

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS
BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE



CHURCH/RECTORY

536 Decker Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY

Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM

Website: StThereseJohnstown.com

Email: stthereseofm@atlanticbbn.net

CONVENT

702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805

CHURCH HALL: 536-2287

RECTORY: 539-7633

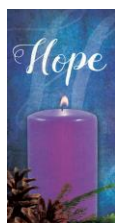
First Sunday of Advent Dec 1, 2024

FIRST READING: The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

PSALM: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

SECOND READING: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God. (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

GOSPEL: There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).



LITURGICAL REFLECTION: Jumpstarting Jubilee 2025 – Advent Hope The first Advent candle symbolizes hope. Every 25 years the Church celebrates a special Holy Year called the Jubilee Year. This Jubilee will begin with the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve, 2024. The theme of the Jubilee Year is HOPE. It is a time for us to realize that “hope does not disappoint” when it is rooted in the knowledge that God has committed himself to us in Emmanuel, “God with us.”

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	12/02	
TUES	12/03	6:00PM Holy Name Meeting Church Hall 7:00PM Knights of Columbus Meeting Church Hall
WED	12/04	
THURS	12/05	11:30AM Christian Mothers Rosary, Mass, and Christmas Party
FRI	12/06	
SAT	12/07	3:00PM Confession
NEXT SUN	12/08	. .Nut Roll Pick up after All Masses today

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Dec 2nd – Dec 8th)

MON	12/02	7:50AM.	+ (A) Kristi Carpenter – (David & Terri Radnotti)
TUES	12/03	7:50AM.	+ (A) Sr Catherine Paff – (A Friend)
WED	12/04	7:50AM.	+ Terri Lill – (Sister, Patricia Henley)
THUR	12/05	7:50AM.	+ Franics & Angela Komara – (Elaine Komara)
		. . . . .11:30AM.	+ Christian Mothers
FRI	12/06	7:50AM.	+ Eileen Suttmiller – (M/M Albert Feloso)
SAT	12/07	4:00PM.	+ Anna Seminsky – (Bev Bross)
SUN	12/08	7:30AM.	+ (B) Jason Mulvehill – (Parents, Terri & Pat)
		. . . . .10:30AM.	+ Holy Name

Sunday, Dec 1, 2024

Stewardship Reflections: We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and gratitude for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus, born to us as Savior and Brother. A season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgement day is coming too - the moment when we will be called to give an account for all the love God has shown us and the gifts He has given us during our lifetime.

'God reveals His perfect and infinite love for us most visibly in His son, Jesus Christ. A steward makes God's love visible by imitating Jesus ... Stewardship is the response of the disciple to God's unconditional love for us. Stewards bask in the wonder and awe of God's love', from The Pillars of Parish Stewardship. In other words, Advent is a steward's season!

Get ready Christian stewards! He's coming! Let us prepare with awe and wonder.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (Nov 23rd & Nov 24th 2024)

Weekly	.....	\$ 2,602.00
Building Fund	.....	\$ 55.00
Fuel	.....	\$ 25.00

Thank you and May God Bless you for your continued support of St. Therese Church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Fr Balestino Happy Birthday Open House is Today Sunday Dec 1st 11:30-1:30PM. Stop by and wish him a Happy Birthday.

Christmas Cookie Sale -

It's that time of the year again! The Christian Mothers will be having their annual Christmas Cookie Sale on **Saturday Dec 14th & Sunday 15th**. We are once again calling out to the bakers of the parish. Please deliver your cookies to the Church Hall by 9AM on Saturday, **Dec 14th**. Cookies will be sold after all Masses Sat & Sun. Thank You in advance for all your support throughout the year!



Gift Card Tree -we will be selling chances on a beautiful \$200 worth of Gift Cards Tree before Mass in the vestibule until **Dec 8th**. Chances are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Religious Education News

There will be NO Religious Ed Classes on Sunday, Dec 1st. Classes will resume on Dec

KOC Council #10409 - This month's meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec 3rd at 7PM in the Church Hall.

Holy Name Society will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Dec 3rd at 6PM in the Church Hall.

Christian Mothers will hold their Monthly Rosary, Mass & Christmas Party this Thursday, Dec 7th starting at 11:30AM



ADVENT WREATH PRAYER FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Light the first purple candle on your wreath)

Prayer: Stir up thy power, O Lord, and come, that by thy protection we may be rescued from the dangers that beset us through our sins; and be a Redeemer to deliver us; Who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

All: Amen.

**Advent Wreath Candle symbols:

- Candle 1. Hope (purple)
- Candle 2. Peace (purple)
- Candle 3. Joy (rose: for Gaudete Sunday)
- Candle 4. Love (purple)
- Candle 5: Christ (white; center of wreath)

Blessing of the Advent Wreath: (by laypersons)

O God, by whose word all things are sanctified,
pour forth thy blessing upon this wreath
and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts
for the coming of Christ,
and may receive from thee abundant graces.
Through Christ Our Lord. Amen,

Advent Reading Material - Advent begins Today Sunday, Dec 1st. You will find some excellent reading material for the Advent season in the vestibule and are encouraged to select some for-home reading.

First Sunday of Advent LUKE

At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others.

Catholic Ministries Drive

Encountering Christ. Thank you to the **59** families who have pledged to date a total of **\$11,620.00** towards our target amount of **\$24,902.00**. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge according to your means so we will be able to reach that target. You have until Dec 31st 2024 to pay your pledge in full. **Just a reminder that the remaining balance of \$13,282 will have to be paid for from the church's funds.** There are envelopes in the back of Church or you can pick one up at the office. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Retirement Fund for Religious -

Aging Religious need your help.

"Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, Medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

2024 Church Donations -- the cut-off date for posting donations for **2024 is Dec. 31st**. To receive credit on your 2024 Financial Statement, your envelopes must be received by that date. Any donation received after Dec 31st will be credited to 2025. Please call the office with any questions. Thank you.



Anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic minister or Lector? Please stop and see Fr Karmanocky after 10:30 Mass or call the office

Community News & Events

Lower Yoder Fire Hall will be selling **Holiday Giveaway tickets**, and taking pie orders from **the Pie Shoppe for Christmas**, the weekend of **Dec 7th & 8th**, in the vestibule. Cost is \$10.00. Winning number will be determined by the 7PM Official Pick 3, Dec 24th & 25th



Divine Mercy Prayer Group Holiday Service Project

Christmas caroling

***Laurel View Village in Davidsville
Thurs. Dec. 5th *** 6:30pm*** We will meet inside MAIN ENTRANCE.

All are welcome to come sing and spread Christmas cheer! Great way to BE Mercy to others. Info call Cathy 814-288-1126 or Lolly 814-659-8717

HOW TO MAKE IT THROUGH: REMEMBERING AND MISSING A LOVED ONE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Perhaps someone very special to you has died. Perhaps a relationship is broken or estranged or someone you love is suffering from illness or addiction. The loss you feel is real, the grief you feel is real, and the upcoming holidays may be difficult for you. You don't have to walk this road alone. Join Sister Cindy Burns, CCW, for a morning of prayer and heartfelt reflection on "How to Make it Through the Holidays" on Saturday, November 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Saint Benedict Parish in Johnstown.



Advent Penance Services

Wednesday	Dec 11 th	6:00PM	St Anthony of Padua, Windber
Sunday	Dec 15 th	2:00PM	St John Gualbert
Sunday	Dec 15 th	5:00PM	St Benedict Johnstown
Monday	Dec 16 th	6:00PM until 7:30PM	Our Mother of Sorrows
Tuesday	Dec 17 th	6:00PM until 7:30PM	Our Mother of Sorrows
Wednesday	Dec 18 th	6:00PM	St Elizabeth Ann Seton Windber
Wednesday	Dec 19 th	6:00PM	St Patrick

