



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Cresson Catholic Community of St. Aloysius Parish, St. Francis Xavier Parish & All Saints Catholic School

REV. LEO F. ARNONE - PASTOR
frleornone@gmail.com

ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH

**7911 Admiral Peary Highway
Cresson, Pennsylvania 16630**
Secretary: Ann Sutton

Office: • 814-886-2235 Fax: • 814-886-4392

Email: staloyuscresson@dioceseaj.org

Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 8:30am-Noon, 1-3:30pm

Parish Council: Gerald Neugebauer • 886-2679

Finance Council: Acting Chair Paul Calandra

Music Director: Casey Criste • 886-4503

Website: www.saintaloyuscresson.org

Life & Family Committee: staloylfc@yahoo.com

Community Center • 886-2388

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

**211 Powell Avenue
Cresson, Pennsylvania 16630**
Secretary: Sr. Nancy Spence, CCW

Office: • 814-886-2374 Fax: • 814-886-2498

Email: fxparish@dioceseaj.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri 9:00am-2:00pm

Pastoral Council: Paul Dillon • 886-4978

Finance Council: Edward Hines • 886-2840

Centennial Hall: Parish Office • 886-2374

Bingo Manager: Mike McGough • 886-5555

Website: www.saintfrancisxaviercressonpa.org

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

All Saints Catholic School- Pre K-8 • 886-7942

Principal Mrs. Kathy Maurer

Bishop Carroll HS • 472-7500

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION SA & FX

Michele Bossler - 322-8528

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

RCIA PREPARATION

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION (SA &FX)

Deborah Baker 886-7504 dbaker@dioceseaj.org

CHILDREN'S SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION

Gaye Boyer - Catechesis of Good Shepherd 472-7317

CATHOLIC FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic Daughters of America: Dot DeAngelo • 886-2689

Legion of Mary: Maureen Calandra • 330-4145

Ss. Martha & Mary Circle: Cathy Gottshall • 502-5071

Knights of Columbus: GK Mark Baker • 931-8379

CATHOLIC OUTREACH

St. Vincent de Paul Society • 886-4242

Catholic Charities Altoona • 944-9388

Vocation Office, Altoona • 317-2681

Diocesan Family Life Office, Altoona • 695-5579

Crisis Pregnancy/Pro-Life • 1-800-395-HELP

BIRTHRIGHT of Johnstown • 535-8231

www.optionline.org * ProjectRachel@dioceseaj.org

www.hopeafterabortion.com

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255



From the Desk of Fr. Leo

The Forth Sunday of Advent –

Peace: Advent is the season in which believers eagerly anticipate the celebration of Christ’s birth. Reading, prayer, and reflection are ways we can cultivate a sense of holy anticipation this Advent. In the fourth Sunday of Advent

we meditate on the **peace** that Jesus brings our hearts and our world. Scripture is the place we can find the promises of God. Meditate on these truths and allow them to comfort our hearts this Advent season!

2 Thessalonians 3:16 says, “Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.”

This week we focus our hearts on the “Lord of peace” who came down from heaven in the form of a baby. God knows that we are in a constant battle against fear! Fear wants to cripple us, to push us to react rather than carefully respond, and fear steals our joy. God has given us the gift of peace so we can live joy-filled lives!

In this last week of Advent, pray that *God’s unexplainable peace* would be evident in your heart and home. This year we all have faced so much chaos and uncertainty. God’s peace is something we need to grab tightly onto *more than ever*. May God’s spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time to joyfully await our King!

The Advent season is an invitation for us all to choose to set aside the fear and uncertainty that has defined 2020. It’s a chance to be intentional about taking our focus off of the hustle of the Christmas season. We can also give to God the sadness that many may be feeling as many of us will need to observe the holiday season differently this year. This fourth Advent Sunday we are reminded that Jesus offers us peace in every season and nothing is impossible with him!



Fri, Dec. 24 at 4:00pm at FX & at 7:00pm at SA; Midnight Mass at SA & Sat, Dec. 25 at 9:00am at FX. There will be no 4:00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, Dec. 25. To fulfill your Holy Family Mass of Obligation you must attend either the 8:00am Mass at SA or the 11:00am Mass at FX on Sunday, Dec. 26.



Mary, Mother of God Mass schedule will be Friday, Dec. 31 at 4:00pm at FX and Saturday, Jan. 1 at 9:00am at SA. Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year, I would still advise all Intentional Disciples of Christ to show God were your priorities will be for the New Year by attending this Mass imploring Mary’s intercession for all our needs in the New Year.



ECCLESIA IN AMERICA

Pope Saint John Paul II

Corruption

23. Corruption is often among the causes of crushing public debt, and is therefore a serious problem which needs to be considered carefully. “Respecting no boundaries, [corruption] involves persons, public and private structures of power and the governing elites”.

It creates a situation which “encourages impunity and the illicit accumulation of money, lack of trust in political institutions, especially the administration of justice and public investments, which are not always transparent, equal for all and effective”.

Here I recall what I wrote in the *Message for the 1998 World Day of Peace* — that the plague of corruption needs to be denounced and combatted forcefully by those in authority, with “the generous support of all citizens, sustained by a firm moral conscience”. Appropriate supervisory bodies and transparency in economic and financial transactions are helpful and in many cases stop the spread of corruption, the dire consequences of which fall in the main upon the weakest and most marginal members of society. It is also the poor who are the first to suffer as a result of delays and inefficiency, by not being properly defended, because of structural deficiencies, especially when corruption affects the administration of justice itself.

The drug trade

24. The drug trade and drug use represent a grave threat to the social fabric of American nations. The drug trade “contributes to crime and violence, to the destruction of family life, to the physical and emotional destruction of individuals and communities, esp. the young. It also undermines the ethical dimension of work and increases the number of people in prison - it leads to the degradation of the person created in the image of God”. This devastating trade also leads to “the ruin of governments and erodes economic security and the stability of nations”. Here we are facing one of the most urgent challenges which many nations around the world need to address: it is in fact a challenge which threatens many features of the human progress achieved in recent times. For some American nations, the production, trafficking and use of drugs are factors which tarnish their international reputation, because they reduce their credibility and render more difficult the cooperation which they seek with other countries and which is so essential nowadays for harmonious social development.

Ecological concern

25. “And God saw that it was good”. These words from the first chapter of the Book of Genesis reveal the meaning of what God has done. To men and women, the crown of the entire process of creation, the Creator entrusts the care of the earth. This brings concrete obligations in the area of ecology for every person. Fulfillment of these obligations supposes an openness to a spiritual and ethical perspective capable of overcoming selfish attitudes and “life-styles which lead to the depletion of natural resources”.

In this area too the action of believers is more important than ever. Alongside legislative and governmental bodies, all people of good will must work to ensure the effective protection of the environment, understood as a gift from God. It is enough to think of the uncontrolled emission of harmful gases or the dramatic phenomenon of forest fires, sometimes set by people driven by selfish interest. Devastations such as these could lead to the desertification of many parts of America, with the inevitable consequences of hunger and misery. This is an urgent problem in the forests of Amazonia, an immense territory extending into different countries: from Brazil to Guyana, Surinam, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

ST ALOYSIUS PARISH

Catholic	Parish Target	\$ 21,664.00	
Ministries	Total Pledges	\$ 22,167.00	(102%)
Drive	No of Gifts	128/340	(38%)
2021	Actual Rec'd	\$ 22,167.00	(102%)
D Baker	J Baker	M/M G Eberhart	
M. Bucynski			

Collection for 12/12/2021: Available next week

Church decorating: St. Aloysius Church will be decorated for Christmas on Thursday, December 23, beginning after the 8:00 am Mass. There will be no adoration that day.

SA Office: The St. Aloysius Parish Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 23 and 24, for the Christmas holiday.



Property for sale: Since no one from SA made a commitment on this property it is now open to FX parishioners who might be interested. Please contact Ann at SA office to arrange a time to visit the home's interior.

Jesus Speaks to Faustina and You

By Susan Tassone

A Powerful Little Word

He who trust in My mercy will not perish, for all his affairs are mine, and his enemies will be shattered at the base of My footstool. (Diary, 723)

Reflection: Trust. That one small word is used so consistently throughout St. Faustina's Diary. Jesus is letting her, and us, know that the road to eternal life is paved with trust in His unfailing mercy. He promises He will take care of everything else for us, so that we can stop living in a state of anxiety. Just trust Him. There are many things in this life that will let you down, but God never will. Remember, all your affairs are His.

Prayer: Jesus, I trust in You, for You are all good and all-powerful. I have nothing to fear when I put my faith in You and You alone. Jesus, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Catholic	Parish Target	\$19,184.00	
Ministries	Total Pledges	\$25,248.00	(132%)
Drive	No of Gifts	122/351	(35%)
2021	Actual Rec'd	\$23,751.00	(124%)
M/M R Cicero			

Collection 12/08/2021: Adults \$90; Cash \$34; Youth \$11; Immaculate Conception \$433; Development \$15; Christmas Flowers \$20; Christmas Candles \$24; Christmas Masses \$20; **Total Deposit \$647.00**

Collection 12/12/2021: Adults \$2,991; loose \$74; Children \$36.30; Holy Day \$110; Energy \$41; Angel Fund \$28; Development \$10; Christmas Flowers \$90; Candles \$61; Christmas Candles \$12; Christmas Envelope \$81; Christmas Masses \$135; Retired Religious \$113; **Total Deposit \$3782.30**; Church Improvement \$8;

FX Office: Parish office will be closed on Thursday & Friday the 23th and 24th for Christmas.

St. Francis Xavier Church will be decorating for Christmas on Wednesday Dec. 22 at 6:00pm.

FX CHRISTMAS SPECIAL TICKETS: We are asking that you return all tickets sold or unsold by the 16th of December.

MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

Admission \$21.00 Doors Open 5:00pm

Early Birds 6:30pm Reg. Games 7:00pm

JACKPOT—\$1,000 in 54 Numbers

Consy—\$500

Magic # 100+

All Niter # 1 975+

X-Band 1500+

CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

DECEMBER 20

1st. Place — 3 mos. Free Bingo Pkg

2nd Place — 2 Mos. Free Bingo Pkg

3rd Place — 1 Mo. Free Bingo Pkg

Winner Drawn from losing qualifiers



A Christmas Prayer

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,
 Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
 that we may share in the song of the angels,
 the gladness of the shepherds,
 and worship of the wise men.
 Close the door of hate
 and open the door of love all over the world.
 Let kindness come with every gift
 and good desires with every greeting.
 Deliver us from evil by the blessing
 which Christ brings,
 and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning
 make us happy to be your children,
 and Christmas evening bring us to our beds
 with grateful thoughts,
 forgiving and forgiven,
 for Jesus' sake. Amen.





All Saints Catholic School

As we celebrate this 4th Sunday of Advent and prepare for the birth of Jesus, we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!

ASCS students will be dismissed at 11:30 on December 22, to begin their Christmas vacation. Students will return to school on Tuesday, January 4.

The ASCS Good News Committee hosted Lincoln Cavern's Santa's Little Helper Gift Shop in our school on December 7. This gave our students the opportunity to purchase gifts for family and friends while at school. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who made this happen for our students.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUNDAY MORNING 9:15-10:45 am

Dec 19 CCD
Dec 26-Jan 2 NO CCD

Merry Christmas/Happy New Year

The "O Antiphons" of Advent

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

FX Sanctuary Lamp—**DAVID LIDWELL (wife & children)**
 SA Sanctuary Lamp —**BERTHA & DON GREGG**
 (family)

MASS SCHEDULE FOR DEC 20 TO DEC 26

Servers - Dec. 24-26
 Fri. 4:00pm FX E & M Olienyk
 Fri. 7:00pm SA Plazek Family
 Midnite SA Sutton Family, Kory Eger
 Sat. 9:00am FX Volunteers
 Sun. 8:00am SA Dillon Family
 Sun. 11:00am FX A Hines, Volunteer

Readers
 Fri. 4:00pm FX C Evans
 Fri. 7:00pm SA Grace Hoffman
 Midnite SA Pat McMullen
 Sat. 9:00am FX P. Dillon
 Sun. 8:00am SA Deb Baker
 Sun. 11:00am FX J. Hines

Extraordinary Ministers - Communion
 Fri. 4:00pm FX Volunteer
 Fri. 7:00pm SA Grace Hoffman
 Midnite SA Kevin McMullen
 Sat. 9:00am FX Volunteer
 Sun. 8:00am SA Monna George
 Sun. 11:00am FX J. Rabish

MON - DECEMBER 20
 8:00am FX NO MASS

TUE - DECEMBER 21
 8:00am SA MARGARET LUTHER
 (MA Zakrzwski)

WED - DECEMBER 22
 8:00am FX DOLORES EFFINGER
 (Leigh A Jenkins)

THUR - DECEMBER 23
 8:00am SA MARGARET LUTHER
 (grandchildren)

NATIVITY OF THE LORD
FRI - DECEMBER 24
 4:00pm FX PEOPLE OF FX & SA PARISHES
 7:00pm SA DEC'D BENEFACTORS OF
 ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH
 Midnight SA CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

SAT - DECEMBER 25
 9:00am FX CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS
 THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

SUN - DECEMBER 26
 7:30am SA ROSARY
 8:00am SA DEC'D of REED & PATZ
 FAMILIES
 10:30am FX ROSARY
 11:00am FX DAVID LIDWELL (wife & Children)

Dustbusters: SA:
 FX: S. Mullen—Hines—
 DeAngelo



THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLACE
"Connecting the Pieces"
Turning 65- New to Medicare
Johnstown **Altoona**
814-254-4258 814-201-2829

John Paul II Manor
814-886-7961
Care Aide positions open for all shifts.
Accepting applications for residency to our beautiful home.
Please call Linda Long for more info or any questions.

Merry Christmas!
Lang
REAL ESTATE AND TAX SERVICE
210 Ashcroft Ave. - Cresson
814-886-8111
Broker/Owner
Louann Rodgers-Hoffman

DeGol Carpet
COMPLETE LINE OF FLOORING
• Carpet
• Wood
• Laminate
• Sheet Vinyl
• LVT
Duncansville
814.695.1111

PennCrest BANK
700 2nd Street, Cresson, PA 16630
814-886-2641 www.PennCrestBank

Cresson American Legion

Serving the Community Since 1922

Century 21
STRAYER & ASSOCIATES INC.
Tony Mignogna, Realtor®
Cell 814.932.1928
"TRUST...EXPERTISE...RESULTS"

MCCLOSKEY TIRE & MUFFLER SHOP
886-9577
M-W-Thurs-Fri 8:30-5:00PM
Tue - 8:30-8:00; Sat 8:30-1:00
OIL CHANGE - BRAKES - BATTERIES

J. Kirk Kling, Attorney
SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
CRIMINAL LAW • FAMILY LAW
ESTATE ADMINISTRATION
GUARDIANSHIP • PERSONAL INJURY
REAL ESTATE • WILLS & TRUSTS
2529 Broad Ave., Altoona
941-6699

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.
• Paid Training
• Some Travel
• Work-Life Balance
• Full-Time with Benefits
• Serve Your Community
Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers

R&R PLUMBING & HEATING
RANDY
Owner
814-886-8767

CRESSON STEEL COMPANY
BUYING ALL TYPES OF
Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Scrap Metals & Automobiles
134 Pfeister Ave. Cresson
886-4121

Mainline PHARMACY
1207 2nd St • Cresson
814-886-5667
www.MainlinePharmacy.com

Anderson Family
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES
233 KEYSTONE AVENUE
CRESSON, PA 16630
(814) 886-8051 • www.AndersonFamilyFuneralHomes.com
Proudly Serving Cambria & Blair Counties
10% VETERAN DISCOUNT
GARRETT LEE ANDERSON
OWNER/SUPERVISOR

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!
LPI

BUYING or SELLING
Jessica Marie Mastri
814-931-0426
jessicamariemastri@gmail.com
RE/MAX 814-946-9355
Results Realty Group 1001 Logan Blvd., Altoona, PA

Allan Diehl, Agent
1108 Main St. • Portage, PA
Off: 814-736-9373
www.adiehl.com
Whether you need a question answered, a problem solved or a claim reported, my job is to make it happen.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7
State Farm
State Farm Mutual Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL, P097193 06/09

F & G Monument Lettering, LLC
Monument Sales
Cemetery Engraving
Foundation Work, and Repair
In-home Service
Veteran Discount
1803 Bigler Ave, Northern Cambria
814-931-3199
fandgmonuments@gmail.com
www.fandgmonumentlettering.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!
LPI

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Got 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust.
• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets
1-855-225-4251

Phoenix
Physical Therapy
Cresson
7447 Admiral Peary Highway Suite 2
814-886-9315
Brian P. Dillon, PT, DPT
Clinic Director
phoenixphysicaltherapy.com

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!
Contact **Sue Novosel** to place an ad today!
snovosel@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6318

BOB BITER ELECTRIC
Commercial and Industrial
(814) 886-7111

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass
Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!
www.ParishesOnline.com

health markets
Health | Medicare | Small Group | Life | Supplemental
Tom Orr, Licensed Insurance Agent
P (814) 932-8470 Thomas.Orr@HealthMarkets.com
HealthMarkets.com/thomas.orr
HealthMarkets Insurance Agency, Inc. is licensed as an Insurance agency in all 50 states. Service and product availability varies.

C's Flower and Gift Shop
(814) 886-9585
470 Gallitzin Rd., Cresson
www.csflowerandgiftshop.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.
Buy a bulletin ad space today!

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER MONDAY NIGHT BINGO
Doors & Dinner Opens at 5:30 PM
\$20 Admission
MIKE MCGOUGH, Bingo Mgr.
(814) 934-5924