

St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church

3918 William Penn Highway, P.O. Box 187, Mifflintown, PA 17059
(717) 436-6722 (717) 242-2781 at Sacred Heart, Lewistown

Parish Staff

REV. BILL WEARY, PASTOR

frweary@stjudemifflintown.org

Rev. Jayaseelan Amalanathan, Parochial Vicar

MRS. GALE TREASTER, SECRETARY

rectory@stjudemifflintown.org

Liturgy Schedule

SATURDAY: 5:00 PM

First Saturday 6:30 PM

Hispanic Mass

SUNDAY: 9:15 AM

MONDAY: 9:00AM

HOLY DAYS: AS ANNOUNCED

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 4 – 4:45 PM

Parish Office Hours:

Monday: 9:00 to 12:00

Wed. : 9:00 to 12:00

CLOSED HOLIDAYS



Registration – All parishioners should be properly registered in the parish. Please contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage – Contact the parish office as soon as possible, before establishing a date for the wedding. The Diocese requires 12 months advance notice and preparation for Marriage.

Baptism, Sacrament of the Sick, Shut-ins – Please contact the parish office to register for Baptism. One sponsor (Godparent) should be a practicing Catholic (if married, married in the church; attending Mass every weekend; moral life; etc.). One sponsor may be a practicing Protestant (called a Christian witness). We strive to visit parishioners homebound and those in the hospital. Please call the parish office if you would like us to visit, or if you are preparing for surgery.

Mass Cards & Memorial contributions – Mass cards in memory of the deceased and for special intentions are available after masses at the Religious Articles Corner. To make a memorial contribution, please contact the parish office.

CCD – Religious instruction for children meets after the 9:15 Mass until 11:45 from September to May. These classes are necessary before children receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please contact the parish office for more information or registration.

Parish Pastoral Council – Meets the 3rd Monday of each month, from September to May. Please call the parish office for information.

Knights of Columbus – Meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the social hall.

Women's Guild – Meets the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the social hall.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) – These are classes for those desiring to join the Catholic Church. Please contact the Pastor for more information.

NFP (Natural Family Planning) – This is the only Catholic-approved means of regulating birth. Classes are offered frequently and are free to all who want to learn about this spiritual & effective way to plan a family. For information, call Martin & Mary Smith, 717-935-5256.

Prayer Chain – Prayers for all who are in need of prayers for whatever reason. Please contact the parish office for more information.

December 16, 2018
Third Sunday of Advent
STEWARDSHIP IS A WAY OF LIFE
TITHING IS GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018

“Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord Himself is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petitions full of gratitude. Then God’s own peace which is beyond understanding will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” ... “The crowds asked John ‘What are we to do?’...the people were full of anticipation...”

At the midway point of Advent, we too can ask the question the crowds put to John the Baptist. We might preface it with another question: ‘What have we done thus far?’ What is the Lord asking of me during the next ten days? St. Paul is quite clear telling his audience to focus on the Lord, offering prayer, petitions and expressions of gratitude.

Do not fall into the trap of routine or busyness, without a moment each day of prayer that God’s peace may reign in your heart. Our novena of preparation can consist simply by turning to the Word of God, reflecting on the mystery of Jesus’ coming, and how we want Him to find us when we celebrate His birth. Then God’s own peace will be really with us.

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Zephaniah urges the people of Jerusalem to rejoice because the Lord is in their midst. He conveys the message that God will love and protect those who have remained faithful to him.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Paul encourages the Philippians to be ready for Christ. He tells them not to worry about their concerns, but to instead ask God’s help and allow his peace to fill their hearts and minds.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."

<u>Tithing is God’s Plan for Giving:</u>	
Income for December 9, 2018	\$ 3,840.98
Retirement for Religious	\$ 95.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 27.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 50.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 220.00
Christmas	\$ 15.00
Tithe for December 9, 2018	\$ 384.00
Juniata Co. Meals on Wheels	

Reclaiming the Great Hope for God
Advent 2018

We need the greater and lesser hopes that keep us going day by day. But these are not enough without the great hope, which must surpass everything else. This great hope can only be God, who encompasses the whole of reality and who can bestow upon us what we, by ourselves, cannot attain. The fact that it comes to us as a gift is actually part of hope. God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end, each one of us and humanity in its entirety. His Kingdom is not an imaginary hereafter, situated in a future that will never arrive; his Kingdom is present wherever he is loved and wherever his love reaches us. His love alone gives us the possibility of soberly persevering day by day, without ceasing to be spurred on by hope, in a world which by its very nature is imperfect. His love is at the same time our guarantee of the existence of what we only vaguely sense and which nevertheless, in our deepest self, we await: a life that is “truly” life.

Pope Benedict XVI



EWTN Announcement

Join EWTN each week this Advent Season for special programming and devotionals easily located on their website www.ewtn.com/advent. Remember, your purchase of holy reminders from the EWTN Religious Catalog guarantees quality and helps support the network. Visit the online Catholic store at www.ewtnreligiouscatalogue.com.



LITURGICAL NOTES:

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week
And Weekly Readings



Saturday, December 15: Advent Weekday

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19;
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

5:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, December 16: Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Philippians 4:4-7;
Luke 3:10-18

9:15 AM Michael Swartz

Monday, December 17: Advent Weekday

Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Osakn 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Matthew
1:1-17

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 18: Advent Weekday

Jeremiah 23:5-8; Psalm 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matthew 1:18-
25

Wednesday, December 19: Advent Weekday

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Luke
1:5-25

Thursday December 20: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Luke 1:26-38

Friday, December 21: Advent Weekday

Song of Songs 2:8-14; Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Luke
1:39-45

Saturday, December 22: Advent Weekday

1 Samuel 1:24-28; 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Luke 1:46-
56

5:00 PM Suffering Souls in Purgatory and
Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.

Sunday, December 23: Fourth Sunday of

Advent

Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Hebrews 10:5-10;
Luke 1:39-45

9:15 AM Grace Bravo

Calendar of Events

Saturday: 12/15

Gospel Reflections/7:30am/ social hall
Mass/5:00 pm/ Church

Sunday: 12/16

Mass/ 9:15am/ Church
CCD After Mass/10:30 AM

Monday: 12/17

Mass/9:00 am/ Church

Tuesday: 12/18

No Event

Wednesday: 12/19

No Event

Thursday: 12/20

No Event

Friday: 12/21

No Event

Saturday: 12/22

Gospel Reflections/ 7:30am/ social hall
Mass/ 5:00pm/ Church

Sunday: 12/23

Mass/ 9:15am/ Church

Minister Schedule

December 22 & December 23, 2018

Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018: 5:00pm

EMHC: J. & A. Zarnowski

Lector: Y. Melara

Cantor: M. Kerchusky

Altar Servers: K. & Y. Melara

Gifts: People of the Parish

Greeters: People of the Parish

Usher: T. Kerchusky

Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018: 9:15am

EMHC: G. Best J. Price K. Graham

Lector: G. Treaster

Cantor: R. Perez

Altar Servers: T. & S. Kelly E. Zeigler

Gifts: People of the Parish

Greeters: People of the Parish

Ushers: A. Thawley T. Newcamp



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

National Council of the United States

Seeking Charity and Justice

If you are in need of some help or know of someone who is in need of assistance. Please contact St. Vincent de Paul at 242-2781. *Requests for help are kept confidential*



Upcoming Cursillo Weekends

Men's Cursillo Weekend will be **January 24-27, 2019** at the Christian Retreat Center, East Waterford, PA. The Women's Cursillo Weekend will be **February 21-24, 2019** at the Mariawald Renewal Center, Reading, PA.



2019 Respect Life Mass

The annual diocesan Respect Life Mass will take place on **Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 9:30 AM at Good Shepherd Church in Camp Hill**. This Mass is celebrated every year to commemorate the lives lost to abortion since 1973 and to pray for the building up of a culture of life in our nation from conception to natural death. Reverend Stephen Kelley, chaplain to our diocese's Rachel's Vineyard post-abortion ministry, will be the celebrant and homilist. Both he and Tom O'Neill will greet Respect Life leaders and volunteers from around the diocese in the narthex after the Mass. All are welcome!



Retired State Police Captain to Oversee Diocese's Youth Protection Programs

We are announcing that Captain Janet McNeal, who is retired from the Pennsylvania State Police, will oversee our Youth Protection programs. Captain McNeal has 26 years of law enforcement investigative and policy development experience, including serving as the chief administrator for the Megan's Law Sexual Offender Registry for the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Deeply Rooted Family Workshop

For parents seeking to deepen their family's spiritual life and lead their children to holiness. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Mechanicsburg is hosting a family workshop for parents, grandparents and children on **January 12, 2019 from 9 AM to 1 PM**. Workshop sessions, children's programming and lunch will be provided for a **\$30 registration fee**. Workshops being offered are: ***In the World, but not of the World*** presented by Eva Gontis; ***The Selfie Generation, Mass and the None-ers*** presented by Kent Smithmyer; ***The 21st Century Family's Guide to Pro-Life*** presented by Maria Gallagher; ***The Liturgy of the Domestic Church*** presented by Mike & Kristine Creavey; ***Youth, Culture and Faith*** presented by Tom Fertal and ***Making the Works of Mercy Your Bucket List*** presented by Sister Emily Vincent. Visit www.steas.net/family to register OR check with the parish office for a paper registration form.



Items Needed

The auction committee is looking for handmade, new, or gently used items to be auctioned off at our **Benefit Auction on April 28, 2019**. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Ashley Henry at the Parish Office at 717-242-2781.



Join Us

It is time to start planning the **21st Annual SHS Benefit Auction**. This year's auction will be held on **Sunday, April 28, 2019** at the Mifflin County Youth Park. A Spaghetti Dinner will be held the night before on Saturday, April 27th. **The next auction planning meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 28th at 6 PM at SHS school.**

Diocese Night with the Hershey Bears

Celebrate Catholic Schools' Week with the **Hershey Bears Hockey Team vs. Laval Rockets at the Giant Center in Hershey on Saturday, January 26, 2019** at 7 PM. This fun-filled action packed night at the Giant center is open to all and is a great way to celebrate Catholic Schools! Discounted tickets are available for \$16.00 each for all ages, from the regular admission price of \$25.00. **Deadline to order is Friday, January 18, 2019**. For more information contact jdise@HersheyPA.com.



Tickets Are Now on Sale!!

***Puttin' on the Glitz*, the 10th Annual Sacred Heart School Gala, will be held on February 2, 2019** at the Lewistown Country Club. **Tickets are NOW available at the Sacred Heart Parish Office, \$60 until January 20th and \$70 from January 21st till sold out.** Tickets will be available after Masses in January. Join us for a night of great food, music and dancing, door prizes and special games of chance!!



Grand Jury Report-FAQ Resource Document

The insert in today's bulletin is a Frequently Asked Questions resource document. This document breaks down the most common questions and answers regarding the Grand Jury Report.