



December 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent

ST. JOSEPH IS A TITHING PARISH
 God's Plan for Giving

In return for the Lord's generosity, our people returned to God the following:

Sunday Offerings:	\$ 3,310.00
Our Faith, Our Future:	\$ 1,148.00
Thanksgiving:	\$ 228.00
Sunday Nov. 24:	\$ 3,449.00
Matthew 25:	\$ 1,626.00

The above are bank deposit amounts

Saturday December 7, 2019

- 9:00 AM** Genevieve Walter
(Husband)
- 4:00 PM** Tony Amedei
(Anne Chiccino)
- Sun. Dec. 8st** **2nd Sunday of Advent**
- 8:00 AM** People of the Parish
- 11:00 AM** Special Intentions for
Dave & Debbie Machamer
(Geri Preyer)
- Mon. Dec. 9th** ***The Immaculate Conception***
12 Noon & 7 PM ***of the Blessed Virgin Mary***
- Tues. Dec. 10th**
- 9:00 AM** Healing from Addiction
- Wed. Dec. 11th** St. Damasus 1
No Mass
- Thurs. Dec. 12th** Our Lady of Guadalupe
No Mass
- Fri. Dec. 13th** *St. Lucy*
9:00 AM In Honor of St. Lucy
(Muscarella Family)
- Sat. Dec. 14th** *St. John of the Cross*
4:00 PM People of the Parish
- Sun. Dec. 15th** **3rd Sunday of Advent**
- 8:00 AM** Joe Kruper
(Daughter Linda)
- 11:00 AM** Pearl Gerbino
(Geri Preyer)
- 12:30 PM** Spanish Mass

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

In this beautiful passage, a messianic prophecy, Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Paul reveals to us the necessity of living in peace and harmony. His words "Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the Glory of God" are as needed today as they were in Paul's own time.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus. Clothed in a garment of camel's hair, he baptizes the people in the Jordan River, but warns the Pharisees in ringing tones that they must give evidence that they mean to reform.

Second Collections
Christmas Flowers

(anytime before Christmas)

- December 8 – Retired Religious Fund*
December 15 – Repairs & Maintenance

We offer our prayers and condolences to Sandy Muscarella and her family on the recent passing of her Father, Gregory Lamprinos. May he enjoy eternal peace in heaven with Christ.

Father Hoke will be away Dec. 11th and 12th. No Mass these 2 days. Thank you.



LIVE IN HARMONY



From Our Pastor,

This weekend is a busy one, how can that be? The season of Advent is supposed to be a time to slow down and to contemplate in a joyful spirit of awaiting and longing for the coming of the Lord into our hearts. But the activity can be a grace to show us how much we need the Lord to get 'it' done, to get ready for Christmas. But please try to keep everything in the correct order of importance. For 'JOY' at Christmas and throughout the New Year, we need to begin with 'J'esus, then 'O'thers, and lastly 'Y'ourself. This is the way of the saints, especially the Blessed Mother and it is the Way of Jesus. I have been trying this past week with so much to do, and it really works. Begin each day with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to let you live out that day with Jesus first, others second and yourself last.

Monday, December 9 we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, please make every effort to attend one of the two Masses. It all starts with God preparing Mary to be the worthy Mother of God, honoring her gives us the grace to make a best preparation for Christ's mass.

Next Sunday we will need help with our parish's visit and party at the Carriage House. These residents are some of God's most beloved people; they are in the eyes of the world the 'least of my brethren'. But in God's eyes they are His beloved Son. Speak to Anne Rocktashel or myself about more details.

We are still in need for someone to pick up a few more stars on the giving tree, to buy gifts and have them back here by next Sunday. Please don't forget to help to build a house for the 'NO ROOM IN THE INN' we usually manage to raise over \$3,000.00 to help build a home for a family in Haiti. We will be doing the Christmas Cookie Sale to raise money for the poor children to be able to attend school and to better their lives. Details are in the bulletin.

Please don't get involved or give any money to any of these requests unless you have really prayed about it and feel in your heart that this is a good thing for you, for yourself, to prepare to receive a joyful eternal life in the heavenly Bethlehem

REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY: Michael Lentz, Paul Gharett, Chad Pata, Mike Azinger, Mike Weisner, Rita Prentiss, Aiden Barsis, Connie Buehler, Mason Reeder, Maria Harper, Matthew Rosboschil, Charlotte Farrell and Jackie Rando, If you would like to have a name announced in the bulletin or if someone is well and we can remove their name, please call the parish office. After six weeks of prayer, names will be removed. If further prayer is needed please call the Parish Office at 570-742-4356 to reinstate name. Thank You. **PRAYER IS OUR WAY TO CALL UPON GOD.** We pray for those who are ill or need special intentions. If you would like to add someone to the Parish Prayer List or Parish Shut-in List, please contact the parish office. Thank You.

St. Joseph Happenings

Dec. 19	Penance Service
Dec. 24	Christmas Blessings Mass at 5 PM & 10:30 PM
Dec. 25	Christmas Blessings Mass at 10 AM
Jan. 5, 2020	Family Epiphany Celebration

Holiday Giving Tree

We are asking you to help bring a little cheer to the Parish shut-ins and our elderly. Check the bulletin board. Please take a star with a number on it. Sign your name & phone number next to the number that you have taken. On each numbered star is a gift idea. **Return the gift with the numbered star attached to the Church by Sunday, December 15th at noon.** Place monetary gifts or gift cards in an envelope and put them in the collection basket. Place other gifts on the table in the back of the church. Thanks in advance for your help.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

The **parish choir** is having rehearsal for late Advent, Christmas and Epiphany beginning on **Tuesdays at 7 pm** and **Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.** We want to accommodate as many as we can by giving you some choices. The choir is open for anyone that can carry a tune beginning in 5th grade through adult. We have 13 signed up so far.

Next weekend, buy a Cookie Tray and Combat World Hunger on Dec. 14th & 15th. Buy a \$15 cookie tray and feed 375 starving children. Again this year, after mass we will be selling cookie trays to support The Cookie Sale to Combat World Hunger. The cookie trays make wonderful gifts. *For only \$15, each tray has 24 cookies, chocolates and are beautifully gift wrapped.* Last year's sale provided food for 4.2 million children as part of Cross Catholic Outreach's school feeding program in Haiti. *Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Church.* Thank you.

Penance Service Schedule

Mon. Dec. 16 – St. Joseph, Danville
Tues. Dec. 17 – St. Monica, Sunbury
Wed. Dec. 18 – St. Pius X, Selinsgrove
Thurs. Dec. 19 – St. Joseph, Milton
Fri. Dec. 20 – Sacred Heart, Lewisburg
Services begin at 7:00 PM

Love of Neighbor: To date, we have received Thank you notes from the following; Milton School District 'Caring Fund', Central PA Food Bank, Transitions, Meals on Wheels, The Salvation Army and WR Neighbors helping Neighbors.

Cross Catholic Outreach "Homes for Christmas". *During this time of Advent, we are asking again this year for donations to help build a home in Haiti. A home can be built for as little as \$3,000.00. Please place your donation in a separate envelope marked "Homes for Christmas" and place in the collection. Please make checks payable to St. Joseph Church. Donations will be accepted during the month of December. Thank you.*

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE: Please consider helping those less fortunate. Donations of boxed stuffing mix, mashed potatoes, canned vegetables and fruits are needed as well as baby items for the area food bank. Consider picking up some extra items at the grocery store to donate. Boxes are located in the confessional. Thank you.

Council of Catholic Women

1936 - 2019

Food Bank Collection area in confessional. Items needed include Cereal, Peanut Butter, Canned Tuna, Fruits and Vegetables along with Nonperishables, toiletries

Migrant Outreach Collection for CSIU

Small sized toiletries, razors

Soda tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Box tops for Ed for Milton schools, parochial school

Facebook- <https://www.facebook.com/ccwmilton>

Website- <http://stjosephmilton.org>

CCW PRAYER SHAWLS: Any parishioner who can knit or crochet, please think about making prayer shawls. If anyone in the parish knows of someone that needs a prayer shawl, please contact a CCW member or officer.

Ladies, save the date for the January CCW meeting. We will have our annual Epiphany Dinner Tuesday evening, January 7, 2020 at Rooney's in West Milton. RSVP to Michele Seibold if you plan to attend. michelemseibold@gmail.com or 570-713-5827.

WEIS & GIANT GIFT CARDS: Please consider purchasing Weis or Giant gift cards this week to buy your groceries. **The proceeds from last weekend were \$16.25 and \$25.00 from the Nov. 24th weekend.**

February Lottery Calendar

We are running the February Lottery Calendar again this coming year. Tickets are available from Harriet Moore (570-412-3769), Stefanie Shaw, Sara Mull, Jill Bertanzetti, Shawn Moore, Mary Moser, Vince Emery, or at the rectory after Masses. All winning numbers are determined by the 7 P.M. Pennsylvania Daily Lottery Pick Three Drawing. On February 1st and February 29th, the winner will receive \$1,000. On February 14th and February 26th, the winner will collect \$2,000. Sunday winners will collect \$200. On the remaining days, the winner will receive \$150. Cost is \$20 per ticket. *Do some early Christmas shopping! Tickets are also available at the parish office.*