

Mass Intentions

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Monday, December 1: Advent Weekday

8:00 am (GS) Alan Berger by Linda & Tom Walsh

Tuesday, December 2: Advent Weekday

8:00 am (GS) John & M. Jane Deakin by Dieter Family

Wednesday, December 3: Saint Francis Xavier

8:00 am (SJ) Rev. Stephen Raich, OFM by George Rozman

6:30 pm (GS) Casimir & Cecilia Falkowski by Family

Thursday, December 4: Advent Weekday

[Saint John Damascene]

8:00 am (GS) John Ulujich by Richard & Michele Czupowski

Friday, December 5: Advent Weekday

8:00 am (SJ) In Honor of John Shumsky Birthday

by David & Karen Lindauere

8:00 pm (GS) Marian Prayer Group Mass

Saturday, December 6: Advent Weekday [Saint Nicholas]

9:00 am (SJ) Living & Deceased of the Beaver Valley Blue Army

4:00 pm (SJ) Vigil - For the Living & Deceased of our Parishes

5:30 pm (GS) Vigil - Jenny Douds by Chrissy White and
Bernadette Rusin

Sunday, December 7: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 am (GS) Stephen Andrascik by Wife, Helen and
Sons & Grandchildren

9:30 am (SJ) Raymond E. Cowles by Mary Ann Cowles & Dtrs.

11:00 am (GS) Pane Family by Bruno & Rose Ombres

Readings for the Week of December 1, 2014

Monday:	Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

Bread and Wine

Walter & Laura Laniewski (GS) by Family

Holy Family Shrine Candle

Chester & Kay Star (GS) by Niece, Donna & John Shubert

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Holy Day of Obligation) Monday, December 8, 2014

8:00 am Mass at Good Samaritan

9:00 am Mass at St. John the Baptist

6:30 pm Mass at St. John the Baptist

7:00 pm Mass at Good Samaritan

Thank you for your gift to last week's collections for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**. May God bless you for your generosity!

Good Samaritan	724-266-6565
Saint John the Baptist	724-869-2280



From Father Joe

ADVENT

This weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. The word Advent means "the coming." It is derived from the Latin word *Adventus*. For Catholics, the season has traditionally held a twofold meaning. We celebrate the coming of Christ at the Nativity; we also anticipate the coming of Christ in glory at the end of time.

At each Mass, immediately following the *Our Father*, the priest recites a prayer called the *Embolism*. The words should be familiar:

Deliver us Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of Your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Before the revised translation of the Mass, the priest used to end with slightly different wording:

...as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The first reading on Sunday is from the prophet Isaiah who asks the Lord "Why do you let us wander from Your ways? Why do You let us harden our hearts so that we no longer fear You? Isaiah goes on to say:

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you.

This brings us to another reality. In addition to the coming of Christ in the manger and the coming of Christ in glory at the end of time, in a sense, there is a *third* coming of Christ for each of us at the end of our life on earth. This will be a *blessed* coming, but will it be *joyful*?

Advent is meant to be a season when we step out of Ordinary Time and take a little time to look into our hearts and prepare a spiritual report card. Are we passing or failing? It is a time when we await with joyful anticipation the coming of Christ and Christmastide, but it should also be a time when we pray a little more, listen to God a little more, and maybe even fast a little, as a means of preparing our hearts to receive Him.

Christ will come for each of us in His own time. There is a passage from 2 Corinthians reminding us that each of us will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to receive what is Just according to how we've spent our lives on earth.

Advent isn't meant to be a time to fear the coming of Christ, but rather a time to reflect on our lives and to prepare our hearts and souls in anticipation of Christmas. It is a good time to step away from the hustle and bustle that will soon ensue as Christmas draws near. It is a good opportunity to spend a little extra time with Christ, whether it be in prayer, or in serving those He puts in our path.

SAINT JOHN'S CORNER ✠



DECEMBER 3, FIRST WEDNESDAY ADORATION Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place immediately following the 8:00 am Mass and continue until 2:30 pm closing. Please pray for vocations.

SAINT JOHN'S CHRISTIAN MOTHERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY Don't forget to register for the Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 7, starting at 3:00 PM. We will again have our Lottery Tree and Silent Auction as well as 50/50 drawing. The local Tamburitzans will entertain. Cost is \$10 per person; guests are welcome. Call Mary Ellen Kuniewicz at 724-869-4483 or send payment via the collection basket. Mark the envelope "CCM Christmas Party". Include your name & names of your guests.



The Beaver Valley Blue Army **First Saturday Devotions**, Our Lady of Fatima, Saturday, December 6, St. John the Baptist, Baden. Confessions begin 8:15 am, **Mass at 9:00 am**. After Mass, members pray the Rosary. Refreshments and meeting will follow. Please bring one dozen cookies or other breakfast/brunch type of food. New members welcome. Any questions? Call Colleen 724-375-3846.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2014

5:30 pm Christmas Mass, Vigil Good Samaritan
 9:30 pm *Musical Prelude* St. John the Baptist
10:00 pm Christmas Mass, Vigil St. John the Baptist
 11:15 pm *Singing-Traditional Carols* Good Samaritan

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2014

Midnight Christmas Mass Good Samaritan
8:00 am Christmas Mass Good Samaritan
9:30 am Christmas Mass St. John the Baptist
11:00 am Christmas Mass Good Samaritan

Annual Memorial Tree Service at Good Samaritan



Sunday, December 14, following 11:00 am Mass. Please bring a weatherproof ornament, with your loved one's name on it to hang on the memorial tree, which is outside by the side entrance.

Service includes presentation of ornaments, music, readings, and reception in Parish Center.

THE LIGHT IS STILL ON FOR YOU!

Has it been a looooooong time since your last confession?



This Lenten season, Catholic parishes throughout the Diocese of Pittsburgh will have their doors open and lights on **Wednesday, December 10 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm**. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church. **"The Light is Still On for You!"**, especially if you haven't been to confession in a while. Visit www.diopitt.org/lightstillon for more info.

**Volunteer Form for Liturgical Ministers
 Good Samaritan Parish**

Name _____
 Phone _____
 Number _____

- Extraordinary Minister
- Lector
- Altar Server
- Greeters (Christmas Vigil & Christmas Day Only)

Christmas Eve, Vigil

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

5:30 pm

Christmas Day, The Nativity of the Lord

Thursday, December 25, 2014

12:00 am (Midnight) 8:00 am 11:00 am

New Year's Eve, Vigil

Wednesday, December 31, 2014

5:30 pm

New Year's Day, Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Thursday, January 1, 2015

10:30 am

Return to the Parish or in the collection basket by Dec. 7.

Good Samaritan Christian Mothers/Ladies Guild Christmas Party: Sunday, Dec. 7th in Jericho Hall after 11am Mass. Cost is \$15.00.



Please have your paid reservation in by Dec. 1st. If paying by check, make it out to Good Samaritan CM/LG and place it in the collection basket. Catering by Janice's Catering and entertainment by Craig Klinger. All members are encouraged to attend and guests are welcome.

Don't Forget to pick up a copy of your "Daily Reflections" Waiting in Joyful Hope booklet for Advent. available at the doors of the Church as long as supplies last!



+UPCOMING EVENTS+

Monday, December 1

NO CCD - Grades 3-5

Wednesday, December 3

8:30 am-2:30 pm (SJ) Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

7:15 pm (GS) Mary Bible Study Session 6 - (SJH)

Thursday, December 4

7:00 pm (SJ) Mary Bible Study Session 6 (Church Hall)

Friday, December 5

(SJ) Pierogi Sales 724-869-9758

11:00 am (GS) Mary Bible Study Session 6 (SJH)

7:00/8:00 pm (GS) Rosary/Mass - Marian Prayer Group

Sunday, December 7

9:00 am (GS) CIC/TEEN RCIA (SJH)

9:30-11:00 am - CCD Grades 6-8 (GS)

11:00 am (GS) After Mass, CM/LG Christmas Party (JH)

3:00 pm (SJ) Christian Mothers' Christmas Party

6:30 pm (GS) RCIA (SJH)