

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 14th St. John of the Cross

8:30 am - St. John – Safety & Spiritual welfare of our children by M/M Scott Schoppe
 9-9:30 am Confessions at St. John
 3:00 pm Confessions at St. John
 3:30 pm Confessions at St. Elizabeth
 4:00 pm - St. John – Stewart & Cis Smith by M/M Chis Maistros
 4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – Mass for the parishioners

Sunday, December 15th Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 am - Confessions at St. John
 8:00 am - Confessions at Queen of Peace
 8:00 am - St. John – Robert Johnson by M/M Bill Young
 8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Jean Coutu by the St. Vincent de Paul Society
 10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Gerard Michaud by M/M Denis Morel
 11:00 am - St. John – Wilhelm Boehm by M/M Reg Haselton
 3:00 pm - St. John – Advent Penance Service
 5:00pm - St. John – Youth Mass

Monday, December 16th

8:30am - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls
 2:15pm St. J. Health & Rehab - Mass
 5:15pm - St. John – NO MASS

Tuesday, December 17th

8:30am - St. John – Special Intention by a parishioner
 5:15pm - St. John – NO MASS
 7:30-8:30am Confessions @ St J

Wednesday, December 18th

8:30am - St. John – Patrick Dezotelle by Amy Marcinko
 5:15pm - St. John – NO MASS
 6:00-8:00pm Confessions @ St J

Thursday, December 19th

9:00am - St John – James & Gloria Carlton by the family
 5:15 pm - St John – NO MASS
 6:00-8:00pm Confessions @ St E

Friday, December 20th

8:30am - St Elizabeth – NO MASS
 4:30 pm - Confessions at St. John's
 5:15 pm - St. John – Special Intention by Deacon/Mrs Pete Gummere

Saturday, December 21st

8:30 am - St. John – Janice Maynard by the family
 9-9:30 am Confessions at St. John
 3:00 pm Confessions at St. John
 3:30 pm Confessions at St. Elizabeth
 4:00 pm - St. John – Lucy Fortin by the family
 4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls

Sunday, December 22nd

7:30 am - Confessions at St. John
 8:00 am - Confessions at Queen of Peace
 8:00 am - St. John – Gary Schoenemann (5th anni.) by his family
 8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Jean Coutu by the Sheridan Council 421 K of C
 10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Mass for the Parishioners
 11:00 am - St. John – Tony Greenwood by Sheridan Council 421 K of C
 Please keep our parishioners who are ill & in need of your prayers, especially: Randy Mackay, Martin Fortin, George Thurston, Charlie Weis, Randy Thomas, Jerry Prevost & Camilla Dente

Stuebenville East is taking place on July 10-12, 2020 at the University of Rhode Island. This is a great opportunity for teenagers relationship with God to be strengthened. This is open to all incoming freshman to graduating seniors. Fr. Robert has already invited all of this year's Confirmation students, and we need to get some commitments. Our goal is to send 20 students from Corpus Christi, which should be the largest group from the diocese! Please email Fr. Robert at fr.robert.little@gmail.com to commit to going or to ask more information!

PARISH EVENTS

Sun. Dec. 15th Religious Education/All 3 Churches
 Rel. Ed. Classes: StJ 9:15-10:45am, StE 9:00-10:15am
 QP 9:30-10:45am
 3:00pm Penance Service Fathers Hahr, Robert & Miller
 5:00pm Youth Mass followed by Instruction; NO Adult Ed
 Tues. Dec. 17th 6:45pm St. V. de Paul/St. E.
 Wed. Dec. 18th 6:00pm 4th Degree St. J. K. of C.
 Thurs Dec 19th 7:00pm St. J. Choir Practice
 Sat. Dec. 21st 6:00pm K of C Bingo

Please consider using the Online Giving tool for your weekly offertory donations. Visit our website at: nekatholic.com and click "Give Online" to sign up! Leave your checkbook at home, and save the parish the expense of envelopes!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/19-6/30/20 Budget: \$282,000 (\$6,000 needed per week)
 Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$99,618 On-Line: YTD: \$19,809
Collections and Receipts: December 8, 2019
 Regular Offertory: \$4,460

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

The 2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal is 84% to goal. We have been blessed with a challenge gift that will match all donations made now until the end of December up to \$18,000 to help us reach our goal.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY: Stewardship

The FORMED program is available to everyone in our parish. To start enjoying this free gift, please visit the FORMED website:

1. Go to: nekatholic.formed.org
2. Click on REGISTER to create a personal account

Bulletin Sponsors

Each week we want to highlight a business that supports our bulletin.

Thank you to: **Marty's Quickstop**
 Please support those who support us!

New Hymns & Missals: We're offering parishioners the opportunity to donate individual books in memory of loved ones, whose name would be pasted on the inside cover of the book. For more info, please see the display at the back of the church.

Can You Help With Christmas Decorating?

Teams will soon be decorating the churches for Christmas:
 At St. John on December 23rd @ 9am
 At St. Elizabeth on December 23rd @ 1pm

Who are the Knights of Columbus?

We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith. There is much work to be done in this world. Good and necessary work which Knights commit themselves to everyday. We assist the sick and disabled. We protect those who can't protect themselves, whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on; our path and calling from the Lord.

We do this work to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics. We invest our time, efforts and resources into our four values: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism.

We come from many places, backgrounds and stages in our lives, but we are all of one faith. We are a fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world.

It's one thing to say who you are, It's another to live it and put your values into action. That's what we do at the Knights of Columbus. "That's who we are!"



Mt. Calvary Cemetery Monument has been completed. The Knights of Columbus Sheridan Council 421 has completed the final touches at the cemetery. The Plaques of the four former pastors have been installed above the site of their entombment. The cost of the entire project was supported from our local Bingo support.

"No Room at the Inn" Nativity Scene Display on Sunday, December 15th from 11:30 to 2:30 pm. Carol Singing and refreshments will be provided, free of charge, at the First Congregational Church, 52 Middle St, Lyndonville. Bring your nativity scenes for display for everyone to view. Drop off for nativities will be Saturday, December 14th from Noon to 4 pm.

Lyndon Area Food Shelf Christmas Boxes 2019 – On/or before Wednesday, December 18th: 1) Call Deb Minor at 626-5586 if you know of anyone in need of a Christmas Box or if you have any questions; 2) Please drop off, at the Food Shelf on Elm St, Lyndonville, any food items you would like to donate for the boxes (stuffing, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, puddings/cake mixes etc.) Boxes will be filled Friday, December 20th and will need to be picked up, with your reservation letter, on Saturday, December 21st between 8 am and Noon at the Food Shelf. Thank you for supporting the Lyndon Area Food Shelf.

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent it can fall on any date from 11 December to 17 December. The day takes its common name from the Latin word *Gaudete* ("Rejoice"), the first word of the introit of this day's mass: *Gaudete in Domino semper... viz.* "Rejoice in the Lord always ..."

The spirit of the liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as for the second coming of Christ, and the penitential exercises suitable to that spirit are thus on Gaudete Sunday suspended, as it were, for a while in order to symbolize that joy and gladness in the promised Redemption. Henri Nouwen described the difference between joy and happiness, saying that while happiness is dependent on external conditions, joy is "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing – sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death – can take that love away." Thus joy can be present even in the midst of sorrow.

The O Antiphons of Late Advent

The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

December 17: *O Wisdom of our God Most High, / guiding creation with power and love: / come to teach us the path of knowledge!*

December 18: *O Leader of the House of Israel, / giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: / come to rescue us with your mighty power!*

December 19: *O Root of Jesse's stem, / sign of God's love for all his people: / come to save us without delay!*

December 20: *O Key of David, / opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: / come and free the prisoners of darkness!*

December 21: *O Radiant Dawn, / splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: / come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

December 22: *O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: / come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!*

December 23: *O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: / come to save us, Lord our God!*

Jesus Comes to Save...

O Dearest Infant! Tell me, what hast Thou come on earth to do? Tell me, whom art Thou seeking? Yes, I already know. Thou has come to die for me, in order to save me from hell. Thou hast come to seek me, the lost sheep, so that, instead of fleeing from Thee any more, I may rest in Thy loving arms. Ah my Jesus, my treasure, my life, my love and my all! Whom will I love, if not Thee? Where can I find a father, a friend, a spouse more loving and lovable than Thou art?

I love Thee, my dear God; I love Thee, my only good. I regret the many years when I have not loved Thee, but rather spurned and offended Thee. Forgive me, O my beloved Redeemer; for I am sorry that I have thus treated Thee, and I regret it with all my heart. Pardon me, and give me the grace never more to withdraw from Thee, but constantly to love Thee in all the years that still lie before me in this life. My love, I give myself entirely to Thee; accept me, and do not reject me as I deserve.

O Mary, thou art my advocate. By thy prayers thou dost obtain whatever thou wilt from thy Son. Pray Him then to forgive me, and to grant me holy perseverance until death. Amen.

There will be a **Penance Service at St. John Church** on December 15th, at 3pm – the Hour of Mercy. Come prepare for the Christmas by making a good Confession.

Additional Confession Times: Fr. Robert will be available for Confession this week on: Tue. 12/17 at St. John from 7:30-8:30; Wed. 12/18 at St. John from 6:00-8:00pm; Thur. 6:00-8:00pm at St. Elizabeth from 6:00-8:00pm