

# The Second Sunday Of Advent

December 10, 2023

## Mass Intentions

December	11	8:00 AM	Frank Martin requested by Nancy & Terry Stanton
December	12	8:00 AM	Helen Krautheim requested by Pat & Gwen Pray
December	13	8:00 AM	Mike Landis requested by Tom & Louise Polcha
December	14	8:00 AM	Alberta McAllister requested by Robert McAllister
December	15	8:00 AM	Sara Zettlemoyer requested by John & Mary Blair
December	16	5:00 PM	Sara Zettlemoyer requested by Suzanne Matunis
December	17	8:00 AM	Nancy Woods requested by Pat Harshberger
		10:30 AM	People Of The Parish

## Liturgical Ministries December 16-17

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Yvonne DePaulis	Terry Meek
8:00 AM	Erin Jenkins	Scott Dunkelberger	Anna & Julia Sheaffer
10:30 PM	Jeff Aro	Bill Davies	The Morrison Family Zoey Lowe

## Schmidt Center Cleaning

December 10

Madeline Rogers & Pat Harshberger

December 17

Gabby Brandt & Jen Meek

## Next Sunday's Readings

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

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

## Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$5,072.00

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$6,245.00

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

## Church Calendar

### **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM/9:45-10:15AM

Masses, 8:00AM and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

Advent Vespers, 4:00PM

Advent Covered Dish Dinner, 4:45PM

### **Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

### **Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Mass, 8:00AM

### **Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

Church Cleaning, 8:00AM

Confessions, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00 PM

### **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)**

Confessions, 7:00-7:45AM and 9:45-10:15AM

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM

CCD, 9:15-10:15AM

**“Amaranatha,  
Come, Lord Jesus”**

### **From the Pastor's Desk:**

Patience is the virtue extolled throughout all of Advent. As we light the



second candle on our Advent wreath, the theme of patient waiting echoes in our hearts. “Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.” Just in hearing these loving words, we feel our hearts warm with solace much as the

welcoming hearth warms our bodies during these cold, dark days of winter. Saint Paul tells us to “be patient...but be ready.” Saint John the Baptist echoes this with words like ‘prepare’ and ‘repent’ and ‘forgive.’ Patience begins here. On the day of our baptism with water and the Holy Spirit, we became God’s holy people: people

who prepare God’s way, ever vigilant and ready, while patiently awaiting the day of God’s coming. Patience people...*We know You are coming, Lord, for You are true to Your word. When it seems that You delay, help us to keep watch for You, for You will surely come.*

This Advent Season, let us ask for the grace of spiritual rebirth. Spiritual rebirth is very similar to childbirth: no one can do it for you. Each one of us must undergo the painful process one step at a time. The Baptist warns us not to be like the Pharisees and the Sadducees who came but did not believe and who did not bear fruit. Instead, he bids us further into the wilderness where our souls are laid bare. His words and witness reveal the urgency and importance of the spiritual birth that is about to take place when the Messiah appears.

**Remember the Sick of our Parish** in your charity and prayers: John Kapp, Rosemary Anderson, Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Jeanette Fasick, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Mike and Kathleen Brennan, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Marian Shatto, Joann Speis, Joni Lawrence, Don Shaeffer, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

**Deacon Robinson’s Contact Information:** You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or through his email: [dcnrobin@ptd.net](mailto:dcnrobin@ptd.net).

**Online Information:** You can access the weekly bulletin and information at our parish website at [www.stbernardsnbpa.org](http://www.stbernardsnbpa.org).

**Remember:** The mood of the Advent season is one of somber spiritual preparation that increases in joy with each day that draws us closer to the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. So, the worldly “Christmas” commercialism that surrounds it in the Western world should be overcome as much as possible. We should strive to keep the liturgical season of Advent holy, penitential, reflective, and prayerful, always remembering, as they say, that “He is the reason for the Season.” Jesus came once in the flesh; He comes to us now in spirit and power through His Word and His sacraments; He will come again in glory at the end of the age!

**The Mitten Tree:** Each year at Christmas, our parish reaches out to our own parish family and the community and provides approximately 100 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!! **Your gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Advent Vespers and Covered Dish Dinner:** All parish families, especially our children, are cordially invited to an Advent Vesper Service and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, followed immediately with a covered dish dinner in the Parish Hall on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. A special visitor will arrive for the children. You are requested to bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert. The meat course will be provided by the parish. Please sign up at the bulletin board so adequate provisions can be made. For further information, please call Erin Jenkins at 834-6946.



**Christ in Christmas Cards** designed by our CCD students are being offered for sale by our Knights of Columbus. The cost is \$8.00 for an assorted package of 15 cards, and you can purchase them at the kitchenette.

**Be Considerate of Others:** In consideration of parishioners listening to the readings from Sacred Scripture or to the homily, or if people are kneeling during the consecration of the Mass, please wait until the congregation stands to seat yourself. Walking down the aisle while everyone is seated and listening to the readings or homily is very distracting. If you are late for Mass (*which sometimes cannot be helped*) or if you need to leave Mass for some reason, please return to your seat only when the congregation stands! This will help eliminate distractions during Mass for parishioners and the celebrant.

**Use of Parish Kitchen and Facilities:** In accordance with the norms of our insurance company, Catholic Mutual, a person must be 16 years old to work or enter the kitchen. If parishioners want to use the kitchen or other parish facilities, which you are always free to do, please reserve the space with the parish office and sign the insurance form at least one week before your event. If your event is parish related, no additional insurance is needed. If personal, you must secure additional insurance from your own insurance company or through Catholic Mutual in case of accidents or physical harm. Call the parish office for further information.

**Church Decorating for Christmas:** Your gracious assistance is needed to help decorate our church on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00AM with the Christmas trees and poinsettias that beautify our sanctuary. Please sign up at the bulletin board if you can assist us.



**Church Cleaning for Christmas:** We will gather to clean the church for the coming Christmas Season on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:00AM. An hour of your time will help us welcome our guests and parishioners to our parish church for the Christmas Season. If you can assist us, please sign up at the bulletin board in the narthex.

## Christmas Masses

**Sunday Masses**  
**December 23/24<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00PM**  
**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM**

**Christmas Eve Masses**  
**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00PM and 6:00PM**

**Mass on Christmas Day**  
**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00 AM**