

2

PREPARE

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

AT EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD PARISH

337-2686 • Fax: 337-0028 • www.epiphanyrc.com

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Community



Mass Intentions

For the Week of December 9th
(C) Church (R) Rectory Chapel

Sat, Dec. 8th: *Vigil of Second Sunday in Advent*

4:00pm (C) +Joan Crance
By Mike and Mary Gattie

Sunday, Dec. 9th: *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:30am (C) +Jim Schmitz
By Norman Smith
11:00am (C) +Phyllis Schmitz
By Don Dole and Mary

Monday, Dec. 10th: *Advent Weekday*

8:30am (R) +All Souls
By Parish All Souls Intentions

Tuesday, Dec. 11th: *Advent Weekday*

8:30am (R) +Lucille DiBlasi
By Mary Gattie

Wednesday, Dec. 12th: *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

8:30am (R) All Epiphany of Our Lord Parishioners
By Father Mitch Byeck

Thursday, Dec. 13th: *Saint Lucy*

8:30am (R) +Lucille DiBlasi
By The Mead Family

Friday, Dec. 14th: *Saint John of the Cross*

8:30am (R) +Marion Kern
By Family and Friends

Sat, Dec. 15th: *Vigil of Third Sunday of Advent*

4:00pm (C) +Digger Gernatt
By Allen J. Schmitt

Sunday, Dec. 16th: *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:30am (C) +Dorothy Hoffman
By Ken & Lynn Bushardt
11:00am (C) +Otto Werneth
By Hilde Werneth



The Sanctuary Candles are lit this week for Howard Dole's Birthday Remembrance as requested by Pete and Cindy Renaldo.

Readings for the Week of December 9th

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9, Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sun: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Please contact the Parish Office if you know that you are going to be out of town and unable to serve at upcoming Masses.

Ministry Schedule	Dec 15th 4pm	Dec 16th 8:30am	Dec 16th 11:00am
EMOHC	Janet Eimiller Joe Cardamone Mary Ellen Skora	Andre and Ginny Kowal Colleen Hornberger	Dan Szelewski Peg Siegle Kathy Zureck
Lectors	Mary Richmond Sylvia Michalski	Sydney Piniewski Robin Hohman	Molly Kruszka Toni Wittmeyer
Altar serv.	Scott Pfeifer	Allison Gabel	Ryan and Brianna Kruszka
Greeters	Dave and Cindy Kohn	Joyce Schmitz Peg Sessanna	Mary Strickfaden Dorothy Bracikowski

Compassion Ministry

To place someone on the prayer list, please complete and return a card available at the entrances of the church, or call the rectory. Individuals will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise. *If you have a loved one on our list and they pass away, please let the parish office know.*

Pat Allan, Lena Anzalone, Elaine Bauer, Linda Bettinger, Kathy Bley, Ernest Bracikowski, Kaitlyn Bunn, Mary Jane Butzer, Theresa Butzer, Chris Carnell, Joey Crocker, Paula Czora, Evelyn Dole, Norie Donhauser, Knoah Duggan, John Duggan, Otto Duggan, Suzanne Duggan, Sheila Dytschkowskij Diane Enser, Ron Enser, Sharon Fry, Baby Sam Gabel, Eddie Gabel, Dean Gallaway, Marion Gamel, James Gardner, Art Gematt, Jenny Gernatt, Joseph "Duffer" Gernatt, Mark Grugel, Ron Hintz, Bob Holbrook, Jeanne Hutchings, Bee Jenson, Dennis Jensen, Dolores Kirst, Fran Kohn, Barbara Korthals, Daniel Kozub, Tom and Sue Kruse, Sara Mackey Dunn, Diane May, Loretta McDonald, Mary Meyer, Donna Motak, Millie Muehlbauer, Marty Niefergold, Jean Ott, Holly Pearce, Clark Phillips, Pat Ricotta, Ron Schmitt Sr., Don Schmitz, Wilfred Sion, Kathy Smith, Werner Stang, Danielle Stark, Lorraine Stark, Bonnie Tanner, Joan Tartick, Leo Tartick Sr., John and Laura Thiel, David Timmons, Gary Wentland, Loretta Winkelman, John Witkowski.

This Weekend's Second Collection

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little to no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.



Regular Sunday Collection: \$3598.50

Loose Collection: \$324.50

Number of Regular Offering Envelopes: 112

Average Donation: \$29.23

Mass Intentions for 2019 may now be scheduled!

To schedule a mass please contact the parish office! A

Mass is a sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, brought forward in time to the present. At Mass you could say that a "time warp" is opened in which the sacrifice of Jesus is mystically brought forward to be present to us. When we are present at a celebration of the Eucharist, we are not merely turning our attention to the past, we are actually bringing forward into the present the most pivotal moment of human history. Masses can be offered for a number of intentions: for the deceased, to invoke the Lord's special graces for a friend or loved one, for a successful surgery and recovery, or for an anniversary. A \$15 donation is asked for each Mass requested.

Sanctuary Candle requests can also be placed. A \$10 donation is asked per week requested.



Family Faith Formation News

December Class Dates

- Dec. 9th– CGS and Y-Disciple
- Dec. 10th– CGS 2
- Dec. 16th– CGS & Y-Disciple
- Dec. 17th– CGS 2
- Dec 23rd– JOY Rosary Musical 12:15pm-2pm

FAITH FORMATION



Please be an “Epiphany Christmas Angel” again this year by taking one or more tags from the tree at the rear of the Church and return the requested items to the back of Church, in a gift bag with the tag attached **no later than December 16th!** Thank you for all the gifts for the Angel Tree!

In addition to families, we also support the Tri-County Crisis Pregnancy Center. They have a “wish list” that is more like the food pantry than individual gifts. If you would like to donate something, they have the following needs. If you would like to give a Walmart gift card (put in an envelope marked Pregnancy Center), it will be applied to the purchase of high chairs, swings, walkers, and baby gates. Your support is greatly appreciated:

Please put unwrapped items under the tree. Diapers sizes 2, 3, and 4, Pull Ups, Training Pants Baby Wash, Baby Lotion, Wipes, 8oz Bottles, Enfamil Formula, Toddler Gloves and Hats, Receiving Blankets Mom Products: Pads, Tampons, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, hair care products.

Christmas Flower Sale

Order Envelopes are available in the back of Church, and at the side door, to order Poinsettias for Christmas. Orders need to be returned to the Office (or in the collection basket) by **Monday, December 10th at noon. You can also call the Parish Office to place your order on Monday December 10th.**



Christmas Card Blessings

We invite you to bring your, addressed and postage stamped Christmas Cards to Mass with you and place them on the Offertory table (back of church on the right hand side). A label will be placed on them saying that they were blessed at Epiphany. They will be mailed out for you on the following Monday!



Oplatek- “Polish Christmas Wafer”

Sharing of the oplatek (pronounced opwatek) is the most ancient and beloved of all Polish Christmas traditions. Oplatek is a thin wafer made of flour and water, similar in taste to the hosts that are used for communion during Mass. The Christmas wafer is shared before Wigilia, the Christmas Eve supper. The head of the household usually starts by breaking the wafer with his wife and then continues to share it with everyone at the Wigilia table. Wishes for peace and prosperity are exchanged and even the pets and farm animals are given a piece of oplatek on Christmas Eve.

Oplatek is available for a donation in the back of Church.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- ♦ **Sat. Dec. 8th:** Round and Square Dance 7:30pm-10:30pm
- ♦ **Mon. Dec. 17th:** Anointing Mass in Rectory Chapel 6:30pm

Make the Most of Advent

Every Christmas is a chance to welcome Jesus as an honored guest into our hearts. Think of all the planning, cooking, and cleaning needed to have a guest over. In Advent we prepare our hearts to welcome the Savior. Here are some ways to make the most of your Advent:

Know the story. Read through the accounts of Jesus’ birth in Matthew 1:18-2:12 and/or Luke 2:1-20. Place yourself in the scene. Internalizing the Christmas story will give you a better appreciation of the season.

Form an “Advent habit.” Advent is a great time to start a holy habit. Maybe it’s replacing negative comments with positive ones, or getting up ten minutes earlier to pray. See if you can keep up your “Advent habits” through the Christmas season.

Set our the Nativity Scene— slowly. The custom of displaying the Nativity Scene was begun by St. Francis of Assisi to illustrate the simplicity of the Incarnation. On the first Sunday of Advent, set out the stable and the empty manger. As the weeks go by, add characters. Wait until Christmas morning to place Jesus in the manger.

Additional Confession Times During Advent

Fr. Mitch will be available in the Confessions during the following times, and as always by appointment.

- Thursday December 6th—1pm to 2pm
- Friday December 7th—6:15pm to 6:45pm
- Thursday December 13th—1pm to 2pm
- Friday December 14th—7pm to 8pm
- Thursday December 20th—1pm to 2pm
- Friday December 21st—7pm to 8pm

Confessions are also available 30 minutes before weekend masses.

Church Decorating

Please Join us next Sunday, December 16th after the 11am Mass as we decorate the Church for the Christmas Season!

This year’s we especially need help with bringing the beautiful Tree into the Church, but as always any and all help is welcome!

Around the Area

Mass honoring St. Lucy, patron saint of those with vision difficulties, will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 9am at St. Bernadett Church, 5930 S. Abbott Rd. Orchard Park. St. Lucy was martyred after a disappointed suitor accused her of being a Christian. She was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. Her name is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer, geographical places are named after her, a popular song has her name as its title. She is the patron saint of those with blindness and diseases of the eyes. A light reception will follow Mass.

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