



Focus Bulletin

HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH – DECEMBER 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent II Niedziela Adwentu

December 8, 2024

Rite: Pew Missal, page 63, Canon, page 84.

First reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm: 126:1-6

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Epistle: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Intention: 10am and Noon for all parishioners.

Celebrant: Rev. Jim Konicki.

Lector: 10am, Lauren DeBlois

- Matins, Holy Mass at 10am (Contemporary Rite, Pew Missal pg. 63).
- Coffee Hour, SOCL.
- Holy Mass at Noon (Traditional Rite, Pew Missal pg. 15)

THIS WEEK'S ENTRANCE HYMN

V. Lo, I am sending My messenger to prepare the way before Me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord Whom you seek,

R. And the messenger of the covenant Whom you desire, yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Contact

Holy Name of Jesus

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Today's Music

- Entrance: R168, Come Thou Long Expected Jesus.
- Sacrament of the Word: R166, Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence.
- Offertory: B27, Comfort, Comfort Ye My People.
- Communion: Like A Shepherd (instrumental)
- Communion Reflection: B15, From Heaven A Voice.
- Exposition and Benediction: B147-150.
- Recessional: R169, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.

+++ Reminders & Notes +++

- Please keep inviting people to meet the Lord and join in worship and fellowship.
- **EVENTS:** of various kinds are upon us as we approach the Winter. Please see Fr. Jim or Paul in relation to these events.
 - **Winter Clothing Drive**, now until January 6th. Count sheets are available.
 - **Food Collection for those in need in our community.** Please place your offerings by the Mary Altar.
 - **Fall Comfort Food Sale**, today from 11:30 until gone. 16oz. individual services with bread for \$10, 64oz. family size for \$30 (save \$10). Please pre-order if you can.
 - **Annual dues** of \$125 per individual are due by December 31st. Please get yours paid-in-full by then. It is no more than \$2.40 a week, less than a cost of a cup of coffee.
 - **Vigil / Wigilia Dinner, next** Sunday, December 15. Only one Holy Mass that day.
 - **Greening of the Church**, Sunday, December 22nd.
- **Please continue to pray** for our six seminarians: Deacons Sean and Justin, David, Todd, Joel, and Jon. Pray for a continued increase in vocations to the priesthood and diaconate.
- **Raffles:** Please see Joe Kaczynski to get your tickets. They are \$50 each. See Linda for Valentine's Raffle tickets if you wish to give them as Christmas gifts.
- **Advent Preparations.** We bless the 2nd candle of our Advent Wreath today. Join us for Rorate Candlelight Holy Masses each Wednesday at 7:30am.

We invite all who believe in the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist to partake. It is our practice to distribute the Holy Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, by placing the elements on the tongue, never in the hand.

--- *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."* ---

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

We have arrived at the second of the four Sundays of Advent, and we continue to contemplate the Advent and all its implications.

As mentioned last week, Advent has several shades of meaning. It can mean beginning, revelation, expectation, dawning, and a start. Throughout this season we are led through the various ways we will prepare for and encounter Jesus in this new Church year.

Last week we focused on our preparation for Jesus' return. This week we focus on personal preparation for needed changes in our lives.

Today we encounter a key figure in these days of preparation, John the Baptist, the Forerunner of Jesus the Messiah.

The importance of John the Baptist is underscored by the number of times the Holy Church honors him throughout the year.

There is this season of Advent when we hear his proclamation of preparation through repentance, his baptism of Jesus celebrated in the Christmas season, his nativity on June 24th, and his beheading on August 29th. We encounter him in the various gospels during the year. He is always pointing toward Jesus.

Forerunner, literally one who comes before another, underscores the call to personal preparation. While Advent is not a deeply penitential season, as Lent is, we are still called to pause to increase penance and prayer to prepare for Jesus' return. It is a time of checking our personal books to see where our accounts are.

Are we rich in the graces Jesus offers us? Are our ledgers full of good works, generosity, and the proclamation of the Kingdom? Are there indications that we have

spoken out, as John did, against wrong and evil, or are we at a deficit in any of these areas?

If there are deficits, it is an opportune season to close them out, to repent, do penance, increase prayer and good works, and move from the red into the black.

As part of our preparation, look at some old Christmas movies. You will generally see the decoration of the Christmas tree on the eve of Christmas day. Can you imagine? Does anybody still wait?

What the symbolism of those movies calls us to is making this a season of the forerunner, that which comes before the next. Are we taking a breath, slowing the headlong rush, easing anxiety, and enjoying this blessed Advent time of preparation? Doing so helps us best appreciate what we are preparing for. Then we can celebrate the full forty days of Christmas well prepared.

Memory Verse

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

Time to Study God's Word

SUNDAY: Hebrews 5:12-14

MONDAY: Hebrews 6:1

TUESDAY: Philippians 1:6

WEDNESDAY: Romans 5:2

THURSDAY: 1 Timothy 4:15

FRIDAY: Colossians 1:10

SATURDAY: Psalm 119:105

Pray the Week

Lord Jesus, grant me a spirit of active preparation for Your return. Assist me in taking account of where I am along Your path. Fill me with the grace needed to reform areas lacking and to grow into You. Amen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Laura Covari, Stan Podkulski, Kelly Noble, Elizabeth Węglinski, Curtis Szczepkowski, Joshua Moraski, Tom Abbot, Karen Kisch, Gregory Henderson, Theresa Ordon, Michelle Zawistowski, Susan Jones, Garry Packer, Gary & Sandra Tatlock, Fred Hendricks, Theresa, Carla, Francine, Eileen, Joyce Colson, Helen Spencer, Michael Clough, Frances Gary, Dan Crawley, Bob Chelkowski, Lyle, Ralph Zell, Phil Wielewinski, Brian Rohan, Tom Walters, Nedra Liebert, Dawn Main, Fran Muscatello, Zosia Wiczorek, Bob Giczkowski, Bishop John, Bishop Paul, Gordon Lamb, Aimee, Liz, Barbara VanShufflin, Dorothy Morrison, Pat, and all needing God's healing grace.

- All those who serve in the Armed Forces of the United States esp. Michael Angehr, Mark Collins, Patric Jones, Timothy Olsen, Charlie Prothero, Fr. Joseph Kolek, Fr. Andrew Bilinski, Fr. Stan Jasiurkowski, Fr. Andrew Tenus.
- All those in Public Service: Civil Servants, Police Officers, and Fire Fighters.
- All Active and Retired Clergy of the Holy Polish National Catholic Church.
- All Students and Teachers at Mont Pleasant Middle School
- The residents and staff of City Mission of Schenectady
- The residents and staff of Pathways.
- All who have asked for our prayers for any need or intention.

This week we pray for the people and clergy of St. Stanislaus Bishop & Martyr Cathedral, Scranton, PA.

Bless them, O Lord! Pobłogosław im, O Boże!

Upcoming

- **December 8: 2nd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 10am and Noon. Lector: Lauren DeBlois. SOCL. Goulash Pick-up.**
- **December 9: Solemnity - Conception of the BVM (trans.). Holy Mass at Noon. Food Pantry, 3 to 6pm.**
- **December 10: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 11: Rorate Holy Mass at 7:30am.**
- **December 12: Solemnity - Our Lady of Guadalupe. Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 13: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 14: Women's Group at 10am.**
- **December 15: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Holy Mass at 10am Only. Lector: Larry Panfil. Vigil / Wigilia Dinner follows.**
- **December 16: Food Pantry, 3 to 6pm.**
- **December 17: Holy Mass at Noon.**
- **December 18: Rorate Holy Mass at 7:30am.**