



St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church Wyalusing

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Extends a Warm Welcome to All



Mission Statement: We bring together a parish family to worship God, to evangelize the community, to encourage participation of youth and young adults in parish life, to pass on our faith to the next generation, to respect life and be good stewards of God's gifts.

PASTOR

Rev. Jose Joseph
Kuriappilly

PARISH SECRETARY

Kathy Stoddard

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Tammy Tewksbury

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Alice Berger

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED.

Cathy Hagadorn

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTOR

Ann Marie Kusmierz

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Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

“Make straight his paths,” Isaiah cried out, prophesying that the LORD would come to rescue and comfort the people of God. Centuries later, Mark quotes this call at the very beginning of his Gospel, presenting John the Baptist as the prophet who took this to heart, preparing the way for the Lord. Now, two millennia later, during this season when we prepare for the Lord’s coming into our lives and into our hearts, how can we “make straight his parths”?

ST. MARY’S SANCTURARY CANDLE WILL BURN IN LOVING MEMORY THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE MONTH OF DECEMBER FOR DOUGLAS & RITA COGSWELL AND JAMES AND ALICE ARMITAGE.

PLEASE REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

Mass Schedule at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wyalusing

Saturday Vigil – 6:00 PM Sunday – 11:00 AM

Wednesday & Friday – 12:00 Noon

Holy Days: 12 Noon

Confessions: 5:30 PM Sat. & 10:30 AM Sun.

***OR AS SCHEDULED INSIDE BULLETIN

Mass Schedule at SS Peter & Paul Church, Towanda

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 PM Sunday – 9:00 AM

Monday- No Mass

Tuesday – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday – 8:30 AM

Website: sspeterandpaulchurch.net -570-265-2113

READINGS

DECEMBER 11, 2023

MONDAY

ADVENT WEEKDAY

ISAIAH 35:1-10

LUKE 5:17-26

DECEMBER 12, 2023

TUESDAY

OUR LADY OF

GUADALUPE

REVELATION 11:19A,

12:1-6A, 10AB

LUKE: 1:39-47

DECEMBER 13, 2023

WEDNESDAY

SAINT LUCY, VIRGIN &

MARTYR

ISAIAH 40:25-31

MATTHEW 11:28-30

DECEMBER 14, 2023

THURSDAY

SAINT JOHN OF THE

CROSS

ISAIAH 41:13-20

MATTHEW 11:11-15

DECEMBER 15, 2023

FRIDAY

ADVENT WEEKDAY

ISAIAH 48:17-19

MATTHEW 11:16-19

DECEMBER 16, 2023

SATURDAY

ADVENT WEEKDAY

SIRACH 48:1-4, 9-11

MATTHEW 17:9A, 10-13

DECEMBER 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF

ADVENT

ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-

24

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

PARISH BULLETIN CALENDAR

COMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, GATHERINGS, ETC.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY: MASS TO END ABORTION, ROSARY AT 11:00 AM & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BEFORE THE 12:00 NOON MASS

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY & SATURDAY: MASS AT 8:30 AM AT SS PETER & PAUL, TOWANDA

DEC 10th –SUNDAY – CCD CLASS FROM 9:45 – 10:55 AM

DEC. 10TH – SUNDAY – DEANERY ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE 3:00 PM AT SS PETER & PAUL

DEC. 24TH – SUNDAY – CHRISTMAS EVE – MASS - 6:00 PM – ST. MARY'S
SS PETER & PAUL AT 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM

DECEMBER 25TH- CHRISTMAS DAY – MASS – 11:00 AM – ST. MARY'S
SS PETER & PAUL AT 9:00 AM

Please Pray for the Faithful Departed AND

THOSE ENTRUSTED IN OUR PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Suky Burgess, Kelly Kulsicavage, Joe Friery, Joyce Hussong, Irene McMahon, Grace George, Marian Miller, Ray Tenasco, Fred Storey, Stephanie McDevitt, Barbara Bodine, Cathy Stienbaugh, Sue Mullen, Mary Salay, Robert Gaumer, Silver Dempsey, Jean Caine, James Perella, Tammy Tragger, Paul & Sandra McIntyre, Keensley Middlecamp, Carmel Buneo.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IF THERE ARE SICK, HOSPITALIZED, HOMEBOUND, OR ANY CHANGES TO THE LIST ABOVE – THANK YOU

INQUIRING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Do you have questions about God or the Catholic faith? Do you know someone who does? If you are interested in entering the Catholic Church or Receiving Confirmation, or you're just curious about Catholicism, contact Mike Kilmer 570-721-0872 or mkilmer@thekilmergroup.com to get started. Classes will be held in Wyalusing.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF DEC. 11TH – DEC. 17TH

	INTENTION	OFFERED BY
Wed., December 13th	NO MASS	NO MASS
Friday, December 15th	NO MASS	NO MASS
Saturday, December 16th 6:00 PM	Repose of the Soul of Kathy Teel	Kusmierz Family
Sunday, December 17th 11:00 AM	Repose of the Souls of: Martin & Margaret Bodnar	Beatrice Wygrala

MINISTRY

Lector Schedule
Sat., Dec. 16th

6:00 PM
Scott Latoski

Sun., Dec. 17th
11:00 AM
Eva Weaver

SERVERS
Trowbridges

Ministers of Communion

Sun. Dec. 17th

11:00 AM

Tewksbury's

OUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Monthly Financial Obligations - \$4,000.00

General Collection December 2nd & 3rd - \$4,472.00

Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish!

GIVING TREES

All gifts for the Giving Tree are due this weekend.

Thank you all for your help making a child's Christmas
brighter this year. Your generosity is truly amazing and
appreciated!!

DEANERY ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

December 10th - 3:00 PM SS Peter & Paul, Towanda

December 17th - 2:00 PM Epiphany, Sayre

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP WEEK OF 12/3/2023

Loose	402.00
Offertory Env	3,463.00
Dues	47.00
All Saint's	30.00
Immac Concept	110.00
Christmas	280.00
Flowers	140.00

Total Offering to Parish
General Fund

\$4,472.00

Additional Acct Depo

Cemetery	64.00
Building	50.00
Total	114.00

NAT'L COLLECT
DIOCESAN OFFICE
Care of Priests 169.00
Human Dev. 20.00
Retire Religio 80.00

Total 269.00

TOTAL DEPOSITS

\$4,855.00

ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS NOVENA

(To be prayed 15 times every day from November 30th until Christmas)

HAIL AND BLESSED BE THE HOUR AND MOMENT IN WHICH THE SON OF GOD WAS BORN OF THE MOST PURE VIRGIN MARY, AT MIDNIGHT, IN BETHLEHEM, IN PIERCING COLD. IN THAT HOUR, VOUCHSAFE, O MY GOD! TO HEAR MY PRAYER AND GRANT MY DESIRES, THROUGH THE MERITS OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, AND OF HIS BLESSED MOTHER. AMEN.

OUR NEW LITURGICAL YEAR

Our new liturgical year will begin FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 3RD. The new 2024 Lector Workbooks are available in the Sacristy. Please pick them up after Mass.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL- WE HAVE ALMOST HIT OUR GOAL!!!

Your financial gift to the 2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal helps to support the ministries of our local church. We are thankful for all the blessings received from our parishioners in support of all our collections and special needs. May God continue to bless you all.

**** UPDATE AS OF 12/08/23

PARISH GOAL: \$10,000

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS: \$9,170.00

Parish Participation: 45 Families – Thank You!

Thank you to all who have already responded to this Appeal, either to the earlier letter from the Bishop or by kindly participating in our In-Pew Pledges last month. Additional Pledge Envelopes are available in the church, for your convenience; a donation of any amount is welcome, no matter how large or small: drop it in the collection basket, or the mail or go online at: Dioceseofscranton.org, "Giving."

POPE FRANCIS'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:

For: Persons With Disabilities

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



Meditations for Advent

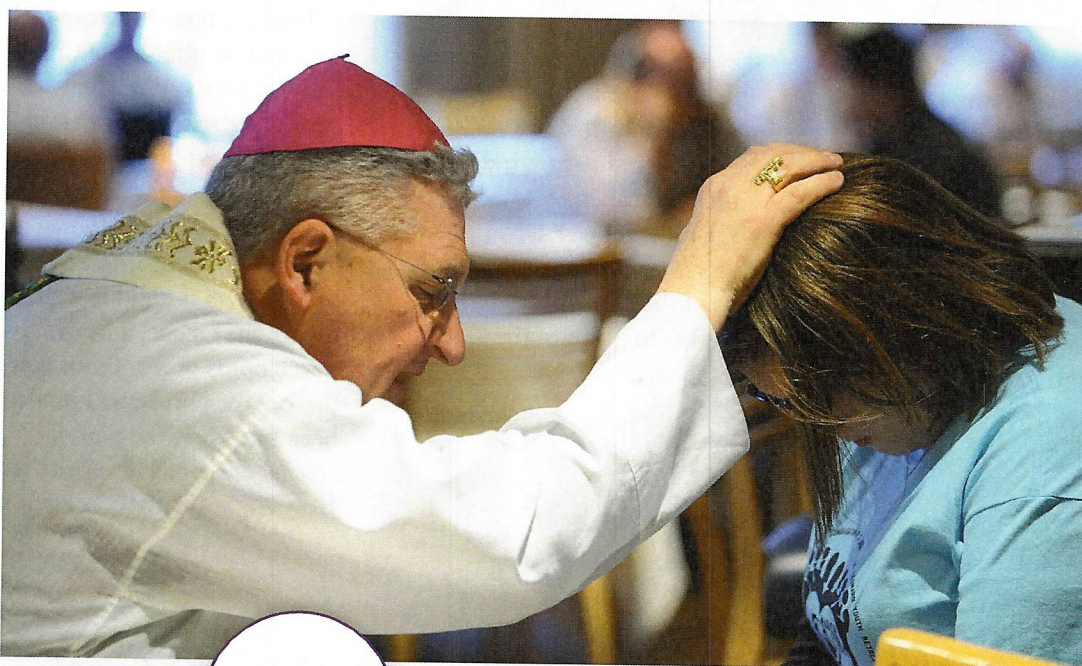
HORIZON OF HOPE

The Second
Sunday

They Acknowledged Their Sins

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist appears in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah that a messenger would appear ahead of the Messiah. One of his messages was to acknowledge humanity's sinful nature and encourage repentance. This same call is extended to each of us this Advent.



POINTS TO PONDER

- How can I use this Advent season as a way to grow more deeply in my faith?
- How long has it been since my last confession?
- Am I more caught up in the cultural expression of the "holiday season" than I am of the "holy day season"?

The Jordan River runs through the hot and harsh landscape of the Judean desert. Why would John choose such a distant locale to proclaim the coming of the Messiah? Perhaps it is precisely because the area is so desolate. There, away from all the distractions of everyday life, the people were able to focus on what really mattered and acknowledge their own sinfulness. Stripped of all the comforts of home and family, they could look at their lives and feel the pressing need for salvation.

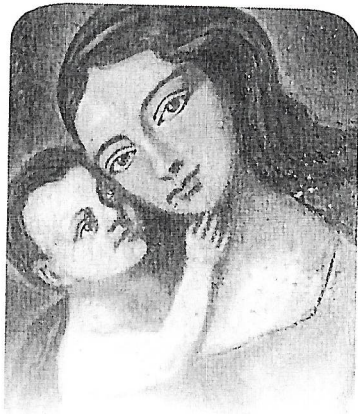
Similarly, during this Second Week of Advent, we are called away from the lures that the season places before us to consider that God so loves each of us that he was willing to send his only son for our salvation.

"Advent is here. What a marvelous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come — for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us: Ecce veniet! — He is about to arrive!"

— Saint Josemaría Escrivá



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Be with us,
Lord, as we
continue in this
waiting season
of Advent.

*We thank you for the
many blessings in
our lives, and with
anticipation, preparation,
and hope, we look
forward to the arrival
of your son, Jesus,
the light of the world.*

Amen.

HEROES OF HOPE

SAINT LUCY

Saint Lucy is one of only eight women saints mentioned by name in the Mass. Her name, Lucia, comes from the Latin word for light. Before the reform of the Gregorian calendar in the Middle Ages, her feast fell on the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, and heralded the return of longer, lighter days. Even now, she is associated with light and fire. In the Scandinavian countries, especially Norway and Sweden, on Saint Lucy's feast day, the youngest daughter of the family wears a crown of lighted candles (now often battery powered) and serves special rolls and cookies to her family at dawn. In parts of Italy, her feast is commemorated with homemade pasta and a dessert called *cuccia*, made of wheat berries in hot chocolate. *Saint Lucy, pray for us!*

*Feast Day:
December 13*



FAMILY FOCUS

A Taste of the Season



Thinkstock, Top left: Shutterstock.com

Special sweets are a part of many families' Advent preparations. One all-time favorite is the candy cane with its distinctive red and white stripes. As you enjoy the peppermint flavor, explain to your family the meaning behind this sugary treat:

- The white base represents the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus.
- The red stripes indicate the blood shed by Jesus on the cross for our salvation.
- The "J" shape reminds us of the name of Jesus, as well as the staff of the Good Shepherd.



SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Legend of the Poinsettia

The brilliant red leaves of the poinsettia are a common decoration at this time of year. Its association with Christmas began many years ago when the story developed of Pepita, a poor Mexican girl who had no gift for the Christ Child at Christmas. Her cousin Pedro told her that even the most humble gift given in love is a welcomed present. So, Pepita gathered a handful of weeds into a small bouquet. As she laid it at the foot of the crèche, it burst into blooms of red. From that day on, the poinsettia has also been known as the *Flor de Nochebuena*, or Flower of the Holy Night (Christmas Eve).

Come, O Lord!

"Attend to the
sound of my cry,
/ my king and my
God! / For to you I
will pray."

— Psalm 5:3