



# DIVINE WORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Eagle Road • Kirtland, Ohio 44094

Parish Office Phone: 440-256-1412

Fax Number: 440-379-7491

Parish Website: [www.divinewordkirtland.org](http://www.divinewordkirtland.org)

***Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13th, 2020***

Shari Allwood

*Business Manager*

Reverend Jim Caddy

*Retired Priest in Residence*

Dee Germano

*Bookkeeper/Membership Coordinator*

Deacon John Grazia

*Deacon*

Becky Harper

*Music Director*

Debbie Lokar

*Pastoral Associate*

Taylor Long

*Youth Minister*

Helen Petruziello

*Parish Secretary*

Gina Rensi

*Director of Religious Education*

Rachel Scott

*Bulletin Editor/DRE Admin. Assistant*

Reverend Mr. Carl Varga

*Deacon/Pastoral Associate*

Jonathan Withrow

*Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*

Reverend Dave Woost

*Pastor*

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM

Saturday Evening Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

**Rosary:** Monday through Friday: 8:00 AM

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday from  
3:30–4:15 PM or anytime by appointment.

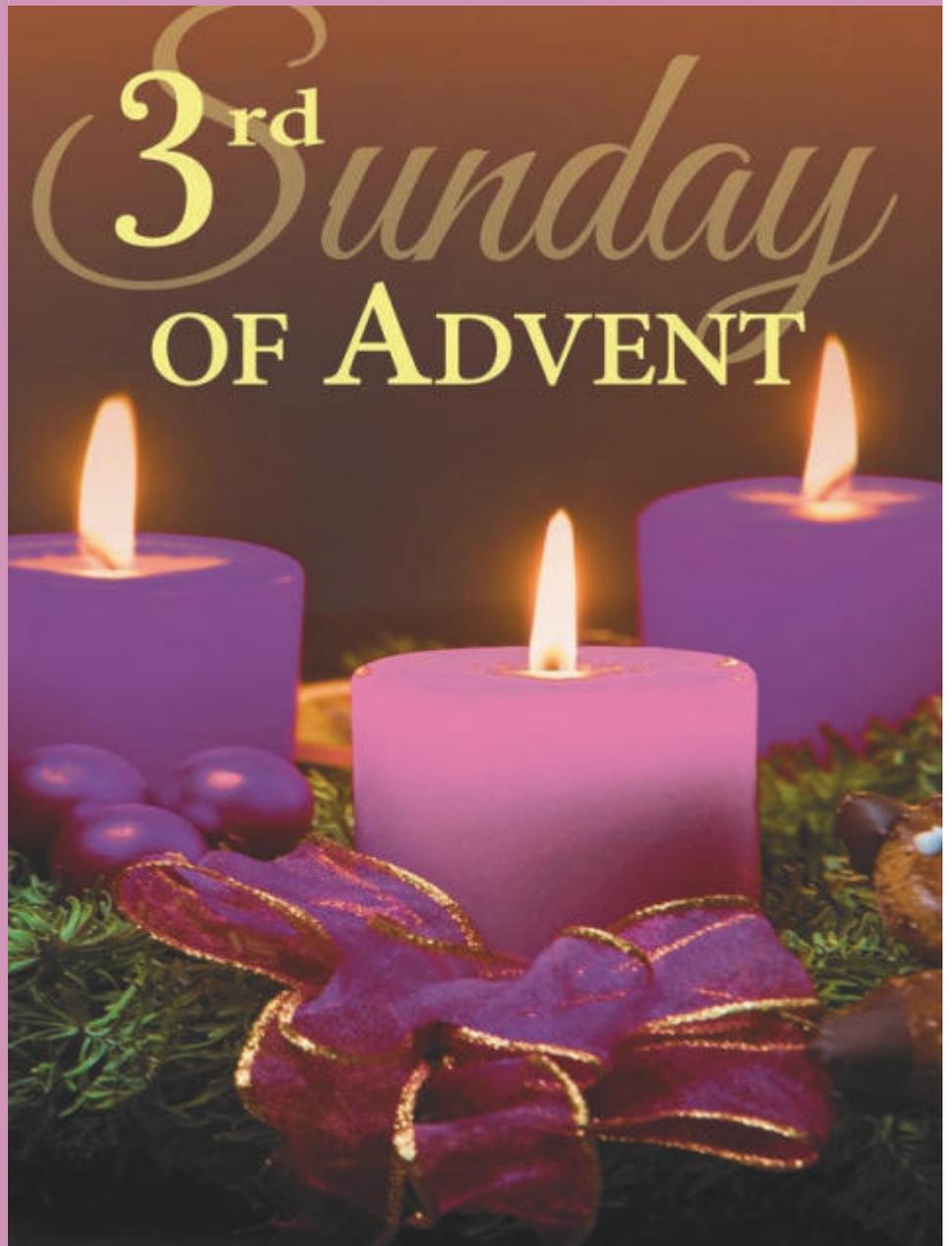
**BAPTISM:** Arrangements are to be made  
in advance. Parent Baptismal Class and  
Sponsor's Certificate are required.  
Please call the Parish Office to register.

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements must be  
made at least 6 months before the wedding.  
**Please contact the Parish Office before  
you set your date or reserve your hall.**

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday–Friday 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Closed Saturday & Sunday



## Mass Intentions & Readings for the Week

## Anniversary

<b>MONDAY</b> <b>DEC 14</b>	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church (NM 24: 2-7, 15-17; MT 21:23-27) 8:30 AM + Leon Radej	Jeffrey Munitz, Winkie Somnitz
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>DEC 15</b>	Advent Weekday (ZEP 3: 1-2, 9-13; MT 21: 28-32) 8:30 AM + Joseph P. Burke	Barbara Anker-Mariano
<b>WED.</b> <b>DEC 16</b>	Advent Weekday (IS 45: 6-8, 18, 21-25; LK 7: 18-23) 8:30 AM + Anton Zupancic	Angelo Bensi, Nancy Bieniek, Robert Butcher, Fran Kravos, Sue Mog, Ed Nye, Sr.
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>DEC 17</b>	Late Advent Weekday (GN 49: 2, 8-10; MT 1: 1-17) 8:30 AM + Michael Sussen	
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>DEC 18</b>	Late Advent Weekday (JER 23: 5-8; MT 1: 18-25) 8:30 AM + Alexandra Klodetsky	Sam Arcoria, Patricia Roche
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>DEC 19</b>	Late Advent Weekday (JGS 13: 2-7, 24-25; LK 1: 5-25) 4:30 PM + Carolann Leskovec	Emil Jerse, Ann Rolesavage, Faith Spackman, Joseph Vascek
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>DEC 20</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent (2 SM 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; ROM 16: 25-27; LK 1: 26-38 ) 8:30 AM + Maria Leben 11:00 AM + Greg Morse and Pompei Cusmai	Eugenia Isaksen, Paul Spann

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY, DEC 13

8:30 AM Mass-Livestreamed  
11:00 AM Mass

### MONDAY, DEC 14

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Adoration  
1:30 PM Divine Mercy Cenacle via Zoom  
6:00 PM Cancer Support Group via Zoom  
7:00 PM Confessions

### TUESDAY, DEC 15

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
7:00 PM Spiritual Life COVID Committee via Zoom

### WEDNESDAY, DEC 16

8:00 AM Avilas followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
6:00 PM Advent Scripture Study via Zoom  
7:00 PM Pen Pal Ministry Training via Zoom

### THURSDAY, DEC 17

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

### FRIDAY, DEC 18

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass

### SATURDAY, DEC 19

4:30 PM Mass

### SUNDAY, DEC 20

8:30 AM Mass-Livestreamed  
11:00 AM Mass



## Q A

### Are Catholics obligated to attend Mass each Sunday, or receive Communion each Sunday?

The questions about Mass attendance and the reception of Holy Communion are clearly outlined in what are traditionally called the "Precepts" of the Church. These specific teachings are intended to stand alongside the Ten Commandments as fundamental practices for Catholics and are outlined in the *Code of Canon Law*. The obligations related to Mass attendance and receiving Communion are outlined in the first and third precepts, which we find quoted in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (no. 6486):

The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days.

The third precept ("You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season") guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy.

Rather than seeing these as obligations that are simply to be fulfilled out of a sense of duty, Pope Saint John Paul II reminds us of the grace that is made available to us when we gather for Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist: "Sunday is the day which is at the very heart of the Christian life... Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human" (*Dies Domini*, no. 7).

©LPi



*This week's message from Fr. Dave....*

John the Baptist had his own following. People were moved by his words and his passion. Herod even had a curiosity about John. John could have easily used this as his motivation. He could enjoy the attention and being in the spotlight. Understanding this was the environment in which John operated, he refused to get caught up in the fanfare. He does what all prophets do. He points out to any person who is willing to listen and to the rest of the world who it is they must follow.

A prophet's words are his identity, but it is the pointing towards the One who is to come that makes John's ministry. We can hear him passionately yelling the words, "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." We know John has caused many to talk about him including many of the political and religious leaders of his day. They send a delegation to find out who he is. John's answer is direct, "I am not the Christ. I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the One who is coming after me, whose sandal straps I am not worthy to untie."

John's words and actions are presented so that when the time is right, Jesus will enter center stage and his mission will begin. John understands his role better than all the other prophets. He also, in some way, has the luxury of knowing and living at the same time of Jesus. This proclamation of John's ministry takes place on the third Sunday of Advent also known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete meaning "Rejoice" and the prescribed entrance antiphon for today. The rejoicing is proclaimed because we are now closer to the great event of the Incarnation. God taking on human flesh and his willingness to undertake all human experience.

Would we be willing to say that John fits what we call a joyful person? His demeanor is more intense and passionate about proclaiming a message of repentance and turning away from sin than sheer joy. I am not so sure his mission was to instill absolute joy into the lives of others. Rather, he came to pronounce his message so others would be receptive to the person of Jesus Christ. His mission was to point out the person who offers us inexhaustible joy.

I can think of no greater reflection than to seek out in prayer and worship the person John points us to. With patient silence and intense worship, we

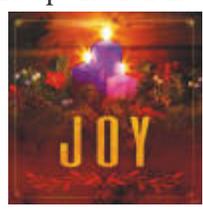
pursue the Giver of eternal joy. The Church asks us to reflect on Jesus during these last two Sundays because his message is powerful and necessary. A world in darkness both then and now needs a greater Light! And we know this because of the firm faith we have that Jesus' light is more powerful than any darkness in the world!

Monday, December 14th Fr. Caddy and I will be available for confessions in the church from 7PM-9PM. We will set up confessions to keep us at a distance and we ask you to wear a mask when you come. We will be hearing confession on Monday, December 21st from 7PM-9PM; Tuesday, December 22nd from 9AM-10AM and 7PM-9PM; Wednesday, December 23rd from 9-10AM and 7-9PM. If you cannot make these times, please call the parish office to schedule an appointment.

Our Christmas Mass schedule will be Thursday, December 24th at 3PM in the Church and Hanson Hall; 5PM in the Church and Hanson Hall, and 7PM in the Church. Friday, December 25th at 8:30 in the Church and Hanson Hall and 11AM in the Church. We have extra Masses to accommodate any overflow. We will be sanitizing the church and Hanson Hall after every Mass.

Our next Adult Education opportunity will begin Tuesday, January 5th at 7PM on Zoom. The Book we will be using is entitled, "Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of The Gospel." The author is Fr. John Riccardo, a priest from the Archdiocese of Detroit. The book is a clear and concise read. Please call Debbie Lokar if you will be joining us for these classes or if you need us to order the book. We will be meeting every Tuesday night until February 23rd.

As we find ourselves only twelve days away from Christmas, I hope and pray that despite all the restrictions and decisions we must make concerning family gatherings that all are safe and healthy. Like Thanksgiving, this Christmas will be one to remember. I am just wondering if separation from family causes us to reflect on the importance of our faith and how it provides endurance and perseverance. As always you are in my prayers. Let us make these last days of Advent an opportunity to see the power of God as we prepare for the arrival of his Son. Keep the Faith!



*Fr. Dave*

## Divine Mercy Cenacle



The group will be meeting again on **Monday, December 14th** at 1:30 PM via Zoom at the following address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83025899884>. We will be reviewing week 29. All are welcome.

## Next Adult Education Book Series

Fr. Dave has selected "Rescued: The Unexpected and Extraordinary News of the Gospel" by Fr. John Riccardo for the next Adult Ed Series. Book review sessions will be held every Tuesday at 7 PM via Zoom from **January 5th through February 23rd**. The book may be obtained via Amazon at [this link](#), or contact Debbie Lokar in the office to obtain your copy. We look forward to your participation!



## Charitable Contributions Reminder

As we near the end of the year, please note that in order for donations to be counted as 2020 contributions they must be physically in hand at the parish office, or if mailed, **POSTMARKED on or before December 31, 2020**. Contributions received after January 1, 2021 and postmarked in January legally must be recorded in 2021, regardless of the date of the check.

2020 contribution substantiation statements will only be processed by request. If you would like a statement for your records, please do one of the following: drop a note in the collection basket requesting a statement or contact Dee in the parish office via email,

[dgermano@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:dgermano@divinewordkirtland.org) or by phone at 440-256-1412. We will gladly mail or email your contribution statement to you. Your gift of treasure is greatly appreciated, and we thank you for your continued support!

## Humor from the Caddyshack



On Christmas Eve little Max put out milk and cookies for Santa, plus an extra treat: a bottle of beer. The next morning Max came tearing into his parent's bedroom. "Santa came," he shouted, holding up the half-full bottle of beer. He said, "See there really is a Santa, because Dad would have drank the whole bottle."

*Father Jim*

## "Taylor-Made" News



I just want to give a big thanks to everyone that has participated in COVID Can't Stop Christmas 2020 so far! Your love and support for our parish family means a great deal to me and the rest of the staff. Please do not forget to join us this **Wednesday, December 16th** for our Advent Zoom Bible Study at 6PM to prepare for the coming of our savior, Jesus. Praying that you all are having a blessed and joyous Advent Season! Keep being a light,

*Taylor*

## Pen Pal Ministry

**"I was in prison and you came to Me."** COVID is preventing us from visiting jails and prisons, but we can still serve the Lord and those who are incarcerated by becoming a pen-pal! Your name and personal information will be protected, so no worries there. Our next training session is planned for **Wednesday, December 16th** at 7PM via Zoom to share ideas of what you might write. We're going to make this as easy for you as possible! Contact Debbie Lokar at the parish office to sign up for the training.



## 2020 Confession & Christmas Mass Schedule

### Confession Times

Saturdays 3:30PM to 4:15PM

Monday, December 14th 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Monday, December 21st 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Tuesday, December 22nd 9:00AM to 10:00AM and 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Wednesday, December 23rd 9:00AM to 10:00AM and 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Or by Appointment



### Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24th, Christmas Eve 3:00PM (Church and Hanson Hall), 5:00PM (Church, Hanson Hall, and livestreamed) and 7:00PM

Friday, December 25th, Christmas Day 8:30AM (Church, Hanson Hall, and livestreamed) and 11:00AM

## Joseph House



Joseph House is in need of a gas stove for one of their units. If you have one you can donate please contact Joan Laux at 440-376-7800. Thank you very much.

## Christmas Concert

The Divine Word Choir will be presenting a virtual Christmas Concert on **Tuesday, December 29th** at 7:00PM. Please plan to join us! The link will be provided on the parish website.



## Year-End Giving

In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2020, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. ***Even if you don't itemize your taxes, because of the new stimulus package passed by Congress, qualified charitable donations up to \$300 for individuals may be tax-deductible.*** The CARES Act legislation also temporarily suspended the limitation on qualified charitable contributions of cash, allowing for a current year deduction up to 100% of AGI. This provision is in effect only for the 2020 tax year. And, if you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish.

Questions? Contact Shari in our parish office via email at [sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org). You are also welcome to contact Mary Lou Ozimek of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x4070 or [mozimek@catholiccommunity.org](mailto:mozimek@catholiccommunity.org).

## St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

***Christmas is a time of love and gift giving... please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.***

## Parish Christmas Project

Thank you to everyone who signed up to adopt a person or family for Christmas this year! Your support and dedication to helping people in our parish community is so appreciated! We know that more of you want to help, so we have been working to expand our program, and help more families. Keep checking the table in the Gathering Area. We will keep placing new envelopes as we receive them! We are still collecting donations for tie blankets as well as collecting hats, scarves and gloves for those in need. Gifts are due back by **Friday, December 18th**. If you have any other ideas or concerns please shoot Taylor an email at [tlong@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:tlong@divinewordkirtland.org). Again thank you for your support this year!



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 24th and 25th, 2020

	Extraordinary Ministers	Lector
Thursday 3:00 PM Church	J. Kelleher J. Kelleher	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now K. Marvar
Thursday 3:00 PM Hanson Hall	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	D. Laux
Thursday 5:00 PM Church	M. Jochum Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	G. DeRose
Thursday 5:00 PM Hanson Hall	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	P. Andrykovitch
Thursday 7:00 PM Church	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	K. Wallick
Friday 8:30 AM Church	C. Casey J. Dangler	M. Walsh N. A. Walsh D. Trombetti
Friday 8:30 AM Hanson Hall	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	Volunteer Now
Friday 11:00 AM Church	C. A. Brooks G. Ianetta Volunteer Now	R. Allwood

## FORMED.org

We wait for the coming of Christ. The sorrows of this world will be set aright by Him. To learn more go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup), select your parish, register with your name and email address, check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED to access thousands of movies, programs, audio files and books, etc.

## Stewardship Report

Weekend of November 28-29, 2020

Weekly Collection (134 envelopes): \$8,631

Weekly Collection Goal: \$10,800

Weekly Collection net surplus/deficit: (-) \$2,169

YTD Collection: \$242,182

YTD Goal: \$223,600

YTD Collection surplus/deficit: (+) \$18,582

### Out of the Darkness

I was thinking back to Fr. Dave's homily on Christ the King Sunday. He mentioned that often if we get too self-focused, we fail to follow Jesus' command in Matthew's Gospel to feed the hungry, water the thirsty, clothe the naked, invite the stranger in, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner.

In last week's stewardship report, I talked about the bluebird of happiness. And how happiness in these times requires work. We don't want to let our spirits get dark and to allow depression to set in. When we are focused on helping others – be it food, water, clothing, visits, etc., it's pretty darned hard to be self-focused or mired in negativity.

So then I got to thinking more. Divine Word really provides opportunities for us to participate in the work Jesus requests of us.

**Feed the hungry.** Thanksgiving baskets were just delivered to a multitude of local families. While our inner-city meals program is on a COVID hiatus, we usually feed the hungry every Sunday.

**Water the thirsty.** OK, this may be a bit of a stretch, but I think people are thirsty for God, and Mass offers them the opportunity to be watered. J Our Parish Council helps to assess and determine ways to meet the spiritual thirsts of our parish.

**Clothe the naked.** Our support of Joseph House, the home for refugees and clothing bank, literally clothes the naked. Many years ago I went to see a family the day they arrived from Rwanda. They literally had the clothes on their backs, in which they'd traveled for days. We immediately obtained clothing for them, and we continue to clothe our refugees, and those in the Joseph House neighborhood.

**Invite the stranger in.** We offer RCIA and Catholics Welcome Home programs welcoming those unfamiliar with our faith to learn more and to join us. (RCIA graduate here!)

**Care for the sick.** We need to get better at this. When COVID goes away, we'll resume visits to the sick and delivering them the Eucharist. We're instituting a volunteer team to make calls to our sick and older parishioner. We also want to begin a meals program for those who are ill and/or going through cancer treatments.

**Visit the prisoner.** While we plan to have a post-COVID jail visitation ministry, in the meantime we have a new pen-pal prison ministry.

All of the above-noted ministries need volunteers, along with our Art & Environment Committee (indoor decorating and outdoor grounds beautification), our Mass video camera crew needs volunteers, we can always use new Finance Council members, we need Youth Group CORE Team Members, we need cleaners after 8:30 Mass (and after all Christmas Masses), we need people who pray to round out our prayer ministry. I'm sure if this article wasn't due and I thought just a tad harder, I'd come up with more!

Moral of the story is ... you don't need to go looking for ways to potentially relieve some of the darkness in your life by reaching out to help others. We have programs and ministries in place, and would be grateful to have you join us in serving others. Perhaps pray about where your talents would most benefit others. I'll be happy to provide additional information (or get you in touch with appropriate leadership) if you'd like more information about any of the opportunities. Onward and upward we go through these difficult times!

*Shari*

## Remember Our Sick & Suffering!



Pat Aquila, Maria Babic, Samantha Bagdasarian, Mary Barresi, Charlie Bartzen, Cecilia Bertha, Jeff Bonfanti, Premo Bonfanti, Cristan Smudz-Bregar, John Brown, Mike Camino, Rachelle Marie Carlson, Claire Casey, Michael Cholak, Courtney Clair, Daniel Clair, Izzy Corbin, Susan Daly, Nicole Dixon, Rose Dixon, Vera Draksic, James Drown, Cindy Evans, Jackie Fatica, Joe Fontana, Christopher Gilbey, Vickie Gilbey, Alice Gilmore, Magdalene Giorgi, Rosemary Giorgi, Lou Godfrey, Toni Grabowski, Vince Granito, Judith Gruber, Ida Guest, Richard Guest, Vicki Gullo, Mary Lou Hanslik, George Harchick, Rose Harchick, Kolbe Hepker, Lynn Hogye, Michelle Holbury, Gabrielle Holicky, Bill Horton, Donna Horton, Nancy Hummer, Elizabeth Hunter, Allan Jenisek, Mike Keresman, Kelly Konya, Audrey Kramer, Kallie Kramp, Lynne Kravos, Darlene Kuhar, Ralph Kutcher, Fred Lazar, Emily Levi, Cathy Lombardo, Nicholas Lombardo, Joshua MacDonald Jr., Marie Mauer, Phyllis McNally, Neil McReynolds, Dave Mekker, Ronald Minadeo, Katy Nicolli, Gwen Novak, Regis Novitski, Ed Nye, Mollie Obersear, Lynn Odell, Natalia Rose Ortega, Marty Parent, Father Fred Pausche, Michael Popovich, Erin Potter, Kevin Powers, Dominic Puinno, Breda Radej, Christian Rassi, Sharon Rogovich, Judy Rigo, Kris Ruhe, Steve Sabol, Camille Salerno, Jennifer Sanderson, Elaine Sargi, Rosemary Schaller, Marie Siggins, Marie Smith, Barb Stuart, Peter Sussen, Judy Sustar, Gene Trela, Andrea Trivisonno, Ken Udovic, Deacon Carl Varga, Donald Victor, Jay Vukcevic, Angela Wandle, Bernadette Wasserman, Tammy Webb, Dale White, Michael White, Michael Wojnar, Father Dave Woost

*Please take a moment to lift these individuals up in prayer this week. Please notify the parish office when a name can be removed from the list. Thank You.*



Marilyn Young

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 19th and 20th, 2020

	Extraordinary Ministers	Lector
Saturday 4:30 PM	J. Kelleher J. Kelleher C. Rodak Volunteer Now	A. Loncar
Sunday 8:30 AM	J. Grazia B. Heckman-O'Toole K. Thornicroft M. Walsh C. Withrow	K. Wallick
Sunday 11:00 AM	C. A. Brooks J. Brooks S. Grazia C. Iammarino F. Iammarino G. Ianetta M. Jochum	A. Germano

## Church Sanitizing Teams

Sunday following 8:30 AM Mass

Dec 13th	Team Bowden/Dangler
Dec 20th	Team Kukura/Correnti

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