

# IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA

## Blessed Christmas!

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we continue to celebrate the Christmas Festival, take just a moment to pause and consider just how good God has been to you over this past year.

While there have been many challenges for us, as well as the entire world over the past many months, God is good! Once again, we are reminded of the fragility of life and that we should do our best to value our loved ones. With our eyes on the babe in the manger, we must again commit to reveal God through our love for one another.



## THE HOLY FAMILY

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. - Lk 2:46-47

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

**DECEMBER 26, 2021**

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

*How can we help you?*

## Sacraments

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 6:00 PM & by appointment.

### BAPTISM

By individual appointment. Baptism is celebrated during the weekend Liturgies.

### MATRIMONY

6 months preparation required.

### ANOINTING OF SICK

If you or a loved one are sick, facing surgery or are in any health need, please contact the Parish Office to arrange for the celebration of the Anointing of the Sick.

### HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME

Monthly visits by Pastor & Eucharistic Ministers.  
Celebration of the Mass:

#### Avalon Springs:

10:30 AM - 3rd Friday of the month.

#### Countryside:

10:30 AM - 4th Friday of the month.

### Hospitalized

Please contact the Parish Office for pastoral visit.

## Faith Formation

**Youth:** Gr. 1-11 Sunday 9:00-10:15 AM

**Adult:** R.C.I.A./Adult Ed. - as scheduled

## Social Services

### SHARING SHED FOOD PANTRY

2nd & 4th Saturdays: 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

**AA:** Tues. at 7:30 PM (Gallagher Hall)

**AA:** Wed. at 8:00 PM (Gallagher Hall)

**AI Anon:** Wed. at 8:00 PM (Learning Center)

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Mass Intentions: 724-662-2999.

Prayer Chain: Janice: 724-977-7860

e-mail: [jdl59@verizon.net](mailto:jdl59@verizon.net)

## Immaculate Heart of Mary

100 Penn Avenue

Mercer, PA 16137

Phone: 724-662-2999

Fax: 724-662-5094

Office Email: [ihm@zoominternet.net](mailto:ihm@zoominternet.net)

Website: [ihmcmrcer.com](http://ihmcmrcer.com)



Give Online: [ihmcmrcer.weshareonline.org](http://ihmcmrcer.weshareonline.org)

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico

Bishop of Erie

1-800-374-3723

Very Reverend Matthew Kujawinski V.F.

Pastor

Dean, Sharon Deanery

Administrator, Office of Worship

[fr.matt@zoominternet.net](mailto:fr.matt@zoominternet.net)

Barbara Kehlbeck

Coordinator of Faith Formation

Marge McGinnis,

Business Manager

Lou Ann Zitko

Secretary

## IHM PRAYER INTENTIONS



Chuck Leydic

Marianne Shipton

Louise Hawrylak

Anthony Livorse

Bill Viselli

Bob McGhee

Don Kremm

Amy Packard

Jim Kwaiser

Brian S.

Albert Casacia

Judy Zuzack

Donald Rabold

Shirley Ann Whelan

Marion Grace Blough

Phillip Steigerwald

Leona Millie Hart

Diana Hess

Brendan Minnock

Larry Hines

Emilia Blanchfield

Martha Rupert

Terri Chaney

Bailey Helch

Rita Spirko

Andrew G.

Abigail Joy Campbell

Juliane Vurell

Robert Angelucci

To be included in our prayer chain, call Janice at 724-977-7860, or the rectory at 724-662-2999.

*Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure*

**MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

None Scheduled At This Time

**LECTORS**

24 Dec 5:00 pm - J. McCracken  
 25 Dec Midnight - T. Waterloo  
 25 Dec 9:00 am - C. Wilpula  
 26 Dec 8:00 am - M. Gutowski  
 10:30 am - M. Hazi  
 31 Dec 5:00 pm - D. Birch  
 01 Jan 9:00 am - D. Whittaker

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

24 Dec 5:00 pm - E. Wanner  
 25 Dec Midnight - E. Serge  
 25 Dec 9:00 am - D. McMullen  
 26 Dec 8:00 am - M. Shomin  
 26 Dec 10:30 am - T. Peters  
 31 Dec 5:00 pm - S. DeMarsh  
 01 Jan 9:00 am - J. Sweet

**OFFERTORY FAMILIES**

None Scheduled At This Time

**RECITATION OF THE ROSARY**

**COLLECTION COUNTERS**

None Scheduled At This Time

**FAITH FORMATION**



**Grades 1 - 11**  
**Every Sunday 9 AM - 10:15 AM**  
**dismissal from Gallagher Hall**  
**Masks required**

Sun. Dec. 26 & Jan. 2: No Class  
 Sun. Jan. 09: Classes Resume  
 Sun. Jan. 16: Class Reconciliation Gr. 5 & 7



**Weekly Offering**  
**December 12, 2021**

Offertory	\$ 2,667.00
Loose Money	289.23
Children	2.00
Religious Retirement	462.00
Facilities Maintenance	123.00
Christmas	20.00
Fuel & Utilities	20.00
Immaculate Conception	<u>447.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 4,030.23</b>

**ONLINE:**

Offertory	\$ 1,268.00
Fuel & Utilities	25.00
Immaculate Conception	55.00
Facilities Maintenance	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,448.00</b>

**Catholic Services Appeal**

**103 Families Pledged \$44,845**  
**Paid to Date \$43,675**

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

## From Fr. Matt:

### Special retreat opportunity for young adults between 19 and 35.

The Diocese of Erie is sponsoring a retreat Jan. 3-7 for college-age young people and young adults under the age of 35 at the Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center south of Sharon. Applications are still being accepted, but space is limited. For more information, contact either of the retreat organizers: Jillian Zaczyk (jzaczyk@eriercd.org) or Dave Roncolato (droncola@allegheny.edu). The application for the retreat can be found under Young Adult Ministry (Silent Retreat) at : <https://www.eriercd.orgyouthsilentretreat.html>.

#### Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:41-52 or  
/1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10  
/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 /Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6  
/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/Gal 4:4-7  
/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13  
/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Dear Friends,

A Blessed Christmas to you all!

A special word of welcome to all who may be visiting at this time of year. I would like to offer a particular welcome to Fr. Ian McElrath who is celebrating the Mass for us this morning.

Fr. Ian called a few weeks ago and offered to celebrate the Mass here at Immaculate Heart this Sunday since he would be home in Sharon and then I would not need to come back last night from Erie. Since he offered, I accepted. Fr. Ian, like me, keeps very busy. He is the Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Erie, he teaches Theology at Mercyhurst Prep and he assists with the celebration of the Latin Mass at St. Casimir Church in Erie.

Bishop Persico continues to encourage those who are comfortable doing so, as well as those who are not vaccinated, to wear a mask when gathered in church for Mass.

We gather today on the second day of Christmas which this year is the Feast of the Holy Family.

Children can relate to sometimes being lost and parents can relate to feeling anxiety and fear for their children. These feelings are captured in the gospel passage this morning. The gospel also speaks about the example that parents give to children about their worship of God and about a child's realization that God's work can be done even by the very young. In the end, it is about how all of us need to advance in wisdom, age and grace with God's help – no matter how old we are.

Stay safe,

Fr. Matt

#### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE: Request for Registration Form Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

**Please drop Membership Form into the collection basket or mail to the Rectory.**

**COOKIE WALK & SOUP SALE**



*Thank you to all the cookie bakers, soup makers, and volunteers who help make our Cookie Walk & Soup*



*Sale a success. This fundraiser resulted in a net gain of \$2,346.00*

**LOTTERY TREES RAFFLE**



*Thank you to everyone who donated instant lottery tickets and to all who bought chances to win the trees. This fundraiser resulted in a net gain of \$2,842.17.*

**Lottery Tree Winners:**

**Patty Kennihan  
Stephanie Smith**

*Happy Scratching!*

**ANNUAL NURSING HOME  
GIFT TREE**

A very merry *Thank you* to everyone who purchased gifts for the residents of Avalon, Quality Life Services, Greystone and the Lakes at Jefferson. 178 gifts were sent to them. Also, many thanks to all the “elves” who sorted and bagged them.



**“There’s rumblings of a Rummage Sale”**

Coming Saturday, April 23, 2022  
to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

As you tackle spring cleaning, closet clean outs, or plan to move or downsize, remember the Rummage Sale and box good condition or gently used items.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 25**

9:00 am † **Bill Philson**  
(Janice & David Langdon)

**Sunday, December 26**

8:00 am **People of the Parish**

10:30 am † **James E. Joyce, Sr.**  
(Jim & Dottie Joyce)

**Monday, December 27**

No Mass

**Tuesday, December 28**

Mass at St. Mark’s Chapel

† **Faithful Departed**

**Wednesday, December 29**

8:00 am † **Donna Rae Smith**  
(Fr. Matt & Staff)

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament

**Thursday, December 30**

8:00 am † **Mary Yingling**  
(Jim & Terry Anderson)

**Friday, December 31**

5:00 pm † **Marilyn Suchy**  
(Jim & Dottie Joyce)

**Saturday, January 1**

9:00 am † **Fred Kehlbeck** (Family)

5:00 pm **People of the Parish**

**Sunday, January 2**

8:00 am † **Joe Shipton** (Marianne Shipton)

10:30 am † **Ellen Oehlbeck**  
(Larry Zitko Family)



*Eternal Light*

Jesus is the 'Light of the World' and the Sanctuary Candle reminds us of His True Presence. The Sanctuary Vigil Light is burning this month in memory of John, Marge, & Tim Bell as requested by the Minner Family.

**FAIRVIEW SWISS CHEESE**  
JOHN KOLLER & SON INC.  
Retail Store Open Daily  
1734 Perry Hwy Fredonia, PA 16134  
724-475-4154  
Like us on Facebook  
FairviewSwissCheese.com

1734 Perry Hwy. - Fredonia  
724-475-4154

**Robert Savolskis C.P.A.**  
*Individual and Business*

- TAX PREPARATION
- BUSINESS PLANNING
- CONSULTING

124 S. Center St., Grove City  
724-458-3800

---

William Matesich, President  
**MATESICH**  
FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.  
1235 South Center Street Ext., Suite A, Grove City  
Tel: 724.458.4405 Fax: 724.458.4415  
William.matesich@LPL.com  
Securities Offered through LPL Financial, a registered  
Investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC

**MERCER PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
724-662-1644  
Alex Borowicz P.T., M.P.T.  
Physical Therapist  
220 West Venango St., Mercer  
fax: 724-662-1645

PROUDLY SERVING MERCER COUNTY!

**ARMSTRONG**  
INSURANCE AGENCY

AUTO - HOME - BUSINESS - LIFE  
724-662-4130  
An Equal Opportunity Employer, FINRA

Erie Insurance®

"OVER 80 YEARS OF SERVICE"

**Lettieri's Italian Dining**  
**Fox's Pizza**

**MERCER PLAZA**  
724-662-4414

**Gabany's**  
Family Owned Since 1984

**Automotive Services**  
**Storage Facilities**  
**Engine Rebuilding**

Ray • Russ • Randy • Roger  
548 South Erie St. (Rt. 19S), Mercer  
724-662-4343

**HARTLE ELDER LAW PRACTICE, LLC**

**CAROLYN E. HARTLE, ESQUIRE**

*The law firm where we treat you like part of the family*

2500 Highland Road • Suite 105  
Hermitage, PA 16148

Phone: 724-962-3606  
Fax: 724-979-6610

*We can help you with your Party Trays!*  
**Meatballs, Pasta, Tossed Salads, Potato Salads... More!**

**Seniors Helping Seniors**  
THE POWER OF LOVE®  
©2019 Each office is independently owned and operated. License #37543601

Call us for an extra set of hands with shopping, cooking, chores, laundry, gardening, small repairs and so much more.

*Home & Heart*  
Like getting a little help from your friends®  
For your senior's personal care, when you can't be there®

724-877-3505  
admin@shs-shenangovalley.com  
www.seniorcareshenangovalley.com

**MINNER'S Garage** ASE

Full Service Auto Repair • State & Emissions Inspection  
Transmission Repair • Medium & Heavy Truck Repair

134 Schaffer Road, Mercer PA 16137  
(724) 662-5784

Looking to Purchase, Renovate or Refinance a home?

Andy Fritz  
Catholic Mortgage Professional  
724-772-3333 ext 2130  
Andy@WelcomeHomeFinance.com  
NMLS #1885308

**AVALON SPRINGS PLACE**

Short Term Rehab • Long Term Care  
Independent Apartments

**Avalon Springs Place**  
745 Greenville Rd  
Mercer, Pa 16137  
724-662-5400

UPMC SENIOR COMMUNITIES

**FREE AD DESIGN**

WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

**CALL**  
800.477.4574

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**

**ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Tim Weir**  
to place an ad today!  
tweir@4LPi.com or  
**(800) 477-4574 x6568**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH.**

Buy a bulletin ad space today!

*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](http://www.ParishesOnline.com)

**GREYSTONE COUNTRY ESTATES**

Personal and Independent Living for the Elderly  
J.R. AND MONICA POWELL, OWNER/MANAGER  
424 Delaware Road • Fredonia, PA 16124  
724.638.7600  
www.greystonecountriestates.com

**John J. DeCaro, Jr.**  
**Adrienne A. Langer**  
— Attorneys at Law —  
Cusick, DeCaro & Langer  
Ellwood City: 724-758-3626  
New Castle: 724-658-2525

*Cunningham*  
**FUNERAL HOMES**

*Six Generations*

MERCER and GROVE CITY  
724.662.2720 724.458.7790  
~SINCE 1848~