

## MASSES / SERVICES

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 28</b>
9:00 AM	John J. Kromer
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 29</b>
9:00 AM	Mary Margaret Shirley
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 30</b>
9:00 AM	Gregory Oswald Jr.
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 1</b>
7:00 PM	Dorothy Folajtar
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2</b>
9:00 AM	Enrollees of Memorial Fund Divine Mercy
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 3</b>
8:30 AM	Michael Oswald
4:30 PM	Harry J. Parker
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 4</b>
8:00 AM	Gloria Smith People of the Parish
10:00 AM	Raymond & Shirley Casari
ADORATION is in the Chapel one hour before daily Mass.	

## OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

Astrid Zelko	Judy Emery
Bob Hartzell	Fernando Colon
Jayne Bonnell	Sheila LeBlanc
Kathy Wiesner	Lucy Mellinger
John Gallucci	Ruth Yousseff
Anne Baran	Kathryn Wechsler
Joan Geiger	Mary Smith
Jill Brubaker	Larry Buss
Jennifer Berger	Veronica Gerbe
Rose Tauber	Phyllis Laky

\*NOTE: If you are admitted to the hospital, (*especially if you go through the emergency room*) you must call the parish to let us know. Names will be **removed after three months** and may be resubmitted at that time.

## TO THOSE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS



We welcome you to Mass each weekend. If you wish to receive Holy Communion and find it difficult to join the Communion line, please let the ushers know and an Extraordinary Minister will bring communion to you. Low gluten hosts are available; prior to Mass go to the sacristy so the celebrant will know to prepare the host. A seating chart is available for those with health concerns; please ask an usher for seating options.

Call our parish office at 610-266-0695.

Emergency and need a priest? After hours use ext. 399 for the emergency mailbox.

Please visit us at: [sercc.org](http://sercc.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/St-Elizabeth-Catholic-Church-119061511442084>

## READINGS FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading:	Isaiah 2: 1 – 5
Responsorial Psalm:	122
Second Reading:	Romans 13: 11– 14
Gospel:	Matthew 24: 37 – 44

## Parish Regular Events (call for updates)

**Adult Choir** – Wed (Sept to May) times as scheduled  
**Baptism Class** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning by appointment  
**Bible Study** – Wednesday (Sept to May) 10 am in LMR\*  
**Breakfast Club** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun (Nov to Apr) 8 – 11:30 am Hall  
**Children's Choir** – contact Music Director for info  
**Friendly Visitors** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs (Sept to May) 2 pm LMR\*  
**Prayer Shawl** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Quarterly 2 pm LMR\* call  
**PREP** – Mondays (Sept to April) 6 pm School  
**RCIA** – Tuesdays (Sept to April) 7 pm LMR\*  
 \*LMR = Parish office large meeting room 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

## INTENTIONS



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week for  
**Valeria Koons** requested by  
*Nick and Carolyn Pontician.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who have died, especially  
**Rosemarie Kozo**, who passed away this week.  
 May her soul and the souls of all the faithful  
 departed, through the mercy of God, rest in  
 peace.



## RCIA

All are welcome to attend the Rite of Christian Initiation classes held on Tuesdays each week at 7 pm. Call for details 610-266-0695 ext. 208. The topic for **Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>** will be

## Rituals &amp; Traditions #1

## ADVENT

Advent is the period of preparation for the coming of the birth of Jesus at Christmas and a preparation for the second coming of Christ. On each of the four Sundays in Advent, a candle on the Advent wreath is lit, each representing specific virtues of hope, love, joy, and peace.



The first candle, which is purple, **symbolizes hope**. It is sometimes called the “Prophesy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

## PASTOR'S NOTES

We are now entering into our own time of preparation, the season of Advent. We know it is a time to prepare for Christmas. Many have already gone shopping for gifts, put up decorations, and began baking in anticipation. Yet Advent is more than this. Advent is a time for us to prepare not only for a Holy Day but for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in ways that are greatly anticipated; and in ways that can often be overlooked.

The Gospel tells of the coming of the Son of Man. It will be an event that will take many people by surprise like the flood involving Noah in the book of Genesis. Jesus does not want his disciples to be surprised; he wants them to be prepared. In all likelihood, Jesus was warning his disciples of the coming destruction of Jerusalem that he knew was coming. Jewish nationalism would bring destruction unless the people repented and listened to him. Jesus' disciples would be prepared or as he put it, 'stay awake' so that they may flee this coming catastrophe.

Advent is a time to prepare for coming catastrophes. Is our faith strong enough to handle the loss of property, the loss of income, the loss of health, or even the loss of a loved one? These are questions we should be seriously asking ourselves. Even if we feel we are ready, we still need to reinforce our faith so that we can be ready not only for ourselves but for others who will need us to help them through. Being prepared is a task for everyone who desires to follow Jesus.

We know the outcome between good and evil, the victory of Christ. Our task is to ensure that we are on the victorious side by living lives worthy of him. We ought not take eternal life for granted, but, each day, renew our commitment to the gospel and the hope that our baptism offers. As Christians, we are called to be realistic, to face the fact that our world is broken and in need of healing. Yet we are never without hope. Indeed, the Christian view is to see worldly imperfection not as a lost cause, but as an opportunity for improvement and redemption. This is what we celebrate in the Advent time of preparation and anticipation. We look forward to the coming of Christ, striving to be vigilant and worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

God bless you, Fr. Stan

## DEACON'S THOUGHTS

Wednesday, we celebrate the Feast of Saint Andrew. In the Gospel reading, we hear of the call of Saints Peter and Andrew and of Saints James and John. In our culture, there seems to be a conflation of the terms vocation and occupation. For the most part, occupation is understood as your means of making a living. You may be a teacher or a physician or an engineer. A vocation is a calling. If you are a telemarketer, calling may be involved but that is not a vocation.

What is your calling? What is your vocation? Unlike Saint Andrew, it is not to have a world-famous golf course named after you. Very much like Saint Andrew, your vocation IS to be holy. Your vocation IS to be a saint. Simon and Andrew, James and John did not have the day-to-day process and agenda presented to them when they received the call from Jesus. They did, without hesitation or reservation, leave everything behind to follow the Lord. Would they have concerns as to how this would all work out? I am sure.

Embrace your vocation and live it well. If you are called to be the father of six children, or the mother of no children, or to consecrated religious life, or called to a life of single service, or to holy orders, or called to marriage, live your vocation well.

Your vocation, in all things is to be holy ... to be a saint. Your vocation has a dimension like that of Andrew. James and John, Simon and Andrew were called by the Lord WITH their brothers. We also must work with our spouses and our children to be holy, to help our brothers and sisters, our parents and grandparents, our godchildren. We must be examples to the world of that universal call to holiness, to our friends and coworkers, to our electricians and plumbers, to our mechanics ... and telemarketers. What is your vocation?

## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

## PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED



On **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**, at 4:30 pm, Bishop Alfred Schlert, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our parish Confirmandi. To assist our candidates in their preparation, we call upon our parishioners to pray for them and encourage them. Please consider being a prayer partner by praying for them each day and later writing a congratulatory note that can be given to them on their Confirmation Day. Please contact Mary Spieker at the parish office if you'd like to be a prayer partner. 610-266-0695 ext. 208 or e-mail at [dirreled@sercc.org](mailto:dirreled@sercc.org)

**POINSETTIAS – THE PERFECT GIFT!**

Our Youth Group will be selling single bloom poinsettias for \$4 each this year. They will arrive just in time for a perfect little gift for a neighbor or co-worker! Order forms can be found on the parish website or call Mary Spieker at the parish office to place an order. We will sell, red, white, pink & marble; all newly grown at Garden City in Catasauqua. Flowers can be sent home with a school student or picked up at the parish office on Friday, December 9 from 9:00 to noon or picked-up in the parish hall on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 8:30 – 11:30. *Order deadline is November 29.* As always, we appreciate your support!

**APPRECIATION DINNER FOR VOLUNTEERS**

We invite all volunteers and their families to attend the appreciation dinner which will be held on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm after prayer service. The Appreciation dinner will be held in the parish hall. Please RSVP to the office rectory by Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**PREP CORNER**

Celebrating our PREP Catechist and Teacher Aides  
This week:

**PREP – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Catechist: Mrs. Susan Bergan**

I have been the second-grade teacher at St. Elizabeth Regional School for the past six years and the PREP catechist for the past three.

I am married and have four children.

I taught PREP in my home parish,

St. Isidore, Quakertown for 27 years.

I received my Master Catechist Certification for Religion from the Diocese of Allentown, and my Religion Certification from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

I am blessed to be teaching our students and preparing them for the Sacraments. It brings me great joy to watch the students as they grow in their faith and become better disciples of Jesus Christ.

**ADVENT EVENING OF MUSIC AND PRAYER**

All are welcome!



St. Elizabeth Music Ministry warmly invites you to an Advent Evening of Music and Prayer, Sunday December 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm!

Come one and come all to this annual St. E's tradition where we contemplate the coming of Christ through scripture, prayer, and music, led by the St. Elizabeth Choir. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be taken at the door. Prelude music begins at 4:30.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE**

The "Advent Giving Tree" is an opportunity to celebrate the Birth of Jesus by giving gifts of baby items to the babies who will be born this coming year. Please choose a gift tag from the tree in the vestibule, purchase the needed item, and bring the UNWRAPPED gift to Church by Sunday, December 18. Donations will be given to the Cay Galgon Life House and Catholic Charities. Many thanks and blessings for your kind donation to those less fortunate.

**FRIENDLY VISITORS NEED YOU**

Prayerfully consider volunteering to deliver **Christmas gifts** to our parishioners who live in assisted living and nursing home facilities and those who are homebound. Gifts can

be picked up at the church office between 9:30 am & 3 pm on Tuesday, December 13 or Wednesday, December 14 for delivery.

Please contact Pat at 610 – 393 - 8107 if you can offer some of your precious time to deliver these gifts to our shut-ins. Thank you.

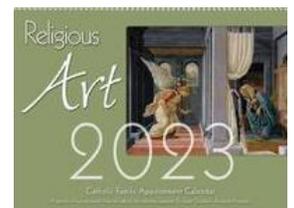
**SHARE THE JOY THIS CHRISTMAS!**

Adopt a family in need and help spread the Christmas Spirit! If you and your family are able, please consider adopting a parish family in need of Christmas Christian charity. We will give you some general information about a family and ask

you to purchase a gift for each of the children. Please specify if you would prefer a small family. You can drop off the wrapped gifts at the parish office any time before December 19. We will make sure the family receives the gifts before Christmas. Contact Mary Spieker at the parish office for more information. 610-266-0695 ext. 208 or [dirreled@sercc.org](mailto:dirreled@sercc.org)

**ST. ELIZABETH CHURCH CALENDARS**

The 2023 St. Elizabeth Church calendars are available after Masses, courtesy of O'Donnell Funeral Home. Please take what you need.



## A GREAT BIG "TURKEY" THANK YOU!



Many thanks for the magnificent response to our turkey donation request. We had over 20 turkeys and monetary donations. Which were given out to our school and PREP families. We also thank our school and PREP families for their annual Thanksgiving food item collection. Many benefited from your generosity! God bless all who helped make a big difference on many a Thanksgiving table this year!

*"May God fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father, glory forever and ever. Amen." Philippians 4:19-20*

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Thursday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and is considered a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Masses will be Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm and Thursday at 9:00 am and 12:15 pm.



## AMAZON SMILE GIVE BACK



Do you like ordering from Amazon? Here is a quick and easy way to make money for the church by making your purchase through Amazon Smile. 'AMAZON SMILE' is the same Amazon you are used to, but by ordering through "Smile" the Company will donate .5% to our parish, costing you NOTHING extra. If you shop at Amazon, you can painlessly support our parish: [Saint Elizabeth Amazon Smile](#)

You can also access AMAZON SMILE from our parish web site at [sercc.org](http://sercc.org) and click on "Ways to Give" tab, and then just click on the "Amazon Smile" for the hyperlink. Thank you for your continued support!



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## PARENT NIGHT OUT!



Want a date night or to get some Christmas shopping done? Drop your K - 5<sup>th</sup> grade students off at the parish hall from 6:00 - 8:00 pm on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

for a night of board games & socializing with friends. \$5.00/ child. Sign Up with Mrs. Kocher, Principal at [principal@sercc.org](mailto:principal@sercc.org)

## Christmas at St. Elizabeth of Hungary

2022 Christmas Schedule

### Sacrament of Reconciliation (*Confession*)

Tuesday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

### Christmas Masses

#### Christmas Eve

Saturday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm and 9:00 pm

#### Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am and 10:00 am

### New Year's Masses

#### New Year's Eve

Saturday, Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 4:30 pm

#### New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary

Sunday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 am and 10:00 am



## WELCOME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Invite someone home to Mass this year. Neighbor, friend, child or spouse... make them all feel welcome. Everyone is invited!



Please pray for the following  
military members currently serving.



2Lt. Jared Blockus	US Army
Sgt. Jon Bonnell	US Marine Corps
A1C Mason Burkhardt-Bauder	US Air Force
Cmdr. John Cocca	US Navy
1Lt. Ethan Downey	US Air Force
Lt. Col. Julie Glover	US Air Force
Cap. Ryan Gutshall	US Army
PO2 Eric Knapp	US Navy
Sgt. Michael Merryman	US Army
1Lt. Luke Millan	US Army
DCC (SW) Dan O'Connor	US Navy
IT3 Daniel J. Peterson	US Navy
SSgt. Jim Peterson	US Army
ABF3 Jonathon Russell	US Navy
TSgt. Ann Seng	US Air Force
MGySgt. Theresa Seng	US Marine Corps
1Lt. Angela Stella	US Air Force
Pvt. Christopher Sweeney	US Army

### St. Nicholas Celebration

Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> come join this celebration for the feast day of St. Nicholas. Mass will be Monday evening, Dec. 5 at 6:30 pm. After Mass, children will find their shoe filled with goodies and then gather in the social hall for story time (about St. Nicholas, of course), for crafts, coloring projects, and snacks. For more information email Peggy at [mheiczinger55@gmail.com](mailto:mheiczinger55@gmail.com). St. Nicholas Church 1152 Oak Rd, Walnutport, 610-767-3107 or e-mail [stnick11@ptd.net](mailto:stnick11@ptd.net)



### German Christmas Market & Tricky Tray

Holy Ghost parish, Bethlehem, will host a German Christmas Market and Tricky Tray on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 6 pm and Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to noon. Featuring baked goods, noodles, strudel, jam, jelly, kitchen novelties, homemade candy, Christmas corner and homemade pierogies. The kitchen will be open for dine-in or take out. All are Welcome!

### Designer Handbag Bingo

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Holy Family Parish Center, 508 W. Center Street, Nazareth. Doors open at 12; Bingo @ 1 PM. \$25 Advance Tickets/\$30 at the Door. Food, refreshments and 50/50 tickets also for purchase. Tickets can be purchased via Google form: <https://forms.gle/m9DJRkYUh6o7dq2SA>. Questions e-mail [nation1@ptd.net](mailto:nation1@ptd.net)

### Host Families needed

Nacel Open Door is excited to welcome an international student from Vietnam, who will be attending Allentown Central Catholic High School for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester (January of 2023) on an F-1 Visa. Emma is 16 years old and will be a Junior at Central Catholic. She needs a smoke free home. She likes basketball, swimming and also enjoys painting/drawing and photography. Emma speaks English, has travel health insurance, and brings her own spending money for personal expenses. She is looking forward to the experience of American family life. Host families supply room and board and receive a monthly hosting stipend to help offset expenses.

It is truly a wonderful experience for the whole family and can create lifetime friendships from across the globe. If you are willing to consider opening your heart and your home to one of these students, or would like more information, please contact Hope Egolf at 610-850-1398, or email [hegolf@team.nacelopendoor.org](mailto:hegolf@team.nacelopendoor.org)

### MONTHLY BREAKFAST SPONSORS NEEDED



To help offset the cost of the breakfast, we ask for a monthly sponsor. Are you able to sponsor one of our upcoming monthly breakfasts? **To sponsor a full breakfast, we ask for \$500. If**

**you cannot give the full amount 50% (\$250) or even 25% (\$125) would be helpful.** If you can help in any way, please contact the parish office at 610-266-0695 ext. 208

### OUR COMMUNITY



### Retired Religious Fund

Thank you to those who have given so generously to the "Chosen, Blessed, Shared" annual fund. If you haven't given, it isn't too late to support the retired religious of our Diocese by making a gift to the Endowment Fund for the Care of Retired Religious. This special fund is used to directly support retired religious in good standing including the future costs of their healthcare, insurance, and housing and sustenance. Please return your gift using the envelope you received in the mail. These envelopes may be returned in the mail or in the collection basket at Mass. Your generosity supports the retired from all 5 counties of our Diocese!



O, Come,  
All Ye Faithful to  
*'It's Almost Christmas'*  
at Cathedral

**Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena**  
18<sup>th</sup> & Turner Streets, Allentown ~ 610-433-6461  
**Sat & Sun, December 3 & 4 ~ Bazaar**  
**Sunday: 2:15 Music & 3 PM Concert**

**Sat, 10 AM–6 PM & Sun, 8:30 AM – 1 PM (Walson Center)**

**Theme Baskets ~ Cookies by Pound ~ Craft Tables**  
**Fruit & Nut Rolls ~ Stocking Stuffers ~ Refreshments**  
**S'mores & Doggie Roast (Sat. only) ~ 50/50 Raffle**  
**Children's Activities ~ Strolling Carolers**

**Sunday (Church): 2:15 PM Musical Selections &**  
**3 PM Cathedral Choirs Concert**

**Following Concert (in Walson Center):**

**Theme Baskets ~ 50/50 Tickets ~ Stocking Stuffers ~**  
**Cookies & Fruit & Nut Rolls (If available)**  
**Wine Tasting & Coffee Bar (21 yrs & older)**

*Proceeds benefit Cathedral Capital Improvements Fund*

# St. Mary's

## CHRISTMAS

# BINGO

**\$\$\$ Jackpot**

ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER  
SECOND & UNION STREETS, CATASAUQUA  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 @ 1:00 PM**

*Back Again by Popular Request*

- \$15 for 15 games, 6 Specials AND a Special Jackpot Game
- Doors & Kitchen open at 11:30 (please no outside food or beverages.)
- Seating is First Come - First Serve.
- Bring your daubers ☺ No hardboards.
- Additional game sheets available to purchase.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Cash \*  
\* Prizes \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Bingo License #0074-22



**For more information call:**  
**610.264.0332 or email: kim.stmarys122@gmail.com**

Mass of Remembrance

St. Ann's church in Emmaus invites you to attend its annual Holiday Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the church. Join us to celebrate the lives of your departed loved ones during the busy holiday season. All are invited to honor your deceased beloved in prayer, with their name/s read during the mass and included in our parish Remembrance Book. Enrollment of names may be done through the parish website: [www.churchstann.org](http://www.churchstann.org). For further information, please contact Mary Helen at 610-462-4551.

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup>, please join us at a Prayer Pilgrimage for the unborn and all those involved in abortion. The pilgrimage begins with Mass at 8 am at Notre Dame Church, 1861 Catasauqua Rd., Bethlehem and continues with The Rosary at the Allentown Women's Center located at 31 S. Commerce Way, Bethlehem Industrial Park. The Mission is that through prayer, peaceful presence, and fasting we may be God's instruments in the salvation of souls, so that innocent lives will be saved from abortion. Be part of the call to bring God's everlasting, unconditional love to those involved in abortion so that their hearts may be converted and receive God's gift of life with joy.

PRAYER TO ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY



Dear Saint Elizabeth, you were always poor in spirit, most generous toward the poor, faithful to your husband, and fully consecrated to your Divine Bridegroom. Grant your help to widows and keep them faithful to their heavenly Lord. Teach them how to cope with their loss and to make use of their time in the service of God. Teach us to remain worthy of God's love and mercy, through Jesus our Lord. Amen