

The Second Sunday Of Advent

December 5, 2021

Mass Intentions

December	6	8:00 AM	NO MASS
December	7	8:00 AM	Intentions Of Father James Peak
		7:00 PM	People Of The Parish
December	8	8:00 AM	Intentions Of Katerie Robinson
December	9	8:00 AM	Kevin Penn requested by The Penn Family
December	10	8:00 AM	Gary Herman requested by The Morrison Family
December	11	5:00 PM	Mark O'Lexa requested by Dave & Patty Suydam
December	12	8:00 AM	Charlotte Smith requested by Marie Dishman
		10:30 AM	People Of The Parish

Liturgical Ministries December 11-12

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Dave Suydam	Yvonne DePaulis	Terry Meek
8:00 AM	Noah Jenkins	Intentionally Blank	The Robinson Family Alexander Fordyce
10:30 AM	Julie Richelderfer	Bill Davies	The Morrison Family

Schmidt Center Cleaning

December 12

Kim Lane & Marian McCoy

December 19

Gwen Pray

Next Sunday's Readings

Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$5,073.81

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$3,698.00

May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 5th

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Monday, December 6th

No Mass, 8:00AM

Tuesday, December 7th

Mass, 8:00AM

RCIA, 6:30 – 8:00PM

Vigil of Immaculate Conception Mass, 7PM

Wednesday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception)

Mass, 8:00AM

Confession, 6:00-7:30PM

Thursday, December 9th

Mass, 8:00AM

Friday, December 10th

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, December 11th

Church Cleaning, 8:00AM

Confession, 4:00PM

Mass, 5:00PM

Sunday, December 12th

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15 AM

**“A voice of one crying out in the desert:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make
straight his paths.’”**

words assure us that we are not alone on our journey, that what God has promised in the person of his Son will come to fruition: Christ will come again! And so, as Saint John the Baptist did, we who are disciples are meant to witness to his coming, announcing the Good News and preparing for his – second – coming. Repent. Believe. “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” How do we do this? Engage with Scripture – read it and really hear what the Word of God is saying to you. Pray for insight, that the grace of God might transform you to go forth and announce the Gospel.

Even pre-Google, we usually spent more time than perhaps we should have hunting down the perfect gifts, especially for our close family and friends. Perhaps that’s why these words from St. Paul stop us in our tracks: *“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.”* During Advent, these words can both assure and challenge us – to grow in love, knowledge, and a sense of what really matters during our time on earth. For me the challenge will be to spend less time shopping this season and more time focusing on deepening my relationship with God, who is preparing to turn the darkness into light. This doesn’t mean we can’t take delight in finding that perfect gift; but we ought also to increase our recognition that all gifts come from God, including our ability to have access to and means to purchase material gifts. We can find joy in God’s presence (and presents?) among us.

Re-read today’s Gospel, and then consider how Saint Paul followed in Saint John the Baptist’s footsteps in his Letter to the Philippians. Think of ways you, like John and Paul, can encourage one another, and be a voice crying out in the desert. Participate in the Sacrament of Penance and pray that God may cleanse your heart to welcome him at Christmas, and when he comes again in glory.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: Beth Kingsborough, John Kapp, Jane and Dennis Haag, Bill Sharman, Kay Dorundo, Joni Lawrence, Cathy Steiner, John and Sue Cover, Bill Selle, Diana Prowell, Sharon Ford, Marietta McQuaid, Tom Mellis, Marie Dishman, Cathy Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Judy Rich, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

From the Pastor’s Desk

On this Second Sunday of Advent, our second reading at Mass comes from St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians. All of his letters to the early

Church offer wisdom, encouragement, and instruction, and the words we heard today are particularly significant as we prepare for Jesus’ coming this Advent: *“the one who began a good*

work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus.” Unlike purely human advice, Saint Paul’s words go beyond simple human wisdom; they are rooted in faith and prayer, and in the truth of the Paschal Mystery of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. These



Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (717-602-6298) or through his email: dcnrobin@ptd.net.

Online Bulletin: www.stbernardsnbpa.org

March for Life January 2022: The St. Bernard Knights of Columbus are again sponsoring and subsidizing a bus down to Washington DC for the annual March for Life. This year's march will be on Friday, January 21st. As in prior years, we will have Mass at 7:15 AM and then board the bus to depart St. Bernard by 8 AM. Please feel free to invite all pro-life people you know to join us on the large 59 passenger bus. Let's fill the bus! Those not attending Mass should plan to arrive by 7:45 AM. The cost this year is again \$20 per adult, and \$10 per youth 16 and under. Youth must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

The Mitten Tree: Each year at Christmas, our parish reaches out to our own parish family and the community and provides approximately 125 gifts for those less fortunate. Again, this year, everyone is invited to select an ornament from our Mitten Tree and fulfill a



Christmas wish for the needy. For many people, these are the only gifts they will receive. The Mitten Tree is located at the main doors of the Church. Only one gift per tag, please!! Your gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 19th.

Church Cleaning for Christmas: We will gather to clean the church for the coming Christmas Season on Saturday, December 11th at 8:00AM. If you can assist, please sign up at the bulletin board in the narthex.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Wednesday, December 8th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. A vigil Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:00PM and Mass on the Feast will be celebrated at 8:00AM.

Christmas Decorating for Church is scheduled for Thursday, December 23rd beginning at 6:00PM. Your help is needed, welcomed, and appreciated. This is a fun time for all who come each year.



Please sign up at the bulletin board if you can help us this year.

Advent Penance: As we spiritually prepare during the Advent season to celebrate Christ's birth,



please make the Sacrament of Penance part of your family's spiritual preparation. Since we will not have our traditional penance service for Advent this year, Father Sharman will be available for confession on the

following evenings:

Wednesday, December 8th (6:00-7:30PM)

Wednesday, December 15th (6:00-7:30PM)

Wednesday, December 22nd (6:00-7:30PM)

Advent According to our Patron, Saint Bernard:
"There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know, His coming to men, His coming into men, and His coming against men." His point brings forth the theology we possess as Christians concerning the unfolding of salvation history. In the fullness of time, Jesus came to us in the flesh, and by his sacrificial death on the cross granting us forgiveness of sin and promising eternal happiness for our faithful discipleship. His earthly life laid the foundation for the Church, His mystical Body, which would continue His mission and ministry until He returns again in glory. The Lord also comes to us and into us by the sacramental life we lead. Each time we faithfully receive one of the seven sacraments, Jesus comes to us with His life and His grace. "His coming against men" is the judgment Jesus will make based upon the life of faith we have lived on earth. At His glorious coming, Jesus will take His faithful followers to the Kingdom. The unjust will be consigned to the eternal punishment of hell.

**The spirit of Advent is
prayer, penance, patience, and preparation!!**