



# MASS INTENTIONS

December 20, 2020

## FOURTH 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:	\$3950.00
Religious Retirement:	\$ 656.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$ 382.00
Last Year:	\$3,859.00

The above are bank deposit amounts

### First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

King David plans to build a temple to honor God. But God tells Nathan the Prophet that instead he will give David rest from his enemies, and ensure that both his house and community will be protected forever.

### Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

In this letter of Paul to the Romans, he explains that the gospel reveals the mystery that had been hidden for many ages. Now it has been made known to all, so that they may believe, obey, and give glory through Jesus Christ forever.

### Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The Virgin Mary is approached by the angel Gabriel, who tells her that she has been chosen to bear the Son of God. Mary is first afraid, yet shows her unquestioning faith when she simply says, "Let it be done to me as you say."

### Second Collections

Dec.-Christmas Flowers  
Dec. 20- Repair & Maint.

### Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of **Gina Barnhart**, requested by Vince and Mary Emery.

- Sat. Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00 PM**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
Dorothy Riordan  
(Sharon & Ed Grove)
- Sun. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 AM**  
Joe Kruper  
(Daughter, Linda)
- 11:00 AM**  
**1-2:00PM**  
People of the Parish  
**Confessions @ Parish Center**
- Mon. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**No Mass**  
*St. Peter Canisius*  
Angela & Frank Masseria  
(Muscarella Family)  
*Father will fulfill obligation in Gettysburg.*
- Tues. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**9:00AM**  
Frank Braga  
(Mary Aliotta Family)  
*St. John of Kanty*
- Wed. Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**9:00 AM**  
Anniversary Blessings for Jim & Ruth Seksinsky (12/26)
- Thurs. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00PM**  
**Christmas Eve Vigil @ Parish Center**  
Father Hoke Intentions
- 10:00PM**  
**Christmas Eve Vigil @ Parish Church (Live Stream)**  
Father Hoke Intentions
- Fri. Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Nativity of the Lord**  
**Christmas Mass @ Parish Church**  
People of the Parish  
*Holy Day of Obligation*  
*St. Stephen*
- Sat. Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00 PM**  
Donna Konyar  
(Husband, Jim)
- Sun. Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
Catherine Buehler
- 11:00 AM**  
Rudy Muscarella  
(Muscarella Family)

From your pastor,

*Please accept this simple reflection and add to it, by your own mediation. God will provide, just recall and enjoy the peace and calm in your heart and mind.*

*Christmas is the one time of the year that we still give God a chance to touch our secular world, a world that usually has so much noise and ungodly thoughts and desires that it is often impossible for God to get our attention.*

*But now is the time, when time doesn't matter; we reach out to the past as if it was today and we long for the tomorrow of our longings to be here and now. Yesterday today and tomorrow are one, as the babe in the manger is eternal and makes all time come together.*

*Stop and think about the Christmases of the past, the thoughts will pull at your heartstrings and play a strong holy anthem in a most quiet way. It will put a smile on your face and tenderness in your heart. All that we long for in the coming year is now a meal ready to eat, already being served in our hidden inner dining room. Right now in prayerfulness and meditation, we can see and reach out to behold all that awaits us in the kingdom of the babe in a swaddling cloth in the manger.*

*Here is the beauty of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, what was one time in Bethlehem and on Calvary is now here, what will be with His second coming is here already. The eternal God, Who was and Who is and Who will be, is present in the Holy Bread of Bethlehem. Of course, for the shepherds were told to go to Bethlehem, the House of Bread to a feed box, a manger to adore the New born King of the Jews. It is what you will find at every Mass, the continuous eternal Christ-Mass, until He comes in glory.  
Be safe, be holy, be brave, for the Lord has come.*

*Fr. John D. Holbe*

## Anniversary Blessings

On December 26<sup>th</sup> Ruth and Jim Seksinsky will be celebrating their Wedding Anniversary. Happy Anniversary!

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

Jack Wasilewski	Vickie Youman
Joan Bittler	Kurt Livingston
Evelyn Young	Dr. Mike Weisner
Tresha Sudol	George Sudol
Rita Patynski	Rita Prentiss
Anna Lee Fagnano	Abram Koons
Connie Buehler	Charlotte Farrell
Jackie Rando	Marie Lindner
Harriet Moore	Vicki Howell
Donald Reigel	Ed Zerrenner
Dolores Caicco	Sister Laura
Beth Onesci	

PRAYER IS OUR WAY TO CALL UPON GOD

### Christmas Mass

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

Thursday, **December 24<sup>th</sup>** @ 10:00PM Christmas Vigil will be held at Parish Church. Please note: in compliance with the ordinance there will be no caroling this year. **Mass will be available via live stream during this Mass. Please feel free to watch at this time or on the 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Friday, **December 25<sup>th</sup>** @ 10:00AM Christmas Mass will be held at Parish Church. (A Holy Day of Obligation)

## Diocesan Annual Campaign

Thanks to the many parishioners who have completed their pledges for the DAC.

*There is yet \$4,200 in pledges left to be paid. Please see that any remaining payments are made to the Diocese prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>.*

## Christmas Giving

**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 \$6589.00***

**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 \$990.00***

## Lottery Tickets

*A few tickets remain!* If you have had tickets to sell and are unable, please return as soon as possible. We would like to get these tickets back out in circulation. Tickets will be available after each Mass until we are sold out. We will keep you posted on the progress.

## 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.

## Administrative Housekeeping

Last 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.

## Save-the-Date - Diocesan Men's Conference!

**Please mark March 20, 2021 on your calendar** for the *Annual Diocese of Harrisburg (Virtual) Men's Conference.*

**Theme: Catholic Men: Called to be Defenders of the Faith!**

**Speakers: Dr. William Donohue - President of the Catholic League, The Most Rev. Ronald Gainer, Fr. Frederick Miller, Fr. John Szada, Fr. Robert Spitzer, SJ, and Mr. Tony Devlin.**

There will also be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction led by Bishop Gainer, as well as outstanding music. This conference is one of the largest annual events in the Diocese every year. *The cost this year is just \$10 per man.* It is open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. If you are not able to watch it livestreamed on March 20, you'll still want to register since all registrants receive a link to the conference several days after its completion. Online registration will be available on the Diocesan website shortly. If you are a man in the Diocese of Harrisburg, you do not want to miss this conference! ***All registered participants may view the conference at our Parish Center Multi-Purpose room. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$10.00 per person and you need to register at the Church Office.***