



MASS INTENTIONS

December 13, 2020

THIRD 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:	\$3,064.00
Our Faith & Future	\$ 919.00
Last Year:	\$4,284.00

The above are bank deposit amounts

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

- Sun. Dec. 13th** **3rd Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM In honor of St. Lucy
 (Muscarella Family)
- 11:00 AM** Paula Heneffe
 (Sofie & Wes Cromley)
- Mon. Dec. 14th** *St. John*
9:00AM Elizabeth Muscarella
 (Mary Aliotta Family)
- Tues. Dec. 15th** Special Intentions for
9:00AM Ed Zerrenner (Geri P.)
- Wed. Dec. 16th** **NO MASS**
9:00 AM
- Thurs. Dec. 17th** Ed Wilhour
9:00 AM
- Fri. Dec. 18th** Poor Souls
9:00 AM (Ruth & Jim Seksinsky)
- Sat. Dec. 19th** Dorothy Riordan
4:00 PM (Sharon & Ed Grove)
- Sun. Dec. 20th** Joe Kruper
8:00 AM (Daughter, Linda)
- 11:00 AM** People of the Parish

Our Deepest Sympathies

Kevin Wendt's Aunt Patricia Aucker Wendt passed away on November 30th. Our deepest sympathies to Kevin and Christine and their family. May Patricia enjoy eternal peace in Heaven with Christ.

Thank You

Jack and Joan Wasilewski would like to thank everyone for the cards and well wishes sent to Jack after his surgery. Your kindness was greatly appreciated.

Second Collections

- Dec.-Christmas Flowers
- Dec. 13-Retired Religious Fund
- Dec. 20- Repair & Maint.

For Your Information

In this bulletin you will find dates and times for you to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Christmas Eve Vigil and Mass.

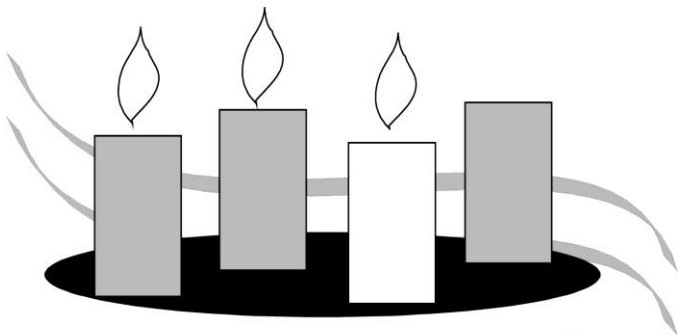
From your pastor,

Today is known as Rose Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent as Joyful Sunday. The Lord is so close we should be filled with joy, yes we should, but that doesn't mean we are filled with joy. I don't know about you but it is more stress and problems coming my way that calm and peace. But that is where we learn to find real joy.

We take our stress and worry and turmoil to the Lord, Who calmed the sea and Who kept St. Peter from sinking. Maybe that is the lesson we need to learn, that the peace and joy we seek from the Lord comes from needing Him, believing in Him and reaching out to Him in away that over comes all of the anxiety. The rose bush always has a thorn and most things in life of great worth and delight often comes with some pain and sorrow. We can never separate the manger from the cross; Bethlehem from Calvary, the mystery of faith is the joy of knowing the One Who came to suffer with us so that we could share in His glory. One of the more dominant colors of the American Christmas Season is the color 'Red'. Yet it is the liturgical color for Pentecost and Holy Martyrs as well as Good Friday...just connect the dots. The greatest stress reliever is the Cross- that has blossomed with the beauty of the rose of eternal life.

Blessed Rose Sunday to us all.

Fr. John D. Hoke



Rejoice in God

**REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE SICK
IN YOUR PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY:**

Jack Wasilewski
Joan Bittler
Evelyn Young
Tresha Sudol
Rita Patynski
Anna Lee Fagnano
Connie Buehler
Jackie Rando
Harriet Moore
Donald Reigel
Dolores Caicco
Beth Onesci

Vickie Youman
Kurt Livingston
Dr. Mike Weisner
George Sudol
Rita Prentiss
Abram Koons
Charlotte Farrell
Marie Lindner
Vicki Howell
Ed Zerrenner
Sister Laura

PRAYER IS OUR WAY TO CALL UPON GOD

Sacrament of Confession

Regularly scheduled confession times are as follows:

Saturday @ 3:15-3:45PM
Sunday @ 7:15-7:45AM

In addition to our regularly scheduled confession times, confession will be offered on the following dates (please make careful note of date, time and location:

Monday, **December 14th** after 9:00AM Mass, at Parish Church
Tuesday, **December 15th** after 9:00AM Mass, at Parish Church
Thursday, **December 17th** @ 7PM at Parish Center. There may be extra confessors available.
Sunday, **December 20th**, after Mass at 1-2 PM, at Parish Center.

If unable to make any of these times, please call Father Hoke to arrange a time.

Christmas Mass

Thursday, **December 24th** @ 4:00PM Christmas Vigil will be held at the Parish Center.

Thursday, **December 24th** @ 10:00PM Christmas Vigil will be held at Parish Church. Please note: in compliance with the ordinance there will be no caroling this year.

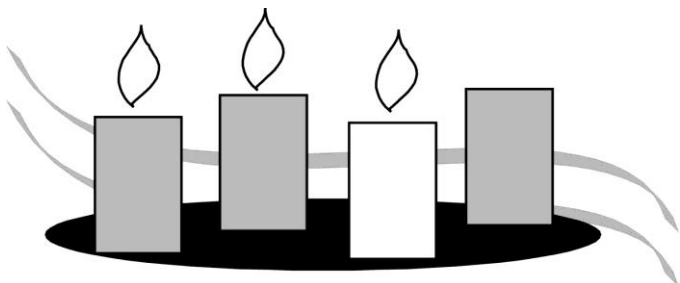
Friday, **December 25th** @ 10:00AM Christmas Mass will be held at Parish Church.

Christmas Giving

Gifts for our Shut-ins- Thank you to all who took an envelope. If you have not returned, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you so much for your generosity.

No Room at the Inn- We will be collecting monetary donations for No Room at the Inn. Envelopes labeled will be made available at the back of the church. *To date, we have collected \$5,404.00*

The Cookie Sale to Combat World Hunger- This year, due to the pandemic they have paused the sale of cookie trays. However, the need to feed starving people in Haiti and the US has grown during the pandemic, so a collection will be taken instead. Bishop Gainer is asking all parishes to participate. St. Joseph will be participating with the collection. We are asking a \$10.00 donation to replace the cost of the \$15.00 cookie tray. Envelopes will be made available at the back of the church for your donation. *To date, we have collected \$770.00*



Administrative Housekeeping

This week, office staff mailed out two letters to parishioners, the first is to those who receive contribution envelopes, but don't regularly use. If you do not want to receive envelopes-please contact the church office.

The second letter mailed, was to families who are listed on our roster with the Diocese, but have not attended mass for a quite some time. This letter is also serving as a way to reach out to these families with the hope they return to their faith.

These efforts are being made to help with cutting parish expense and Diocesan Annual Campaign assessment.

Lottery Tickets

We are nearing the end... If you have tickets to be returned, please do so as soon as possible. 432 tickets are still out in circulation. If you have tickets unsold, thank you for continuing to help fundraise for our church. There are approximately 69 tickets in church office to be sold. *Now is your chance to get them before they are gone!*

A huge THANK YOU to the parishioners who have purchased and for those out there selling. *Your continued support is vital for our beloved church.*

Mass Intention Requests

For your convenience, mass intention envelope requests have been placed in the back of the church or you may call the church office. If you take an envelope, please fill out and place in offertory basket. A staff member will be in touch with you regarding your request. Thank you for helping cut back on foot traffic in the church office during this time.

Music Minister Wanted

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Milton PA is in need of an organist/choir director beginning January 2021. Please contact the church office for more details.