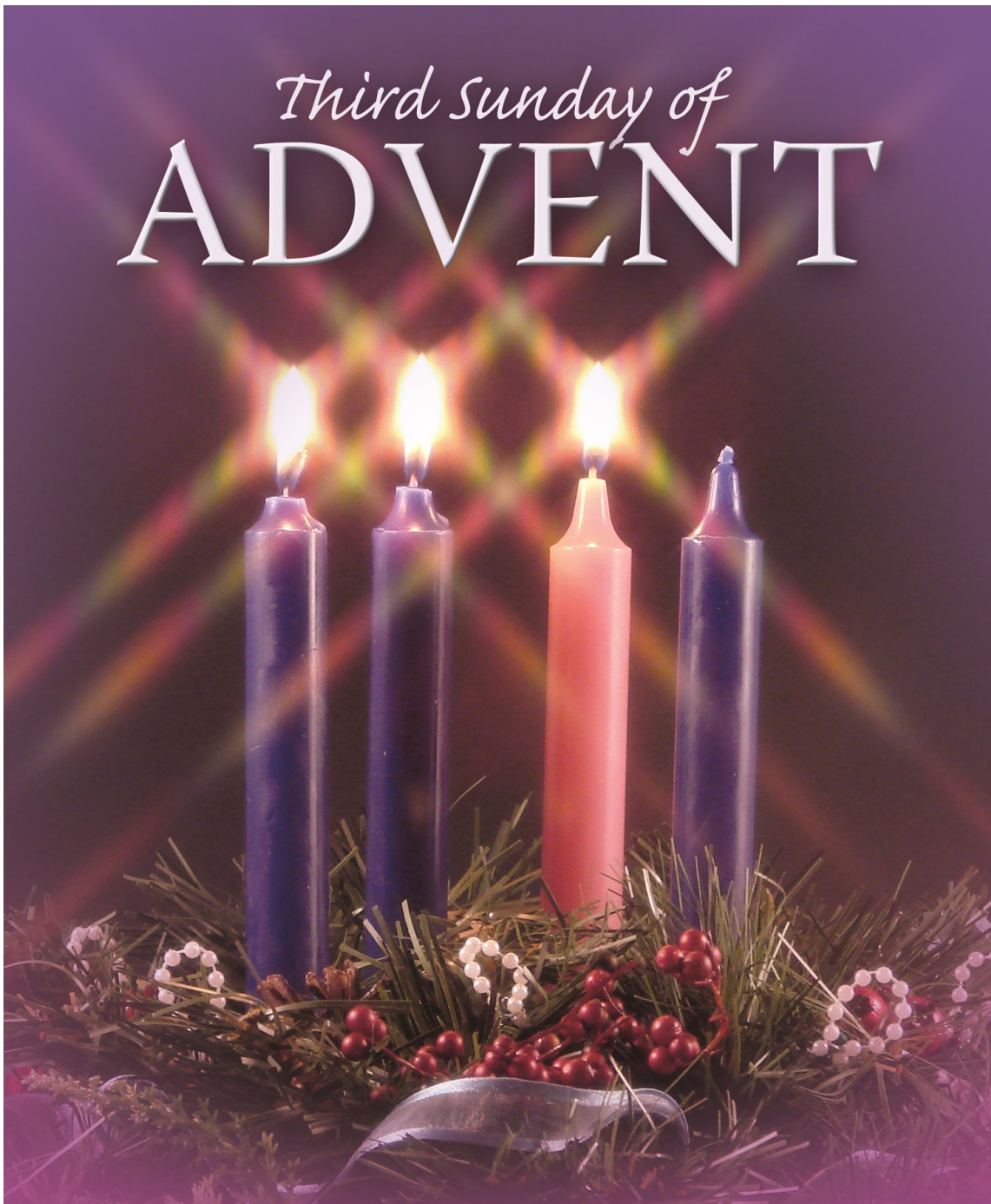


ST MICHAEL'S



PARISH OFFICE

415 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
Phone: 814-535-7646
Fax: 814 536-7850
Email: omos@dioceseaj.org
Website: omostoday.com

PRESBYTERY

407 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
814-535-7646
By appointment

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906

DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL—WEST
Phone: 814 539-5315

FATHER MARK'S NOTES

Sacrament of Penance

As I mentioned last week, we will not have our usual Penance Service, **but we will be offering opportunities for the sacrament – especially Monday evening the 14th and Tuesday the 15th from 6:00 to 7:30 each night.** As I write this, we have 4 priests here on the 14th and 3 priests on the 15th. We will be working out the details later, but for right now we will have hospitality ministers both outside and inside both the school and the church. That way, you will know when the priests are available, and we will stay safe with social distancing. All the priests and hospitality ministers will be wearing their masks, and we are asking everyone to do the same. You have been very good at that! Thank you!! It helps keep everyone safe. Of course, I will also have Confessions at the usual times throughout Advent. Personally, this sacrament is very important in my life; I need to celebrate it often. I need to hear those words of forgiveness. I hope that we are providing enough opportunities for you to celebrate this great sacrament of forgiveness.

Covid, Advent, and Christmas

You have been signing up for our Christmas Masses, and all three Christmas Eve Masses are full in the church. We still have room at the 7:00 and 10:00 pm Masses in the Hall. We will have the hall all set up for you when you come. And, there is “still room at the inn” for the 4:00 pm at St. Michael’s and both Christmas Day Masses at OMOS and St. Michaels. Again, we hope to have room for everyone.

As I shared last week, we experimented with a 10 ft screen tv and a sound system over in the Hall. We wanted to see how it would work for Christmas when we would have people celebrating Mass with us over in the hall, and things went well. The 10 ft screen was great, and the sound was really good. The folks sitting there said it was every bit as good as in the Church. So a successful experiment; and it helped us plan for Christmas Masses. We will treat the Hall Livestream Mass as an extension of the Mass in Church. With other Eucharistic Ministers, I will come over to you to distribute Holy Communion, and I hope to see you after Mass. The hall and church will be disinfected after each Mass.

I hope we are making it very easy for you to sign up. We think for sure the social distancing and the wearing of masks will be imperative for Christmas this year. So, we feel confident that we will have room at the inn of OMOS Church this Christmas. Wow! I know this is hard. Won’t it be different? Maybe more and more will know the trust and the risk that were part of Mary & Joseph’s Christmas long ago. God Bless You, we will make it through together.

Let’s Struggle With Covid Together

Aren’t we all struggling with the Covid virus? Please stay in touch with us. Let us know how you are doing, and if we can help you. Stay in touch with us through any of our “virtual things”, Facebook Live, Liturgy of the Word, Livestreaming Mass, and any other way we are trying to stay connected with you. I pray for all of you daily. All of you and your concerns are not far from my heart!!

How Can We Help Others This Advent?

Less than a week left! Virtual Angel Tree at omostoday.com

For the safety factor for all, we will host a Virtual Angel Tree. Go to omostoday.com and click on a gift you would like to purchase for a local child. You will have the option to purchase the gift or leave a donation, and we will shop for you! You may call us with any questions you have, 535-7646.

Serve Others Saturday

We will continue our work at St. Vincent's thrift store to help sort clothes and provide general help to keep the store running. Meet at the thrift store parking lot at 10 am, and we will work until noon, December 19th (301 Central Ave). Masks and social distancing are required.

Grocery Shopping?

Food Bins – Drive up and drop off – located on our back patio behind Holy Grounds.

When you are shopping, pick up a couple of extra items for the food banks. Canned items, peanut butter, pasta, etc. Also, items for the St. Vincent de Paul Tuna Noodle dinner such as large cans of tuna, egg noodles, and large cans of mushroom soup. There is a currently a great need.

Thank you for the Coats! We collected about 150 coats for use this winter in our local area. Some were distributed at Johnstown High School and some at the Cambria City Mission.

Do you know someone in our parish community who could use attention and care?

There are various ministries we resource to help from a friendly card sent, to minor repairs in the home, meals, etc. Go to omostoday.com, click under Care Ministry, call 535-7646, or email omoscareministry@gmail.com



Mike and Dan's Advent
Sing-a-Long Spectacular!



SMALL GROUP NEWS

Week two of Advent has shown us that the journey is not easy. We saw the unwavering faith and trust that Mary and Joseph had. How are we doing with our own faith and trust in God? Week three brings us hope. What is the hope that is in your heart this year? Consider joining a small group and participate in this interesting discussion. Sign up online or contact Julie Sheehan at 535-1994.

EPIC

We are excited to announce our spring plans! Life Teen will be offered on Sunday and Thursday evenings from 7-8:30. Youth Alpha for any 9,10,11th grader that hasn't completed the course will be offered on Sundays from 5-7. Norman Ed will be teaching a class in between Masses on Sunday mornings. Sign-ups will be coming soon! It is necessary to keep the groups small and masks and social distancing will be required.

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

The St. Michael's Advent Collection of non-perishable food for St. Vincent de Paul Food for Families will run until Sunday, December 20. Please be as generous as possible. There are a great many in need during these challenging times.

Reservations for Christmas Mass at St. Michael's, Christmas Eve 4 p.m. & Christmas Day 9:45 am, may be made by calling Maureen Puchko at 539-6321. Please leave a message with the number of people planning on attending.

St. Michael's will decorate the church on Sunday, December 20 at 10 am. All are welcome! Many hands make for light work.



Join us for Mass on
Christmas

December 24 at 4pm, 7pm,
& 10pm / December 25 at 10am

St. Michael's at 4pm on December
24 and 9:45am on December 25

The hall is our auxiliary space for all Christmas Eve Masses. Mass will be projected live and the Eucharist distributed. The sound system is upgraded, and the atmosphere will reflect Christmas joy. Social distancing and facemasks required.

Christmas Eve Masses will be Livestreamed at omostoday.com

WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, December 14

6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m. — Mass

Tuesday, December 15

6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration
7:30 a.m. — Confession
8 a.m. — Mass

Wednesday, December 16

7:00 a.m. — Praise and Worship
4:30 p.m. — Eucharistic Adoration
5:30 p.m. — Confessions
6 p.m. — Mass

Thursday, December 17

6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m. — Mass

Friday, December 18

6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration
8 a.m. — Mass

Saturday, December 19

3 pm — Confessions
4 p.m. — Mass at OMOS
Servers

Lector: John Skelley

Euch. Min: Tom Simmons
(2), Linda Rosenbaum, Marilyn Billow

Saturday December 19

6:00 p.m. — Mass at St. Michael's

Servers: Tim Burgess & Alexis Williams

Lector: Mary Ann Burgess

Sunday, December 20

8:30 a.m. — Mass at OMOS

Server:

Lector: Dave Milligan

Euch. Min: Rick Wess (2), Evie Wess, Heather Nibert

Sunday, December 20

11:00 — Mass at OMOS

Server:

Lector: Jeanne Clark

Euch. Min: Mike Thomas (2), Anne McGrath, Gil McDonald

12:30 p.m. — Communion outside Mass at OMOS

REST IN PEACE

Margaret "Peggy" Rafferty
Wife of Raymond

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of the deceased.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

December 6, 2020

Envelopes.....\$8084
Loose.....\$ 659
Online (105)\$9290
Total.....\$18,033

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday: 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec. 12-Vigil

4:00 p.m. Mark Staib (Jim & Kathy Ridella)

6:00 p.m. Hilary & Lucille Schrum & Karen Pinkas (Nick & Noreen Molchan)

Sunday, Dec. 13—3rd Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Howard Sherman (Family)

11:00 a.m. Edward, Sr. & Marie Burkhard (Edward Burkhard, Jr.)

Monday, Dec. 14

8:00 a.m. David Angel (wife, Jackie)

Tuesday, Dec. 15

8:00 a.m. Charles F. Pfaller (Theresa & Jane Pfaller)

Wednesday, Dec. 16

6:00 p.m. Liz Danielli (Loretta Nagy)

Thursday, Dec. 17

8:00 a.m. Mary Linda Trexler (Cindy Fabo)

Friday, Dec. 18

8:00 a.m. Tom Wolff (wife, Bernadette)

Saturday, Dec. 19-Vigil

4:00 p.m. Mary Jane Messich (Jim & Kathy Ridella)

6:00 p.m. Patricia Kesslak (Nancy Lill)

Sunday, Dec. 20—4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Joyce Deibert (Paul & Cindy Pioli)

11:00 a.m. Bill & Rosemarie Weinzierl (Family)