



ST. MARK & MT. CALVARY Parishes



DECEMBER 19, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Office is Located At:
695 Smithson Ave. Erie, PA 16511
Phone: (814) 899-3000 or (814) 454-0061

After-Hour Sacramental Emergency Number:
(814)923-9500

Office Hours
Monday– Thursday 8:00 AM– 1:00 PM

St. Mark Church
695 Smithson Ave.
Erie, PA 16511
(Lawrence Park)

Mt. Calvary Church
2022 East Lake Rd.
Erie, PA 16511

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY:

8:00 am at St. Mark Church

12:10 pm at Mt. Calvary Church

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 4:30 pm at St. Mark Church

SUNDAY: 8:45 am at Mt. Calvary Church

10:30 am at St. Mark Church

Sunday, December 19 4th Sunday of ADVENT

Emmaus Cookie Sunday

8:45 AM Mass (MC) *Lector: John Warus*

9:00 AM Religious Education

10:30 AM Mass (SM) *Lector: Shelly Sheridan*

Monday, December 20

6:00 PM Cub Scouts

7:00 PM Boy Scouts

Tuesday, December 21 – First Day of Winter

Wednesday, December 22

Emmaus Soup Kitchen

8:00 AM Daily Mass (SM)

12:10 PM Daily Mass (MC)

7:00 PM N.A.

Thursday, December 23

Donations collected for Edison Food Pantry

8:00 AM Daily Mass (SM)

12:10 PM Daily Mass (MC)

6:30 PM A.A.

6:30 PM Choir

Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:30 PM Daily Mass (SM) *Lector: Clint Badowski*

7:00 PM Daily Mass (MC) *Lector: John Warus*

Saturday, December 25 Christmas Day

12:00 AM (SM) *Midnight Mass*

Lector: Noreen Brown

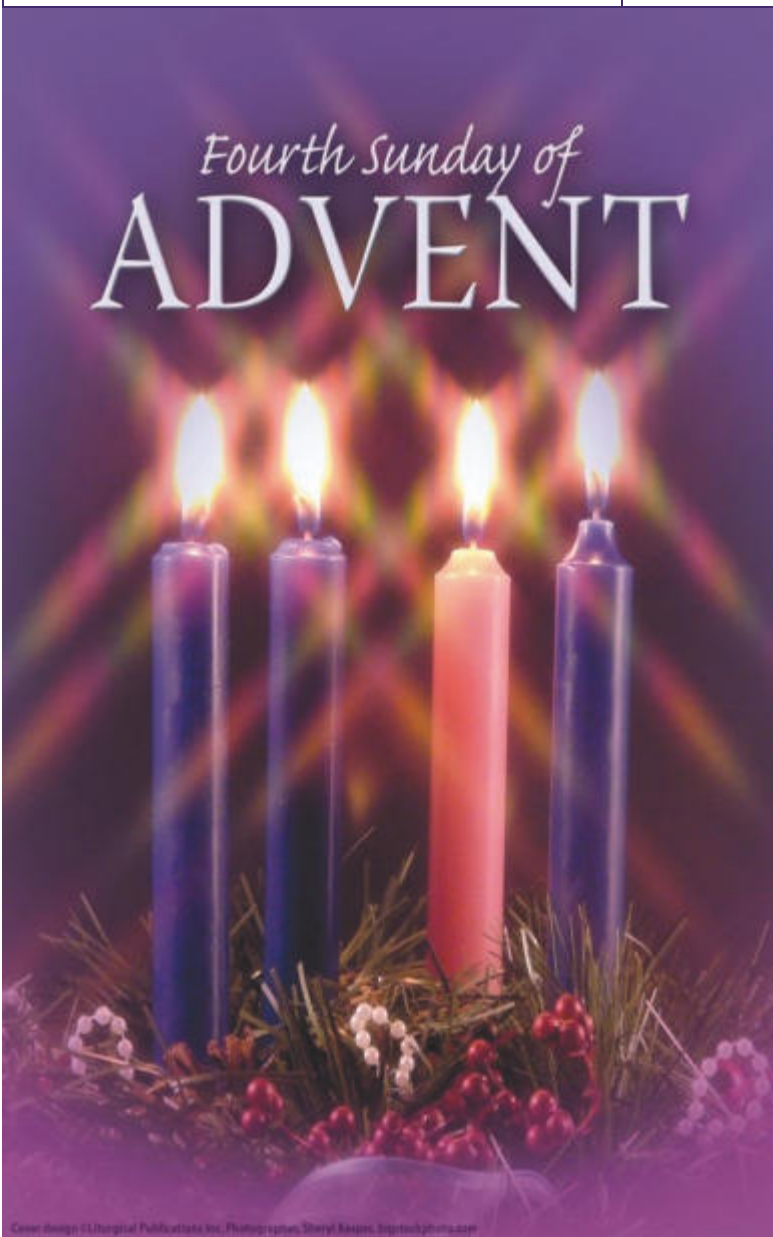
10:00 AM (MC) *Lector: Kathy Woods*

NO 4:30 MASS

Sunday, December 26

8:45 AM Mass (MC) *Lector: Carmel Campanelli*

10:30 AM Mass (SM) *Lector: Joanne Collins*



The More You Know... Theological Musings



- with Fr. Tom Trocchio -

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The gospel story this Sunday is a mirror image of a love song. It is the love story that exists among Mary, her older cousin Elizabeth and the babies they carry, Jesus and John the Baptist.

Just imagine the young girl Mary skipping, running, flying, leaping “like a gazelle” through the hill country on her way to be with Elizabeth whose baby is due. Elizabeth’s time of joyful expectancy nears fulfillment. Elizabeth has *waited* many long years for her promised child. Mary, young and newly pregnant is full of Love and joyful expectation. She has only months not years in *wait* for her fulfillment. Imagine their greeting - sweet tears of joy running down their cheeks. Each one reaching for the other while awkwardly maneuvering their arms around Elizabeth’s swollen belly. Their mutual longing is gratified. The delights in *Wait*.

The Love Mary carries blesses Elizabeth who is “filled with the Holy Spirit”. Elizabeth cannot suppress the thrill she feels “... the moment the sound of your, Mary, greeting reached my ears, my, infant, John, leaped for joy”. Elizabeth reverently sings the praises of Mary and the infant she carries. “Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” In their sisterly confidences there is unbridled joy in the midst of longing and *waiting*. They dwell in the fullness of *wait* for the fulfillment of the promise. The joys in *wait*.



The love song and the love story are lived experiences of joy, longing and desire – the lived experience of *Wait*. The season of *Wait*, the experience of *Waiting* is not merely in preparation for something or someone. *Wait* is its own season. *Wait* has a fullness, a significance, a meaning of its own. The church season of *Wait*.

Witness the joy and desire in *Waiting*. *Waiting* itself is a rich experience. It is not always a joyful time, can be challenging, but always a rich time. There is a fullness and identity in the *Wait*. *Waiting* is not just a preparation time prior to some thing happening – life or death, but a gift in itself – to be held, relished, tended within the relationship. The *Wait* that Mary and Elizabeth share, the *Wait* of expectant parents, the *Wait* of Mary and Joseph, the *Wait* shared between the expectant mother and the infant she carries. The *Wait* is rich in invitations and offerings.

In these last few days of Advent, of *Wait*, as preparation and anticipation begin to mount, what is God offering us? What is it within our unique intimate relationship with the Lord that God wants us to receive, to enjoy, to savor? What have been the gifts, the graces, the blessings of this year’s *Wait*?

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Tom

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20TH TO DECEMBER 26, 2021**Mon. December 20:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38**Tues. December 21:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45**Wed. December 22:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56**Thurs. December 23:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66**Fri. December 24:** (Friday morning) 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79**Sat. December 25:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Sun. December 26: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52**Wed. December 22:**8:00 am (SM) Keith & Becky DiLuzio (*Family*)12:10 pm (MC) Bridget Zebrowski (*Family*)**Thurs. December 23:**8:00 am (SM) Intentions of Sr. Mary Cabrini
(*Joe & Mary Garofalo*)12:10 pm (MC) Henry D. Bujalski (*Amy Extein*)**Fri. December 24:**4:30 pm (SM) Rich Podbielski (*Family*)7:00 pm (MC) For the deceased members of
St. Mark & Mt. Calvary parishes**Sat. December 25:**

12:00 am (SM) (Midnight Mass)

John & Marion Armstrong (*Noreen Brown*)10:00 am (MC) Fran Farabaugh (*wife, Connie*)*Note :NO Saturday 4:30 pm MASS***Sun. December 26:**8:45 (MC) Henry and Dorothy Bujalski
(*Boris Family*)10:30 (SM) For the deceased members of
St. Mark & Mt. Calvary parishes**SANCTUARY CANDLES BURNING
WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021****At St. Mark Church:**In loving memory of Joe Breski (*Wife, Julie*)**At Mt. Calvary Church:**In loving memory of Fran Farabaugh (*Family*)**A Family Perspective**

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed" or an "obstacle to my career." It is said "Christmas is for children." It is more accurate to say "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

Marriage Moment

Dec. 21 is the winter solstice, the longest night of the year. Dark nights can be cozy when warmed by love and candlelight, but for some it can be a time of personal depression. If this week finds you blessed with pleasant experiences of darkness, pray for those who aren't. If you are among those who are currently struggling in your marriage, or life in general, accept the power of prayer.

Getting married (or know someone who is)?

Engaged couples are invited to attend an Engagement Encounter this January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide engaged couples the tools for a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. Here's what folks have loved in the past: Time as a couple to focus on their relationship, a community that prays and has fun together, a non-judgmental atmosphere, the chance to set a good foundation for their marriage, and the opportunity to retreat from busy wedding details and enjoy each other. Learn more or register at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

Seventh Annual 138 Women's Conference

"Say Yes!" to the 7th Annual 138 Women's Conference. The conference will be held from 8:30-12:30 on March 12, 2022. You may attend live at St. Jude Parish in Erie, PA, virtually at satellite parishes via zoom or in your own home via zoom. The cost is \$20. This year's conference will feature national speakers Lisa Hendey, best selling author and founder of CatholicMom.com and Patricia Breen who writes online for Blessed is She, Fem Catholic, Grotto Network and CatholicMatch. Visit our website at www.138women.com for more information and to register."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- December 20:** Alysa Lemmon, Dorothy Spizarney, Joe Westcott
- December 21:** John Guianen, Cole Marshall
- December 22:** Leo Nicolussi, Charles Peters, Kathleen Quinlan
- December 23:** Carol Casandra, JoAnne Warren
- December 24:** Chris Cowan, John Divins, Alyssa Kane
- December 25:** Edward Chimenti, Jr.
- December 26:** Rich Main

Happy Anniversary

- December 20:** Delene & John Leri
- December 26:** Charles & Linda Roach



A big thank you to the St. Mark and Mt. Calvary parishes. This year, our 35th year of providing groceries for a complete Thanksgiving dinner to needy families across Erie County, we were able to provide 3,004 dinners. During these trying times of Covid, the need across the County was incredibly high. Through your donations, combined with donations from Erie Insurance employees and agents, along with a few other organizations, we were able to satisfy that need for many of those families in need. God bless you for your generosity and support and have a blessed holiday season.



Rick and Jane Hinman

Secret Prayer Pals Reminder

Just a reminder to keep those positive thoughts and prayers going for your Secret Prayer Pal. Even though the prayers are silent, they still have a great impact on the individual you are praying for. Even if they do not know who you are, they will know you are there thinking of them.

We will have a Prayer Pal reveal coming around early to mid January. More details to come...

The reveal gathering is not mandatory Please do not let this keep you from joining this faith formation prayerful activity.



Fr. Tom will lead us through The Advent of the Messiah Bible Study so we might more deeply appreciate the gift God gave to us all. This Advent Bible Study will take place on **Thursdays** during Advent and the Christmas Season at **1pm in Rms 1 & 2 of the Ward Center!**

Materials will be available in the Parish Office to read and reflect upon before our next class on Thursday, December 23rd, 2021 at 1pm in Rms 1 & 2. Contact Fr. Tom or Stacey to receive your materials for this Bible Study!

RETIREMENT DONATIONS

Religious give thanks.

A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

December 24th:	December 25th:	December 26th:
4:30pm SM	10:00am MC	8:45am MC
7:00pm MC	*No 4:30 Mass on	10:30am SM
Midnight SM	December 25th*	



Would you like to make a Christmas Flower Donation but do not receive envelopes currently? Please, take an Christmas Flower envelope from the front of the Parishes for your donation.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Thomas Trocchio, ext. 11
ttrocchio@smmc.church

Deacon Assistant

Deacon Dave Jacquel, ext. 13
djacquel@smmc.church

Director of Operations and Finance

Pat Marshall, ext. 12
pmarshall@smmc.church

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Receptionist/Secretary

Carmel Campanelli, ext. 10
ccampanelli@smmc.church

Director of Maintenance

Nathan Jackson
njackson@smmc.church

Director of Lifelong Faith Formation

Stacey Badowski, ext. 14
sbadowski@smmc.church

Director of Liturgical Music

Coordinator of Liturgy

Maripat C. Grant
mgrant@smmc.church

Junior and Senior High Youth Minister

Katie Leuschen ext. 17
kleuschen@smmc.church

Elementary Level Youth Minister

Katie Schwenk ext. 17
kschwenk@smmc.church

PRAYER LINE

CAROL (899-6207)

JPERROTTO@ROADRUNNER.COM



We are feeling the waiting and anticipation of Christmas through Religious Education right now! We've made Wreaths for Retired Priests and Sisters, plus Advent Wreaths and Ornaments for our families while learning about why we are waiting!



Thank you for your support with our Advent Giving Trees!



Questions contact Katie Schwenk @ kschwenk@smmc.church



Christmas Cookie Bake Off

Families, come and join Katie S. to bake Christmas cookies for the Emmaus Soup Kitchen!

Elementary Youth Group

December 16 @ 6pm, Ward Center Kitchen.



St. Mark / Mount Calvary Hats for the Homeless



Winter will be here before you know it and once again there will be a need for winter gear.

You can help!

Knit or Crochet hats or scarves

Donate new or gently used hats, gloves and scarves

Make a monetary donation to be used toward the purchase of gloves

Boxes for donations located at the doors of the Church



Questions call Geri Smith @ 882-5284 or Pat Marshall @ 899-3000

All donations will be distributed through EMMAUS Ministries.



Thank you to the Knights of Columbus #13826 for hosting Cookies with Santa! Everyone truly enjoyed the afternoon sharing delicious cookies, donuts and punch while being able to visit with Santa!



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PICK OF THE WEEK

December 19, 2021

WATCH

CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY

Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem.



THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

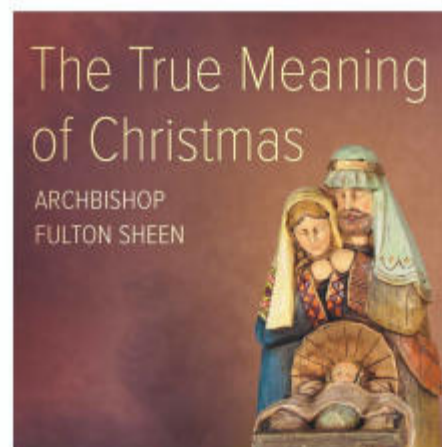
Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. Join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

LEARN

LISTEN

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BY FULTON SHEEN

This presentation combines recordings of Fulton Sheen's timeless reflections on the meaning of Christmas, mixed with Gregorian chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!



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