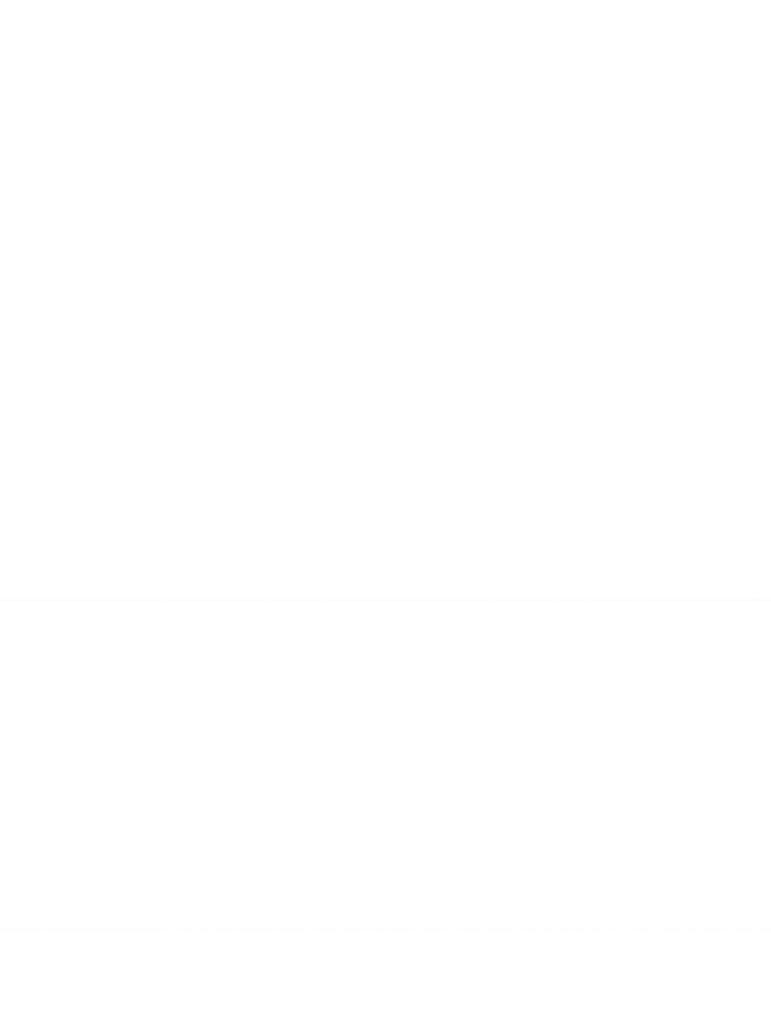


December 11, 2022 ·

My dear spiritual sons and daughters, my brothers and sisters in Christ,

A Blessed Advent to you! Instead of a "holidian" greeting, I salute you in the true spirit of the season, that is, the Advent season. On today, the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, I am grateful for the rose-colored flowers sponsored by the Women's Society at Presentation and at Secret Heart by our pay Parish Councilor Mrs. Meric Silve. "Gaudete" means "raining" in Latin

Today is one of <b>two</b> Sundays per year in which <b>rose</b> - from the Latin " <b>rosacea</b> " - vestments may be worn at Mass. As tomorrow happens to be the feast of <b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> , the patroness of Mexico, Empress of the Americas, <b>and</b> patroness of the pro-life movement in the United States, kudos go to the <b>Women's Society</b> for preparing a side altar at <b>Presentation Church</b> in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe while Mrs. Silva's flowers will adorn the <b>Sacred Heart sanctuary</b> for the parish Mass scheduled <b>tomorrow at 11 a.m.</b> If we are preparing <b>firstly</b> this Advent for the coming of <b>Christ</b> at Christmas, then <b>Gaudete</b> ("rejoice") for <b>His coming is near</b> and the joyful Christmas season will begin. <b>On the other side of this page is the schedule of Masses and rites for Dec. 14, 19, 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1st.</b> Kindly read the bulletin or visit our website for the <b>change of schedule of Mass and confessions on Sundays.</b>	
Amidst a culture that is inimical to Christian values and to living our Catholic identity in the public square, <b>the need to reclaim</b> loving and serving God with all our <b>mind</b> as well as with all our heart is evident, especially with our beloved children and youth in the <i>domestic Church</i> (per St. John Chrysostom), that is the <b>family</b> . Heartfelt thanks to <b>Mrs. Michelle Metelski</b> , Coordinator of Religious Education, <b>Dcn. Timothy Dean</b> , Director of the R.C.I.C. program, <b>and their collaborators</b> for helping our <b>parents</b> to form the next generation of saints. On December 7 <sup>th</sup> , with the help of the local <b>Knights of Columbus</b> , we celebrated the <b>real</b> Santa Claus, that is <i>St. Nicholas of Myra</i> , at Port Ewen to teach local children and families some of the true meaning of these times. I recall with gratitude the <b>in-person Bible study</b> initiated in the fall at Sacred Heart by <b>Fr. Marc Oliver</b> , which we will renew early next year, as well as the <b>growing unity</b> of our diverse Mass communities in both Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms.	
Appealing to the ardent love in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the prayers of Our Lady presented at the Temple of Jerusalem at three years of age, may Almighty God grant you and your families His choicest blessings in these days of Advent, throughout Christmastide, and the New Year.  I look forward to seeing you at Holy Mass and the other devotions of these blessed days. May the Christ Child find us ready to receive Him in our hearts and minds, at our parish, and in our homes!  Since rely in Christ,  Rev. Fr. Arthur F. Rojas, Administrator	



Let's get ready FOR Christ this Advent and then KEEP Christ present in the CHRISTMAS SEASON.

## **SCHEDULE**

# Special Family Catechesis on Confession (Religious Education Program)

Wednesday, December 14 at 6 p.m. at Presentation Church. This is required of ALL Religious Education students and at least one parent from each family. R.C.I.C. students who have been prepared by their catechists for First Confession are to come with at least one parent. For these students up to and including Confirmation, confessions will be available firstly to them and then to their parents and Religious Education staff.

## Advent Reconciliation Monday, December 19.

Sacred Heart, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Presentation, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. (At P.B.V.M., English and Spanish)

## Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24.

The daily Mass at 8 a.m. will **not** be offered today.

The Vigil Mass will be offered at **5 p.m. at Sacred Heart** and at **8 p.m. at Presentation.**Attendance of either Vigil Mass will fulfill the Christmas obligation.

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS/FELIZ NAVIDAD/JOYEUX NOEL

9 a.m. Sacred Heart. 11 a.m. Presentation. 11 a.m. Sacred Heart (Extraordinary Form).

The Rectory and both parish offices are closed on Monday, December 26th.

## Saturday, December 31.

Presentation:

Sacred Heart:

Morning Mass at 8 a.m.

Confessions from 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

End-of-Year Holy Hour at Presentation, 11:15 p.m. to 12:15 a.m.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God** (Sun., Jan. 1st, 2023. Start the New Year *right* with Mass.) NEW SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY MASS AND CONFESSIONS TAKES EFFECT TODAY.

Presentation:

Confessions from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m.

Mass at 9 a.m.

Sacred Heart:

Confessions from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

Mass at 11:30 a.m.



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - GAUDETE SUNDAY

December 11, 2022

"Lord, come and save us."

(Psalm 146)

### Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

Halfway through this season of preparation, we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, this Sunday of joy and gladness. With eager anticipation we prepare our hearts for Christ as we prepare our homes for Christmas. Recalling that Saints Mary and Joseph could not find a proper place for Our Lady to give birth to our Savior, we commit to preparing a proper place to receive Our Lord anew into our lives. In Him, the blind see and the deaf hear, the poor are fed and the dead are raised. May we ready ourselves to see the wonders the Lord can do in our midst.

Readings: Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday	December 11
10:00 AM	Thomas Hanlon †
11:00 AM	Maria Ramos †
Monday	December 12
Feast of Our I	Lady of Guadalupe
11:00 AM	Annamaria Martinelli
(At S	acred Heart)
Office	s are Closed
Tuesday	December 13
8:00 AM	Otis Carl Edwards †
Wednesday	December 14
8:00 AM	Conversion of Parrinello Family
Thursday	December 15
8:00 AM	Pro populo



Friday	December 16
8:00 AM	Marie Adolphe †
Saturday	December 17
8:00 AM	Lamartine Coq †
5:00 PM	Vigil Mass for Sunday
	Richard Abramshe †
Sunday	December 18
10:00 AM	Birthday Blessings
	for Mary Ella Post
11:00 AM	Richard Clavin Jr. †

#### <<<<<<<<<<>>>>>>>>>

20 Week #4 Club Winner - 12/11/22 Yvette Ascarino Congratulations!

#### **WEEKLY OFFERING**

1st Collection: \$3,720; Christmas Flowers: \$378; Food Pantry: (Ellenville) \$2,113; Candles: \$75; WeShare: \$2,170. The Second Collection this weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Thank you for your generosity

#### TABERNACLE LAMP

The Tabernacle Lamp is reserved at Presentation from 12/10-12/17 for the End of Abortion; 12/17-12/24 for the Deceased Members of the Pheil Family and at Sacred Heart from 12/10-12/17 for Maria Ramos, 12/17-12/24 for the Conversion of the Randazzo Family.

#### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Women's Society will be selling tickets for our Annual Christmas Raffle on Sunday, December 11th and 18th after the 10:00 AM Mass. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and will be on display at the back of the church. 4 chances to win one of four baskets which include spirits, chocolate delights and lottery scratch-offs. Winners will be drawn on December 18th after Mass.

Please support this fund raiser...in doing so you are helping support to our Parish...Thank you!!

#### Third Week of Advent

Scripture Reading:

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." (Isaiah 9: 2-3)



Meditation: An angel told Joseph in a dream to be not afraid to take Mary as his wife, for she was pregnant with the Son of God. After they were married, Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem to be counted in the census. The journey was long and difficult, for

Mary was very close to giving birth. This week we light the rose

candle. We are joyful, for Jesus' birth is drawing near.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# From the Desk of Fr. Rojas

In addition to the Advent-Christmas letter and schedule inserted in today's bulletin, I would like to share with you some thoughts in light of current events and the Sacred Scriptures.

"And blessed is the one who takes no offense at Me." (Matthew 11:6, from the Gospel reading in the Ordinary Form). Reiterating what was published at our website and by our press release, I thank Almighty God, then Our Lady of the Hudson, and then the primary cooperation of the Knights of Columbus (Council #275, Kingston) and the help of our Women's Society and generous volunteers from our parish and elsewhere for the splendid St. Nicholas celebration on the night of December 7th at St. Leo's Hall. Almost 100 people, including R.C.I.C./Religious Education students and staff, other local children and families and local Knights of Columbus, enjoyed a prayerful and joyful celebration of the REAL Santa Claus: St. Nicholas of Myra. We aimed to form the imagination of our children and youths towards a Christian sense of who and what to celebrate, when we celebrate, and how we celebrate. A Blessed Advent to you as we all prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas!

"Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." – James 5:10 (from the second reading in the Ordinary Form). As the House of Representatives at Washington, D.C. passed on Dec. 8th the so-called Respect for Marriage Act (R.M.A.), from an article in Business Insider I learned that in the debate preceding the vote, Rep. Vicky Hartzler (Missouri) **shed tears** as she urged her colleagues to **reject** the proposal to further entrench "same-sex unions" as a legal equivalent to marriage in our country. Now, Mrs. Hartzler is an evangelical Christian and not a Catholic. However, I suspect that as an evangelical Christian, she reads the 66 books in her Bible (ours has 73). I dare surmise that the Congresswoman knew what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah when those cities exalted lewdness (read *Genesis* 19). As she warned about the R.M.A.'s **further danger** to the religious freedom of groups and individuals who do **not** go along with the ongoing legal and cultural perversion of marriage, notwithstanding its doubtful provisions regarding religious liberty, perhaps an angel's words to Lot at Sodom, "...the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord..." (Gen 19:13) might have moved Rep. Hartzler to tears for our country as we turn further away from God and His ways. The passage of this bill on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception galls me too, especially when thinking of any Catholic representative who voted for R.M.A. and then presented himself or herself for Holy Communion at Mass today. To know that a Catholic president of the United States is eager to sign this bill into Federal law and public policy! Truly, "Lord, come and save us" (cf. Ps 146, from today's Responsorial Psalm). May we persevere in prayer and our choices to live and share the truth of God's plan for man and woman of life and love as well as to support each other to steadfast fidelity to Christ at a time when it would be much easier to go with the foul flow. For Christ comes not only at Christmas but also at the end of our lives and at the end of time itself. How are we preparing?

# **Advent Reconciliation Monday**

Prepare the gift that JESUS wants on HIS birthday ("Christmas"): a clean heart and soul as His crib. How? Come to Confession on December 19, whether at Sacred Heart from 2 to 4 p.m. or at Presentation from 6 to 9 p.m.

# Visiting us next Sunday:

At all our Masses on Dec. 18 and the Vigil Mass on Dec. 17, representatives of a drug rehabilitation program in Sullivan County will speak after Communion (Ord. Form) or after the final blessing (Ext. Form) about their efforts. Their shirts will be on sale (donations welcome too).



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# Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary + Sacred Heart Church



PRESENTATION OF THE **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** P.O. Box 904, 209 Hoyt Street Port Ewen, New York 12466

845-331-0053

Rev. Fr. Arthur F. Rojas Administrator

Rev. Fr. Marc K. Oliver Retired/Sunday Associate

Deacon Jack Larkin Deacon Timothy Dean

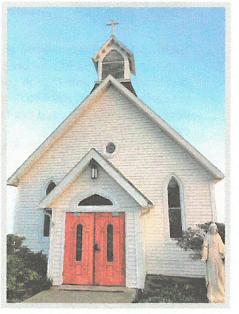
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 904, Port Ewen, New York 12466

E-Mail: presentationsacredheart@ presentationsacredheart.org

Website: presentationsacredheart.org

N.B. Parish Offices are CLOSED on Mondays

Presentation: Thr/F 10 am - 3 pm Sacred Heart: T/W 9 am - 4 pm



SACRED HEART P.O. Box 200, 1055 Broadway Esopus, New York 12429 845-384-6828

Sunday Masses

Presentation B.V.M. Sunday: 10:00 AM

Sacred Heart

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00

Sunday: Extraordinary Form: 11:00 AM

Daily Mass

Sacred Heart

Tuesday, Wednesday: 8:00 AM

Presentation

Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 8:00 AM

Holy Day Masses See bulletin or Website

Novena

Our Lady of Perpetual Help during 8:00 AM Mass on Wednesday.

Confessions By Appointment or

At Sacred Heart

Saturday: 4:30 to 4:55 PM

At Presentation Sunday:

9:15 to 9:45 AM

Secretary, Sacred Heart

Ms. Zina Matera/ 845-384-6828 adminasstesopus@presentationsacredheart.org

Secretary, Presentation

Mrs. Barbara McCabe / 845-331-0053 secyportewen@presentationsacredheart.org

Religious Education

Mrs. Michelle Metelski, CRE religiouseducation@presentationsacredheart.org

Baptism By appointment

Wedding

By appointment six months or more in advance.

R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) By appointment with Deacon Tim Dean

Parochial Elementary School Kingston Catholic School / 845-331-9318

Mission Statement: We profess the Apostle & Nicene Creeds as a community of Faith of the Roman Catholic Church.

All are welcome to worship and pray with us.