



# Nativity of Our Lord R.C. Church

26 Thorn Avenue

Orchard Park, New York 14127

[www.nativityofourlordop.com](http://www.nativityofourlordop.com)

662-9339 fax 662-2195

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil Masses**  
4:30pm & 7pm

**Sunday Masses**  
7:30am, 9am, 10:30am  
12pm

**Weekday Masses**  
Mon-Thur 7am and 9am  
Friday 7am and 8:30am  
Saturday 8am

**Holy Days**  
Vigil Mass 4:30pm  
Holy Day 7am, 9am, 7pm

**First Friday Devotion**  
First Friday of every month  
(unless otherwise noted)  
in church at 6pm and live stream

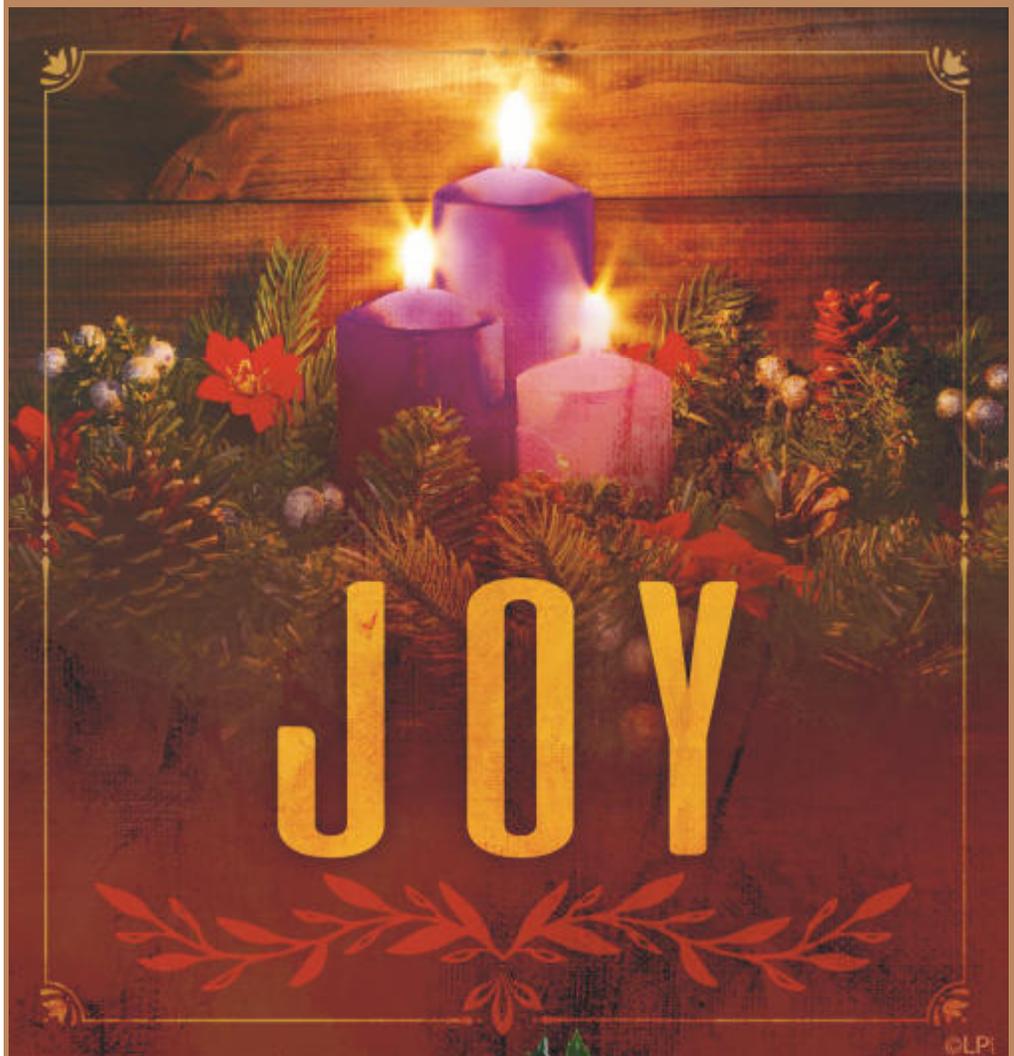
Other Fridays of the month the  
Rosary is prayed in the church at  
6pm.

**BAPTISMS**  
Usually the 2nd & 4th Sundays at  
1:00pm. New parents must be  
registered and attend a class prior  
to Baptism.

**CONFESSION**  
Confessions are scheduled on  
Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30  
p.m. in the lower sacristy room at  
the front of the church (side near  
the Blessed Mother Statue, down  
the stairs). Please wear a face  
mask and follow the signs when  
you enter the Church to direct  
you to this room.

**MARRIAGE**  
Arrangements should be made at  
least six months ahead of time  
with our priest. A Marriage  
Preparation program is required.

## Third Sunday of Advent



## EMAIL ADDRESSES



If you have not been receiving our email updates from Nativity parish, please email Melissa at [mpotzler@nativityschool.net](mailto:mpotzler@nativityschool.net) to provide your email or check on your status. We have been attempting to update our database since the beginning of the pandemic in order to provide up-to-date communications to our parishioners. Thank you!



### From the Pastor's Desk...

A word about our Liturgical Schedule for Christmas...

- On Christmas Eve, with Extraordinary Permission of the Bishop, we will celebrate an **early Vigil Mass at 2:00 p.m. in the Church.** (Please note that such permission applies to this year only in light of the Pandemic, since ordinarily vigil Masses are not permitted before 4:00 p.m.) As in the past, we will celebrate **two Masses at 4:00 p.m.; one in the Church and the other in the School Gym.** We will also have a **Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.** Our **“Mass During the Night” this year will take place at 9:00 p.m., an hour earlier** than previous years since there will be no choir prelude because of the Virus. (Due to the large number of Vigil Masses, there will be no Masses the morning of December 24.)
- On **Christmas Day**, our Masses will be as they have been in the past at **9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:00 Noon.**
- The **2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Masses** will be **live-streamed to the School Gym** (and to the Parish website) to accommodate additional people. **Holy Communion will be distributed** to the congregation in the gym at the usual time. **The 9:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day** will also be **live-streamed** to the Parish website.)
- Attendance at all of our Masses and live-streamed Liturgies in the Church and in the Gym is on a **First come first served basis. The capacity in the Church and Gym is each limited to approximately 100 people each.** (The Church can accommodate a few more attendees in the Narthex where the audio and video of the Mass is provided.)
- Due to the present surge of COVID-19 cases in our area, we will not be having an Advent Penance Service. However, we are offering the following **Opportunities for individual confessions before Christmas:**

<b>Wednesday, December 16</b>	<b>3:00 – 4:45 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, December 17</b>	<b>4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, December 19</b>	<b>2:00 – 3:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, December 21</b>	<b>6:30 – 7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, December 22</b>	<b>4:00 – 5:30 p.m.</b>

All Confessions will be heard in the **lower sacristy room** at the front of the Church (side near the Blessed Mother Statue). **Please follow the signs and wear a face mask.**

Indeed, Christmas will soon be here. May this special time of year be one in which we open our hearts to the coming of Jesus, our Lord and Savior!

**Fr. Jim**

P.S. **Christmas Wafers (Oplatki)** are available in a basket near the Advent Wreath at the front of the Church. You may make a donation if you wish.



### A HUGE THANK YOU!

The recipients of the Christmas Angel gifts so far have been so very thankful for your thoughtfulness! The coordinator of one program told me of the excitement and awe of the people when they came in to pick up their gifts. The expressions on their faces moved her to tears. They cannot thank you enough! One family was so overwhelmed at the generosity of Nativity that they wanted to give some gifts back because they thought it was just too much!

If you have not had a chance to return your gift to us yet, you still can. Please drop the gifts off to the church office at 43 Argyle as soon as possible.

**THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



## NATIVITY SCHOOL NEWS

A Journey with Mary and Joseph  
A Child's Prayer

In my heart, Mary and Joseph, I will journey with you and others for "Las Posadas."  
Carrying lanterns, we sing joyfully and walk along with brave Joseph.  
He leads poor, tired Mary on her little donkey.  
From house to house we go, asking to come in, to find a quiet place for the young mother who is about to give birth.  
"We have no room. There's no room for you!"  
On and on, we travel in hope, following an angel.  
Finally, on the ninth night, on December 24, we find shelter for the holy pilgrims.  
Your holy child is born in a borrowed stable.  
We will feast and sing and rejoice.  
The long, hard journey has ended.  
This newborn child shall bring us so much joy.

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

### Use Christmas Cards as Prayer Reminder for Family Advent Activity

As Christmas cards arrive during December, place them in a basket in a noticeable area. Once a day, pull out one card and pray for that person or family together. Keep the Christmas card basket accessible all year and pray regularly for other families.



## Haiti Gift Card Fundraiser

This year, we will again raise funds for our twin parish of St. Michael the Archangel in Coq Chante, Haiti by selling gift cards. The pandemic has greatly affected our lives including our Parish activities. This includes our Haiti fund raising activities for the various projects at our twin parish. The Nativity Haiti Fund will be depleted by the end of 2020. Without sufficient funding, the continued operation of the medical clinic at our twin parish is in jeopardy. For this reason gift cards only for the medical clinic will be offered this year. The medical clinic provides the only available healthcare in Coq Chante and its continued operation is critical for the health of the people. The suggested donation per Healthcare gift card is \$50 but any donation amount per card is most welcome. There are Christmas cards and also blank cards that can be used for any occasion. Please consider stocking up on blank cards to use throughout the year for birthdays, graduations and many other occasions. Gift cards and order forms will be on display in the narthex from November 21 to December 20. A copy of the order form is below and may be used when purchasing gift cards. Thank you for your most generous support!

**Drop your gift card form and donation in the weekly collection basket in an envelope marked "Haiti Gifts." Or mail your gift request form and donation to:** Nativity of Our Lord Church / Attention "Haiti Connection" / 43 Argle Place / Orchard Park, NY 14127



Make **checks payable** to Nativity of Our Lord Church with "Haiti" in the memo line.

Donation amount per gift card	Total number of gift cards	Total cost
\$50 (suggested amount per card)		
\$_____ (other amount per card)		
	Total enclosed	\$

*100% of your donation is used to support the medical clinic.*

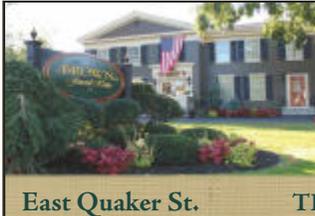
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Mesi Anpil (Many Thanks!)

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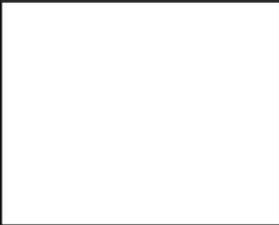
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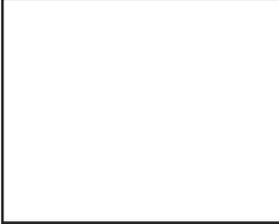
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# MASS INTENTIONS

## Saturday, December 12

8:00 am – Les and Lester Schupp by their estate  
 4:30 pm – William J. Masset by his family  
 7:00 pm – Erika Wilson by Amy Burnett

## Sunday, December 13

7:30 am – Edwin and Eleanor Nowakowski by their family  
 9:00 am – Mary Schichtel by her family  
 10:30 am – Mass for Parishioners  
 12:00 pm – Patrick Downing by his family

## Monday, December 14

7:00 am – Patty and Bob Rochevot by Patrick Cook  
 9:00 am – John Igoe by his daughter

## Tuesday, December 15

7:00 am – All Souls  
 9:00 am – Peter Swartwout, Sr. by Jan and Barbara Swartwout

## Wednesday, December 16

7:00 am – Marissa L. Beechler by Joyce and John Berdysiak  
 9:00 am – Nancy Christmas by Kathi Shyhalla

## Thursday, December 17

7:00 am – Dr. Richard Sheehan by his family  
 9:00 am – Randy and David Laks by their Mom

## Friday, December 18

7:00 am – Michael J. Bogner by the Radtke family  
 8:30 am – Charlotte Popek by the Popek family

## Saturday, December 19

8:00 am – Francesco and Norina Narducci by their daughter  
 4:30 pm – Frank and Margaret Hruby by their daughter  
 Rosemarie Breese  
 7:00 pm – William and Joan Haws by their family

## Sunday, December 20

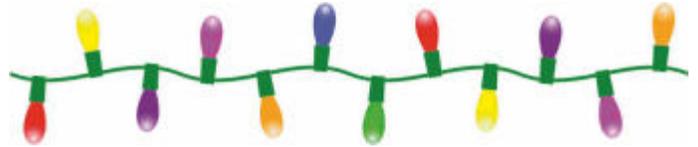
7:30 am – Mass for Parishioners  
 9:00 am – Peter A. Russo by his Mom and Dad  
 10:30 am – Gerard A. Adams by Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Justicia-Linde  
 12:00 pm – Stephen E. Cavanaugh by his family



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
 Can you help keep the Lord's house clean and beautiful? We are looking for cleaners to join our teams! You would join a team of two others and clean the altar area, as well as the sacristy not more than once every six weeks.

If you can help out, please email Melissa at [mpotzler@nativityschool.net](mailto:mpotzler@nativityschool.net) or call 662-9339 ext 145.

**30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE**, 1023 Swann Rd., Youngstown from November 21 through January 3, 2021 with a modified schedule due to Covid 19. Lights will be on from 5-9 pm: November 21-29, December 4-6, December 11-13 and December 18-January 3. See 15 acres of spectacular Christmas lights, including a 9-foot tall outdoor illuminated Nativity scene and a life-size Fontanini Nativity scene in the Basilica. Climb to the top of the Basilica and get an angel's eye view of the Avenue of Saints and the Spirit of Christmas. New this year is an exhibit of over 300 International Nativity Sets on display in Fatima Hall when the lights are on. Admission and parking are free. Groups welcome; reservations appreciated. For scheduled hours of the Office, Gift Shop and Cafeteria, call 716-754-7489 or email [office@fatimashrine.com](mailto:office@fatimashrine.com)



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Aquila, Desmond Benimoff, Jordan Berkhoudt, Gavin Bomboy, David Borowski, Michelle Bruno, Patrick Byrne, Anna Caserta, Liz Cash, Jeanne Chojnacki, Jack Corcoran, Bernard Daube, Rick Del Regno, Carol Doyle, Liam Dubey, Paul Eberhardt, Josephine Fistola, Robyn Flading, daughters of Lois Fleck, Rev. Richard Florek, Ann Marie Gensler, Barbara Ghirsig, Bill Greene, Rowan Grundtisch, Barbara Harris, James Herron, Marcia Jurkowski, Jim Kalinowski, Gail Koglmeier, Erin Kulesus, Christine Kukla, Amanda L., Virginia Lawton, Nathan Ljungberg, Barbara McPherson, Ann Nenedal, Chet P., Kathy P., Shirley Perrine, Marge and Marvin Prebble, Kay Prusniecki, Joseph Russell, Ellen Schreier, Jonathan Sentz, Laura Shaw, Luis Shaw, Marie Sokolovic, William Thornton, Jane Tomaszewski, Rev. Michael Uebler, Ann Ulman, Craig Vidal, Dr. Ronald Vidal, Marianne Vidal, Eileen Walsh, Geraldine Wiess, Dennis Wolbert, Dan Zsebezhazy.



### OUR STAFF

<b>Church staff</b>	<b>43 Argyle Place</b>	662-9339
Pastor	Rev. James D. Ciupek	ext 140
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Peter Bassey	ext 124
Permanent Deacon	Gary Anelora	
Transitional Deacon	Rev. Mr. John Ojuok	
Advancement Director	Melissa Potzler	ext 145
Music Director	Robert Kiersz	
Youth Minister	Gina Updike	ext 141
Parish Secretary	Sue McDonough	ext 110
Administrative Asst.	Joy Kaminski	
<b>Business Office</b>	<b>43 Argyle Place</b>	662-9339
Business Manager	Timothy Redinger	ext 125
Financial Assistant	Stephanie Carson	ext 131
Maintenance Supervisor	Carmen DAlessandro	ext 117
Maintenance Assistant	Scott Sihler	
<b>School</b>	<b>4414 South Buffalo St.</b>	662-7572
Principal	Christopher Gardon	
School Secretary	Isabelle Carpenter	
<b>Faith Formation</b>		662-2169
Faith Formation	Mary Barone, OCDS	868-6631
Faith Formation Asst.	Joy Kaminski	

## ADVENT 3

### First Reading - ISAIAH 61: 1-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

### Response - LUKE 1: 46-54

*My soul rejoices in my God.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:

The Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy.

### Second Reading - 1 THESSALONIANS 5: 16-34

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

### The Gospel - JOHN 1: 6-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve

2pm in church with an overflow live stream to the gym  
(Reception of the Eucharist will be available in the gym.)

4pm in church and gym

6pm in church with an overflow live stream to the gym  
(Reception of the Eucharist will be available in the gym.)

9pm in church (No choir prelude)

### Christmas Day

9am, 10:30am and 12pm in the church

**For those who are still not comfortable coming to Mass, the 2pm and 6pm Christmas Eve Masses and the 9am Christmas Day Mass will be available via live stream on our website.**

**REMINDER: MASKS MUST BE WORN THE ENTIRE TIME YOU ARE AT MASS. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS AFTER YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FROM THE PRIEST AND HAVE STEPPED TO THE SIDE TO CONSUME.**

**YOU CANNOT REMOVE THE MASK WHILE SEATED.**

**Social distance guidelines must be followed for those not in your household.**