

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00 p.m.

Sunday:

8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

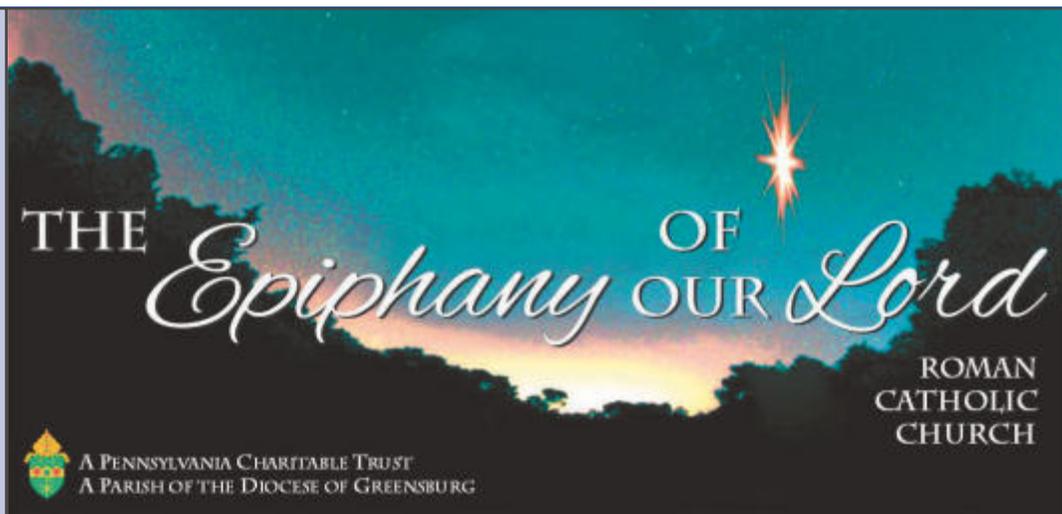
Monday, & Thursday

8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Wed., Friday

NO MASS

December 5, 2021

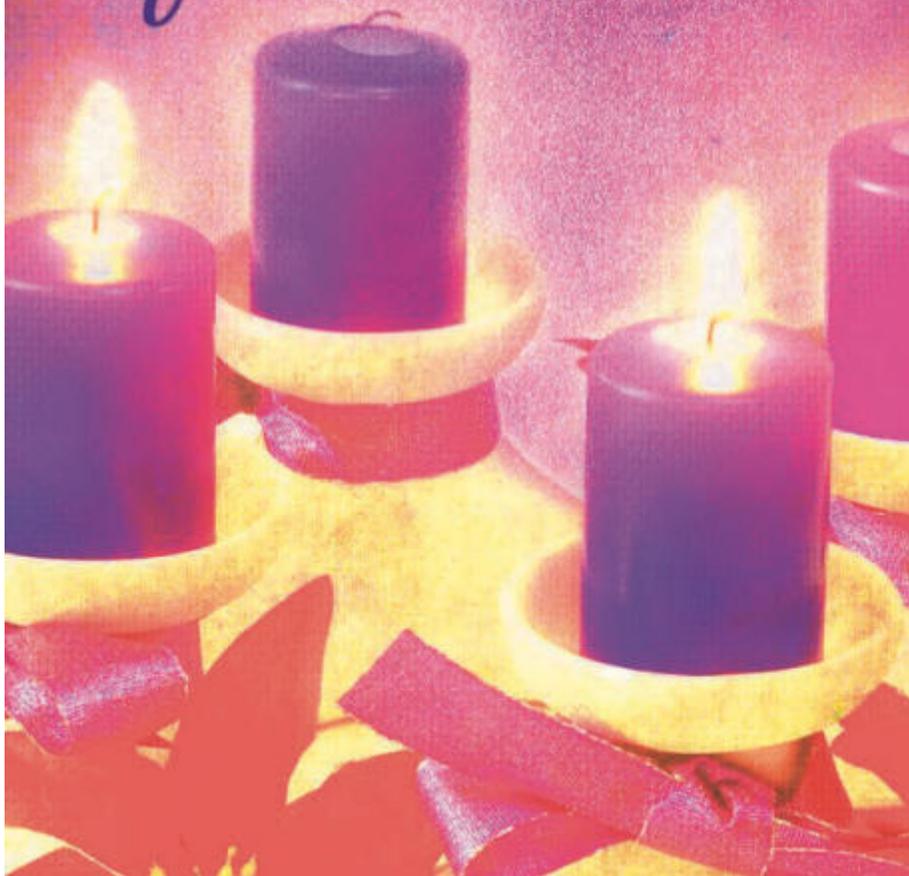


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SECOND SUNDAY of Advent



RECONCILIATION

Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. or you may call the office to make an appointment.

BAPTISM

We baptize during all Masses. Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism session prior to the Baptism. Please call the office for more information.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and cannot get to Mass, and they wish to receive the Eucharist, please call the office so arrangements can be made.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Michael Crookston
mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Faith Formation:

Scott Martin

smartin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bulletin Sec.: Tara Manderino

tmanderino@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance: Patrick Frederick

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Any article for the bulletin must be in the office by Monday noon.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 4 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Ralph Buffa by Donna Buffa

Sunday, December 5 — Second Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Rita Cocca by Michael, Donna & Dessie Apostolakis

10:30 AM † Deceased Members of Nick Mascetta Family by Family

Monday, December 6

8:00 AM † Teresa Trozzi by Beatrice Sarra & son, Bernie Sarra

Tuesday, December 7

No Mass

Wednesday, December 8 — Immaculate Conception

9:00 AM † Peggy Paulina by Marilyn Mascetta

Thursday, December 9

8:00 AM † Eugene Foglia by Rosalie Nicksich

Friday, December 10

No Mass

Saturday, December 11 — Vigil

4:00 PM † Adina Mancini by Kostelac & Winn Families

Sunday, December 12 — Third Week of Advent

8:30 AM † Frank and Lorraine Maiolini by Jeffery Frank Maiolini

10:30 AM † Louise Lettiero by Joan Torok

Parish Office:

44 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD

MONESSEN, PA 15062

Parish Office: 724-684-7661

Church Hall: 724-684-5512

Religious Education: 724-929-9300

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday –Thursday: 8:30 a.m. –12; 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m. –12:00 p.m.

Ministry Schedule — Dec. 11 & 12

	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 p.m.	S. Surdyn	S. Beneccio	S. Punturiero
8:30 a.m.	G. Pesi	K. Zimmaro	D. DeFelices
10:30 a.m.	M. Sacco	K. Imbrescia	J. Smith

Money Counters

Monday, December 6—Team #2— W. Anders

With Deepest Sympathy — Condolences are extended to the family of VICTORIA FRANCA AND ANGELA LANCAS. May God grant them eternal rest, and comfort to their families. We commend their souls to rest in the peace of Christ.

Stop and Listen

Once again this week the virtues of commitment and hope permeate our Liturgy. Baruch who was a companion and friend of Jeremiah speaks in words filled with hope. He speaks to a people who are living in fear with hope that one day they



will be able to return home. Baruch personifies God as a loving and concerned mother who reminds her children of their wrong doings while at the same time encourages them with words that speak of a future and promise of freedom, and that their journey home will be made easy because of God's love and care. Mountains will be leveled and valleys raised so that they may march on level ground with no hindrances.

St. Paul affirms those who are Baptized and living up to their commitments. Here he reminds us all that we should be grateful to the many people in our churches that faithfully carry on the work of the church by living out of their Baptismal promises. St. Luke in the Gospel introduces us to that mysterious figure we know as John the Baptist. It is interesting that he situates John in history by summarizing who the great leaders of the church were. In so doing, John is no mythical figure, he is rooted in history. Historians believe that John was a member of a strict Jewish sect whose members went through a ritual of washing or immersion into water symbolizing a baptism or bath. Similar to the prophets of the Old Testament, John summarizes all of salvation history for us by telling his audience to *"prepare the way of the Lord..."*

John must have been a magnetic person for his message spread far and wide among the people. He is presented to us as a humble man for he constantly reminds his listeners that *"One greater than I is to come."* His message always points to the promise or fulfillment of the commitment that Jesus would come. History portrays him as a man who stands in contrast to Jesus, being grave and foreboding. Jesus was welcoming and forgiving. You would not invite John to your Christmas party – he would arrive in loincloth and sandals and refuse to share your wine and probably lay a guilt trip on you for having fun. Jesus on the other hand would feel comfortable eating and drinking with you. In fact he performed some of his most forgiving acts around food and drink: different men, different ways of proclaiming God's forgiveness.

Rather than a prolonged waiting, Advent brings us to active listening. Our world is full of sounds and noise and sometimes it can be difficult to hear God's word. We are challenged today to take the real events of our everyday lives – all the suffering and pain, all the anxiety and hopelessness, all the joy and peace and see them as means to recognize the presence of Christ to us. This is what Advent is all about: recognizing the presence of Christ in our lives. We are encouraged to stop our busyness long enough to hear that Word and allow the Word to make straight our paths.



Feast of St. Nicholas

The legend of Santa Claus begins with a real saint, St. Nicholas born in the third century. Known for his generosity to those in need, and his love for children, his feast day is celebrated on December 6. While little **children put out their shoes on December 5** and look for the candies and small gifts left for them to find in the morning, **adults can share candies, chocolates and letters.** Sinter Klass (his Dutch name) is known throughout the world by many names, including Christ Kind or Kris Kringle in Germany, but is always a symbol of joy and sharing.

Stewardship

Christmas Angel Tree

Last week end we gave out tags for our "Angel Tree." We were able to use up all of our tags, for that I thank all of you. This will be a brighter Christmas for the children at Head Start. **Remember to bring your gift back next week end.** Have your package wrapped and attach the card to the package so that we know who the gift will be given to.



Again, I want to thank you for participating this year and as a parish we are truly sharing our goodness with the community. This is really what Christmas is all about.

Due to the bulletin deadline, last week's collection will be listed next week.

Weekly Collection Nov. 21

Votive Candles:	210
Utility & Energy:	20
Accent:	9
Advent	60
Children & Adult	
Collection:	3,582
Online Collection:	1,633
Total Collection:	\$5,513
Dio. Poverty Relief	283
Mission Co-Op	10
Total Collection:	\$5,806

Thank You

Christmas Wreaths

The decorating committee would like to thank all of those who purchased the Christmas Wreaths that were made. It was a lot of work, but hopefully many people will enjoy the fruits of their labors.

Breakfast with Santa

On the **19th of December from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** we will celebrate Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Breakfast will be provided by the Holy Name Society. They will serve pancakes and sausage, juice and coffee for **\$5.00 (adults), children are free.** Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there for pictures. There will be treats for all the children. I hope that you will be able to stop by and visit with Santa!



Christmas on Broad Ave.

Christmas on Broad Avenue



At St. Sebastian's On **December 12** we will celebrate our first Christmas on Broad Ave. from **4 p.m. until 7 p.m.** This is a golden opportunity to come with your family and celebrate the joy of the season. There will be plenty to do so mark your calendars.

Groups

Holy Name Sunday is next **Sunday, December 12.** The date was incorrect last week. Corporate Communion will be at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. The regular monthly meeting will be held in the church hall following Mass.

Monessen Knights Christmas Banquet

Saturday Dec 18th will be the annual Christmas dinner/dance. **Live music by Ken Santoro!** Drinks & appetizers starting at 5:30pm. Dinner at 6pm. Cost is \$20/person. **BUT ALL MUST PRE-REGISTER** so we can ensure we have sufficient food available. Contact committee chair George Pesci (412-951-6829) or Grand Knight Bob Kuzynski (kuzynski@verizon.net) to register by the **deadline of Dec 5th.**



Faith

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

This **Wednesday, December 8**, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: the conception of Mary in the womb of her mother, St. Anne. For this Holy Day of Obligation, we will have Mass at Epiphany on **Wednesday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m.** An anticipated Mass will be held at St. Sebastian on Tuesday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m.



Christmas Wafers



There will be Christmas Wafers available in the entrance of the Church. The cost per package is \$2.00. The breaking of these wafers is an ancient ritual that unites the past with the present. As the wafers are shared the leader says:

"Through this sharing we are God Bound to forgive each other all the wrongs real and imagined, which have been committed through the year...and promise never to return to them. Only then do we have a valid sharing of the holy wafers. As Christ forgives us, so we forgive each other."

Congratulations

Several youth from our parish made their sacrament of Confirmation this past week. They are:

Sydney Anne Duda
Mackenzie Teresa Smith
Sophia Clair Yatchyshyn



Advent: A Time to Prepare...

During this advent season we focus on the Mercy of God we share through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below are listed the dates and times for our Regional Penance. The priests of the region will gather at 6:00 to begin hearing confessions.

December 6: St. Edward's in Herminie
December 13: Seven Dolor's in Yukon
December 14: Epiphany in Monessen
December 15: St. Anne's in Rostraver
December 16: Holy Family in West Newton
December 20: St. Sebastian in Belle Vernon



During Advent there will be no confessions on Tuesdays in Monessen. I hope that you will be able to fit one of these times into your schedule and share in

the Mercy of God during this season of waiting.

Calendars

Thanks to the generosity of **Janosik's Pharmacy, Dalfonso – Billick Funeral Home, Franks Service Garage, INC. and the Robert A Billick Funeral Home, INC** who provided our parish once again with the calendar for 2022. We are grateful to these sponsors and thank them for their goodness. You may pick up one of these calendars throughout the Advent Season.

Get the App

Text ParishApp 1 to 555888 (Apple) / ParishApp 2 to 555888 (Android). Or if you prefer — Search for Parish App in the Apple Store or Google Play. Once you download the app, you will need to select Epiphany of Our Lord as your parish.

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