

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, December 8th, 8:00 a.m. - Catherine Pieja Cirulli

Saturday, December 11th, - 3:30 p.m. - Chester Chelstowski

Sunday, December 12th, - 10:30 a.m. - Helen Wlazewska (8th Anniversary)

Attention: Any parishioner who is homebound and wishes to receive Communion please call the office at 610-779-4005.

Pan Z Wami - 2022 Polish Missals are available at St. Catharine's Rectory or at St. Mary's Sacristy. The cost is \$15.00 per book.



ENVELOPES can be found today on the altar rail for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Each plant is \$12.00. Please print names legibly.

There will be a Latin Mass next Sunday, December 12th, at 12:30 P.M. in the Church. Reconciliation at noon.

The Polish American Heritage Association will be holding their annual traditional Wigilia dinner on Sunday, December 19th, at the DoubleTree Hotel in Reading. Doors open at 4:15PM. Members: \$65. Non-Members: \$75. For questions or reservations, please call Henry Pruski at 610-372-1279. after 7:00PM. **Deadline for reservations is December 9th.**

The Commemorating St. Mary's Roman Catholic Parish, Reading, Pa, 1888 - 2016 Books are on sale for \$15.90 which includes the sales tax. If you require shipping, the shipping and handling are \$3.60, charged only once regardless of the number of books requested. If you contact me for copies and attend Mass at St. Mary's, you can pick them up after the 10:30 Mass in the vestibule. If you usually go to the 3:30 PM Mass, let me know and I will deliver it after that Mass. Cash and checks only; no credit or debit cards. If you want a copy of the book, contact Carl Gethmann at cagethmann74@gmail.com or call 610-374-9215.

FeedThePriests



This ministry allows you to provide a complete ready-to-eat meal for our Parish Priests by bringing: a Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday evening meal.

Through the grace of God our Priests are ordained so that they may bring us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. As a service to them for these beautiful gifts they bring us, we are starting this new ministry, 'Feed the Priests'.

- On the day you signed up to bring a meal to the Parish Center by 4:00 p.m.
- Meal will be for 3 priests.
- Fully cooked ready-to-eat meal.
- We ask that you put the meal in a disposable container.
- Include heating instructions if necessary.
- Example of a full meal would include a salad, meat, starch, vegetable and possibly a dessert.

Please call Diane at the Parish Center if you can help at 610-779-4005.

**THANKS YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR
PARISH AND OUR PRIESTS!**

SECOND OF ADVENT SUNDAY

Bar 5:1-9: Baruch tells Jerusalem of God's favor. God will gather the people together that Israel may grow secure in the glory of God. He leads in joy, mercy, and justice.

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11: Paul rejoices in the progress of faith among the Philippians. He is sure that God who began this good work will help it grow. Paul prays that their love may even more abound that they may be rich in harvest.

Lk 3:1-6: Luke outlines some historical facts at the time of John the Baptist's preaching. It is the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah. John prepares the way for the Lord.

Today's Message: The Lord has done great things, leading His people out of slavery to the glorious splendor of Jerusalem. Let us make ready the way of the Lord by abounding in love and in works of justice.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – 8 a.m. – 12 Noon- Social Hall

BAPTISMS – 1 p.m. -After the Noon Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – After 8 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m.

LIFE AFTER LOSS – 7 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

VIGIL MASS – 6 p.m. - Church

RCIA – 6:30 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 (THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION)

MASSES - 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m. & 7 p.m. - Church

MASS – 9:30 a.m. – School

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

BOY SCOUTS – 7 p.m. – School

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

TOUR OF POLAND DINNER – 6 p.m. – Social Hall

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

CUB SCOUTS CHRISTMAS PARTY – 5 P.M. – Social Hall

RSVP: An Advent Reflection will be presented on Sunday, December 12, 2021 from 1-4 pm by Judy Schiavo. Explore the path with those on their journey to find Jesus. How did they respond? How do we respond to God's call in our daily lives? Cost: \$20/person. Light refreshments will be served. Any questions, contact Sister Shaun Kathleen at 484-334-6807 or mcglincc@bfranciscan.org Do something special for yourself this Advent, join us!

SUNDAY MISSALS for 2022 are now available. They may be picked up at the Church or at the Parish Center. The cost is now \$4.00 each.

Advent supplies - candles, wreaths and the daily Advent meditation books are available at the Church store.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 Owen A. Holbrook (9th Anniversary)

8:00 Richard Heins (8th Anniversary)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:30 Patricia Slimmer

8:00 Ken Higo

6 p.m. Antoinette Formando (At Church)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:30 Yvonne Bollendorf (At Church)

8:00 Special Intention (At Church)

9:30 Intentions of Mary Jane Skowron (At School)

7 p.m. Al Lauter (At Church)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:30 Richard A. Gabel

8:00 Rev. Joseph Curtin

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

6:30 Leonard Pinaud

8:30 Joseph, Mary Ann & Mary O'Donnell (At Chapel)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 Anthony Budnik

4:30 Robert N. Kerr, Sr. (18th Anniversary)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:30 Carl & Marie Heine

9:00 Rose Castagna

10:30 Jesse F. Arnold (7th Anniversary)

12:00 Joseph Thomas Aufieri

Readings for the Week of December 5, 2021

Sunday Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6;

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday Saint Nicholas, Bishop

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12,

13-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac,

11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin

Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11,

12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday Our Lady of Loreto

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6;

Mt 11:16-19

Saturday Saint Damasus I, Pope

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b,

15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;

Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Parish Nurse News - In this special season of giving, remember to give to yourself as well! Self-care is very important for physical and mental health. Take a small block of time every day. Plan for it and look forward to it! Yoga, meditation, reading, walking, a relaxing hobby-all powerful tools for wellness!

Anyone wishing to receive Gluten Free Hosts should go to the Celebrant's communion line and indicate to him that you need a Gluten Free Host.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/6	Rev. Brendon M. Laroche
Tuesday 12/7	Rev. Keith R. Laskowski
Wednesday 12/8	Rev. William J. Linkchorst
Thursday 12/9	Rev. John J. L. Little
Friday 12/10	Rev. David J. Loeper
Saturday 12/11	Rev. James J. Lofton

Retirement Fund for Religious - Say thank you to the senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who devoted their lives to serving others. The Diocesan Collection date for the Retirement Fund will be on December 12, 2021.

Stay in Touch - Do we have your current email address? Phone number? Did your child start a new school? Let us know! Email changes to Diane at dsitler@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

Thanks to the hard work of our wonderful volunteers, the 2021 Christmas Boutique was a huge success. The boutique had a gross income of \$18,000.50 and after expenses, realized a net profit of \$ 13,467.38.

Congratulations to the winners of the BOUTIQUE BONANZA!

Eagle's Tickets: Cristina Kleinfelter

\$500 Cash: Courtney Mindzak

Smart TV: Lori Matz

We thank the many area businesses who generously gave donations to the gift baskets, the volunteers who worked countless hours on the many behind-the-scene tasks and everyone who attended and supported the event.

Ossa's Corner



A couple of reindeers are hanging out at the Parish Center! Luna stopped by for a visit!



SECOND OF ADVENT SUNDAY

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

a time to be born... Recently Baptized: Kent Koch

Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Anthony Antonucci, Baby Lanzo, Marie Bassler, Becky Batastini, Betty Beatty, Melody Bechtel, Michele Boucher, Jacques Briand, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Alan Budgeon, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Della Chmielewski, Larry Curtin, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Charles DeNaples, Roseanne Dougherty, Gina Ebright, Martin Eisenhower, Charles Elchlepp, Donald Entzminger, Robert Flipping, Coleen Foltin, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Stanley Grabowski, David J. Gulati II, Wayne Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Jesse Hill, Dolores Hinnershitz, Michael Hivner, Nikki Lyn Kells, John Kompa, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Darryl Larish, Melanie Lintz, Alma Lonergan, Daniel Lonergan, Joan Lubas, Joanne Marnell, Charles E. Mathews, Mindy Mattes, Mary Ann Matthews, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, John Mercadante Jr., Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, Cynthia Mitchell, Carol Moore, Charles Mountz, Ruth Mountz, Jerome Nigh, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Michael Poserina, Sharon Precht, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Warren C. Readinger, Peggy Reid, Aneliese Robinson, Jackie Romy, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Pat Sarro, John C. Sauer, Jr., Anne Schaeffer, Barry Scheirer, Vincent Skimski, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Mary Jane Skowron, Harvey Snyder, Barbara Spatz, Veronica Stoss, Andy Strangarity, Kimberly Trigstead, Alan Wachowicz, Aiden Watkins, Frank White, Leo Woelkers, Bernette Wrobel, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zimmerman. **A Time to die:** **Marianne Gawel**, (wife of Joseph Gawel) **Judy McMahon**, (wife of Bill McMahon), **Jennie Weber**, (mother of Joanne Weber), **Eugene Taras** & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: Captain Chelsea Pellicano, Airman Ethan Kosmoski, Ensign Nicholas Tomczyk, Captain Steffan Lis, MD, SPC, Dylan Einfalt, Airman 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Captain Steffen E. Lis, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Lance Corporal Connor A. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Sgt. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Staff Sgt. Timothy Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. **Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.**

December Gathering of Logos and Lagers

The Young Adults of the parish (ages 18-35) are invited to the December gathering of Logos and Lagers on Monday, Dec. 6th at 7 PM. A young adult parishioner of St. Catharine's has graciously offered to host us and so if you'd like to attend, please let Fr. Isaac know via e-mail (sisaac@allentowndiocese.org) and he will give you the address of where we're gathering. It's BYOB (21 to drink) so feel free to bring your favorite beverage and spread the word! Feel free to invite family and friends who are young adults!

Logos and Lagers is a Catholic Bible Study for Young Adults (18-35) in Berks County and we gather on a monthly basis alternating between St. Ignatius Loyola Parish and St. Catharine of Siena Parish to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday Mass Readings. It's a great way to grow in your Catholic faith and meet other Catholic young adults in Berks County!

50+ CLUB NEWS

The St. Catharine of Siena's 50+ Club monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 1:00, the PM Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 10:00 AM. Please call **Carol Buddell**, President of the 50+ Club at **610-401-0600** with any questions or concerns. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.

MEETINGS

January 5, 2022: Pat White will discuss trips for the year 2022. Cake & Coffee

February 3, 2022: Bring your favorite appetizers and snacks to share, play Bingo

NOTICE: Anyone coming to the meetings or going on trips with the 50+ club and the day of the event you are not feeling well, **PLEASE** stay home. We realize times are still very tough, even if you were vaccinated, you can still get Covid. **All future 50+ club events, we require you to be vaccinated.**

TRIPS 2021

December 8, 2021 – Wednesday – Hunterdon Hills Christmas Show - \$100.00. **Due to the change of date, we have a few openings left.** CONTACT: **Pat White 610-582-1437** for any information concerning the trip.

Please call **Rosalie Snyder** at **610-779-6562** with the name of members who are sick or have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall at 4975 Boyertown Pike, Rt. 562, Reading, PA.



Fellow Parishioners

St. Catharine's Knights of Columbus Council 14880 has purchased and is donating to the parish 250 books. There is 125 titled "The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen", and 125 titled "Life is Messy". These books are published by Dynamic Catholic Publishing. We are asking that once you read the book, to pass it on, if you would. The books will be available the weekend of December 18th and 19th. May you enjoy the book and Merry Christmas from the Knights of Columbus.

Keep Christ in Christmas.

Peace, Joy... Advent

Rediscovering the peace and joy of Advent that so often gets lost in Christmas to do lists

Saturday, December 11, 2021

St. Mary's Church, 14833 Kutztown Road, Kutztown, PA 19530. 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. - Peace, Joy...Advent presented by Maggie Riggins— 11:00 a.m. - Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert. Kindly respond by emailing stewardship@allentowndiocese.org, or by calling the Office of Stewardship and Development at (800) 831-4443 by December 8th.

Homeschool Families Advent Event

Homeschool Families of the Diocese of Allentown are invited to *The Joyful Mysteries: An Advent Reflection* on Sunday, December 12 at St. John the Baptist Church, 10th and Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, 1:00-3:00pm, in the main church. Join us for an afternoon of talks, music, and prayer to help you prepare for Christmas. RSVP Fr. Kevin Bobbin, Chaplain to the Homeschool Community (kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org).



Tour of Poland with Fr Isaac

Come join the Knights of Columbus and Fr. Stephan Isaac for dinner and a photo tour of Poland and its historic and religious sites. December 10, 2021, at 6:00PM. St. Catharine's Hall, 4975 Boyertown Pike. Cost - \$10.00 - Menu Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Garlic Bread. Reservation required by December 6, 2021: call 610-775-8954 and leave your name and number attending.