

## December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY  
READINGS

**HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly  
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ  
Second Sunday of Advent  
December 5, 2021

"I am sure of this much, that he who has begun the good work in you, will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus... My prayer is that your love may more and more abound, both in understanding and wealth of experience so that with a clear conscience and blameless conduct you may have to value the things that really matter, up to the very day of Christ."

Paul's words of encouragement can be considered the best wish for any Christmas card. It is easy to presume one's well wishes, but he tells us this is his prayer, yes, even his prayer for us at this moment.

May we take just a moment to consider 'what really matters' and address ourselves as we live this second week of advent.

What in my opinion really matters? Politicians make their pitch. Educators define certain goals. Business executives look at bottom lines and profit. How few reflect on the state of their souls, their relationship with God and what He expects of them.

I am sure that the last mentioned is what really matters. Don't you agree?

### **First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9**

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.

### **Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

### **Gospel: Luke 3:1-6**

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.

## **LITURGICAL NOTES**

*Mass Intentions for the Week*



*And Weekly Readings*

### **Saturday, December 4: Advent Weekday**

Isaiah 30:19-21; Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;

Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

5:30 PM Peg Braun

### **Sunday, December 5: Second Sunday of Advent**

Baruch 5:1-9 (6C); Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6;

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

9:15 AM Sherry McIlvine from Trudy Ober

1:30 PM People of the Parish

### **Monday, December 6: Advent Weekday**

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14;

Luke 5:17-26

9:00 AM Deceased Members of the Severt Family

### **Tuesday, December 7: Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)**

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13;

Matthew 18:12-14

### **Wednesday, December 8: The Immaculate**

### **Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation**

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 (689); Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;

Luke 1:26-38

### **Thursday, December 9: Advent Weekday**

Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab;

Matthew 11:11-15

### **Friday, December 10: Advent Weekday**

Isaiah 48:17-18; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Matthew 11:16-19

9:00 AM People of the Parish

### **Saturday, December 11: Advent Weekday**

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

Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

5:30 PM Steven Zehringer

### **Sunday, December 12: Third Sunday of Advent**

Zephaniah 3:14-18a (9C); Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;

Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

9:15 AM Lorraine Hazard from Shane Armstrong

1:30 PM People of the Parish

### **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

December 24<sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass – 6:00 p.m. with music beginning at 5:30 p.m.

December 25<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 a.m. \*There is no Saturday evening mass on December 25<sup>th</sup>

January 1<sup>st</sup> – 10:00 a.m. \*There is no Saturday evening mass on January 1<sup>st</sup>

### **WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS DINNER:**

Will be held at the Wilson House B&B ON

**Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Menu and cost appear on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

### **ATTENTION YOUTH AND ADULTS: JOIN THE MARCH FOR LIFE ON JANUARY 21, 2022:**

Please join us and thousands of other pro-life youth and adults for a one-day trip to the annual March for Life on the National Mall in Washington D.C., Friday, January 21, 2022. Yoder Tourways will load passengers at both Sacred Heart and St. Jude parishes early in the morning of the March. On the way, we will make an interesting side trip to one of three possible locations. We are in the beginning stages of planning for this event, so more details will follow in coming bulletins.

If you are Interested, youth and adults can register by signing up on the sheet available in the social hall or by emailing Karen Thome, [kkthome@centurylink.net](mailto:kkthome@centurylink.net), as soon as possible so that we can finalize plans.

Once we know approximately how many will attend, we can estimate the cost/person. We try to keep it as low as possible by asking for donations. If you cannot attend but would like to sponsor a youth or make a donation to sponsor the trip, we would be most grateful.

More details to come, but, in the meantime, **please sign-up on the sheet in the social hall as soon as possible.**

Any questions or to make a donation contact Karen Thome, [kkthome@centurylink.net](mailto:kkthome@centurylink.net), 717-348-8051.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Anyone interested in becoming an Altar Server, please contact David Treaster at 717-436-2968.

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:** Will be held **Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS:** There will be a mass on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**GOOD NEWS!! CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK & BAZAAR:** The Women's Guild will have its annual **Christmas Cookie Walk & Bazaar** in December.

This year's walk is on **Saturday, December 11, 2021**, in the church social hall **from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.** (or while supply lasts). **Doors open at 8:30 A.M.**

Cookies will still be homemade by our little old (and young) bakers, but they will be packaged ahead of time. Price is \$10.00/container for 2 dozen plus (depending on size of cookies) per container. Homemade candies will also be on sale as well as a White Elephant table with unique Christmas gifts.

Come early to get the best selection and enjoy a **free** cup of hot coffee while you browse.

For more information, contact Joyce Price, 717-994-0209.

**COOKER BAKERS NEEDED:** We need bakers for our Women's Guild Cookie Walk on December 11, 2021. Ruth Hower will be calling women of the parish to bake as many dozens as possible. We ask for **12 dozen of one kind** per baker, but we will be happy and grateful for whatever you can do. Thank you to all our past bakers and for those of you who can help this year. We could not do this without you. If you can help, please call Ruth at 717-436-2020.

## A CHRISTMAS CHOIR!

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex for those who would like to participate in the Christmas Eve Choir. If you have a special musical talent (singing, musical instrument) let us know if you would like to share your talent with the congregation. If you have any questions, please see Megan Miller or contact her at 717-527-4426 or [mfitz6@hotmail.com](mailto:mfitz6@hotmail.com). Practices will be brief and commence at 10:30 a.m. following the Sunday morning mass.

## UPDATE YOUR HOME ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:

If you have moved or changed your phone number, please e-mail the office at [rectory@stjudemiffintown.org](mailto:rectory@stjudemiffintown.org) or give your updated information to Alice Arnold. Thank you!

## Juniata County Food Pantry December Update

**Merry Christmas to you and your families!** With your help, by the time you read this notice we will have distributed over 150 Thanksgiving meals to our Juniata County neighbors in need! In December we'll attempt to do it all again-for Christmas!

The Food Pantry served 173 families in October – 414 individuals. Many thanks to Bunkertown Brethren in Christ Church for providing volunteers in October.

**FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR DEC:**  
**CANNED BEETS, CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED PINEAPPLES, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, AND OTHER CLEANING SUPPLIES**

## New Sacred Heart Parish Office Hours

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL NOW BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS.** Our office will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.



## Rectory Open House Christmas Party

Father Weary's Rectory Open House Christmas Party will be held on **Sunday, December 12th from 3-5PM**. All are welcome to join us for this annual celebration. Snacks and drinks will be provide





**Ministry Schedule: December 4-5**

**Sat. 5:30 PM**

**Lector: J. Fitzgerald**

**Cantor: M. Kerchusky**

**Altar Server: J. Zarnowski**

**Usher: T. Kerchusky**

**Sun. 9:15 AM**

**Lector: G. Price**

**Cantor: M. Miller**

**Altar Server: C. Schall & D. Miller**

**Usher: S. Arnold, R. Auken**

**Ministry Schedule: December 7**

**Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

**Immaculate Conception**

**Lector: G. Price**

**Cantor: A. Arnold**

**Altar Server: St. Michael's Guard**

**Usher: S. Arnold, L. Bastian**

**Ministry Schedule: December 11-12**

**Sat. 5:30 PM**

**Lector: C. Fitzgerald**

**Cantor: M. Kerchusky**

**Altar Server: J. Zarnowski**

**Usher: T. Kerchusky**

**Sun. 9:15 AM**

**Lector: T. Ober**

**Cantor: A. Arnold**

**Altar Server: St. Michael's Guard**

**Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames**

**FAITH MATTERS**

*With Fr. Peter Rettig*

***St. Ignatius of Antioch: A Pillar for Tradition***

As Catholics, we believe divine revelation is both written (the Bible) and oral (Tradition). St. Ignatius of Antioch is one of the most important references through tradition that the early Christian Church was in fact Catholic. It is rumored that Ignatius was one of the children who sat on Jesus' lap when Jesus said his famous words, "Let the children come to me." To say the least, Ignatius was involved with the early Church and wrote many letters to the Christian communities, similar to St. Paul. One thing Ignatius emphasizes is the importance of the position of the bishops. It was taken very seriously for early Christians. "Ignatius, also called Theophorous, the church of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ located at Philadelphia in the province of Asia. You have found mercy and have been strengthened in the peace of God; you are now filled with gladness because of the passion of our Lord, and by his mercy you were made believers in his resurrection. I greet you in the blood of Jesus Christ. you are my abiding and unshakable joy, especially if your members remain united with the bishop and with his presbyters and deacons, all appointed in accordance with the mind of Christ who by his own will has strengthened them in the firmness which the Spirit gives. I know that this bishop has obtained his ministry which serves the community, neither by his own efforts, nor

from men nor even out of vainglory, but from the love of God the Father and of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am deeply impressed by his gentleness, and by his silence he is more effective than the empty talkers. He is in harmony with the commandments as is a lute with his strings. I call him blessed, then for his sentiments toward God, since I know these to be virtuous and perfect, and for his stability and calm, in which he imitates the gentleness of the living God.

As sons of the light of truth, flee divisions and evil doctrines; where your shepherd is, follow him as his flock.

For all who belong to God and Jesus Christ are with the bishop; all who repent and return to the unity of the Church will also belong to God, that they may live according to Jesus Christ. do not be deceived, my brothers. If anyone follows a schismatic, he will not obtain the inheritance of God's kingdom; if anyone lives by an alien teaching, he does not assent to the passion of the Lord. Be careful, therefore, to take part only in the one Eucharist; for there is only one flesh of our lord Jesus Christ and one cup to unite us with his blood, one altar and one bishop with the presbyters and deacons, who are his fellow servants. Then, whatever you do, you will do according to God. My brothers, I overflow with love for you and with a joyous heart I make you strong-although it is not so much I but Jesus Christ. Although imprisoned for his sake, I fear more because of my imperfection. But your prayers will perfect me in the eyes of God so that I might yet receive the inheritance promised by the merciful God. I seek refuge in the person of Christ through the Gospels and I appeal to the true ministry of the Church through the apostles." So, let's live out our respect for the position of the bishops of the Church. Obviously not every bishop is perfect as a human being, but his title is one to which we must pay respect since he has promised to be our shepherd until we reach the pearly gates!



**Final SCRIP Sales for 2021**

**The third and final SCRIP fundraiser sale for 2021 ends Monday!!**

Your cards will arrive in time for Christmas. **What is SCRIP?**



SCRIP is an easy way for us to earn money for the school to support the HSA in providing activities for the students.

**How does it work?** Simply decide which gift cards you would like from the provided list. Send a check for the amount of cards made payable to SHS-HSA! You can also shop online at [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com). I have attached a sheet with instructions. And you can shop online at any time. If you would like to order via the order form, pick up a list in the church narthex or at the parish office, make your selections and return the order forms with a check for payment to the parish office by **December 6, 2021**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Lindsey Anderson at SHS at 717-248-5351 or email at [office@sacredheartschool.com](mailto:office@sacredheartschool.com).

## Shade Mountain Shop-In-Fundraiser



The Shade Mountain Shopping day for our SHS HSA fundraiser will be **December 6-December 11**. Anyone who shops on those dates will get a % of their sales. This can be at their Lewistown location or online. **When shopping in person or online you need to mention you are shopping for the SHS HSA fundraiser.** More info can be found at [www.shade-mountain.com](http://www.shade-mountain.com).

## Christmas Pie Sale

Sacred Heart School will be selling pies from The Square Café & Bakery. **Orders are due by December 10 and will be available for pick-up at the school on December 22, just in time for Christmas.** Price is \$15 per pie with checks made payable to SHS HSA. Order forms are available in the Narthex and at the parish office. Sit back and relax and leave the holiday baking to the Square Café & Bakery!



Sacred Heart School is hosting a **Harshbarger's Sub 'n Malt fundraiser night on Tuesday, December 14**. Take the coupon available in the Narthex or shown below to either Harshbarger's location (McVeytown or Port Royal) and they will give the school **25%** of the sale total. This includes purchases toward dine-in, take out, and ice cream sales, as well as gift certificates...just in time for Christmas! Enjoy Fabulous Food in the 50's Mood and help support Sacred Heart School all at the same time!



**SAVE THE DATE - SACRED HEART GALA IS BACK!!**