

DECEMBER 2, 2018

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

JEREMIAH. 33: 14-16. The days are coming when the Lord will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah.
PSALM 25. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
1 THESSALONIANS. 3: 12-4:2. Abound in love for one another and for all.
LUKE. 21: 25-28, 34-36. Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand.

RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP	
DECEMBER 2, 2018	
OFFERTORY	\$3,246.63
ONLINE GIVING	\$22.00
DUES/SALARY	\$240.00
THANKSGIVING	\$277.00
FLOWERS	\$740.02
SECOND COLLECTION	\$262.94

WEEKLY ENVELOPE STATISTICS	
\$1.00-\$5.00-78	
\$6.00-\$10.00-47	
\$11.00-\$20.00-51	
\$21.00-\$30.00-36	
OVER- 9	



WEEKLY DUES/SALARY STATISTICS	
ABOVE \$5.00-2	
\$5.00-39	
BELOW \$5.00-0	

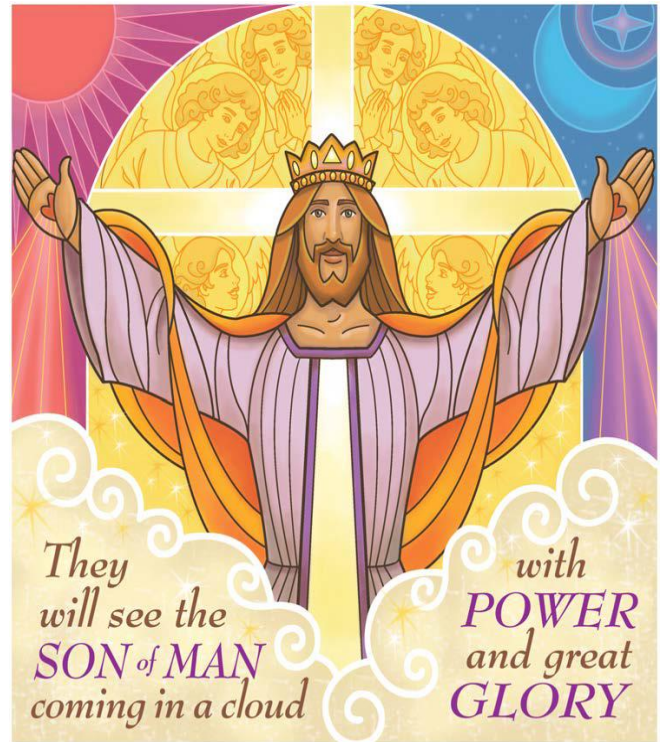
TOTAL ENVELOPES USED-221
FROM 627 MAILINGS

TOTAL ENVELOPES USED- 41
FROM 627 MAILINGS



INTENTIONS FOR OUR WEEKLY LITURGIES

- SAT. 4:00 P.M. Helen Falbo (Charles Falbo & Fam.)
- SUN. 8:00 A.M. People of the Parish
- SUN. 10:30 A.M. Anne Dowd-Geoffroy (Kevin & Ann Pittack & Fam.)
- SUN. 4:00 P.M. ADVENT HOLY HOUR BEGINS
- SUN. 5:00 P.M. ADVENT HOLY HOUR CONCLUDES WITH BENEDICTION
DAILY MASS IS HELD IN THE CHURCH
- MON. 8:00 A.M. Mary Perrault (The Pittack Fam.)
St. Francis Xavier
- TUE. 8:00 A.M. Eleannor Costa (Theresa Liuzzo & Fam.)
St. John Damascene
- WED. 8:00 A.M. Michael Docalovich (Morning Grace Prayer Group)
- THU. 8:00 A.M. Jean McDermott (Paul & Rose Carachilo)
St. Nicholas
- FRI. 8:00 A.M. FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
Ann Piwoworski (Mary Cicio & Fam.)
St. Ambrose
- FRI. 8:30 A.M. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION BEGINS
- FRI. 4:00 P.M. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION CONCLUDES
- FRI. 6:00 P.M. VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
People of the Parish
- SAT. 8:00 A.M. Louise Fitzgerald (Robert & Patricia Rmick)
- SAT. 4:00 P.M. Edward Kulesza & Zigmunt Wojnowski (The Fam.)
- SUN. 8:00 A.M. People of the Parish
- SUN. 10:30 A.M. Joan Chellino (Joan McDermott)
- SUN. 4:00 P.M. ADVENT HOLY HOUR BEGINS
- SUN. 5:00 P.M. ADVENT HOLY HOUR CONCLUDES WITH BENEDICTION



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WORD OF LIFE: "Pope Francis invites us to understand more deeply our relationships with God, one another, and the rest of creation, and to live accordingly. 'Everything is connected,' he reminds us." ~ *Serene Attentiveness to God's Creation, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*

SATELLITE SOUP KITCHEN AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH:

Christ the King Parish will be serving as a Satellite Soup Kitchen in conjunction with St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, and will be serving a FREE hot lunch at St. Thomas Aquinas Church Basement, Christ the King in Archbald on Tuesdays to ANYONE who would like a hot meal. Meals will promptly be served at 12:00 P.M. and end promptly at 12:30 P.M.

CHRISTMAS CASH THANK YOU : The Stewardship Committee would like to sincerely thank the NUMEROUS amount of people who contributed to the success of the 2018 Christmas Cash Event. The planners, the sellers, the buyers, the people who collected both patron and business ads, those who created the ad books, the people who either worked or attended the Christmas Cash Event—any and everyone who participated in any way—to you we say, "Thank You!" Our church and faith go on because of your efforts!!



PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK: Please note, the recently enacted privacy laws have made it difficult for the parish priests to obtain information regarding a parishioner's status in one of the local hospitals or his/her placements in one of the area's long-term facilities. We respectfully request that if a family member or friend is hospitalized (**especially if they are admitted through the Emergency Room**) or placed in a long-term facility that you contact the Parish Office so that Bishop Dougherty or Deacon Pat may visit them. We apologize to any parishioner that may have been hospitalized recently and did not receive a visit from a priest. Thank You for your understanding and cooperation.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS:

Help care for the elders. "Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders." writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long term needs. Please give to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious Collection.

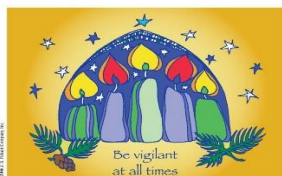


CHRISTMAS NOVENA INTENTIONS: These envelopes are in your packets and can be used to pray for living or deceased members of your family. The envelopes are placed on the Altar for your intentions to be celebrated in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE:

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice.

Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind. Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's tome. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them. Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his vice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so, Advent begins with a promise.



DID YOU KNOW? There is a small group of men and women who come together before daily mass here at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish to pray. Any and all who come are most welcome to join us occasionally or daily to petition God for various needs of individuals, for life, for liberty and peace and for God's grace and protection. **BEFORE THE 8:00 A.M. MASS EACH DAY.** Our "Morning Grace Rosary Prayer Group" prays the Rosary, Novena prayer to Christ the King; to St. Michael the Archangel; prayers for Pope Francis, for Religious Liberty; the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Come and Join Us!

PRAYER DAYS:

Prayer days are special gifted times During the Prayer Day the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the Altar. Coming into the Real Presence of Jesus Christ. The Prayer Day is a time of silence, adoration, thanksgiving and petition before the Blessed Sacrament. Please accept this announcement as an invitation to take advantage of this time with the Lord. Prayer days are **EVERY FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH IN THE CHAPEL.** Prayer days begin after the 8:00 A.M. Mass and conclude at 4:00 P.M. There are **SIGN UP SHEETS AT THE ENTRANCES OF THE CHURCH. SO, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SIGN IN FOR WHATEVER TIME YOU CAN SPEND WITH OUR LORD.** We are ALWAYS in need of people who will promise at least a half an hour to an hour to stay before the Blessed Sacrament during the day.



TRAVELING CHALICE PROGRAM:

This program is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The purpose is to increase prayer that will hopefully foster an increase in vocations by our youth to become Priests, Deacons, Brothers and Sisters. The Chalice is used during the Mass on the First week-end of every month. At the end of the Mass, the chalice is placed in a carrying case along with a copy of the prayer to be said. This in turn is given to a parishioner to keep for a week or more. The person receiving the chalice places it on a table or similar place in their home and recites the provided prayer at least once a day (the prayer takes about 15 seconds to say). The Chalice, carrying case, and the copy of the prayer are returned to the parish Priest before the first week-end Mass of the following month so that it can be used at the appropriate Mass and given to the next person on the list. This list is available at the back of the Church where parishioners can sign their names for the month during which they will be taking the chalice. The coordinator for Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish is Tony Spataro.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, bless your church with an abundance of Holy and Zealous Priests, Deacons, Brothers and Sisters. Give those you have called who have chosen to live as a single person in the world, the special graces that their lives require. Form them all in the likeness of your Son, so that in Him and through Him, they may love you more deeply and serve you more faithfully, always and everywhere with Mary. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

There is a marvelous, two-fold beauty surrounding all of Mary's Feasts. Each of them is a profound meditation on the mystery of salvation in Christ, and each is a wondrous example of our own calling and destiny. The psalm sings, "Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds." This is what we celebrate today: that God's saving power works in many ways, and does so, throughout the course of time. Like Mary, we are not saved through our own merits, but through the merits won by Christ on the cross of Calvary. Like she who was perfectly, abundantly graced, we are filled with the grace of Christ through the Spirit of our baptismal waters. And so, we sing "Ave!" to her, as our Advent cry joins hers while the Church, the Bride, and the Spirit say, "Maranatha! Come, Lord!" **This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Masses are Friday, 6:00 P.M. (Vigil) and Saturday, 8:00 A.M.**



TO ALL MINISTERS OF COMMUNION, LECTOR'S AND ACOLYTES:

The new schedule will be made up shortly. If there are any changes with your Schedules please inform the Parish Office. Thank You.



FIVE MINUTES WITH THE WORD AMONG US:

These books are available at the entrances of the Church. Please feel free to take one. These booklets contain daily meditations for each day of the Advent Season and are based on the Daily Readings.



ADVENT HOLY HOUR BEGINS TODAY:

With the beginning of the Advent Season, we will once again continue our long-standing tradition of having Holy hour beginning at 4:00 P.M. and concluding with benediction at 5:00 P.M. Please join us and spend an hour with the Lord.

WALL CALENDARS, 2019: Special Thanks to Battenberg Furniture Store and Funeral Home for sponsoring our Wall Calendars for 2019. They are available on the tables at the entrance of the Church.



CHRISTMAS WAFERS AVAILABLE: These are now available on the back tables at the entrance of the Church. The donation is \$3.00

WOMEN'S GUILD UPCOMING EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS PARTY- The Christmas Party for the Women's Guild is **Wednesday, December 12 at 5:30 P.M. at Pietro's in Jessup.** A buffet supper will be served. Please join us for a casual and relaxing evening. **Reservations close December 5 and must be accompanied by \$30.00 per person, which includes meal, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and tip, and a \$10 charitable contribution benefitting the Little Sisters of the Poor.** Reservations may be given to Annette @ the Rectory 570-876-1061, Judy Hine (570-876-1649, or Anne Marie Kitchura 570-876-1697.



NURSING HOME CHRISTMAS VISIT-Members of the Women's Guild who are available to share an afternoon with the residents of the Carbondale Nursing Home are most welcome to join us to spread a little Christmas Cheer. We will play a few games of Bingo, distribute small gifts to winners, and treat them with Christmas dessert! The date is **Tuesday, December 4 and we will meet at 1:30 P.M. to set up for a 2:00 Bingo.** Members are asked to contribute \$5.00 for game, prizes & dessert. Please contact **Emilene Pittsman @ 570-876-9291 or Anne Marie Kitchura @ 570-876-1697.** If you can come, or wish to contribute.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

Anna Ferrerio, a parishioner who died and was buried this past week. **Eternal Rest Grant unto her O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.**



LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**DECEMBER 8/9
THE SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
E. MINISTER
LECTOR
ACOLYTES**

SAT. 4:00 P.M.
Mrs. Judy Hine (Chalice)
Mr. Joseph Smith (Chalice)
Mrs. Diane Mosley (Host)
Miss Annette O'Bell (Host)
Mrs. Carrie Grant
Ryder Clark

SUN. 8:00 A.M.
Mr. Tony Spataro (Chalice)
Mrs. Marie Spataro (Chalice)
Mrs. JoAnn Massino (Host)
Mrs. Suzanne Serniak
Antonio Spataro
Giovanni Spataro
Dominico Spataro

SUN. 10:30 A.M.
Deacon Pat Massino (Chalice)
Mr. Jamie Owen (Chalice)
Miss Mary Golden (Host)
Mrs. Kyrene Owen
Emma Shaffer
Noah Shaffer

PRESENTERS OF GIFTS

**DECEMBER 8/9
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT**

SAT. 4:00 P.M.
Kulesza/Wojnowski Fam.

SUN. 8:00 A.M.
OPEN

SUN. 10:30 A.M.
OPEN

NOTICE REGARDING REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR: It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at (570-862-7551) or to Diocesan officials, including the Vicar General Monsignor Thomas M. Muldowney, V.G. at (570-207-2269).

SUPPORT GROUP AT CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

At Catholic Social Services in Scranton, we are offering a support group for people who are feeling alone or struggling to find companionship in their lives. Loneliness has become a debilitating concern for many adults leading to increased feelings of isolation, limited community involvement and lowered life expectancy. This group offers the opportunity to meet new people and make connections with others who are struggling to find friendship and companionship in a safe environment. The group is open to anyone who find him or herself alone and wants to meet like-minded people who can share their experiences of seeking others to share their time with. The group is offered on Monday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30 P.M. at the 516 Fig Street office. For more information you can contact Peg Mahoney, LPC/Supervising Counselor: 570-207-2283/ x 2130 or Amanda Lara or Brittany Harris/Counseling Interns at 570-207-2283 x 2129

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION:

You're in the homestretch with your spiritually adopted baby. He is completely formed, and has been since 8 weeks. All he is doing now is gaining weight-and making his mother uncomfortable with his size. But she's not worried now. In a short time, her baby will be born. She has planned to bring her baby home or to a place her baby for adoption. Either way, she knows she can receive the assistance she needs from the Catholic Church and from the crisis pregnancy centers. Your baby's mother appreciates the prayers have given her grace to seek the help she needs.



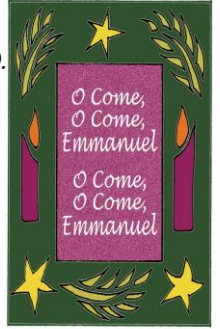
THANKS, AND GIVING CLOTHING DRIVE:

A very sincere thank you to all who participated in the "Thanks and Giving" clothing drive. Because of your generosity, we have been able to provide warmth to dozens of our homeless citizens during the upcoming winter season.



WATCH FOR THE LORD:

"You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near" (James 5:8). Today we begin our Advent journey, which will culminate in Christmas. Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes near to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return to us in the celebration of Christmas. We remember his historic coming in the humility of the human condition. But he enters our heart each time we are willing to receive him and he will come again at the end of time to "judge the living and the dead." Therefore, we must always be vigilant and await the Lord with the hope of encountering him. In today's Gospel, Jesus exhorts us to be vigilant, so as to be ready to welcome him at the moment of his return. The person who takes heed does not let himself or herself be overwhelmed by distraction or superficially amid the worldly din, but lives in a full and conscious way, with concern first and foremost for others. The watchful person is the one who accepts the invitation to keep watch, that is, not to be overpowered by the listlessness of discouragement, by the lack of hope, by disappointment, and at the same time to ward off the allure of the many vanities with which the world is brimming and for which, now and then, time and personal familial peace is sacrificed. ~ Pope Francis



DEANERY ADVENT CONFESSIONS:

Sunday, December 16th 3:00 P.M. Sacred Heart of Jesus-Peckville
Monday, December 17th 6:00 P.M.-Queen of Angels-Jessup
Tuesday, December 18th 6:00 P.M.-Sacred Hearts-Jermyn
Wednesday, December 19th 6:00 P.M.-Christ the King-Archbald

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE: Attention Bakers!

Anyone who is baking cookies for our sale is asked to drop off their cookies at the Parish Center on **Thursday, December 13th from 3 P.M. until 6 P.M.** If you are interested in baking and have not been called, please call Mary Fran Smith (570) 876-3565. We welcome your help and talents. If you are interested in purchasing these delicious delicacies you can pre-order them by using the order form or by calling Mary Fran Smith (570) 876-3565 or Dorothy Perry (570) 876-4160. All pre-orders must be in by December 9th and the cookies may be picked up **on Saturday, December 15th @ the Parish Center from 10 A.M. until Noon.** We are still in need of volunteers on **Friday, December 14th from 9 until Noon** to help assemble the plates of cookies. Thank You for all your help and cooperation.



VISIT WITH SANTA: Mayfield Lions Club

members will present their yearly "Visit with Santa" on **Sunday, December 16, beginning at 2 P.M. at St. John's Center in Mayfield.** Pizza and refreshments will be served and activities including a sing-a-long will be offered while awaiting Santa's arrival. After Santa reads "A Visit from St. Nicholas", a complimentary photo will be taken of each child on Santa's lap.

