmas gift giving to include those, who like the Christ Child, could find no place to lay their heads, and for many, no food for their mouths. It is a fact that the first to experience the effects of a slow economy are often the poorest of the poor. Your support of this collection allows those touched by poverty, violence

or brokenness to look beyond their present conditions and find the hope to work toward better circumstances.

On the coming Christmas Feast, which reminds us of the gift of God's own Son, Jesus Christ given to each of us without question of our merit or eligibility, I ask you to support the “Children and Family Services Appeal” and make your contribution toward changing the future of an individual, a family or a child through the good work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg.

Prepare Your Heart

There's still time to attend an Advent Penance Service. Below are listed the dates and times for our Regional Penance Services. All services begin at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 17 St. Sebastian, Belle Vernon (6:30)

Tuesday, December 18 St. Anne's, Rostraver

Wednesday, December 19 St. John's Perryopolis

Thursday, December 20 Epiphany

During Advent I will hear confessions after the 8:00 a.m. daily mass. I hope that you will be able to fit one of these times into your schedule and share in the Mercy of God during this season of waiting.

Christmas Mass Schedule

The schedule for masses on Christmas will be 4:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass and 10:00 a.m. on Christmas day. Please make a note that there will be only one Mass on Christmas Day.

Oplatki

There are still Christmas Wafers available in the back of the church. The cost is \$3.00 per package.

First Holy Eucharist Workshop

It's not too early to mark your calendar for next year. If you have a child preparing to make their First Communion, there will be a workshop for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist on Saturday, January 14, at 9:00 a.m., in St. Sebastian Parish Hall. For your convenience, this workshop will also take place at St. John the Baptist on Saturday, January 28 at 9:00 a.m. You may go to either workshop. All students who will receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist and their parents are to attend this workshop.

~Sausage sale canceled~

Around the Diocese

Coaches, players sought for CYO boys HS basketball league

The diocese is looking for **coaches and players** for a CYO high school boys basketball league. The league is open to Diocese of Greensburg parishioners in grades 9-12 who meet eligibility requirements. Games will be played Thursday and Saturday evenings at the Queen of Angels Catholic School gym in North Huntingdon. Contact Jeff Wilkins for details at wilkinsjjj@windstream.net. All coaches must comply with diocesan clearance policies.

Registration deadline for World Youth Day event in Washington, D.C., is Jan. 3

The Diocese of Greensburg is sponsoring a trip for young adults (ages 18-39) to a one-day Catholic festival at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Jan. 26, 2019, in conjunction with World Youth Day in Panama. The event will include a livestream of Pope Francis' Mass in Panama. Cost, including overnight accommodation, is \$160 per person, \$95 per person for double occupancy. Visit www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/WYD for information.

GOD PROVIDES, BUT
YOU'RE THE DELIVERY SYSTEM



Please consider a gift this Christmas to the Children and Family Services Appeal, the second collection at all Christmas Masses Dec. 24 and 25.



PROVIDING HELP, CREATING HOPE.
1.866.409.6455

HUNGER AND POVERTY
DON'T DISCRIMINATE.