



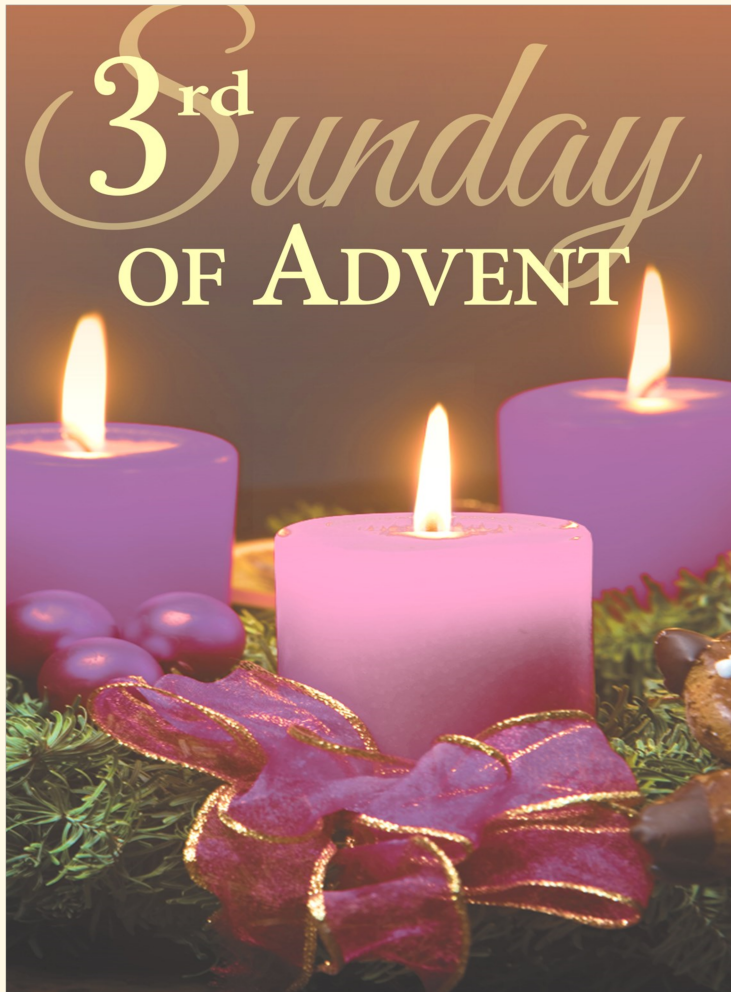
Corpus Christi Parish

"Building the Body of Christ"

We strive to radiate the presence of Jesus Christ In our parish and community
and invite **others** to join us on our journey.



December 17, 2023



Prepare Your Heart: Jesus, the Gift, Is on the Way

Gaudete Sunday

As we celebrate Gaudete (*Latin for "rejoice"*) Sunday on this Third Sunday in the Advent Season, we are just one week away from Christmas. One week away from celebrating with fresh fervor, "joy to the world, the Lord has come!" He truly has come, yes 2,000 years ago and He will come again into our hearts and lives in a new way this Christmas if we seek that most wonderful gift! On our Advent journey, we continue to align our minds and hearts to the love of God, not only so that we live better in general, but so that we are truly ready to receive the gift Jesus wants to give us on Christmas. I do believe the gift could be described as *a new immersion into the life of God* (which you could call a baptism in the Spirit!) through our encounter with Jesus on Christmas.

When we come to celebrate the Christmas masses next week, we will be blessed to enter into a unique experience of the celebration of Christmas. At any time, we can meditate on the glory of the birth of Jesus and find it to be a rich experience. Yet, when we come to the Christmas

season in the Church, the liturgies of Christmas truly carry special graces to help us enter into the mystery of the birth of Christ. There is a passage from the Catechism I love to share about the mystery involved with liturgy, "in each celebration there is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that makes the unique mystery present." (CCC 1104) This means that as we come to celebrate the Christmas liturgies, by the grace of God poured out in the liturgy, we enter *into* the celebration of the birth of Jesus in a way that truly *puts us tangibly in the scene to hold the baby Jesus*. In the liturgy, God takes us into events He makes present to us...and at Christmas, we go to the manger in a most special way.

So, prepare your heart, Jesus the Gift, is on the way! I cannot think of a better way to spend this last week getting ready than making sure to spend time with Mother Mary asking her to prepare us for Christmas Day. She was ready...and she will get us ready!

God bless you!

Fr. Patrick

Holy Homework: This week, pray the rosary daily asking Mary to help get you and your loved ones ready for a life changing encounter with Jesus at Christmas.

Corpus Christi Catholic Church

19800 Pembroke Ave

Detroit MI 48219-2145

313-537-5770

www.corpuschristi-detroit.org**Fr. Patrick Gonyeau**, Priest in Solidum

Patrick.Gonyeau@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Deacon Paul Mueller, Pastoral Associate

Paul.Mueller@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Doug Buday, Director of Operations

Douglas.Buday@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Shanita Brown, Bookkeeper, Shanita.Brown@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Gregory Spight**, Maintenance Coordinator

Gregory.Spight@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Lori Subelsky – Bulletin Editor, Lori.subelsky@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Sheila Finch** - Liturgical Coordinator

Sheila.finch@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Sr. Therese MacKinnon, Discipleship Formation Director

Therese.MacKinnon@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Curtis Simpson Jr., Evangelical Charity Director

Curtis.SimpsonJr@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Pat Tillery, Evangelical Charity Administration Assistant

Patricia.Tillery@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Cathy Long, Finance/Faith/Website Support

Catherine.Long@corpuschristi-detroit.org

Mary Davis, Events Coordinator, Mary.Davis@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Marilyn Webb**, Youth Minister, Marilyn.Webb@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Maria Dickerson** – New Parishioners & Volunteer Coordinator,maria.dickerson@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Michelle Baines**, Music Ministry, Michelle.Baines@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Fannie Larkins**, Music Ministry, Fannie.Larkins@corpuschristi-detroit.org**Family Pastoral Council Representatives:****Christeena Livingston-Long**, christeena04@gmail.com**Valerie Berry**, valerieberry04@gmail.com**Parish Office Hours are Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9 am - 4 pm****Saturday Mass** 4 pm **Sunday Masses** 9 am and 11 am**Daily / Holy Day Masses** See weekly parish schedule**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 1–3:45 pm;** during Penance services; by appointment (call the Parish Office)**Sick Calls/Prayer Requests:** Please call the Parish Office to schedule or visit or add someone to parish prayer list**Funerals:** Please call the Parish Office before making arrangements with the funeral home.**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office for more information.**Sacrament of Marriage:** Please call the Parish Office at least six months before the wedding date.**Sunday Offertory Report**

Weekly Budget 2023 – 2024 \$ 7,213.00

Sunday Offerings 12/10/2023 \$ 5,952.45

Over/Under for the Budget Year \$ 395.35**The Week Ahead****Monday, December 18**

8:30 am MASS

Tuesday, December 19

8:30 am MASS

10:00 am - Team Meeting - Virtual

10:00 am - 1:00 pm Emergency Food Pantry (RR Annex)

6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm - SFE Ministry (Rainbow Room & Neighborhood)

Wednesday, December 20**8:30 am No Mass or Communion Service**

10:00 am - 5:00 pm - Meeting (Rainbow Room)

Thursday, December 21

8:30 am MASS

9:15 am - 12:15 pm Eucharistic Adoration

10:00 am - 1:00 pm Meeting (Rainbow Room)

Friday, December 22

8:30 am MASS

Saturday, December 23

10:00 am -12:00 pm Image of God Crisis Pregnancy Center (Activities Center)

1:00 pm - 3:15 pm Eucharistic Adoration**1:00 pm - 3:45 pm Confessions - Church**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Recovery (Rectory Basement)

4:00 pm - MASS**Sunday, December 24****Fourth Sunday of Advent****Christmas Eve****9:00 am MASS**

9:00 am CGS Level 2 (Atrium)

9:30 am OCIA (Rectory Living room)

11:00 am MASS**11:00 am** CGS Level 1 (Atrium)

11:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word (Rectory)

12:30 pm Church Decorating

4:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve Mass

9:00 pm Christmas Carols before 10:00 pm Mass

10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass**Monday, December 25****Nativity of the Lord****9:00 am Christmas MASS****11:00 am Christmas MASS****Corpus Christi Parish**
Central Trinity Vicariate 1
Family of Parishes**ONE IN THE SPIRIT****Corpus Christi:**
Presentation Our Lady of Victory:
SS. Peter and Paul-Westside:
Saint Juan Diego:
Saint Mary of Redford:
Saint Scholastica:**Fr. Patrick Gonyeau:** corpuschristi-detroit.org
Deacon Hubert Sanders: presentationourladyofvictory.org
Fr. Jerry Pilus: sspddetroit.net
Fr. Jaime Hinojos: stjuandiegoparish.com
Fr. Athanasius Fornwalt: saintmaryofredford.church
Fr. Jim Lowe: scholastica.church

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

December 17 – December 24, 2023

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Sunday | 9:00 am | In thanksgiving for the Corpus Christi Staff and Volunteers |
| | 11:00 am | Intentions of our Parishioners |
| Monday | 8:30 am | Peace in our City, Country, and our World |
| Tuesday | 8:30 am | Intentions of our Parishioners |
| Wednesday | No Mass or Communion Service | |
| Thursday | 8:30 am | + Deacon Harold (Hal) Goodhue |
| Friday | 8:30 am | For the legal Protection of the Unborn and the Corpus Christi Crisis Pregnancy Center |
| Saturday | 4:00 pm | Intentions of our Parishioners |
| Sunday | 9:00 am | For the Family, Friends and Benefactors of the Sisters at Corpus Christi (req Sr. Rita) |
| | 11:00 am | Intentions of our Parishioners |

My soul rejoices in my God.

(Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54)



Eucharistic Adoration at Corpus Christi

Tuesday: 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Thursday: 9:15 am - 12:15 pm
Saturday: 1:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Please Remember the Sick in your Prayers Members of our Parish Family...

Shermia Anding, Jane Breslin, Michael Busby, Jr., Lucius Davis, Roy Ford, Connie Gant, Dionne Garner, Camille Graves-Douglas, Michael Lanton, Nancy Loper, Yve Nemeth, Elaine O'Neill, Varnard Plain, Sean Ross, Michael Sands, Shirley Sands, Lois Shepherd

Friends and Family of Parishioners...

Sheila Adams, Evelyn Akins, Kelly Davis, Samuel Fooks, Barbara Gay, Agnes Holt, Seretha Howard, Robert Jarey, Pat LaRoy, Harold McRae, Sandi Neely, Jill Stachkunis, Marilyn Waddell, Sara Nell Wallace

Please Remember the Homebound in your Prayers...

Joseph Cagle, Michelle Cagle, Beatrice Hunter, Beverley Brown-Johnson, Lucy Lee, Thelma Polley, Mary Thompson, Beverly Walker, Joyce Wilson



Prepare Your Heart: Jesus, the Gift, Is on the Way

Giving attention to Father Patrick's homily, and through the bonds of marriage, Dewayne and Alissa Cook have decided to prepare as one heart for the gift of Jesus, instead of two ♥+♥=♥. Their 'two hearts beating as one preparation' involves praying together, reflecting on scripture together and setting aside time together to do Fr Patrick's Holy Homework.

Henrietta Erebor is paying special attention to prayer and scripture. She will also lay hold of the grace of confession within the Church. Sounds like Henrietta is taking the Prophet Isaiah's Holy Homework to heart by making straight the path!!!!



Children's Christmas Eve Mass December 24, 4:00 p.m.

Any parent who would like their child/children to participate in the children's drama during the Christmas Eve Mass, please contact Mrs. Holly Nielsen, hollydnielsen@gmail.com or Sr. Therese, Therese.mackinnon@corpuschristi-detroit.org



Readings for the Week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Weekday

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Weekday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Weekday

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: Weekday

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14
Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27,
29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

©LPi



First Communion Celebration

On Christmas Day, December 25, at the 11:00 Mass, three of our young people, Oluoma (Benita) Amakor, Keagon Frisbee, and Jesus Viera will receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time. Following the Mass we will have a luncheon reception in the Rainbow Room. All are invited to join our parish celebration.



The Gift of Prayer

Do you want to give an amazing gift to someone you know? Have a Mass offered for their

intentions or in Thanksgiving for God's continued blessings in their lives! Mass intention forms can be found at the back of the church and on parish website.

Pat Tillery is coordinator for Mass Intentions.
She can be reached by calling the main office at (313)-537-5770.



PLEASE register and use these to support Corpus Christi Parish. The links to Kroger Community Rewards is found on our website:

[How to Donate - Offertory - Kroger - CSA - Endowment Fund | Corpus Christi Catholic Church | Detroit, MI \(corpuschristi-detroit.org\)](#)

These are two simple, automatic ways to support Corpus Christi Parish every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at Kroger, a portion of your purchases is donated to Corpus Christi. **During the quarter beginning August 1, 2023-October 31, 2023, Corpus Christi Parish received \$79.59 in donations from 33 households.** Please encourage your relatives, friends, and neighbors to choose Corpus Christi as their charity.



**Corpus Christi
Christmas Schedule of Masses**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9:00 am Mass
11:00 am Mass**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve**

**4:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve Mass
9:00 pm Christmas Carols before Mass
10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass**

**Monday, December 25, 2023
Christmas Day**

**9:00 Mass
11:00 Mass**



The Best Christmas Gift Ever!!

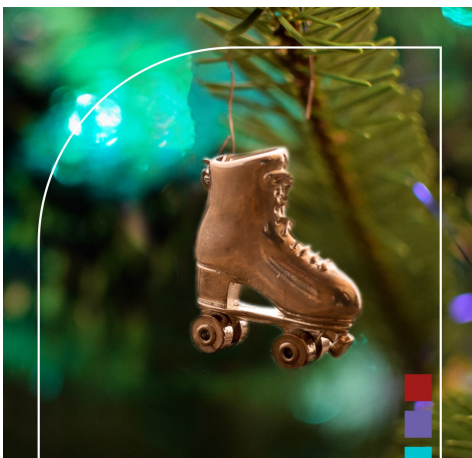
Presents under the tree are wonderful gifts, but can they heal a hurting marriage? Transforming your marriage into a mutually satisfying relationship is a "gift that will keep on giving." With the help of Retrouaille, it can be done!

Retrouaille is a Christian peer ministry specifically designed to help heal troubled marriages. This very well could be the best Christmas gift you could ever give yourself, your spouse, your children, your family and your friends!!

**The next Retrouaille program is
January 12-14, 2024
Farmington Hills, Michigan**

**For confidential information or to register call
800-470-2230**

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: HelpOurMarriage.org



VENEZUELA

Every year, roads are closed to traffic in the city of Caracas to let people participate in *las pantinatas* — "the skating" where everyone roller skates to Christmas Mass.

©LPI



NEW ZEALAND

On the island, Christmas trees look a little different. Residents use the native pōhutukawa tree, with its bright crimson flowers, as their symbol for Christmas.

©LPI



GERMANY

Starting in the 16th Century, Germans hide a pickle somewhere within the branches of their Christmas tree. Whatever child finds it receives a gift!

©LPI

PARISH TREASURE HUNT



Can you find me?

Clue: I am carried by the very first person in the opening procession at Mass.
Can you find me?

Fact: The processional cross lifts an image of Jesus high for all to see ... and follow.



Testimony

When my grandmother heard the news that my cousin had fallen from a second-story window, she immediately went and washed her hair.

Grandma had been sitting alone in her house, listening to the morning radio when the announcer shared a news bulletin stating that the previous night, a little boy with the same name as her grandson, living in the same community and of the same age, had fallen onto the pavement from a window on the second floor of his house. He had been rushed to the hospital but miraculously survived his injuries.

She thought she was hallucinating and wanted to look pretty when the “men in white coats” came to take her away. Thus, the hair-washing.

As it happens, the whole story was true — it was her grandson, but this was before the age of mobile phones and had happened so late at night that his parents had been unable to notify any family members before the whole thing showed up on the news.

It wasn't until my grandmother received a phone call from another relative corroborating the story that she realized it hadn't been a figment of her imagination. What a waste of styled hair, no hospital committal for her that day.

There are certain truths that we cannot accept unless they are supported by the testimony of others. We find them to be unbelievable without the reassurance of another person whispering, “It's okay. I see it, too.”

This is the value of testimony, and the purpose of John the Baptist and every saint who ever died with the name of Jesus Christ on their lips. And this is the sacred duty of all the baptized, to give testimony with our words and our actions.

How will you testify today?

“He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.”
- John 1:8

©LPi

Bl. Maria Franziska Schervier

Maria Franziska Schervier was born on January 3, 1819, in Aachen, Germany. Her father was a successful businessman, and her mother was a devout Catholic who instilled in her a strong love of the Lord.



As a young woman, Schervier felt called to serve God. Due to the death of her mother and two sisters of tuberculosis, though, her father objected to her desire to become a nun. He was devastated by the deaths and was determined to keep Schervier away from poverty and disease. Out of respect for the trauma her family endured and for her father's sake, Schervier, put aside her own desires.

After her father's death, when she was 25, Schervier felt free to finally join the Third Order of St. Francis, which allowed for her to live a religious life while still working in the secular world. She decided to honor her family's memory by focusing her life work on caring for the sick and, especially, for those who contracted tuberculosis.

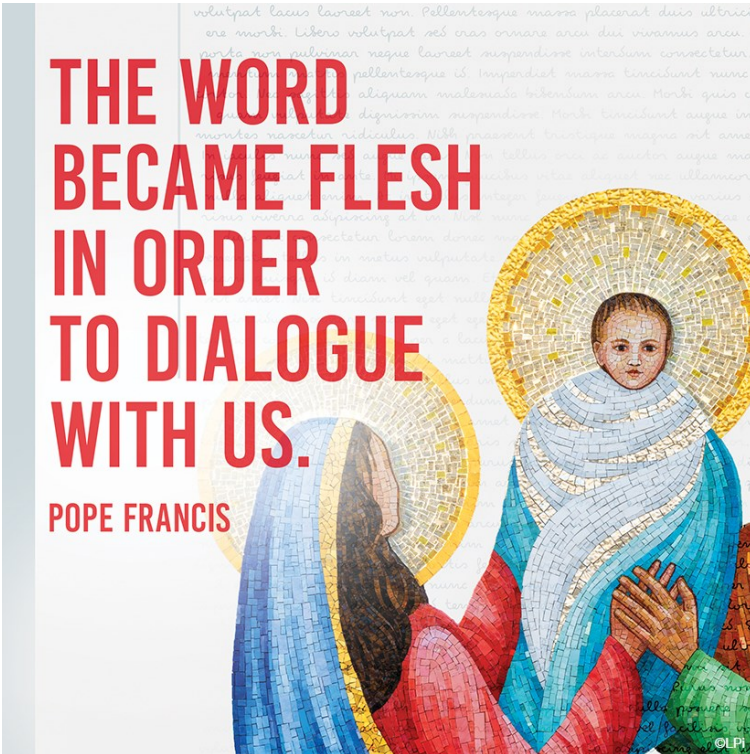
After she took her vows, Schervier worked as a seamstress and as a nurse. In her spare time, she opened up her personal home in Aachen to provide care for the poor and the sick. In 1851, she and four other women founded the Congregation of the Poor Sisters of St. Francis Seraph of the Perpetual Adoration, also known as the Franciscan Sisters of Aachen.

Schervier and her fellow sisters followed the example of St. Francis of Assisi and lived a life of poverty, simplicity, and service. They cared for the sick and the elderly, prostitutes and women suffering from diseases like syphilis, visited prisoners, and helped those who were struggling financially. Schervier served as the first Superior General of the congregation, and she remained in that role until her death.

Within seven years of their founding, the congregation spread to include an American foundation. The sisters in the United States served German emigrants in Ohio, Kentucky, New Jersey, and New York. Schervier also oversaw the foundation of a number of hospitals in the United States and Europe. One of the hospitals she and her congregation founded was St. Mary Hospital in Hoboken, New Jersey, where they cared for soldiers wounded in the American Civil War.

One of the most significant moments in Schervier's life came in 1863, when she and her sisters were called to care for the victims of a cholera epidemic in Aachen. They worked tirelessly, risking their lives to care for those who were sick and dying. They became known as the "Cholera Sisters."

Schervier died on December 14, 1876, at the age of 57. In 1974, Schervier was beatified by Pope Paul VI and named Blessed. Today, the Franciscan Sisters of Aachen continue to serve the poor and the sick in many countries around the world.



Communion or Bulletins for the Homebound

Please call the Parish Office if you would like to have Communion brought to you or have a bulletin mailed to you.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please send bulletin articles and any additional information to :
(cc.bulletin@corpuschristi-detroit.org)
by **12:00 pm on Tuesday** for consideration
in the Sunday bulletin.

Everyday Stewardship - Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi

| MASS | Lectors | Ministers of Communion | Servers | Ushers | Greeters | Coffee & Donuts | Sun Bus Driver | Video |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
| December 23 Saturday 4:00pm | Amira Hines | Cup - Needed | Server Needed | Alexis A | Greeter 1 | | | Cathy L |
| | | Ciborium -Dionne G. | Server Needed | Michael J | Greeter 2 | | | |
| | | | Server Needed | | | | | |
| December 24 Sunday 9:00am | Brenda M. | Cup - Hayden A. | Server Needed | Kenneth T | Greeter 1 | No Coffee and | | Marilyn W |
| | | Ciborium -Needed | Server Needed | Joseph N | Greeter 2 | Donuts | | |
| | | | Server Needed | Jim Y | | | | |
| December 24 Sunday 11:00am | Maria D. | Cup - Ogechi O. | Server Needed | Joseph N | Greeter 1 | No Coffee and | Chris W. | John S |
| | | Ciborium - Lori S. | Server Needed | Emmanuel P | Greeter 2 | Donuts | | |
| | | Ciborium - Evelyn W. | Server Needed | Greg S | | | | |
| | | Ciborium- Stacy J-B. | | | | | | |