Church of Saint Patrick
Pottsville, Pennsylvania

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Second Sunday of Advent ~ December 4, 2022

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 5
8:00 am Elizabeth Keiser Moser, RN (Est)

Tuesday, December 6 – St. Nicholas, Bishop
8:00 am Mildred Stoudt (Kathleen Didjunas)

Wednesday, December 7 – St. Ambrose, Bishop
8:00 am Patrick McGinley (The Verchick Family)

Vigil for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:30 pm Jacqueline Mitchell (Charlie Taronis)

Thursday, December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day of Obligation
8:00 am Mildred Mengel (John & Kim Sutter)

12:00 pm Julie Pitrowski (Fred and Karen Powers)

Please note there is no 6:00 pm Mass on this evening or Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions

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Friday, December 9
8:00 am John Potlunas (Susan & Jim Zimmerman)

Sunday Masses of Obligation
Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 10
4:00 pm Edward McKeown (Family)

Sunday, December 11
8:00 am People of the Parish
10:00 am Faith Curran (Louise & Bob Wachter)

READINGS OF THE DAY

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10
In this beautiful passage, a messianic prophecy, Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9
Paul reveals to us the necessity of living in peace and harmony. His words "Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the Glory of God" are as needed today as they were in Paul's own time.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12
John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus. Clothed in a garment of camel's hair, he baptizes the people in the Jordan River, but warns the Pharisees in ringing tones that they must give evidence that they mean to reform.

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- the sick of the parish - our many Benefactors
- those recently deceased – Mildred Salle, Victoria Pasqua, Catherine Schaffer

CANDLE INTENTIONS
December 4 to December 10

Sanctuary – For a Successful Recovery for Pat Kilkullen (Marietta Dixon)
Sacred Heart – IMO Del Kriner (Dick & Sharon Buehler)
Pieta – Health and Wellness for Lucy (Mom, Dad, & Andrew)
Pope St. John Paul II –
St. Patrick – IMO Michael & Judy Brennan (Jarrad & Michael Brennan & Family)
Sanctuary – Our Lady's Chapel –
Blessed Virgin Mary – Our Lady's Chapel –

If you are a visitor to the Church of St. Patrick, we want you to know that you are most welcome, whether you come from another State or from another Parish. Please feel comfortable in our beautiful house of the Father. Thank you for worshipping with us!

LOTTERY CALENDARS - RECENT OUTCOMES

Tues., November 15	#682	Vincent F. ($50)
Wed., November 16	#855	No Winner
Thurs., November 17	#721	Wendy B. ($50)
Fri., November 18	#325	E. Davis ($50)
Sat., November 19	#931	Susan Z. ($100)
Sun., November 20	#231	Kim L. ($150)
Mon., November 21	#808	Shirley R. ($50)
Tues., November 22	#877	No Winner
Wed., November 23	#895	Joann K. ($50)
Thurs., November 24	#963	Debbie W. **($500)**
Fri., November 25	#752	No Winner
Sat., November 26	#075	Ben S. ($100)
Sun., November 27	#366	No Winner
Mon., November 28	#236	Josh A. ($50)

Due to Christmas/New Year's Holidays and December Vacations, we ask that you request your January calendars as early as possible!

Our monthly lottery calendars are a great fundraiser for our Parish! They make great gifts! Tuck one in a Christmas stocking for a fun gift! Please consider being a seller, or buying one by calling the Parish Office!

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 8 for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

ADVENT AT ST. PATRICK

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION – Immaculate Conception and National Patronal Feast that honors the Blessed Mother – Masses will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 pm, and on Thursday, December 8 at 8:00 am and 12:00 Noon. **Please note there is no 6:00 pm Mass on this evening or Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions.**

INSCRIPTION CEREMONY will be held Wednesday, December 7, at the 6:30 pm Mass for all students in the First Penance, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation classes. This ceremony announces on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception the next students to receive Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, and Reconciliation in 2023. As a Church, we offer our prayers and support for these students preparing for the Holy Sacraments.

LIGHT UP FOR CHRIST – Immediately following the Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass on December 7, the whole Church is invited out on the Church sidewalks for the lighting of our three-story Christmas tree. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided in the Parish Center. Our Christmas decorations should always point to Christ, the Light of the World.

GIVING TREE sponsored by Catholic Charities- We hope that you will consider supporting the work to respect life by donating to the collection of baby items during the Advent season. All items collected will be distributed to pregnant or parenting families throughout Schuylkill County. Simply take a tag off of the Giving Tree by St. Patrick, return gift unwrapped, and place it under the tree. If you are going to donate a gift card or monetary donation, please put it in an envelope marked "Giving Tree", and put it in the collection.

A WINTER GIVING TREE was created by our 8th Grade students in our PREP program. The Winter tree can be found in Church near the Pieta. Children and adults are invited to place on the branches their donation of hats and mittens/gloves for local children in need. The collection will take place during the Advent Season. All children sizes are acceptable. Thank you for your donation. God bless us everyone in this Season of Giving!

HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR CONCERT (celebrating 50 years of choral excellence by the Schuylkill Choral Society) at St. Patrick Church on Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 pm. Classical and contemporary works performed with the Anthracite Philharmonic Chamber Strings, including selections from Handel's Messiah, the Voices of Christmas, and many more. Tickets are $15 for adults; $10 for students K through 12.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – December 6 at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY – Last chance to register! All Parish children are invited to an evening of stories, singing, crafts, games, kid food, and snacks! Oh! And don't forget your Christmas list for Santa! Festivities begin at 6:00 pm on Friday, December 9, in the Parish Center. Please sign up by December 5, by calling the Parish Office at 570-622-1802, ext. 0, with child's name and age. All children will receive a special gift!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help decorate our Church for Christmas. Most of the decorating will take place on Sunday, December 18, at 11:00 am.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE – A communal Penance Service will be hosted by St. Clare Parish in St. Clair. Parishioners of St. Patrick, St. John, and Holy Cross are all encouraged to attend this Penance Service with six priests attending on Monday, December 19, at 6:30 pm.

TICKETS OF CHANCE will not be sold in Church during the Advent Season as we make our focus on caring for the poor and needy, and the coming of Jesus at Christmastime. Tickets for the $10,000 Shamrock raffle and monthly calendars can be purchased at the Parish Office or other Parish Hall events.

ST. NICHOLAS DAY CELEBRATION - In honor of the Feast of St. Nicholas, children ages newborn through Grade 6 are welcome to bring a set of shoes to Mass the weekend of Dec. 3-4, and place them in the purple box by the statue of St. Patrick in the back of Church. Then, the weekend of December 10-11, they can pick up their goody-filled shoes to receive a surprise in honor of the Cheerful Giver!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24 –
4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm

Sunday, December 25 – 9:00 am

OPLATKI - Oplatki, aka Christmas wafers, are now available from our Parish Office until December 21. The breaking of "Oplatki" is a Central European Christian tradition celebrated in Poland, Lithuania, and Slovakia during Holy Supper. A requested offering of $5 (or a donation of your choice) is asked for each pack of four wafers. There is a limited supply so get yours early!

FR. BARNABAS will be celebrating 25 years of his priesthood ordination, January 6, 2023. He will be going home on December 27 to be with his family. Please keep him in your prayers.

KNIGHTS CORNER - Council 431 wishes to thank all our sponsors and all our business partners who contributed towards the success of our Thanksgiving Meal Project. The Knights extend much appreciation to everyone involved in making this project a success. Thank you also to all who use the Boyer key fob which remains a part of the Knight's fundraising efforts. In addition to the Thanksgiving Meal project, your Knights distributed free coats to many organizations within the parishes we service. Our efforts will help children stay warm as they travel to school and about their neighborhoods.

FIRST SATURDAY MASS will continue on the First Saturday of each month. This devotion of attending First Saturday Mass comes from Our Lady of Fatima. At this Mass, we pray that the Immaculate Heart of Mary bring peace to our world, especially in the Ukraine. **The next First Saturday Mass will be held on Jan. 7 at 8 am.**

STEEPLE PROJECT – St. Patrick Parish has begun a special collection to replace the Church and Steeple Roof. Both roofs have passed their life expectancy. These roofs need to be replaced. The cost for replacing the Church and Steeple Roof is $180,000.00. Pamphlets explaining all the details of the project can be found in the back of Church. Please consider a one-time gift or a pledge over the next three years. If another payment would work best for your family, we would be happy to discuss that with you. **Please talk to your tax advisor to find out more information about end of year giving.** St. Patrick, pray for us.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Fiscal Year 2022-2023	
November 20, 2022 (Week 21)	
Budgeted Weekly Sunday Offering	$ 9,400
Last Sunday's Offering/% of Budget	$ 8,007 85%
Sunday Offerings To Date	$178,269
Deficit to Date	$(56,069) 31%
295 Envelopes used out of a possible 901	
61 Online Giving Contributions	

Due to the bulletin going to press early, the Stewardship report for November 27 will be put in an upcoming bulletin.

The Second Collection for the weekend of December 11 is for Retired Religious. Thank you for your generosity!

KNEELER REFURBISHING REPORT – Through the generosity of the Knights of Columbus, members of the Building and Grounds Committee, along with other parishioners, have begun rehabilitating the church kneelers. Over the next several months they will be removed, sanded, repainted, reupholstered, and then reinstalled . Donations to help with this $10,000 project are welcomed. Simply place the donation in an envelope and designate your donation go toward "NEW KNEELER REFURBISHING".

SHAMROCKS!! Our next drawing for the Shamrock 10K is on January 7 for $1,000. Chances are still available with a chance to win up to $12,000. They are great little gifts to tuck into a Christmas stocking. They are also nice little gifts for your newspaper/mail carrier, and all those people who you want to give "a little something".

SPAGHETTI DINNER – Since we are back to having the option of dining in for our monthly spaghetti dinners, we will once again need baked goods. If anyone is able to help us out with a goodie, we would be most appreciative. **The next Spaghetti Dinner is February 5.**

NATIVITY SCHOOL STORE – Nativity will be having an Open House at the School Store on Sunday, December 4 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Uniform clothing, Nativity apparel, and miscellaneous items will be available. New Nativity clothing will be revealed at this time. Please call Sue Eckley at 570-640-0930 with questions.

ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL is seeking a Full-time First Grade Teacher, full or part-time maintenance person and substitute teachers for the 2022-2023 school year. Please call 570-622-0106 for more information.

Congratulations to our RCIA Candidates on receiving the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming! Pictured are Teresa Keating (sponsor), Addison Ricard (candidate), Father Phil, Ryan Shoffler (candidate), and Karen Powers (sponsor). We pray that Addison and Ryan enjoy this beautiful journey as they prepare to become Catholic.

Memorial Fund

***In memory of James Scheuren**
by: Frank J. Nush; Henry Minnig, Jr.; Mary Beth & Richard Gevin

***In memory of Jane O'Reilly**
by: John & Linda Frankenstein; John B. Curran; Tommy & Paula Ney; Henry Minnig, Jr.; Edward & Debra Guers; Lou Ann Weiner; Jim & Roxanne Purcell

***In memory of Carol Farley**
by: Cyrus Palmer Dolbin

***In memory of Joseph Quirk**
by: Arlen & Pat Day; Jack's Co-workers at the Courthouse

***In memory of Ronald Mercuri**
by: Ralph Chiplonia; The Taronis Family

***In memory of Mildred Salle**
by: Shirley Hasenauer & Scott; Tony & Karen Pilo; Arlen & Pat Day

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Thank you to those who advertise on the back cover of our weekly bulletin. It is because of them that we are able to produce a very informative and colorful bulletin. A special Thank You to Schlitzer-Allen-Pugh Funeral Home….Our bulletin sponsor of the week!

St. Patrick Parish Appreciates!!

* If you want a good example of how to live your life, look to the example of what the Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils did on Thanksgiving Day! For one whole week prior, they cooked and prepared delicious meals (with the help of our vocational technical schools) for over 1,400 people in our County (and that doesn't even include the pre-preparations!) These fine people, and their many volunteers, showed others the meaning of Jesus' message: "When I was hungry, you gave me to eat." (Matthew 25). It takes a lot of man and woman power to put this amazing Corporal Work of Mercy together, but they did it!!! They became the hands and feet of Jesus on Thanksgiving day!

*Thank you to the Trays: Maureen, Dustin, Dakota, Mark, Tessa, and Baby Melody for getting our Giving Tree ready for tag taking for Catholic Charities, and thank you to this wonderful family for sorting all of the food that was in the back of church! As always, they do an amazing job!!!

*Thank you to Bob Engle for making us a very cool contraption with wheels so that we can easily move our very heavy Paschal Candle stand! Leave it to Bob to solve a problem!

*Thank you to Pat Day who has been washing and pressing the altar cloths, purificators, amices, palls, and finger towels for our liturgies. Pat is very particular in caring for these holy linens, which are very important for ceremonial worship. Thank you, Pat, for this very genuine act of service.

St. Patrick Parish Applauds!!

*Congratulations to parishioner Bob Engle who won the Pilgrim Raffle on November 18! Bob won the boy and girl pilgrims and $200 worth of scratch-off lottery tickets!! Good luck, Bob! We hope you win even bigger on those tickets!! Thank you to Helen Weiss for organizing this Raffle for the Parish! We appreciate it, Dear Helen!!

*Great job to the people who came to our Advent Wreath Workshop on November 26. It is always a fun morning, and it is so wonderful to watch the creativity that happens with the greens. This has become a special tradition for our Parish, and is always a great way to continue to remember the meaning of Advent.

*Congratulations to Remington Montag, who participated in the Scouting for Food project through his Boy Scout troop. The troop collected over 2,100 food and personal care items. Remington is the son of parishioner, Jonathan Montag, and he is the grandson of parishioners, Bill and Melody Montag! We are very proud of you Remington! Keep doing good things!!

Homemade Cookie and Candy Sale – St. Teresa of Calcutta Church, Mahanoy City
Saturday, Dec. 10 – 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm and Sunday, Dec. 11 – 9:00 am to Noon

Sunday
December 4

11:00 am
to 2:00 pm
(or sell out)

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Advent by Candlelight

Dear Ladies... St. Patrick Parish is going to try something new. It is an event called "Advent by Candlelight" and will be held on St. Lucy's Day, Tuesday, December 13, starting at 6:00 pm, in our Parish Center.

Please don't miss this opportunity to prepare your heart for Jesus during this Advent Season. This is a FREE event for the ladies and their family and friends of St. Patrick Parish to enjoy. "Advent by Candlelight" is an evening of reflection, prayer, and beautiful music; appetizers, desserts, and candlelit conversation.

If you would like more information or would like to host a table, please call Debbie at 570-622-1802, ext. 0. If you would like to attend the event, but can't host a table, please let us know and we'll find room for you.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

KID'S KORNER

Year A

Gospel Today

Second Sunday of Advent / Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist prepared the people for the coming of Jesus. He taught them to repent, be sorry for their sins and reform their lives to be good and helpful to others.

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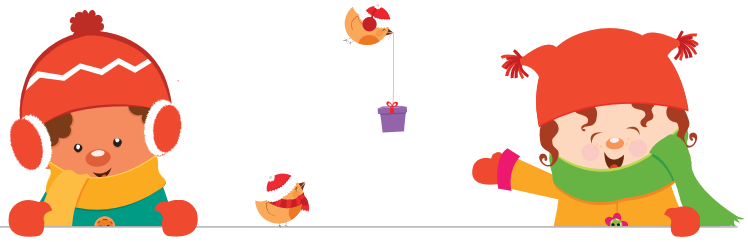
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PREPARE THE WAY

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.



Voice
Wilderness
John
Baptist
Prepare
Way
Paths
People
Jesus
Taught
Repent
Reform
Lives
Good
Helpful
Others
Powerful
Sandals
Worthy
Carry
Baptize
Holy
Spirit
Fire

T	Y	M	R	O	F	E	R	A	V	E	H	S
J	A	L	W	J	A	V	E	S	G	A	O	J
I	W	J	I	W	O	X	P	E	O	P	L	E
N	O	E	L	I	A	H	E	V	O	O	Y	S
P	R	T	C	L	B	T	N	I	D	W	H	U
L	T	E	H	D	L	D	T	L	L	E	E	S
B	H	P	R	E	P	A	R	E	C	R	L	H
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P	R	O	H	N	S	S	C	I	M	U	F	P
T	R	I	Z	E	R	I	F	T	R	L	U	A
I	A	O	D	S	Y	D	S	P	D	I	L	T
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T	A	U	G	H	T	E	S	B	I	O	P	S

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