

December 25, 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of
December 11, 2022

Regular:	\$2,419.00
Hispanic Mass Offering:	\$212.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$20.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$20.00
Capital Improvement Offering:	\$20.00

FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY

READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
The Nativity of the Lord – (Christmas)
December 25, 2022

“Beloved: When the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, He saved us...”

This was the message of St. Paul to Titus.

In the joy of this season, as we recall the most significant event in human history, we might tend to forget, that the Father sent Jesus to save us and give us new life in Him. May we pause for a moment, not to visit the scene of Bethlehem, but consider what was our need and the Father's loving response, and our need today for His saving grace.

We were separated from God, but at this moment He bent down from heaven, sending us Jesus as our Savior. Today we are invited to respond to the Father's gift in gratitude and accept the greatest Christmas gift ever. Bring the meaning of this day to someone else.

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Isaiah rejoices that God is bringing his exiled people home to Jerusalem. He calls out to the people to be glad because God will restore Jerusalem.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

Paul explains to the Hebrews that although God had spoken through the prophets, people could not always completely understand the message. Now God has spoken to us by sending Jesus, the son, a reflection of God's glory and forgiver of our sins.

Gospel: John 1:1-18

John describes how the Word came into the world in the form of Jesus. All those who accept Jesus become children of God by sharing in Jesus' love. No one has seen God, but through Jesus, God was revealed to us.



LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week



Saturday, December 24: The Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass

Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts of the Apostles 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

6:00 PM Phyllis Davis from Shane Armstrong

Sunday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6;

Hebrews: 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

9:15 AM Jack & Patricia Marshall from
Scott & Alice Arnold

1:30 PM People of the Parish

Monday, December 26: Saint Stephen, The First Martyr (Feast)

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17; Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday, December 27: Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist (Feast)

1 John 1:1-4; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;

John 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday, December 28: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)

1 John 1:5 – 2:2; Psalm 124:2-3, 4-5, 7d-8;

Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday, December 29: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 John 2:3-11; Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6;

Luke 2:22-35

Friday, December 30: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5;

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday, December 31: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Vigil Mass

1 John 2:18-21; Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13;

John 1:1-18

5:30 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, January 1: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;

Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

9:15 AM Father Peter Rettig from
Dan Ames and Family

1:30 PM People of the Parish

Christmas Prayer

God of love, Father of all, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of your Word made flesh. Make us a people of this light. Make us faithful to your Word, that we may bring your life to the waiting world. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Monday December 26th Mass at St. Jude Mifflintown, 9:00 a.m., and the Monday, December 26th Mass at Sacred Heart, Lewistown, are canceled for the Christmas Holiday. Fr. Bill and Fr. Peter will on call for emergencies.

Please continue to pray for the souls of:

Thomas Cargill Robert Burda

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on **Friday, December 23rd** and remain closed through **Monday, December 26th** in observance of Christmas. The office will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 27th. The office will also be closed on **Friday, December 30th** in observance of New Years.



COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

December 25, 2022 NO SOCIAL
January 1, 2023 NO SOCIAL
January 8, 2023 ARMSTRONGS
January 15, 2023 LADIES

ROSARY

Please join us as we pray the Rosary each Sunday at 8:45 a.m. before the 9:15 a.m. Mass. "The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying."
- Pope Leo XIII



NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE

The New Years' Day schedule will follow the regular schedule of Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:15 a.m., and the Spanish Mass at 1:30 p.m.

Youth Group News

The Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, December 25th or Sunday, January 1st in observance of the holidays. Watch the bulletin for upcoming dates and activities in 2023.



SHS Gala, "Let's Fiesta", will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at the Lewistown Country Club. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office. Prices are \$60 per person

Juniata County Food Pantry January Update

Happy New Year! We are so thankful for all who shared their abundance with the Food Pantry during November and December. With your help we were able to provide over Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for neighbors who would have gone without. As we wind down our joyous celebrations of the holiday season, it's important to remember that for some folks this season has a different name: "The Season of Heat or Eat!" Many families this winter will have to choose whether to heat their homes or buy food and other necessities. Please continue to keep them in mind and in prayer as you pack away Christmas decorations and finish off leftovers.

In November 2022, the Food Pantry served 198 families - 487 individuals! We thank St. Stephen's Lutheran Church for sending volunteers for the month of November. Because it's flu season, and many of our

families will be trying to battle illness as well as a lack of heat, if you could help by donating the items below, we would be very grateful.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JANUARY:
ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; TISSUES;
TOILET PAPER; OTC PAIN; COLD AND
FLU MEDICINES, VICKS, AND ANY
HOSUSHOLD CLEANING ITEMS.

WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS
OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO
PURCHASE THESE SUPPLIES.

*****FOR EMERGENCIES FROM 12/25 AT 12:00 PM
THROUGH 12/26 AT 8:00 PM, PLEASE CALL THE
PARISH OFFICE NUMBER 717 242-2781 AND
YOUR CALL WILL BE FORWARDED TO BOTH
FATHER BILL AND FATHER PETER'S CELL
PHONES.
ALL CALLS WILL BE RETURNED AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.*****

EMERGENCY EXITS

Designated emergency exits are found in the front of the church to the left and right of the altar, and in the back of the church through the main entrance and the hallway by the restrooms.

We request in case of emergency you select the closest exit to your seat.

Those sitting in the front half of the church should exit using exits found on their respective side. Those sitting back half of the church should exit through the center doors and the doors to the right of the main entry door of the church.

Those in the cry room or the restrooms should exit through the hallway and to the exit door at the end of the hallway.

RCIA Classes

Sharing is the basis for our religion—sharing God's love with those around us, but most of all, sharing the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ and becoming One with Him. Paul tells us that we don't get into heaven alone. What could be more rewarding than to know that you took the initiative to ask and **someone accepted** the invitation to share our faith? Your mission is to love and serve the Lord. That "**someone**" is waiting to be asked! **If you know anyone who would be interested in Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) classes, please contact Dan Swigart at 717-446-5099 or the**



Parish Office at 717-242-2781. RCIA is a program of 1 time per week classes, usually for about 9 months, for those interested in entering the Catholic faith. Also, Catholics who have been "away", for whatever reason, are invited to attend and find answers in these sessions to re-establish their receiving of the Sacraments. **A new class is set to begin on Thursday, September 22nd at 7 PM.**

UPDATE REQUEST

If you have moved, changed phone numbers or have any other changes you would like made to your information at the parish office, please contact the office at 717-436-6722 on Thursdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. or email the office at rectory@stjudemifflintown.org.



Saturday, December 24, 2022

Lector: C. Hazard
Cantor: Youth Choir
Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard
Usher:

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Lector: T. Ober
Cantor: A. Arnold
Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard
Usher: S. Arnold, R. Auker

FORMED – ON-LINE RESOURCES

We are pleased to provide all Parishioners a FREE subscription to formed.org. Discover all the best Catholic content in one place, Enlighten programs, entertaining movies, inspiring talks and a great selection of popular e-books

for everyone in the family all just a click away. To sign up for free visit: signup.formed.org
Enter our parish zip code: **17059**
Select: **St. Jude and Sacred Heart** and **Next**
Enter your **Name** and your **email address** and select **Sign Up After** you sign up all the content is available through PC through **FORMED.ORG**, and Smart TVS, Roku, I-Phone or Android with the FORMED App.