



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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**PARISH OFFICE  
HOURS**

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**FACEBOOK** Our Lady of  
Perpetual Help Parish

**It's Better To Give Than To Receive**

We will hear it at least a few times over the next two weeks: "It's better to give than to receive." We recognize this when we see the expressions of joy in a child's face or tears of appreciation from a parent or spouse when they open a gift we've given them. Jesus himself said the same words to his disciples, though in a context more like the one we hear today with John the Baptist preaching to the crowds to share what they have with those who have less. As we prepare for the Lord's coming, let us share from the bounty the Lord has blessed us with and give to those in need. In our hearts, may we continually relearn the blessings of giving.

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 15, 2024**

**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 – 12:00 Noon\*\* OR Scheduled Inside Bulletin

Confessions – 5:30 PM Saturday and 10:30 AM Sunday

**Mass Schedule at SS Peter and Paul Towanda**

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

Monday – No Mass

Tuesday – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 8:30 AM

Confessions – 3:45 Saturday AND 7:45-8:15 Wed., Thurs., Fri.  
And by Appointment #570-357-1619

Website: [sspeterandpaulchurch.net](http://sspeterandpaulchurch.net) (570-265-2113)

**Readings**

December 16<sup>th</sup>  
Monday  
Advent Weekday  
Numbers 24:2-7,  
15-17a  
Gospel-Matthew  
21:23-27

December 17<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday  
Advent Weekday  
Genesis 49:2, 8-10  
Gospel- Matthew  
1:1-17

December 18<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday  
Advent Weekday  
Jeremiah 23:5-8  
Gospel: Matthew  
1:18-25

December 19<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday  
Advent Weekday  
Judges 13:2-7,  
24-25a  
Gospel: Luke 1:5-25

December 20<sup>th</sup>  
Friday  
Advent Weekday  
Isaiah 7:10-14  
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

December 21<sup>st</sup>  
Saturday  
Advent Weekday  
Song of Songs 2:8-14  
Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

December 22<sup>nd</sup>  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Micah 5:1-4a  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

**PARISH BULLETIN CALENDAR**

**COMING EVENTS, MEETINGS, CATERINGS, ETC.**

**EVERY FIRST FRIDAY: ROSARY AT 11:00 AM, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT 11:30, MASS TO END ABORTION AT 12:00 NOON**

**FIRST FRIDAY & FIRST SATURDAY: MASS AT SS PETER & PAUL AT 8:30 AM**

**SATURDAY, DEC. 14<sup>TH</sup>: CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN 6:00 PM MASS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>: ST. BASIL THE GREAT, DUSHORE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE AT 2:00 PM  
CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, SAYRE ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE AT 4:30 PM**

**TUESDAY, DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup>: CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS AT 6:00 PM – ST. MARYS  
SS PETER & PAUL – 4:00 PM & 10:00 PM**

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25<sup>TH</sup>: CHRISTMAS DAY MASS AT 11:00 AM – ST. MARY'S  
SS PETER & PAUL – 9:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY, JAN 1<sup>ST</sup>: NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS AT 12:00 NOON**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED –Father Thomas Major - Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

**THOSE ENTRUSTED IN OUR PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Jacob Hoffmann, Chris, Larry Burke, Tolise Otis, Leona Fitzgerald, William DiMascio, Frank Mucha, Ben Mueller, Terry Ruhf, James Schnure, Rafael Delgado, Dave Green, Glenn Layaou, Jr., Bob Franko, Ivette Gonzalez, Richard Bennett, Ginny Amoroso, William Walter, Jr., Chuck Bullock, Joan Abrey, Donna Elchin, Kelly Kulsicabage, Joe Friery, Joyce Hussong, Irene McMahon, Grace George, Marian Miller, Fred Storey, Stephanie McDevitt, Barbara Bodine, Cathy Stienbaugh, Sue Mullen, Robert Gaumer, Silver Dempsey, Jean Caine, James Perella, Paul & Sandra McIntyre, Keensley Middlecamp, Carmel Buneo, Tina Clapper, Mark Borel.**

**We pray that You restore Your Servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge Your holy will and know that whatever You do, You do for the love of us. Amen.**

**Sick, Hospitalized and Homebound, please call the office or notify Father Jose.**

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE will burn in loving memory throughout the entire month of December 2024 for Douglas & Rita Cogswell AND James & Alice Armitage -- by John & Ellen Armitage. Please remember them in your prayers.**



## Mass Schedule for Week of DEC. 16th- DEC. 22nd 2024

	INTENTION	OFFERED BY
Wednesday, Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon	Restoration of Good Health For A Friend	Dennis & Bea Wygrala
Friday, Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon	Repose of the Soul of Nellie Manarchuck	Michael & Ann Marie Kusmierz
Saturday, Dec. 21st 6:00 PM	In Honor of Ann Marie Kusmierz's 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	Michael & Lou Ann Kilmer
Sunday, Dec. 22nd 11:00 AM	Repose of the Soul of Dennis Frost	Michael & Ann Marie Kusmierz

<b>MINISTRY</b> Lector Schedule
<u>Sat. Dec. 21st – 6 PM</u> Scott Latoski
<u>Sun. Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - 11 AM</u> Justin Koblitsch

<b>SERVERS</b>
Sunday- 11:00 AM Neubers

<b>CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP</b> WK 12/08/24	
Loose	135.00
Offer Env	1,815.00
Dues	33.00
Immac. Conc.	733.00
Christmas	25.00
Flowers	377.00
Total Offering to Parish General Fund	<b>\$3,118.00</b>
Building	
Cemetery	40.00
Total	<b>\$40.00</b>
National Collections	
Care & Ed	70.00
Religious Retire	40.00
Total	<b>\$110.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	
	<b>\$3,268.00</b>

### OUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

WEEKLY Financial Obligations - \$4,000.00

General Collection Dec. 8th & Dec. 9th = \$3,118.00

Thank you for your generosity to our Parish!

### MEMORIAL MASS

Please pray for the soul of Rev. Thomas Major, Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Dushore, who passed away on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Memorial Mass remembering Fr. Major, on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at St. Basils. Also, please remember in your prayers his family and in particular, his parishioners who have experienced an unexpected loss to their parish community. As we remember Rev. Thomas Major, we honor a man whose life was dedicated to his faith, community, and family. His legacy of service and compassion will forever remain in the hearts of those he touched.

### CCD PROGRAM – 2024/2025

The Diocese requires two years of religious education before the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion, and three years of religious education before the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you have any questions about the CCD program, please contact Cathy Hagadorn, DRE at 570-250-2311 or [cathyhagadorn@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyhagadorn@hotmail.com).

## ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>

2:00 PM St. Basil the Great, Dushore #570-928-8865

4:30 PM Church of the Epiphany – 304 S. Elmer Ave. Sayre #570-888-9641

Just a reminder, Fr. Jose will be available for Reconciliation before an after Mass, or anytime by appointment.

## SINGING WITH THE CHOIR

On Christmas Day, the Choir are singing Christmas Carols starting at 10:40 AM before the 11:00 AM Mass. Come and sing along with the Choir.

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL UP-DATE

Thank you for your donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal. The donations to the appeal total \$6,130.00. There is still time to donate at [www.annualappeal.org](http://www.annualappeal.org) as well as packets available at the entrances of the Church.

## TIPS FROM A MOM OF 13

Unconditional Love – that's what the world need more! I ask God to help me show this to all my children and grandchildren every day. It's a remarkable virtue that God gives us. My children know how much I love them. It's a joy!

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Diocese of Scranton invites you to a weekend full of fun, fellowship and praise for an Adult Women's Retreat. The weekend begins on Friday, January 24, 2025 at 6:45 PM and will end on Sunday, January 26 at 1:30 PM.

The Retreat will feature discussions and reflection on the teachings of St. Catherine of Siena who said, "Be who you are meant to be and you will set the whole world on fire."

You may register at:

<https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/2025-catholic-womes-retreat-registration-if> (credit card)

<https://www.dioceseofscranton.org/2025-catholic-womens-retreat-registration> (check)





# A LIGHT

The Third Sunday

# IN THE DARKNESS

## What Then Should We Do

Luke 3:10-18

Expectation was high for the Messiah's coming; in fact, many asked John the Baptist whether he was the Messiah. But as he explained to the crowds who gathered, his water was no match for the fire of the Holy Spirit to come.

As a prelude to this Gospel reading, John issued a warning: "Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire" (Lk 3:9). This prompted the worried listeners to ask, "What then should we do?" (v. 10).

While John's directions were specific, the meaning is relevant today: share with anyone who has none; take only your fair share; be satisfied and just and honest. We are to prepare for the Lord by creating "good fruit" from all that he's given us.

- Do I represent Jesus' teachings in my interactions with my children, family, friends, and neighbors?
- Do I live with the integrity of a follower of Christ?
- Am I preparing my heart for the birth of Jesus?

In your Advent prayer, ask yourself, "What then should I do?" When you act with the intention of preparing for the Messiah, the possibilities for the fruit that you might bear are endless. With God, nothing is impossible!

**ADVENT  
Prayer**



**Thank you, God,  
for all of your  
blessings,  
especially for the  
people in my life.**

*Please help me to stay  
on the Advent path,  
and keep my heart  
focused on Christ  
in all that I say and do  
as I prepare for his holy  
birth at Christmas.*

*Amen.*





## INSPIRATION FOR THE SEASON



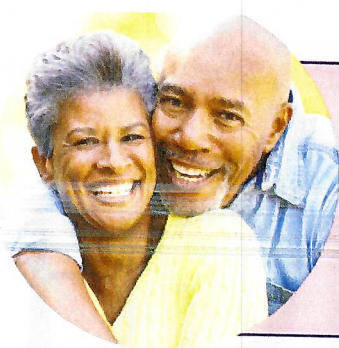
### Gaudete Sunday

This Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, is known as Gaudete Sunday, or Rejoice Sunday. How great is that? It's a reminder that our preparation, though it includes repentance and efforts to bear fruit, is a joyful endeavor. Our Lord is coming!

On the first Sunday of Advent, we were encouraged to live so that our hearts are not weighed down with the worries of this world. Today's first reading from Zephaniah is a reminder to celebrate. God brings goodness and salvation! By the pink candle that we light this week during our Advent meditation, we can see that the time is near. The light is returning to the world. What happiness we can enjoy as we make straight the paths! We can be full of joy knowing that when the Messiah comes, we will celebrate with him.

### FOR REFLECTION:

*How might we live more joyfully this Advent and Christmas season?*



## Daily LIVING

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you."

— Mother Teresa of Calcutta

## FAMILY FOCUS

# Recycle Christmas Cards

With your kids, make gift tags using old Christmas cards. Cut the backs off the cards and punch a hole in one corner. (You may cut the cards into smaller cards if they are large.) Tie a piece of ribbon

or yarn through the hole and you have a homemade gift tag! Put six tags in a baggie and give them to members of your community to use with a local parish or community toy collection.



## TALK About It

*As you're making this craft, ask the children: "Why do we celebrate Jesus being born each Christmas? Why do you think this is 'Good News?'"*

## SYMBOLS of the Season

Advent is rich with sacred symbols. The Scriptures are filled with images of light and darkness, cacophony and silence, waiting and fulfillment. The season's color is deep purple, reflecting the penitential and preparatory nature of the season. Watch for these symbols:

- **Candlelight** – Christ is the light of the world
- **Evergreen** – In Jesus, we are given the gift of eternal life
- **Water** – We recall our baptism and are born anew in Jesus
- **Chant** – We await the birth of the babe in the manger
- **Angels** – Witnesses to the Good News
- **Star** – The cosmic sign that the King of Kings has been born

## Catechism CONNECTION

"Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice" (Ps 105:3). Although [we] can forget God or reject him, He never ceases to call every [one of us] to seek him, so as to find life and happiness."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, 30