

St. Joseph Catholic Church



109 Broadway, Milton, PA 17847

Rev. John D. Hoke

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St. Joseph is a Tithing Parish

God's Plan for Giving

In return for the Lord's generosity,
our people returned to God the following:

Sunday Collection: \$5,803.00

Our Faith, Our Future: \$505.00

Second Collections

December 10, 2023 – Retired Religious

December – Christmas Flowers

December – Our Sister Parish in Haiti

December 17, 2023 – Repair & Maintenance

December 25, 2023 – Christmas Offering

Our Sanctuary Candle burns this week

For Richard Krakovitz.

May Richard rest in peace.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sat., Dec. 9th 4:00 PM	<i>St. Juan Diego</i> Special Intentions of Ruth & Jim Seksinsky
Sun., Dec. 10th 8:00 AM	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> Lola Benoit by Margaret Cochran
11:00 AM	People of the Parish
Mon., Dec. 11th 9:00 AM	<i>St. Damasus I, Pope</i> Ken Laurence by Tracie Leitzel
Tues., Dec. 12th 9:00 AM	<i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Jack Seksinsky by Ruth & Jim
Wed., Dec. 13th 6:00 PM	<i>St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr</i> In honor of St. Lucy Frank Muscarella Family
Thur., Dec. 14th 9:00 AM	<i>St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor</i> Ken Laurence by Sharon, John, Jonathan Adami
Fri., Dec. 15th 9:00 AM	<i>Last Day of Hanukkah</i> Thomas Sullivan
Sat., Dec. 16th 4:00 PM	Gina Barnhart by Mary & Vincent Emery
Sun., Dec. 17th 8:00 AM	<i>Gaudete Sunday</i> People of the Parish
11:00 AM	Gloria Haluska by the Seebold Family



**Bob Zacker died Saturday,
December 2nd.
Our Condolences to his wife
Diane and his family.
May he rest in peace.**

Check out the Deanery Reconciliation Schedule on page 2 of the bulletin.
Please make a separate check for contributions for the Immaculate Conception Parish in
Haiti. We would like to send our complete donation in early 2024.
Envelopes are available on the tables in the Church and the Parish Center.

From Your Pastor,

I almost sinned this past week while on the road. I was thinking of this Sunday's Advent lessons, I was tempted to borrow from PennDOT, signs saying prepare to slow down and stop, road construction ahead. I thought it would be a powerful way to stress the message of scripture this Second Sunday of Advent.

"Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight His paths." Isaiah said more, "Make straight in the wastelands a highway for our God!" *Telling them to lower the mountains and fill in the valleys.* And Peter is telling the whole Church, that is the saved and born-again believers as well as any potential converts, that all should come to repentance.

This week each night at 700pm in all the area parish churches there will be a gathering of priests to hear confessions, give penance and absolution and reconciliation to all who enter into the grace of the Holy Spirit to repent and do penance. This is one of the treasures of the Church, without this sacrament I would have given up and left the Lord's call to follow Him many years ago. Penance has been a blessing to me, and I know it will be the same for you. So slow down and stop for the Sacrament of reconciliation/Penance.

Fr. John D. Hoke

DEANERY RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Monday, December 11th 7 PM
St. Joseph's Church, Danville

Tuesday, December 12th 7 PM
St. Monica's Church, Sunbury

Wednesday, December 13th 7 PM
St. Pius X, Selinsgrove

Thursday, December 14th 7 PM
St. Joseph, Milton

Friday, December 15th 7 PM
Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lewisburg

ADVENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us,
A great sign of your love.
Guide us as we strive to walk in that love
Together as a family this Advent.
As we prepare our hearts for Christmas,
Bring us closer to each other and to your son.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14

The Lord's salvation is near.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

24-HOUR ADORATION



St. Joseph Church offers 24-hour Adoration each Monday beginning at 9:30 [following the morning Mass] and ending Tuesday morning at 8:55 [preceding the morning Mass]. If

you can commit to a regular hour each week, please tell Father Hoke who is doing the scheduling.

If you have changed your particular hour as a regular "visitor" during the 24-hours of Adoration OR if you can't make it at your designated hour, please let Father Hoke know.



CONFESSIONS

At the Church
Saturday from 3:15-3:45
before the 4 o'clock Mass.
Sunday from 7:15-7:45
before the 8 o'clock Mass.
Or by Appointment

OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 10:00-4:00
Wednesday 9:00-12:00
Office Phone: (570) 742-4356

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Remember Those Who Are Sick:

Sharon Austin	Marie Luzenski
Dolores Caicco	Michael McHale
Leslie Cameron	Dave Moser
Helen Choplick	Jan Moser
Elaine Cook	Melinda Oliveri
Mike Enright	Mary Ruth Palmer
Giovanna Fanella	Rita Patynski
Trey Gresh	Eleanor Poponiak
Luann Hackenburg	Geri Pryer
Thomas Hackenburg	Margaret Punako
Laverne Havash	Melissa Rowse
John Heimbach	Joan Rudloff
Ryan Jimenez	Benita Kolen Solomon
Rita Klein	Eleanor Stopper
Abram Koons, Jr	Diane Sykes
Nicole Lamprinos	Mike Walter
Andria Laurence	Bill Woodling
Malyssa Lenig	Vickie Youmans
Marie Lindner	Lincoln Yordy
Sue Lindner	Robert Zacker

Please contact the church office if you would like to have a name added to the prayer list.

Happy Birthday This Week
Jay Bringman

FOOD DRIVE REPORT



Thanks to all who contributed to the CCD Food Drive. The students created 39 family bags that included two vegetables, fruit, can of potatoes or instant potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy, cake mix & icing or jello & pudding.

There were approximately 300 additional items like peanut butter, soup, salad dressing, cereal that they boxed up to deliver. All the donations will be given to the Salvation Army for their Christmas bundles and their pantry.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is offered every Sunday during the 11:00 Mass, when CCD is in session. Children's Liturgy is for school age children who **have not** received The Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Children must be mature enough to go to children's Lit without a parent or older sibling.

DECEMBER HOLY DAYS MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend before Christmas

December 23, 4:00 PM Mass	Parish Center
December 24, 8:00 AM Mass	Parish Center
December 24, 11:00 AM Mass	Parish Center

Christmas

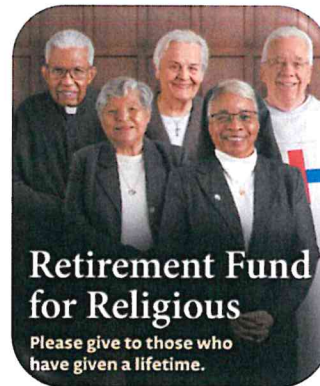
December 24, 5:00 PM Mass	Church
December 24, 10:00 PM Carols	Church
December 24, 10:30 PM Mass	Church
December 25, 10:00 AM Mass	Church

New Year's Weekend

December 30, 4:00 PM Mass	Church
December 31, 8:00 AM Mass	Church
December 31, 11:00 AM Mass	Parish Center
December 31, 5:00 PM Vigil Mass	Church
January 1, 10:00 AM Mass	Church

RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

December 10, 2023



Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need – usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As

they age, they require essential care and mediations. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

mca missionary
childhood
association

Please continue to drop
your spare change in our MCA jars.

IMACULÉE CONCEPTION PARISH

Lalouere, Haiti
Our Sister Parish

Because of the unrest in Haiti, we won't be "selling the cookies" this year. And we will be collecting for our Sister Parish in Haiti instead of collecting for "No Room at the Inn." Our contributions will be combined with those of Sacred



Heart Parish and sent to a specific bank account once a year – probably early in 2024.

The pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish is Father Junior. He has worked hard for his parishioners to help with schooling and general everyday living conditions.



Pictured are some of his elementary students who are proud to wear the school uniforms.

During the past year, Father's sister was injured in a skirmish with the

bandits who try to control the streets and the government.

We included an envelope in last week's bulletin, but if you lost yours, there are extras on the tables at the Church and the Parish Center. Please include cash or a separate check for this collection as it will not be deposited in our General Account.

DAY BY DAY

Day by Day, O Dear Lord,
These things I pray,
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more deeply,
Follow Thee more nearly.
Day by Day.

Contributed by Ruth Ferlazzo

St. Joseph, Danville will have a bilingual Mass on December 12th at 9:00 AM in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are invited. Some Spanish hymns will be included.

Christmas in the Air



Buffalo Valley Singers 50th Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 16th 7:30

Sunday, December 17th 3:00

St. John's United Church of Christ
1050 Buffalo Rd., Lewisburg, PA

Singers from St. Joseph's include
Maddie Blamble, Tracie Leitzel,
Kathy Piaskowski & Stan Salwocki

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICK Milton Winterfest



Over 200 children attended the Breakfast with St. Nick held at our Parish Center Saturday, December 2nd. Each child

received a gift from Santa, a goodie bag and handmade hat along with breakfast. The event was hosted by the *Milton Winterfest Committee*, and for the second year St. Nick was absent – he had Covid.

Students who helped from St. Joe's were Louise Cromley, Kaylee Mortimer, Sophia Drollinger, Eli Farr and Addy Murray.

Thank You, Thank You!

Thanks to Marilyn Boiardi, Tracie Leitzel and Kathy Piaskowski for getting the altars ready for Advent. The purple at the church is *eggplant*!



Pictured are crew who started to construct our Broadway Nativity scene. Bob Engleman, George Rocktashel, Larry Blase, Paul Stewart. Missing

from the picture is Jim Seksinsky.

O People of Sion,
Behold, the Lord will come to Save the Nations,
And the Lord will make the Glory of His Voice
Heard in the Joy of Your Heart.