

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA

Blessed Christmas!

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

It seems almost unbelievable that we are already on the ninth day of 2022 and now entering the third year of a Global Pandemic.

The latest “variant” of the Covid-19 virus is called “Omicron.” Many people may not realize it, but this is the 15th letter out of 24 of the Greek Alphabet. The Greek language plays a big role in Christianity because it was the most common language as the Church was in her infant days. The Scriptures of the New Testament were written in Greek. We refer to the Lord as the Alpha and the Omega— the first and last letters of the Greek Alphabet. May Christ always be our first thought and last thought in every moment.



JANUARY 9, 2022

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

Immaculate Heart of Mary 100 Penn Avenue Mercer, PA 16137

Phone: 724-662-2999

Fax: 724-662-5094

Office Email: ihm@zoominternet.net

Website: ihmcmercer.com



Give Online: ihmcmercer.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

Barbara Kehlbeck

Coordinator of Faith Formation

Marge McGinnis,
Business Manager

Lou Ann Zitko
Secretary

IHM PRAYER INTENTIONS



Dave Zellmann
Chuck Leydic
Marianne Shipton
Louise Hawrylak
Anthony Livorse
Bill Viselli
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

08 Jan 5:00 pm - T. Waterloo
 09 Jan 8:00 am - B. Kehlbeck
 10:30 am - M. Hazi
 15 Jan 5:00 pm - D. Birch
 16 Jan 8:00 am - D. Whittaker
 10:30 am - C. Wilpula

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

08 Jan 5:00 pm - T. Krupa
 09 Jan 8:00 am - M. Shomin
 10:30 am - N. Stauff
 15 Jan 5:00 pm - A. Wanner
 16 Jan 8:00 am - J. Sweet
 10:30 am - E. Serge

OFFERTORY FAMILIES

None Scheduled At This Time

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

08 Jan 4:30 pm - B. Krug
 15 Jan 4:30 pm - R. Hiteshew

COLLECTION COUNTERS

None Scheduled At This Time

SHARING SHED 10:00 am - 11:00 am

22 Jan J. & S. Krupa, M. Gutowski

FAITH FORMATION



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

Sun. Jan. 09: Class
 Sun. Jan. 16: Class Reconciliation Gr. 5 & 7
 Sun. Jan. 23: Class Reconciliation Gr. 8
 Sun. Jan. 30: Class Reconciliation Gr. 2 & 3
 Confirmation Retreat - Notre Dame, 10 am to 5 pm



Church Fundraising

Fundraising Committee Meeting

Members of the Fundraising Committee are reminded of the next meeting this Thursday, January 13, at 6:30 pm, in the Learning Center.

Weekly Offering
January 2, 2022

Solemnity of Mary	
Loose Money	55.00
Loose Money	230.00
Offertory	3,897.55
Solemnity of Mary	545.00
Christmas	175.00
Initial Offering	135.00
Children	20.00
Fuel & Utilities	10.00
Cemetery	10.00
Catholic Communication	25.00
Facilities Maintenance	<u>260.00</u>
Total:	\$ 5,362.55

ONLINE:

Offertory	\$ 768.00
Fuel & Utilities	40.00
Christmas	35.00
Facilities Maintenance	<u>20.00</u>
Total:	\$ 863.00

From Fr. Matt:

Dear Friends,

We bring the Christmas Festival to an end today as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord.

At baptism, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and become the children of God. After being baptized, Jesus began his ministry to bring about the kingdom of God. With the fire of God's love kindled in us, we too are to be about building God's kingdom.

We celebrate many manifestations of Christ during the Christmas Season. On this last day of the Christmas Season ask God for openness. Reflect: what can I do to manifest God's presence in my life by how I act each day? Nine days into the new year, it may be time for another resolution: on this celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, consciously resolve to follow Christ more closely and seriously live your baptismal calling.

Help is needed today. The Christmas Season is at its end and we need to put away the Christmas decorations. If you are able to, help us after 10:30 Mass, it would be greatly appreciated.

Pray! COVID is still rampant. If you have not been asking God's help, NOW would be a good time to do so. On the same note, the suffering of the entire human race from Covid in mind, what message can we discern from such suffering?

Bishop Persico continues to encourages every one to wear a mask when gathered in church for Mass.

Stay safe,

Fr. Matt



Bethany Retreat Center in Frenchville has a variety of retreats planned for 2022.

Go to www.bethanyretreatcenter.org to see what retreats are in the works. In addition, Bethany offers private retreats for groups and organizations and personal retreats for individuals wishing to get away for silence and solitude. To inquire, call 814-263-4855.

Readings for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]
/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4,
24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19
/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd
/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a,
8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25
/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19
/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]
/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

MEMBERSHIP FORM

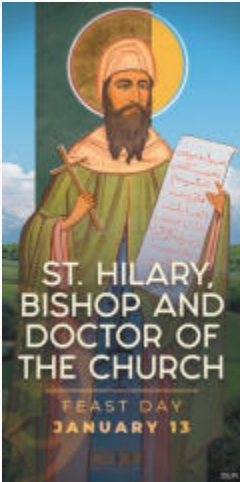
Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Number of People in Household: _____

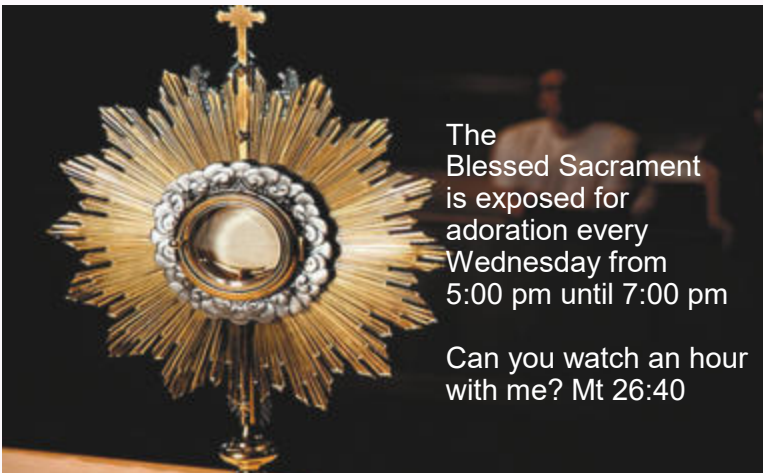
CIRCLE ONE: Request for Registration Form Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

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



Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.



The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration every Wednesday from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm

Can you watch an hour with me? Mt 26:40

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

Online Gaming: 72% of teens, both male and female (ages 13-17) play video games. More than half of those teens said they have made new friends online. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children analysis of Cyber Tipline reports has found that gaming platforms are more often used in the online enticement of young boys than any other group of children. It is important for parents to talk to their child about safety in online gaming. Some important questions to ask are: Have you ever been cyberbullied while gaming? Do you know what information is OK to share about yourself while gaming? Has anyone talked about sex while you were gaming or asked you to send pictures of yourself? If your child answers yes, report the matter to law enforcement. Visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/ for additional resources

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 8

5:00 pm † **Earl Edward Yingling**
(Fr. Matt & Staff)

Sunday, January 9

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

10:30 am **Special Intention**
(Jim & Dottie Joyce)

Monday, January 10

No Mass

Tuesday, January 11

Mass at St. Mark's Chapel

† **Faithful Departed**

Wednesday, January 12

8:00 am † **Anne Kennedy**
(Bonnie & Andy Housler)

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

Thursday, January 13

8:00 am † **Mary Ann Frydrych**
(Barb Kish & Family)

Friday, January 14

8:00 am † **Jack Russell**
(Janice & David Langdon)

Saturday, January 15

5:00 pm † **Margaret Muehlman Smyth**
(Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Byce)

Sunday, January 16

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

10:30 am † **Clara Alfano**
(Janice & David Langdon)



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 Nicholas and Louise Manfredi as requested by the Family.

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