



## OUR MISSION

**St. Vincent de Paul Parish is a welcoming faith community inspired by God's love to serve others, share our gifts, and nurture souls.**

**Pastor : Rev. John B. Boyle**

**Pastors Emeriti: Msgr. William P. Ward, Rev. Paul Mullen**

**Permanent Deacon: Joseph LaCorte**

**Deacons Emeriti: Joseph D'Aiello; Brian Drury**

### MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a Spirit-filled community of welcoming believers, helping each other spiritually, financially and practically. We show compassion, gratitude and appreciation toward God and one another as we dream big, spread joy, and share our tears and laughter.*

*To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are friendless and need friendship; to all who are discouraged and need hope; to all who are homeless and need sheltering love; to all who sin and need a Savior; and to whomsoever will, the Parish of St. Vincent de Paul opens wide its doors in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!*

### Parish Contacts

Office Phone 570-686-4545

Fax 1-800-565-1762

Office email: [stvoff@ptd.net](mailto:stvoff@ptd.net)

Pastor's email: [stvfrjb@ptd.net](mailto:stvfrjb@ptd.net)

101 St. Vincent Drive Milford, PA  
18337

Administrative Assistant - Laura Willson

Financial Secretary - Jo-Ann Fay

Majordomo - Lorraine Schmidt

Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds -

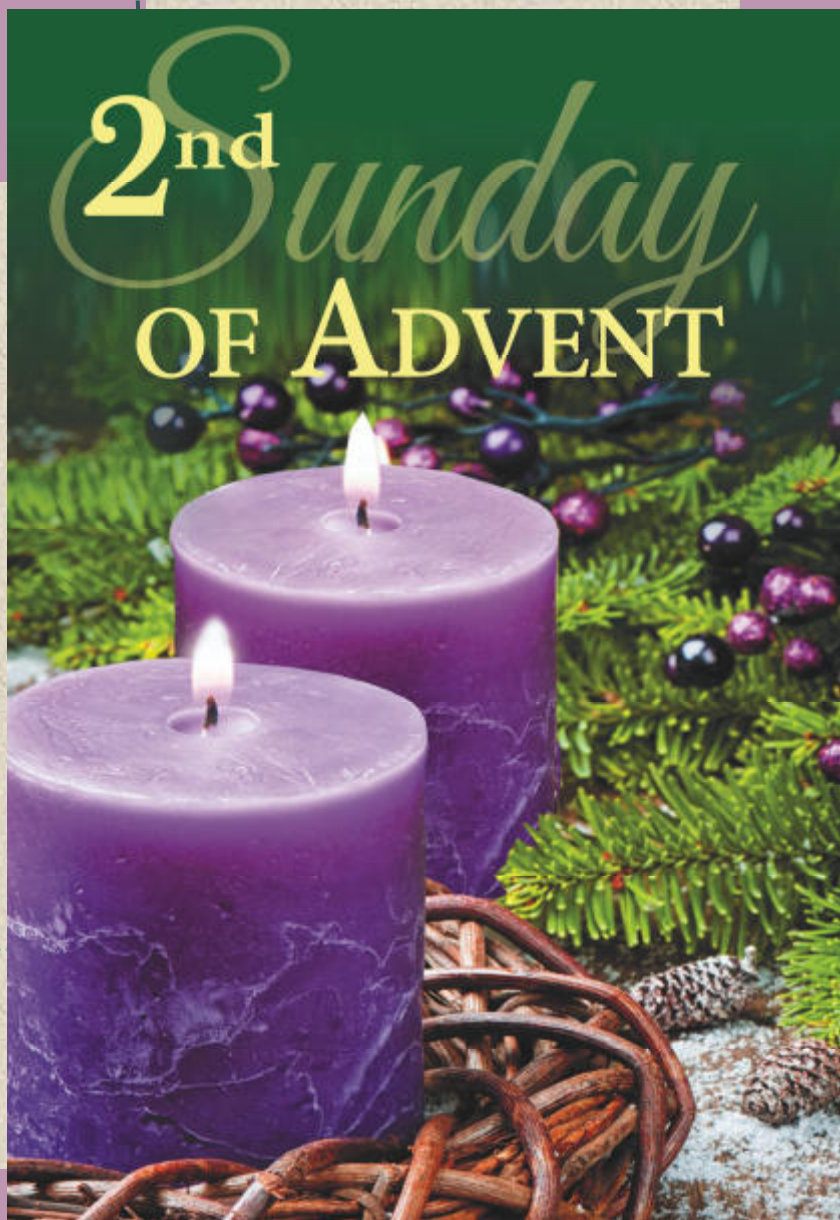
James Chiarello

Security - Shiloh, Kolbe, & Micah

Directors of Faith Formation -

Deacon Joe LaCorte

Laura Willson



**DECEMBER 6, 2020**

# THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, December 6, 2020  
8:30 a.m. - **JIM DUFFY**  
Fred Seidler

11:15 a.m. - **FOR ALL PARISHIONERS**

MONDAY, December 7, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - **HARMON MASKER**  
Ed & Marie Biel

TUESDAY, December 8, 2020  
9:00 a.m. - **FOR ALL PARISHIONERS**

WEDNESDAY, December 9, 2020  
9:00a.m. - **HERBERT HILL**  
Douglas & Kelly Courtney

THURSDAY, December 10, 2020 -  
9:00a.m. **NO MASS**

FRIDAY, December 11, 2020  
**LONNIE HAWKE**  
Pat Collins

SATURDAY, December 12, 2020  
4:00 p.m. **CAROLINE BRESTER**  
Kathy Eckert

SUNDAY, December 13, 2020  
8:30 a.m. - **FOR ALL PARISHIONERS**

11:15 a.m. - **HARMON MASKER/**  
The Luscik Family

PREPARE

THE WAY OF

THE LORD!

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2020

In 2 Kings, we find Elijah, one of the most important figures in the Hebrew Scriptures, clothed in the traditional garb of a prophet, a garment of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist. Because 2 Kings 9 tells us that God took Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, some of the Jewish people believed God was saving Elijah for a special mission and that one-day God would send him back to the earth to prepare the way for the messiah.

The author of Mark's Gospel begins today's reading by quoting a passage from the prophet Isaiah that the Jews often understood as referring to Elijah's return and he also informs us that John the Baptizer dressed the same way Elijah dressed. In the subtle way, the author tells us that John the Baptizer fulfilled the role of Elijah. He was the one God sent to prepare the way for Jesus, the messiah.

In the first sentence of the first chapter of Mark, the evangelist calls his work a Gospel about Jesus, who is both the Christ and the Son of God. The word "gospel" means "good news," and Mark is the only one of the four evangelists to refer his writing in this way.

The word "Christ" means "Anointed One," a title the Jews used for the messiah. This reference to Jesus' being both the Christ and the Son of God indicates the Gospel is not an unbiased account of the life and times of Jesus of Nazareth. It is clear that Mark is a person of faith who wants to share that faith with others. This type of writing is called "salvation history," a term biblical scholars use to describe an account of how God is working in the world.

*Continued on page 3*

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUN  
12/6

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/  
Ps 85:9-10, 11-12,  
13-14 [8]/2 Pt  
3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

MON  
12/7

Is 35:1-10/Ps  
85:9ab and 10,  
11-12, 13-14 [Is  
35:4f]/Lk 5:17

TUES  
12/8

Gn 3:9-15, 20/  
Ps 98:1, 2-3ab,  
3cd-4 [1]/Eph  
1:3-6, 11-12/Lk

WED  
12/9

Is 40:25-31/Ps  
103:1-2, 3-4, 8  
and 10 [1]/Mt  
11:28-30

THURS  
12/10

Is 41:13-20/Ps  
145:1 and 9, 10-  
11, 12-13ab [8]/  
Mt 11:11-15

FRI  
12/11

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:  
-2, 3, 4 and 6  
[Cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt  
11:16-19

SAT  
12/12

Zec 2:14-17 or  
Rv 11:19a; 12:1-  
6a, 10ab/Jdt  
13:18bcde,

SUN  
12/13

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/  
Lk 1:46-48, 49-  
50, 51-54 [Is  
61:10b]/1

# PASTOR'S CORNER -Continued

December 6, 2020

03

Second Sunday in Advent - B

Finally, some Jewish people went to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. For many Jews, baptism was a sign of sorrow for one's sins and an indication the person would try harder not to offend God. It was not a requirement for being a member of the Jewish faith.

During Advent, the Scripture readings remind us to prepare for Jesus' coming. We are not awaiting the appearance of a baby in a manger, but rather, an adult Jesus who has been victorious over sin and death. If Jesus came for you right now, would you be ready? What can you do this Advent to get ready?

## ***O Come, All Ye Faithful: Christmas 2020***

### **Reservations required to maximize seating**

*Normally at Christmas, we have our church packed with parishioners and friends to worship at our Masses. However, these times are not normal! To accommodate as many people as we can this Christmas but still maintain safety protocols. St. Vincent de Paul Parish will have two Masses on Christmas Eve (4:00 PM & 7:00 PM). The Christmas Eve Masses at 4:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. will be livestreamed into our Parish Hall, where overflow seating and Holy Communion will be available. The Mass on Christmas Day will be celebrated at 11:15 A.M.*

*We will use a reservation system like the one we use during our non-holiday periods. Reservations are on a "First Come - First Served" basis.*

*The Church proper will be seated first; the Chapel will be seated next and then the Parish Hall will host the overflow of worshippers. The Parish Hall will have the Masses broadcast "live" (livestreamed) and Holy Communion will be distributed.*

*We will begin to accept reservations on Monday, December 7, 2020. Reservations can be made on line via our webpage and by calling the Parish Office during regular Office Hours.*

*Of course, the Mass will be available on You-Tube and Facebook for those who wish to celebrate Christ's birth at home.*

*The Dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for persons with health reasons or concerns remains in effect for all in the Diocese of Scranton, until further notice. Because of this, those wishing to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion can do so by attending any Mass any day of the week - except Thursdays - at 9:00 A.M.*



***Virtual Christmas Giving Tree:*** while we aren't offering the sharing tree as we had in the past, we are offering a virtual sharing endeavor: For those who would like to participate, gift cards and/or sponsoring a family are available through the parish office. We will be helping local families in need with Amazon, Target, Walmart, HomeGoods, TJMaxx, Marshalls gift cards. Contact the parish office if you wish to purchase these specific cards to help these local families. 570-686-4545

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## The Path

God of power and might,  
you sent the prophets Elijah, Isaiah, and John the Baptist  
to call your people to the path of righteousness.  
When we wander off,  
you seek us out and lead us back.  
Guide us onto the right path.  
Remove the obstacles that block our way.  
Strengthen us to continue forward in faith and hope.  
Protect us from all that endangers us.  
Compel us to support each other when we stumble or falter.  
Help us to walk the path of holiness more quickly every day  
until we are running with joy into your kingdom.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
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## **Sunday, December 6, 2020 - Hasten the Day**

*Today's Readings: Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11; Psalm 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14; 2 Peter 3:8–14; Mark 1:1–8.* All three readings today urge us to participate in the completion of God's reign. God tells Isaiah to speak words of consolation. God's people had sinned, and as a result they had been defeated by a foreign nation and scattered from their homeland. God declares that he has forgiven them and is bringing them safely back. The glorious restoration of God's people, however, will only be possible if they turn back to God and undertake the journey home.

John the Baptist declares that the Lord's day is coming whether people want it to or not, but he also insists that people can prepare themselves for it. They can acknowledge their sins so as to receive God's mercy and be empowered by God's Spirit when the Lord comes.

Remarkably, in our Second Reading, we are told not only to prepare, but that by striving to live as holy, faithful people, we bring God's kingdom closer to completion. For those who wonder why Christ has not yet returned in glory, St. Peter replies that God is giving us time to repent. The more quickly we allow God's Spirit to work within us, the sooner God will transform our world. We depend on God for "new heavens and a new earth," but when God sees that we are preparing ourselves and helping others to prepare for this transformation, he will hasten the day of his Son's return.

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## **This Week at Home**

### **Monday, December 7 - St. Ambrose of Milan**

God will heal his people of all that afflicts them so that they will return to their homeland and begin their lives anew. The man whom Jesus heals in the Gospel passage is also given a new life. How will we live differently when we encounter God's healing and mercy? St. Ambrose's life changed dramatically when the people of Milan asked him to become their bishop. He wasn't even baptized, but he accepted the new path that God laid out for him. May we do the same. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11–12, 13–4; Luke 5:17–26.* © 2020 Liturgy Training Publications. 800-933-1800. Written by Edrienne Ezell. Permission to publish granted by the Archdiocese of Chicago on April 10, 2020.

(continued on page 7)

# LITURGICAL LIFE & STEWARDSHIP LIFE

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05

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## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

### Mass Schedule - Reservations Required

**Saturday: 4:00pm**

**Sunday: 8:30am & 11:15am**

**Daily Mass: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri  
9:00am in Chapel**

### Parish Office Hours:

**Monday & Tuesday 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday & Friday 9:00a.m. - 12:00 noon**

**Emergency situations will be handled on an  
"as needed basis"**

### Sacramental Information:

#### Reconciliation

**Mondays—7:00 p.m. Held in Chapel  
each week with parishioners to wait  
outside Parish Office door until it is your  
turn. Masks are required.**

#### Sacrament of Baptism

**Parents/legal guardians are to call  
Parish Office to schedule preparation.  
Baptism preparatory classes are held in  
the Resource Center the second  
Thursday of each month. Baptisms will  
be private ceremonies and need to be  
scheduled.**

#### Sacrament of Marriage

**If you are thinking about marriage in  
the next 6 months, it is time to contact  
the Parish Office. After speaking with  
the Office, you need to register for a  
Diocesan Pre-Cana session. Visit the  
diocesan website to find more details:  
[https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/  
parish-life/community/marriage/  
marriage-preparation](https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/parish-life/community/marriage/marriage-preparation)**

#### Anointing of the Sick

**As an aid to comfort and strengthen the  
sick, the sacrament is administered to  
those advanced in years, those  
preparing for surgery, and those in  
danger of death. Contact the Parish  
Office to make arrangements.**



## STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



**Weis receipts are still being accepted  
from the LORDS VALLEY Weis ONLY.**

Because this beneficial program was started by Mr. Z's supermarket and then continued by the Lords Valley Weis, only those receipts are acceptable to turn in. The new Weis in Dingmans Ferry does not participate in the program, thus we cannot use those receipts. Thank you.



**FAITH FORMATION FAMILIES &  
PARISHIONERS - CHRISTMAS TREE  
LIGHTING, CAROLES AND ORNAMENT  
EVENT** - You can pick up DIY ornaments from outside

the parish office to create and decorate them at home and bring them back on **Sat. Dec 12** to hang at our Christmas Tree Lighting event outside Church **AFTER the 4p.m. Mass.** We will be singing Christmas carols too!



**Online Liturgy of the Word for Children** - each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. - a Zoom video conference. Sign up on website to receive the meeting invite. Please check website for more information.



**You can watch our weekend Mass** from the comforts of your home. See our Webpage on Saturday evenings to click on link for our videotaped Mass. Reminds are also sent out with the link.



**Reconnect with Fellow Parishioners** - St. Vincent's is offering a weekly virtual coffee hour on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. Learn more on our web site



**LOAVES and FISHES GIFT CARDS** - available in the Parish Office. Please call office to relay your requests so we can have them ready for you. Updated list is on our website of cards available.

# PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS

## Daily Mass Schedule During Inclement Weather:

For the safety and consideration of all involved we will observe the following during inclement winter weather: ***If the Delaware Valley School System cancels school due to snow or ice or other weather issues, Daily Mass will be cancelled. These masses will be rescheduled at a future date.***

If DVSD delays the opening of school due to snow, ice or other weather related issues the time the time of the Daily Mass will be delayed as well. ***Therefore, if DVSD issues a 2 hour delay, Mass will be delayed 2 hours - hence Mass would begin at 11:00a.m.***

If DVSD schools dismiss **EARLY** due to inclement weather, there will be **NO AFTERNOON OR EVENING ACTIVITIES AT ST. VINCENT'S.**

**This Inclement Weather Mass Schedule does not apply to Saturday and Sunday Masses.**

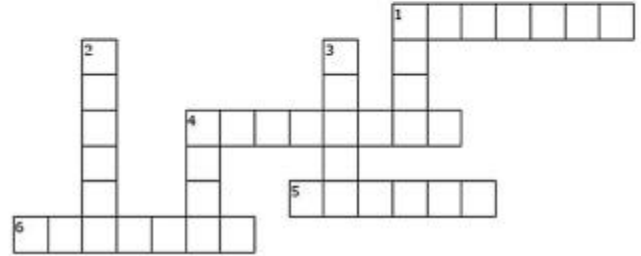
I hope that everyone would consider their safety and safety of others when inclement weather occurs on Saturday or Sunday! The Lord does not want you to kill yourself or others by driving when the roads are treacherous. If He desires you in heaven, he will call you His way! **It is important to check with the radio, TV or computer announcements for delays or cancellations due to inclement weather.**

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**An important request as we enter cold and flu season....if you are experiencing any type of communicable illness, please stay safe and stay home.**

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Preparing the Way

"A voice calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Mark 1:3  
 Puzzle is based on Mark 1:1-8



#### ACROSS

- To make ready ahead of time
- Not having any curves or bends
- A dry, barren region with only a few plants
- To admit your sins to God

#### DOWN

- A trail made for traveling on foot
- The river where John baptized people
- What people use for speaking
- Actions that break God's law

|        |         |      |          |
|--------|---------|------|----------|
| VOICE  | PREPARE | SINS | STRAIGHT |
| JORDAN | DESERT  | PATH | CONFESS  |

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## BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to our parishioners born December 6 - December 12  
**If you see these people, wish them a very Happy Birthday!**

- Julie Mingalone, George Barbier,  
 Andrea Bray, Camden Chamberlain,  
 Nancy Bernard, Ethan Collinworth,  
 Susan Mazza, Barbara Zappile, Chenoa Sanabria-Quiros, William Uhl,  
 James Stevens, Raymond Stromberg

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### PIEROGIES ON SALE

A variety of pierogies are available for purchase after Masses outside Church beginning Dec. 5 and 6th. Potato & Cheese, Cheddar, Sweet Cheese, Spinach & Feta, Sauerkraut, Mushroom, Potato & Onion, Blueberry available.

# SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT Meditations for the week

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**DAILY MEDITATIONS continued from page 3**

## **Tuesday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception**

Our belief that God kept Mary free from sin in order to bear the sinless Son of God sets Mary apart from us. For some, Mary is too perfect to be relatable. The Second Reading reminds us that God planned for all of us to be holy. God overshadows us with his Spirit so that we, too, will live according to his will. Carefully read through today's Gospel. Then imagine the angel Gabriel appearing to you. What does God ask of you? How do you respond? *Today's Readings: Genesis 3:9–20; Psalm 98:1–4; Ephesians 1:3–6; 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.*

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## **Wednesday, December 9 - Yoked**

When Jesus urges us to yoke ourselves to him, we might think we are the oxen and he is walking behind us, steering us. Instead, he probably means that he is yoked alongside us, sharing the weight of whatever we are pulling. As we hear in the First Reading, God so lightens our burdens and strengthens us that we seem to have wings. Every few hours, imagine Jesus walking beside you, listening and supporting you. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28–30.*

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## **Thursday, December 10 - Obstacles**

God tells his people that they will cut through the mountains that block their path as they return home after being scattered by war. This time of renewal points ahead to the kingdom that Jesus brings. Those who strive to enter God's kingdom will also face obstacles, but their faithful perseverance will bring them into the fullness of God's reign. Offer people a glimpse of God's kingdom by volunteering at or donating to a local food pantry. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 41:13–20; Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Matthew 11:11–15.*

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## **Friday, December 11 - Wisdom**

In the Old Testament, God's wisdom is personified as Lady Wisdom. She dwells among people, teaches them, and draws them down the path of righteousness. Jesus both teaches and embodies God's wisdom. Despite the crowd's refusal to believe it, Jesus is doing the work of God. He remains with us today, guiding us down the path of righteousness. The Book of Proverbs 10–29 is a collection of wise sayings. Choose several that apply to you, and bring them into your prayer. *Today's Readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–6; Matthew 11:16–19.*

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## **Saturday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe**

The angel greeted Mary by calling her "favored one." This term implied that Mary had a patron who had commissioned her for some kind of work. Since Mary was a young woman from an insignificant village and God was her patron, she was understandably worried about what she could do for God. As it turned out, she could do a great deal. Just as God favored her, so she revealed God's favor to others, such as the indigenous people of Mexico. What do you need Our Lady of Guadalupe to reveal to you? *Today's Readings: Zechariah 2:14–17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26–38 or Luke 1:39–47.*

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