

December 17, 2023, Third Sunday of Advent

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of
December 10, 2023 Not Available

FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023

“Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks; such is God’s will for you. Do not stifle the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test everything; retain what is good. Avoid any semblance of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect in holiness. May you be preserved whole and entire, spirit, soul and body, irreproachable at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls us is trustworthy, therefore he will do it.”

Living the final days of Advent, Saint Paul offers a game plan for prayer and action. We have heard the prophet speak. We have met John the Baptist and accepted his message of repentance and renewal. What more can be done? It is something we dare not avoid - our personal call to holiness.

Set aside a few minutes each day, look into your heart, see what the Lord sees, thanking Him for His blessings, but also ask help to set aside whatever can block the Lord giving you His peace. ‘Come Lord Jesus.’

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ’s arrival. He tells them to “avoid any semblance of evil” so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week



Saturday, December 16: Advent Weekday

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

5:30 PM Justin Pflatzgraff from his Family

Sunday, December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

9:15 AM Terry Boyd from Joe & Lori Boyd

1:30 PM People of the Parish

Monday, December 18: Advent Weekday

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

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 19: Advent Weekday

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

Wednesday, December 20: Advent Weekday

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

Thursday, December 21: Advent Weekday

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

Friday, December 22: Advent Weekday

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

Saturday, December 23: Advent Weekday

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14; Luke 1:57-66

5:30 PM Benjamin & Phyllis Davis from
Shane Armstrong

Sunday, December 24: Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

9:15 AM In Honor of Scott & Alice Arnold’s
Wedding Anniversary

1:30 AM People of the Parish

6:00 PM People of the Parish (Christmas Eve)

Sunday 12/24/22

IMPORTANT NOTICE



**Christmas Vigil Mass
6:00PM St. Jude**

Monday 12/25/22

No 9:00 AM Mass

Christmas Day Mass

10:00AM St. Jude

Spanish Mass 1:30PM St Jude



ADVENT VESPERS

In preparation for the Nativity of our Lord, this year, St. Jude Parish will be praying the Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hour at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, December 17th. Please join us for this special Advent prayer service which will include special readings, songs, and the rosary.

SAINT JUDE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our Parish Christmas/Epiphany party on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The dinner will be a covered dish with the parish providing the meat, beverages, and bread. Our evening will include a special children's program, caroling, and a visit from the Magi. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the podium at the entrance of the church. Come and enjoy!

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

Saint Jude's Women's Guild will have Weis Grocery cards for sale in the Social Hall after Mass on Sundays. Please see Karen Thome to purchase your cards and support the Guild's charitable works!

MASS INTENTIONS

Requests for Mass Intentions are welcome for all Masses celebrated at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish. In order to make the request of Mass Intentions more convenient, we now have Mass Intention envelopes which can be completed and placed in the offering box found in the entrance of the church. To request a Mass, please fill out the front of the envelope, indicate if you would like a Mass Card in the sheet provided and include the customary offering of \$10.00 for the Mass and place it in the box in the Narthex. You may also request a mass via email rectory@stjudemifflintown.org or by making arrangements with the Parish Secretary on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or after the Sunday 9:15 a.m. Mass.

PRAYER REQUEST

Prayers are requested for Justin Pfaltzgraff who is experiencing serious medical issues at this time.

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

WEIS GROCERY CARDS

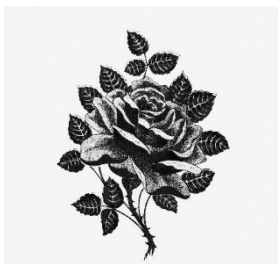


COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

December 17	LADIES
December 24	NONE
December 31	LYDIA
January 7	KAREN TORNAMBE

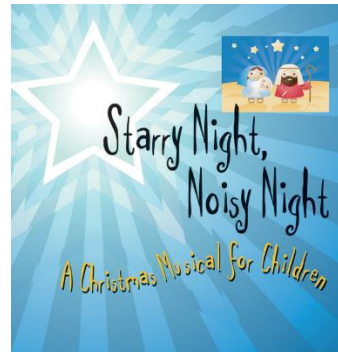
Prayer for Advent

O Lord, the Advent candles, with their familiar, glowing light, help us to turn to you. May we stay alert in these weeks, anticipating the joyful celebration of your Son's arrival into the world. As the Advent lights keep darkness at bay, may they also keep us from wandering from your ways. Help us to stay ever watchful, like the gatekeeper. Help us, we pray, to hold your mercy deep within our heart, carrying it with us as we prepare for the coming of our infant Savior. Amen



MEMORIALIZE FLOWERS:

If you wish to place flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Dave Treaster for information on availability of dates. (717) 436-2968.



The students of Sacred Heart School invite you to their Annual Christmas Musical! They will be performing **Starry Night, Noisy Night** on **Friday, December 15th** at **11:00 AM** and

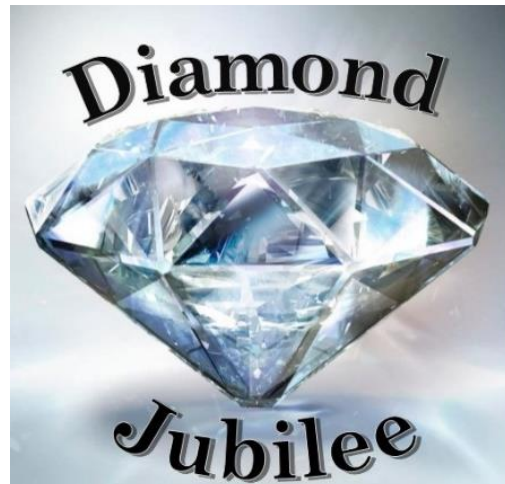
7:00 PM, with a cookie social to follow the evening performance at the school. In case of inclement weather, the musical will be held on Monday, December 18th.

Save the Date

SHS Gala:

**Diamond Jubilee:
Celebrating 75**

years of Catholic Education at SHS, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Lewistown Country Club. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office; prices are \$60 per person through Jan. 26th and \$70 Jan. 27th thru Feb. 1st.



Usher: S. Arnold, J. Boyd

SATURDAY, December 16, 2023

Lector: C. Hazard

Cantor:

Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski

Usher:

SUNDAY, December 17, 2023

Lector: J. Hazard

Cantor: A. Arnold

Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

SATURDAY, December 23, 2023

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor:

Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski

SUNDAY, December 24, 2023

Lector: T. Kromel

Cantor: M. Miller

Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: S. Arnold, R. Auken

DECEMBER 24TH (EVENING)

CHRISTMAS EVE: 6:00 p.m.

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor: Megan Miller & Youth Choir Altar

Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: S. Arnold, J. Boyd

DECEMBER 25TH

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 a.m.

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor: A. Arnold

Altar Servers: D. Treaster

Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

SATURDAY, December 30, 2023

Lector: T. Kromel

Cantor:

Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski

Usher:

SUNDAY, December 31, 2023

Lector: T. Ober

Cantor: I. Armstrong

Altar Servers: The Millers

NEW YEARS DAY

JANUARY 1ST

Lector: T. Kromel

Cantor: M. Miller

Altar Server: D. Treaster

Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

FORMED – ON-LINE RESOURCES

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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**

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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.