

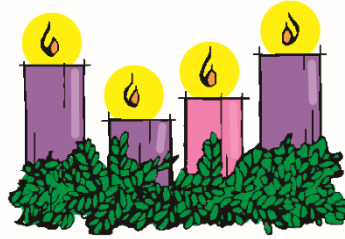


ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

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

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RECTORY: 539-7633
OFFICE HOURS- Mon - Fri
9:00AM to 2:00PM

December 22, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today's Scripture Readings

FIRST READING: From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

PSALM: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

SECOND READING: We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

GOSPEL: Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).



Jumpstarting Jubilee 2025 – Advent Love

The fourth Advent candle symbolizes love. Our renewed sense of hope that accompanies the Jubilee Year results in a commitment to love one another. The Jubilee Year offers the opportunity to be “ambassadors of hope” through loving service. Join in the efforts to serve the poor offered by your parish. See what outreach ministries such as Catholic Charities have to offer. “God so loved the world that he sent his only Son,” share that love in return.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass

5:30PM Tuesday, Dec 24th
Lector: Ed Olshefski

5:30PM Saturday – Dec 28th
Lector: Volunteer

Christmas Day Mass

9:00 AM Wednesday, Dec 25th
Lector: Denise Lakatos

9:00AM Sunday – Dec 29th
Lector: Pat Wess

Mass Intentions for the Week: (Dec 23rd – Dec 29th)

MON 12/23 7:00AM. . . + For Deceased Members of the Family of Cirilia Graicar

CHRISTMAS EVE

TUES 12/24 NO MORNING MASS
5:30PM. + Sue & Frank Karmanocky – (Family)

CHRISTMAS DAY

WED 12/25 9:00AM + Mary Jane & Kenneth Ferg, Sr – (Daughter, Barbara)

THURS 12/26 7:00AM. . . + Robert Wilks – (Connie & Eleanor)

FRI 12/27 7:00AM. . . . In Thanksgiving for the St. Anne's Christian Mothers

SAT 12/28 5:30PM. . . . Pro Populo

SUN 12/29 9:00AM. . . + Holy Souls of Purgatory – (Bob Kuhns)



December 22, 2024

Stewardship Reflections:

Our Blessed Mother takes center stage on this fourth Sunday of Advent, and fittingly so as we draw near to the celebration of her Son's birth. After our Lord himself, Mary is our model and guide to a stewardship way of life. Mary's response to the angel Gabriel in our 'Alleluia' today captures her stewardship spirit: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Lk 1:38)." At the moment of the Annunciation, Mary recognized God's gift to her and made a generous and trusting return to Him, offering her very self to God as His servant. This reply to such an overwhelming request – made by an angel, no less – shows us how extraordinary our Blessed Mother is. She is indeed "full of grace."

How beautifully our Blessed Mother models the mind and heart of a steward. It is an example that we, her children, can follow in our own lives 2,000 years later. With all the gifts God gives us – our time, our talents, and our material possessions – we, too, can offer ourselves to God by using all these gifts to serve and glorify Him. In so doing, we will effectively spread the Good News of the Gospel to the world around us today. We will be stewards after our Mother's own heart.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
Dec 14th & Dec 15th, 2024

Collection:

Weekly	\$ 1,465.00
Flowers	\$ 50.00
Fuel	\$ 20.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 60.00
Christmas	\$ 15.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 10.00

*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!*



ADVENT WREATH PRAYER
Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Light the all purple candles & the rose candle)

Prayer: Pour forth thy power, O Lord, and come:
Assist us by that mighty power,
so that by thy grace and merciful kindness we may
swiftly receive the salvation that our sins impede
who livest and reignest with thee
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
ever one God, world without end.
Amen



Dear Parishioners

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." Mother Theresa

As we once again are blessed to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, we are reminded how the Father gave us His Beloved Son. Inspired by this giving of His love, may it inspire us to keep on giving that love to others, as Mother Theresa tells us. And so keep on making Christmas Day every day.

On behalf of Fr. Balestino and myself, may you and your loved ones experience the great love of the Father shown to us in the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ, and may you keep on giving that love throughout the New Year.

Have a Blessed Christmas.

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

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 November 30th a total of **\$5,350** 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 \$2,926 will be paid from the church's funds. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

**OPENING MASS OF
THE JUBILEE 2025
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024
@ 2PM**

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
Join in Mass; Stay to see for yourself the
"Expressions of Hope" - over 200 pieces of original
Art, Poetry, Photography & Sculpture!
Made by OUR Parishioners!
Cathedral Hall directly following Mass,
refreshments will be served.

JUBILEE 2025

Every twenty-five years, pilgrims from all over the world flock to Rome for a jubilee year to witness the opening of a special door on the north side of St. Peter's Basilica—the Holy Door—and to receive a special blessing by passing through it.

This bronze Holy Door uniquely depicts the salvation story, from the dawn of creation to the present, through sixteen panels that inspire the faithful to connect their lives to the timeless story of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.



Community News & Events

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.

2024 Christmas Concert

This is Christmas

celebrating

the *Heart of Christmas* ~ **Mon Dec 30th at 6PM**. The Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Loretto invites you to a night of Christmas music performed by the Basilica Choir and the St. Michael Children's Choir. Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season! Make plans to join us!

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.

A Family Perspective

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed" or an "obstacle to my career." It is said "Christmas is for children." It is more accurate to say "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

Christmas

Today's gospel reminds us God chose to enter human history in a family. By Divine design the salvation of the world began in a family. Family was the best God the Creator could do for his Be-loved Son. Jesus was our first Christmas gift.

ABORTION:

**On Christmas Day
a Child was born to save US.
Now it is up to US.**

TO SAVE THE UNBORN CHILD.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children



We Wish You and Your Families
 Happy Holidays-
 Merry Christmas
 and a Blessed New Year!!

"A thrill of hope, The weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks A new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born!"



Holiday Tunes

- Away in a Manger
- Choir of the Bells
- Dominick the Donkey
- Frosty the Snowman
- Holly Jolly Christmas
- Jingle Bell Rock
- Jingle Bells
- Let it Snow
- Little Drummer Boy
- Little St Nick
- O Holy Night
- Rudolph
- Santa Baby
- Silent Nigh
- Silver Bells
- The Christmas Song
- The First Noel
- Winter Wonderland



S	G	R	D	A	M	A	F	C	I	F	Z	Z	X	F	K	U	H	J	X
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