



Church of the

Holy Spirit

You are welcome here!

MASSES

Saturday 4:00_{PM}
Sunday 8:30_{AM}, 11:00_{AM}
Wednesday 8:15_{AM}
Friday Communion Service
& Holidays 8:30_{AM}

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
9:30_{AM} – 3:30_{PM}

Sacraments:

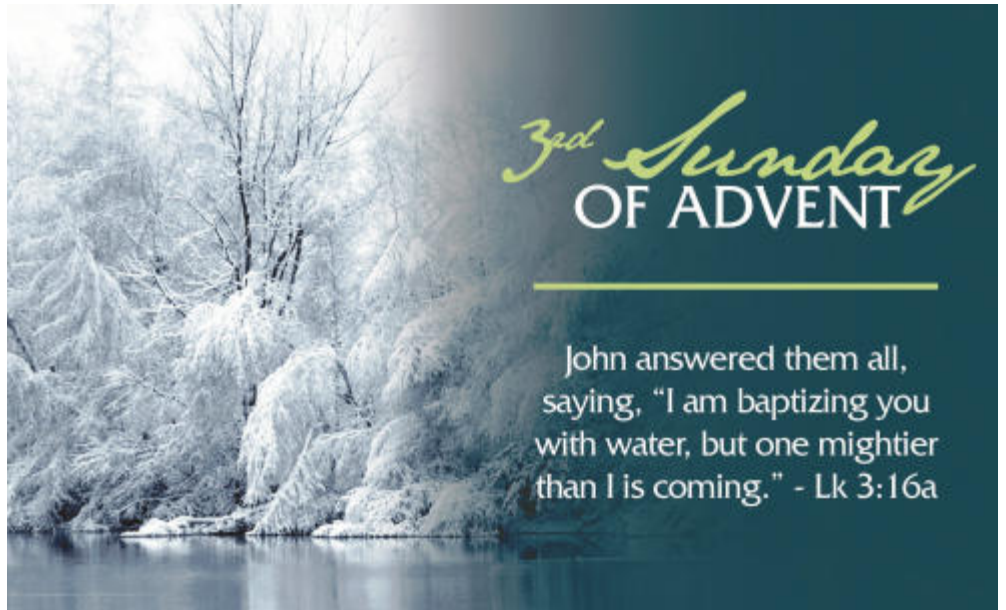
You are invited to celebrate the sacraments with us:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturday at 3:00_{PM} or by appointment.

Contact the Parish Center to arrange preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation, or Sacrament of the Sick. If you are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage, please contact the parish at least six (6) months in advance.

Pastoral Associate for Sacramental Formation Employment Opportunity...

Would you like to guide families as they prepare to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation? We invite you to join our team. This is a 10 hour a week paid position. There are no special job skills requirements, just a willingness to learn and to become a part of the LIFT team. Send your resume and letter of interest to Laura Countryman, Pastoral Associate for Lifelong Faith and Family Ministry, laura@holyspiritchurcheg.org.



A letter from your parish staff...

Gaudete Sunday has arrived. Rejoice!

In the Gospel this weekend, the crowds ask John the Baptist what they should do. He answers “Stop collecting more than what is prescribed.” What an interesting thing to say. How often do we collect more than is prescribed? We don’t have to look any further than our closets, junk drawers and attic. During Advent, we keep the church decorations simple. Maybe we need to do that in our lives. Do we also collect more than is prescribed in our calendars? Are we too busy to look at how we fill up our time and remove what is more than needed? How do you prescribe your time?

We should be looking at ourselves and our families to determine what is prescribed for us. We need to stop subscribing to what others say everyone should be doing. It’s hard to feel holy and full of joy when we are trying so hard keep up with expectations that are unrealistic or inappropriate for us.

We will begin the O Antiphons on Monday. They are songs and phrases of hope. Take some time every day to pray these ancient Antiphons. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Christmas is coming. Rejoice and Be Glad!

*Peace Be With You,
Laura, Pam and Meaghan*

Sunday's Reading: #887

Psalm Response: "Cry our with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel."

This Sunday's Gospel: Luke 3: 10 — 18

Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 1: 39 — 45

See our website for this week's daily readings:
www.holyspiritchurcheg.org

Reflection Questions for the Week

- In today's second reading St. Paul exhorts us, "Have no anxiety at all." What anxieties are you dealing with right now in your life? How might you give these anxieties over to God?
- In today's gospel people ask John the Baptist, "What should we do?" As you enter into the final nine days of Advent, what is one action you might take to serve Jesus' mission of mercy and justice?
- Are there Christmas preparations that are causing you stress and worry? Can you trade them in or let go of them in order to allow room for more joy?



Week of Sunday, December 16, 2018

Saturday 12/15—4_{PM}

John Linacre—by Shirley Conway
William Belschwinder—by Rocco & Agnes Acquilano
Francis Danner—by Carrie Miller
David Rossiter—Sheri & Sarah Coli

Sunday 12/16—8:30_{AM}

Frank & Frances Piela, Joseph, Paulina & Mary Lucas, Paul & Rose Myslow, Martin & Helen Czwakiel,
Jack & Clara McKenna, Charles & Josephine Berkham
—by Paul Piela
Nikki Hart—by the Hart family

Sunday 12/16—11:00_{AM}—For the People**Wednesday 12/19—8:15_{AM}—No Mass Today****Friday 12/21—8:30_{AM}—For our Parish****Saturday 12/22—4_{PM}**

Francis Danner—by the Danner family
Patrick Sheridan—by Joe & Mary Ann Danner

Sunday 12/23—8:30_{AM}—For the People**Sunday 12/23—11:00_{AM}**

Bernadine Blake—by Bob & Mary Kay Blake
Richard Reilly & Katherine Curran—by the Hicks family
Lawrence Fregoe—by his daughter

Changes to Weekday Services... There won't be a Mass on Wednesday, December 19th, and instead of the Communion Service at 8:30_{AM} on Friday, December 21st, there will be a Mass celebrated for the last day of school before Christmas.

Stewardship

Due to the Christmas holiday printing schedule, we will have a full report on the Offertory in next weekend's bulletin.

Are you looking for a convenient, easy to remember way to be a good steward? Look into safe and secure **Online Giving** at Holy Spirit. You may access donation forms and manage your stewardship by using our parish website at: holyspiritchurcheg.org.

"O" Antiphons... The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* Cantic 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. The 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!

—From *Catholic Household Blessings Prayer*

Prayer Lists—To add names to the prayer lists for the health of parishioners or those parishioners who are in the armed services, please call 518-477-7925 or email names to: info@holyspiritchurcheg.org.

Please Pray for the Health of... Philip Agcaoili, Sandra Battisto, Joe Belschwinder, Jennifer Bobersky, Linda Cambareri, Louise Carpentier, Catherine Coates, John Crowther, Joe DiBella, Allana DiBiasio, Chris Edwards, Fred Endres, Marilyn Hart, Pam Hellwig, Rose Helms, Mary Hoffman, Carol Langdon, Margaret Leahy, Jeff Lichiello, Daniel Lockhart, Daniel Mancino, Jeff McAuley, Carole McDowell, Joan Mineau, Zygmunt Palasz, Lynn Pupello, John Orsino, Patricia Reilly, Joan & Lou Roher, Paul Schell, Mary Lou Seger, Teena Sleasman, Jeff Werther & Mary Whitford.

Please Pray for Parishioners in the Armed Forces... James Conlon, Jason Dringus, Dan Farley, Casey Frankoski, Luke Horvath, Anthony Hunt, Davis Kakely, Arthur Murphy, Brian L. Murphy, and Erin Walraven.



Christmas is coming! Christmas is coming!!! We have four Masses scheduled for Christmas Eve (4, 6, and 8:30_{PM}) and Christmas Day (10_{AM}). We need ushers and people to take up the collection for each mass.

The sign up sheets are at both doors. It only takes 5 minutes out of each Mass. You can make this small offering of your time a Christmas gift to the parish.



Ushers Needed!!! We are still in desperate need of ushers at the 8:30_{AM} Sunday Mass. Any parishioner can assist in this ministry. Contact the Parish Office for more information, 518-477-7925.

Please remember to patronize the sponsors of our weekly bulletin. Tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin.

Best Advent Ever... Sign up now for Dynamic Catholic’s *Best Advent Ever*, a free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy season. Experience Advent in a new way—leading to the best Christmas of your life. BestAdventEver.com. Each day during Advent, you’ll receive an email with a short inspirational video, practical tips and real-life stories to encourage you on your faith journey. Last year nearly a million people participated. Join us this Advent. Be Bold. Be Catholic.



Holy Spirit Directory...

Parish Pastoral Team 518-477-7925

- Deacon Deacon Bill Dringus ... deacon1275@aol.com
- Interim Sacramental Minister Fr. John Bradley
- Interim Administrator Gail Moore
- Family Ministry & Lifelong Faith Formation (LIFT)
 - Laura Countryman laura@holyspiritchurcheg.org
 - Meaghan Rossbach .. meaghan@holyspiritchurcheg.org
- Music Ministry
 - Tim Dowling tim@holyspiritchurcheg.org
- Secretary Pam Bennett .. info@holyspiritchurcheg.org
- Maintenance Services Paul Weidman

Holy Spirit School (PreK3-Grade 8)

- School Office, 54 Highland Drive 518-477-5739
- Email hsoffice@hsseg.org
- Michael Kosar, Principal principal@hsseg.com

Upcoming Events...

Date	Occasion	Time	Place
We 12/19	Christmas Choir Rehearsal	7 _{PM}	Church
Su 12/23	Greening of the Church	1 _{PM}	Church
Mo 12/24	Christmas Eve	Offices	Closed
Tu 12/25	Christmas Day	Offices	Closed
Mo 12/31	New Year’s Eve	Offices	Closed
Tu 1/1	New Year’s Day	Offices	Closed

Weekly Events...

- The Rosary—Tuesdays at 11_{AM} in the Church.
- Bible Study—Wednesdays at 10:30_{AM} in the Church.
- Choir Practice—1st Wednesday at 7_{PM} in the Church.

Parish Members... are available for you to contact, or you can call the parish office 518-477-7925.

Deacon Bill Dringus: deacon1275@aol.com

Parish Council:

- Kevin Haggerty: 518-378-5426 or khaggerty@flexelectric.com
- Amy Boel: 518-296-1524 or aanddboel@gmail.com
- Frank Puttalaz: 518-477-4412 or solarstamps@aol.com
- Ellen Murphy: 518-479-7217 or ebmurphy@gmail.com

Finance Committee:

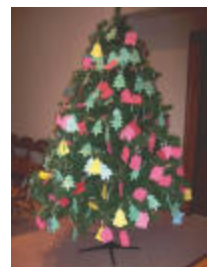
Steve Wiech: 518-477-5351 or steve_wiech@msn.com

Trustees:

- Rick Hannmann: rhanmann7@gmail.com
- Matt Heitker: heitkergm@acm.org

THE Advent Giving Tree...

Tags must be attached to an **unwrapped, unopened** gift and placed under the tree by **noon** on Sunday, December 16th. The CoNSERNS-U Christmas store will open on Monday, December 17th.





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