



Mass Intentions

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2019

Saturday– Dec 7th –

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Edward Ferenchak (A)
by Wife, Lucille
7:00PM – Living and Deceased Members
by F.C.S.L.A. Branch 230

Sunday – Dec 8th –

8:30AM – Frank, Sophie and Jive Snyder
by Nin Snyder and Family
10:30AM – David J. Sweeney
by Mom and Dad

Monday – Dec 9th – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00AM – Father Joseph J. Campion (A)
by McCloskey Family

Tuesday – Dec 10th – St Gregory III

8:00AM – Memorial Fund Members
by Memorial Fund

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Dec 11th – St Damasus I

6:00PM – Edward Marth (A)
by Wife, Jean and Daughter, Kathy

Thursday – Dec 12th – Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00AM – Lester Bundy
by Father Eric J. Gruber

Friday – Dec 13th – St Lucy

8:00AM – Charles B. O'Donnell (B)
by McCloskey Family

Saturday– Dec 14th – St John of the Cross

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

Third Sunday in Advent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – William Columbo, Sr. (B)
by Bill and Bobbie Columbo
7:00PM – Thomas Vincent Tomasic
by Dennis and Rosalie Weiss

Sunday – Dec 15th –

8:30AM – Robert L. Strohl
by Keith Krautsack
10:30AM – Agnes and Homer Collis
by Family

PASTOR'S CORNER

The Darkest Time of the Year

While the shortest daylight hours on the calendar are soon to be experienced, it behooves us as Jesus' disciples to bring the Light of Christ out for all to see.

G. K. Chesterton wrote,

“Any one thinking of the Holy Child as born in December would mean by it exactly what we mean by it; that Christ is not merely a summer sun of the prosperous but a winter fire for the unfortunate.”

– “The Streets of the City,” *The New Jerusalem*

This darkest time in the northern hemisphere prepares us to receive the Light of Christ anew – as a sudden breaking dawn when light seemed gone forever.

The darkness seems to dominate life, the forces of untruth and deception seem to pass as news, meaninglessness and listless wandering draw us toward distractions and stimulating things and experiences to “fill the void.” But Advent tells us to wait; wait in the dark for the light to come to us. And in this invitation of the season we are called to face a great truth: we cannot make the dawn come to us by our complaints or anxieties or master-plans – no, the dawn comes for us when it is time. The Light comes to us! Our longing for Him Who is the Light may make our waiting time drag on, but it also dilates our pupils to behold the faintest hints of His arrival. Jesus the Light is coming; He brings us illumination and a warming fire in the cold, cold dark. Can you find Him in your life this Advent? Better still, wait in the dark long enough for His dawn to find you.

Waiting,
Fr. Eric.



Pray the Rosary Sundays
8:15AM and 10:15AM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$3,630.00
 Christmas Flowers Collection \$1,789.00

The **Second** Collection this weekend, **December 7th** and **8th**, is the **Retired Religious Collection**,



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	J.Drummer D.Gorr	B.Molchany	J.Druckenmiller
7:00PM	A.Muschko L.McGinley	P.McCarty	J.Ottinger
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	E.Snyder	Deacon Jack
10:30AM	J.Martinez M.Ritter	B.Bozzone	Deacon Jack



The Holy Day which is the Immaculate Conception

This year, because the holy feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary falls on the Second Sunday of Advent, observance of the feast/holy day is "bumped" to Monday, December 9th, *without* its' usual obligatory status. Therefore, the only Mass to celebrate the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception will be on Monday morning at 8am. The Immaculate Conception envelopes may be placed in the Sunday collections, this weekend or next.

SAVE THE DATE



CHURCH DECORATING

Christmas Decorating will take place **after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday, December 22nd**. We are in great need of help, especially from our younger and stronger guys and gals. We appreciate everyone who can spare an hour or two to come and help prepare the sanctuary for Our Lord's Nativity!



O Come Emmanuel

Advent Wreath Prayer for the First Week of Advent
 O God of power and mercy, cleanse, purify and open our hearts in readiness to welcome Thy Divine Son. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, so that we may share in His purity and wisdom and become one with Him when He comes in glory, for He lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Sunday, December 15th – 1:00pm – 2:30pm
 Sunday, December 22nd – 1:00pm – 2:30pm
 Monday, December 23rd – 6:30pm – 8:00pm



CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th – 4:00pm (with Children's Choir) and 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Wednesday, December 25th – 9:30am



OPLATKI

Our **Christmas Oplatki** is now available for purchase at both entrances to church. The Christmas Oplatki is a blessed wafer to be shared with those at our Christmas Eve Meal. It is a beautiful age-old tradition which allows us to offer Glory to the New Born King who is the Bread of Life. An explanation of the custom, as well as the Prayer Service that is used at the meal is included. A \$3.00 donation for a pack of four is suggested.

St. Mary's Church

122 Union Street, Catty

St. Mary's Church is looking for a part-time maintenance, groundskeeper, cleaning person for approximately 15 hours per week. Please send an email of interest to kim.stmarys122@gmail.com.

ANNUAL GIVING TREE



Please take a tag from the tree to participate in the Christmas Giving Tree program which benefits God's children in our community. Place your gifts under the tree ***unwrapped***. Gift cards or monetary gifts should be placed in an envelope, the

gift tag taped to the front of the envelope and the envelope placed in the collection basket. Any checks should be made payable to **St. John Fisher Church**. **All gifts should be under the tree and all monetary gifts should be placed in the collection basket by Sunday, December 22nd.**

~ Kathy Newhall, Gloria Gontkosky and Diana Rutt

Christmas House Tour

A Christmas House Tour featuring ten homes belonging to parishioners of the Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown, will take place **on Sunday, December 15th, from 1:00pm to 5:00pm**. Tickets are required for the tour and must be purchased in advance. A program listing the addresses of each of the houses and a map are included with the purchased tickets. The tickets cost \$20.00 per person and can be purchased in St. Catharine's Church vestibule after all masses on December 7th, 8th, and 14th and 15th, and can also be purchased by sending checks payable to: The Women's Alliance, c/o Cathedral Church of St. Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner Street, Allentown, PA 18104. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.



A Christmas Food Drive for Sheltered Dogs and Cats

Our own Nicole Lane invites us to join her in a special "push" for donations for the Animal Sanctuary at Haafsville by December 15th. (she'll deliver them on the 21st) She is asking for cans or bags of unopened cat and dog food, as well as gift cards to Giant and Redner's to purchase food for the animals. No donation is too small – one can or one gift card will allow us to help the shelter feed its' average 85 cats and 30 dogs. Please place all donations in the Food Bank baskets located near the doors of the church. How wonderful to think of animals at Christmas, since they were the first to welcome the new-born King!

Holy Trinity Church

4456 Main Street, Egypt

They will present their annual **Christmas Cantata** on **Sunday, December 15th at 4:00pm**, featuring our Adult, Hand Bell, and Crossfire Choirs. Following the Cantata, the parish Pastoral Council will host a buffet dinner in the parish hall for all who attend. There is no charge, however, a voluntary free will offering will be accepted. All are invited to come and experience the joy and splendor of the Advent and Christmas season!