

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

FR. BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

CHURCH:
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OFFICE HOURS-Mon - Fri
9:00AM to 2:00PM

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

Today's Scripture Readings

FIRST READING: Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

PSALM: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

SECOND READING: Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

GOSPEL: John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).



Jumpstarting Jubilee 2025 – Advent Joy

The third candle of Advent symbolizes Joy. Jubilee joy comes from our journey toward the fullness of God's Kingdom. The upcoming Holy Year offers occasions for this through opportunities for pilgrimage and through communal liturgies. On December 29, 2024, Bishop Mark will open the Jubilee here in the diocese with a special Mass at 2 PM in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Come and celebrate "tidings of great Joy."

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

5:30PM **Saturday – Dec 21st**
Lector Ed Olshefski

9:00AM **Sunday – Dec 22nd**
Lector: Linda Lopez

Mass Intentions for the Week: (Dec 16th – Dec 22nd)



MON	12/16	7:00AM. . .+ (A) Krista Chverchko – (Momy)
TUES	12/17	7:00AM. . .+ Francis & Angela Komara – (Elaine Komara)
WED	12/18	7:00AM. . .+ For Living & Deceased Members of the Kamnikar/Gardill Family – (Family)
THURS	12/19	7:00AM. . .+ For Deceased Members of the Family of Cirilla Graicar
FRI	12/20	7:00AM. . .+ (A) David Ferg, Jr. – (Aunt Barbara)
SAT	12/21	5:30PM. . .+ Pro Populo
SUN	12/22	9:00AM. . .+ Rosalie Verhovsek – (Ester & Hank Hughes)

December 15, 2024

Stewardship Reflections:

'Rejoice in the Lord always, I shall say it again, rejoice!'

We have arrived at Gaudete Sunday (Gaudete is the Latin word for 'rejoice') on this Third Week of Advent, and the Scriptures takes on a joyful tone as we continue our preparations for the feast of our Savior's birth and ultimately for His Second Coming.

As the great feast of Christmas draws near, let us rejoice in Christ's extravagant love. Let's avail ourselves of the peace He longs to give us. And let's look carefully at our lives to make sure we are indeed making of them a gift fitting for Him. When we get this 'gift' right, all the other gifts and to-do's on our Christmas list will fall into their proper place.

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
Dec 7th & Dec 8th, 2024**

Collection:

Weekly	\$ 2,007.00
Monthly	\$ 33.00
Flowers	\$ 50.00
Fuel	\$ 115.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 163.00
Christmas	\$ 10.00
Retirement Fund	\$ 100.00

Thank you for your continued support of St. Anne's Parish! Please remember in your prayers the deceased parishioners and benefactors of our parish. God Bless!



The Christian Mothers will be wrapping Christmas gifts on the second floor at Boscov's on **December 20.**

We are still looking for volunteers. Any help would be greatly appreciated. For more information or to volunteer call Janet Knapp at 814-241-6198

Christmas Oplatki is available in the back of the church for **\$1 per packet.**

Important Notice – Please do not park in the service station on the corner of Woodland & Ohio St or block the alley behind during mass. Cars will be towed!

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.

Catholic Ministries Drive

Encountering Christ. Thank you to the families who have pledged as of October 31st a total of **\$4,850** towards our target amount of **\$8,276**. 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 \$3,426 will be paid from the church's funds.** Thank you in advance for your contribution.



**ADVENT WREATH PRAYER
Third Sunday of Advent**

(Light the first & second purple candles & the rose candle)

Prayer:

We beseech thee to listen to our prayers,
O Lord,
And by the grace of thy coming enlighten
our darkened minds:
Thou who livest and reignest
with God the Father
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
Amen

****Advent Wreath Candle symbols:**

- Candle 1. Hope (purple)
- Candle 2. Peace (purple)
- Candle 3. Joy (rose: for Gaudete Sunday)

"Now spend a few moments in silent prayer, thinking about where in your life you most need the loving touch of Christ."

Retirement Fund for Religious – Women and men religious offer gratitude. "Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says sister Teresa Korycka, 81 of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

Community News & Events

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.

An Advent of Christmas Concert

will be held 7:30pm, Saturday, December 21 at St John Gualbert Cathedral, 117 Clinton Street, Johnstown. The program will feature the Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir and Bishop McCort Academy Chorale. The choral groups will be accompanied by our own St John Gualbert Cathedral Chamber Ensemble. Admission is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken

All Saints Parish in Boswell (Somerset County) will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy or Pastoralki) on Sunday, January 5th, at 2:00 PM at the church (325 Quemahoning Street, Boswell). The hymns will be sung by their Polish choir. Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and refreshments. Kolędy help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience the time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information please call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

Ethnic Bus Tour - Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish in Central City will host a bus pilgrimage on Saturday January 11th to visit the Nationality Rooms at the Cathedral of Learning of the University of Pittsburgh and two historic ethnic churches. The Nationality Rooms, uniquely adorned with accurate architecture and furnishings from thirty-one different nationalities, are a true treasure of Western Pennsylvania. Following the tour, Mass will be celebrated at the "Polish Cathedral of Pittsburgh," Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and there will be a tour of historic St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church. Bus pick up locations at Central City, Boswell, and Latrobe. The cost is per person is \$70 and includes dinner. To register please call the parish (814) 754-5224.

**Families and the Gospel
Third Sunday of Advent**

Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NECESSITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

JOIN US FOR OUR CLASS --The following class will be an In-Person class and will be open to all! **Trinity and Christology** taught by Father Timothy Harris at St. John Vianney, Johnstown. Thursdays from 6:30 PM-9:00 PM (Running for 10 Weeks) beginning January 2, 2025. The cost of the class is \$35.00 and must be turned in with the Registration Form

To register, please visit www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry, see your Parish Priest or Secretary for a Registration form or by contacting Jessica, Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry at (814) 361-2000 or igramling@dioceseaj.org. All are welcome!
· Please note that the Deadline for Class Registration is Friday, December 20th. No Registration Forms will be accepted after this date.

ABORTION:

Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being



"Babies are bits of stardust, blown down from the hand of God"



Advent Penance Services

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

