

Church Bulletin for Christmas 2022



***Church of the
Annunciation***
Ludlow, VT



Holy Name Of Mary
Proctorsville, VT

Father Thomas Mosher, Pastor

Lord's Day Mass Schedule

Saturday.....4:30 P.M.
Sunday..... 8:00 A.M. & 10:00 A.M.

Holy Days and Daily Masses: As scheduled in the bulletin

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45 to 4:15pm
Tuesday 6:00 to 7:00pm

Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage: By appointment

Sacrament of the Sick: Please call Father Mosher at 802-228-3451

New Parishioners: Welcome! *Please pick up the registration forms at the Church entry ways, fill in your information and mail to the Parish office.*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30am—12:30pm

7 Depot Street
Ludlow, Vermont 05149

Phone: 802-228-3451

E-mail: abvmludlow@comcast.net
Website: www.churchoftheannunciationludlow.org

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY December 24—Christmas Eve
 4:30PM Rita & Michael Langello and
 Michele Langello-Hughes
 By Marianne Langello

SUNDAY December 25—Christmas Day
 8:00AM Maurice Doucette
 By Annette Doucette

10:00AM **The Paige Family**
 By the family

MONDAY December 26
 8:00AM **Special Intention for**
 Dolorita Robinson Noonan & Family
 By Paul and Clorinda Noonan

TUESDAY December 27
 NO MASS

WEDNESDAY December 28
 NO MASS

THURSDAY December 29
 NO MASS

FRIDAY December 30
 8:00AM Helen Rock
 By the Libuda family

SATURDAY December 31
 4:30PM T. Frank Kennedy
 By Isabel Montgomery

SUNDAY January 1
 8:00AM **Special Intention for the**
 McHugh family

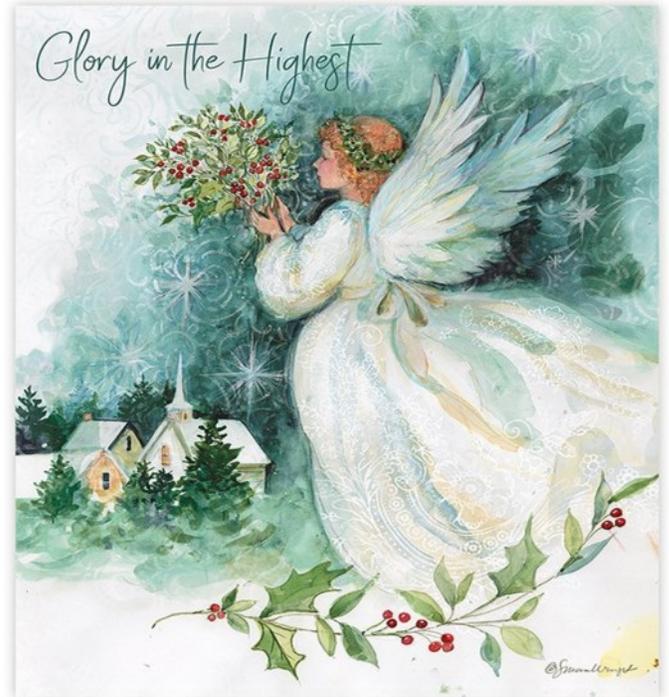
10:00AM **Pro Populo**

Please pray for our Sick Members*
 Jack Miller, Mike Ahern, Bill Rodd, Mike Mineo,
 Gene Tofferi, John Huffstedler, Mary Riley



Please remember our Faithful Departed
 Mildred Cutrufello, Lawrence Noonan, Jim Hasson,
 Rita Higgins, B.J. Stewart, Jeannie Findling, Jennie Kolenda,
 Daniel Adler, Robert Martin, Jack Collins, Connie Choiniere,
 Izolina Gylys, Frank Edden, Benjamin Troxell III, Mary Pat
 Mulholland, Tom Naclerio

*If you would like a name added or removed from the above lists, please let the Parish Office know via email or phone.



**Now there were shepherds in that region living
 in the fields
 and keeping the night watch over their flock.
 The angel of the Lord appeared to them
 and the glory of the Lord shone around them,
 and they were struck with great fear.
 The angel said to them,
 "Do not be afraid;
 for behold, I proclaim to you good news of
 great joy
 that will be for all the people.
 For today in the city of David
 a savior has been born for you who is
 Christ and Lord.
 And this will be a sign for you:
 you will find an infant wrapped in
 swaddling clothes
 and lying in a manger."
 And suddenly there was a multitude of the
 heavenly host with the angel,
 praising God and saying:
 "Glory to God in the highest
 and on earth peace to those on whom his
 favor rests."
 Luke 2:8-14**

Lectors

This weekend: J. McLaughlin, R. Gylys, I. Montgomery
Next weekend: I. Montgomery, W. Denker, D. Dunseith

Ushers

This weekend: B. Brzoza, D. Sheehan, J. Nicoll, T. Gurdak-Carter
Next weekend: B. Brzoza, D. Sheehan, J. Nicoll, T. Gurdak-Carter

Eucharistic Ministers

This weekend: S. Bixby, M. Barton, C. Hudgings
Next weekend: C. Hudgings, M. Barton, S. Bixby

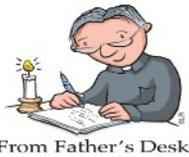
Parish Support—December 11th

	ABVM	HNM
Sunday	\$1,198	\$255
Immaculate Conception	\$364	
Retirement Fund	\$407	\$327



Parish Support—December 18th

	ABVM	HNM
Sunday	\$1,309	\$128



From Father's Desk

Why did God go to the trouble of sending His Son to earth in order to affect our redemption? Lots of planning over many millennia had to go into this: Creation itself... the Fall of Adam... the Call of Abraham... the Giving of the Law to Moses... the

Preaching of the Prophets. Then came the Immaculate Conception... the Virgin Birth... the Hidden Life of Christ... His Public Life and Ministry... His Passion and Death... His Resurrection and Ascension. Why didn't God just utter the words, as He did in the Act of Creation: "Let there be light...?" God could well have said simply, "Let there be redemption...divine mercy... unmerited forgiveness... incalculable love.

But He chose instead to send His Son to enter into our humanity, (while retaining His divinity) in order to show us the way to salvation in a person-to-person milieu. Saint Augustine (4th/5th century) said, (slightly paraphrased) "God became Man so that Man could become God-like." In the Life of Jesus, we find the pattern for our own lives, as oriented toward salvation. Only God could redeem human sins, so, in the person of Jesus, God did just that. I once received a Christmas card that read, "Love was born at Christmas." A lovely sentiment, and I get the meaning of God's love breaking into humanity in a unique manner. But love preceded that first Christmas, indeed God's love preceded Creation, sharing in His Eternal Being.

Yet here we are, 2,022 years later, still offering Holy Mass, singing carols, exchanging gifts, giving generously to the poor in His Name, all in remembrance of Our Lord's Holy Birth. More than a Birthday party, this is a celebration of the fusion of divinity into humanity in the Christ Child, that will eventually remind us of the presence of the divine within every human soul. Saint Leo the Great (5th century) said in a famous Christmas sermon, "Christian, remember thy dignity!" It is the presence of the divine spark within each person that is the source of our dignity, and the dignity of all persons, including the pre-born.

The Trappist monk Father Thomas Merton (20th century) wrote of the interior life, describing what he called a *pointe vierge*, a virginal point deep within each person, at the level of the soul, so deep and so profound that sin cannot touch it. This is the level where we connect with the divinity of Christ. This is what He came to save. It is this perpetually virginal point within us that reminds us of our dignity as the Beloved of God. From this point, our minds and hearts can be opened to Faith, and can say with Our Blessed Mother, "Let it be done unto me according to thy word."

This, then, is the essence of our Christmas revelry: "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16) May your observance of this Solemnity of Christmas bring you serenity, peace and gladness, as recounted from the Angels' proclamation to the shepherds: "Behold, I proclaim unto you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." They were speaking of us, these many centuries later. May this become for you the merriest of Christmases.



Responsorial Psalm

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven,

(Here we bow for the next line.)

... And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake, He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.