

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 5th - 3:30 p.m. - Mary Guzowski Leonardo
Sunday, December 6th - 10:30 a.m. - Dorothy Kosikowski
Tuesday, December 8th - 8:00 - Catherine Pieja Cirulli

Pan z Wami - We will have fifteen copies available to purchase for \$10.00 each. With Covid restrictions there will be no copies in pews. This would be your personal copy. If you would like to reserve a copy please call Diane at the Parish Center 610-779-4005.

The Commemorating St. Mary's Roman Catholic Parish, Reading, Pa, 1888 - 2016 will be on sale on Saturdays, after the 3:30 Mass, and on Sundays, after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Community Room under the Church - access from the side parking lot. The price of the book is \$15.90 which includes the sales tax. Cash and checks only; no credit or debit cards.

Confessions will resume to the normal time starting the first weekend of Advent. Saint Mary's will be held on Saturdays from 2:45 p.m. till 3:15 p.m. in the Church.

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - TUESDAY, DECEMBER
8TH
ST. MARY'S - 8:00 A.M.-CHURCH**

For more Masses see Saint Catharine's schedule.

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE FEAST OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION 6 P.M. -
SAINT CATHARINE'S CHURCH**

**FEAST DAY -TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH
6:30 A.M. & 8:30 A.M. -CHURCH
9:30 A.M. - SCHOOL MASS - CHAPEL
ST. MARY'S - 8:00 A.M.-CHURCH**

7:00 P.M.- CHURCH



The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a take-out holiday crab cake meal on Saturday December 5, 2020.

Pre-order and pick-up only. Meals will be prepacked. Pick-up will be in the Social Hall from 4:30PM-6PM. Pay at time of pick-up. \$12 per meal includes (2) crab cakes, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, tartar and cocktail sauce. Orders must be placed by Sunday November 29, 2020. To place your order, contact Fred Nowotarski, Grand Knight at 516.509.0190 or fjnjr19@gmail.com



WINTER IS COMING! St. Vincent de Paul will again be collecting and distributing items to the children of Reading. Please place new or gently used clean hats, mittens, scarves, and boots in marked bins in the gathering areas in the Church. We will collect November 28 - February 28.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7: God is our Father. We are sinful, and you, O God, are hidden from our eyes. We are the work of your hands.

1 Cor 1:3-9: Jesus gives us faith and the strength to persevere. God calls His followers into the fellowship of Christ.

Mk 13:33-37: Be on guard always. We do not know what time or hour God will come.

Today's Message: Lord, rend the heavens and come down. Come and save us from our sins. Let us turn again to you and so be found blameless when you return in glory.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

PREP LEVEL 7 – 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Social Hall

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

GRIEF SHARE – 7 p.m. – Parish Center

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

RCIA - 6 p.m. – Parish Center Basement

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

AHG 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. - Social Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

KOC CRAB CAKE DINNER – TAKE OUT ONLY – 4:30 – 6 p.m. – Social Hall

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

PREP LEVEL – 7 – 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. - Social Hall

CUB SCOUTS – 5 p.m. - Social Hall



**BOY SCOUT
ANNUAL NEW &
USED TOY
DRIVE:** Boy Scout
Troop 358 will be
collecting new
and used toys on
December 5th and

6th. We are looking for new or used toys that are clean, have all or most of their parts and in good condition. No stuffed animals please. The scouts will be packing up the toys to be delivered to local children in need. There will be a toy collection box at the entrance. **Thank you in advance for your generosity.**

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

6:30 Charles W. Youse

8:30 Albert Gombar

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

6:30 Albert Lellig

8:30 Diane Cerra

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2

6:30 Jennie Viggiano

8:30 Charles J. Chiarelli (33rd Anniversary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:30 Genevieve Soja

8:30 Mary Orsulak

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

6:30 John Morelli

8:30 Anthony Myers

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:30 Max Curtin

4:30 Chester & Dorothy Sychterz

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:30 Owen A. Holbrook

9:00 Catalina & Harley Hayward

10:30 Richard Schrantz

12:00 Richard Heins (7th Anniversary)

Readings for the Week of November 29, 2020

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

Monday

Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Saturday

Sunday

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85: 9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8-

**Giving gift cards this Christmas?
Spread the cheer by purchasing them
through our SCRIP Program which
benefits our school & parish!**

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 11/30	Rev. Mark R. Searles
Tuesday 12/1	Rev. Adam C. Sedar
Wednesday 12/2	Rev. William N. Seifert
Thursday 12/3	Rev. Thomas G. Shanfelt
Friday 12/4	Rev. Barnabas Shayo, A.J.
Saturday 12/5	Rev. Joseph A. Sheehan
Sunday 12/6	Rev. Msgr. Joseph P.T. Smith



Anyone wishing to receive Gluten Free Hosts should go to the Celebrant's communion line and indicate to him that you need a Gluten Free Host.

OFFICE NOTES: Please help us to keep your records updated by calling the parish office with any changes in your marital or family status, change of address or phone, etc. This is more than a one step process and we want to do everything possible to make sure your records are kept accurate. Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. Please email dsitler@comcast.net with any changes or call Diane at 610-779-4005.

STABON MANOR is a local Personal Care Home located in the City of Reading. They are a Social Security building that houses 150 low income residents with healthcare issues. We are reaching out to local business and churches looking for donations of food, candy, personal hygiene products, clothing, sleepwear, slippers or anything you believe our residents would enjoy. We are asking for help to give our residents the best holiday season. We would ask that any perishable donations would be made as close to December 24 as possible. Please call 610-373-2272 during the hours of Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Church Store remains closed due to diocesan guidelines regarding the COVID situation. As a result, we have the **2021 Sunday Missals and Christmas Wafers (Oplatki)** available at the Parish Center. Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors can pick up their Missals in the Priests' Sacristy at the Church.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING . . . memory writes on every page of the calendar. A support group offering caring presence, strength, and wisdom meets two Mondays a month at St. Catharine's of Siena Church, Mt. Penn 19606, at 7 PM. To register call 610 370-1174.

HELP SUPPORT EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY by donating hygiene products (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant etc.) This collection will be on an ongoing basis. A collection bin will be located in the back of the Church. INFO: Phil or Bonnie 610-779-6045.

Ossa's Corner



Ossa is hiding from the camera and she is on the lookout for squirrels !



Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

a time to be born... Recently Baptized:

Karin Acuna, Anthony Antonucci, Marie Bassler, Becky Batastini, Melody Bechtel, Anthony Blass, Paul A. Bomba, Michele Boucher, Kathy Brendlinger, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Marvin Bush, Nancy Cassidy, Della Chmielewski, Larry Curtin, Charles DeNaples, Arthur Dietrich Jr., Roseanne Dougherty, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Geraldine Gamby, Randy Gensemer, Ken Green, Christine Gubernot, David J. Gulati II, Roberta Hedl, Wayne Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Brian Heim, Patricia Herber, Michael Hivner, Winnie Kerns, Mary Kolakowski, Rosemarie Kovacs, David A. Lellig, David C. Lellig, Alma Lonergan, Daniel Lonergan, Charles Loose, Charles E. Mathews, Daniel Matz, Richard Matz, Cindy McConnell, Jacob McCue, Jr., Mary Rita McFadden, John Mercadante Jr., Kathy Mills, Cathy Motznik, Charles Mountz, Ruth Mountz, Bill Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Stella Pingitore, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Angelo Porcaro, Michael Poserina, Sharon Prechtel, Lorraine Ransom, David Samsel, Anne Schaeffer, Barry Scheirer, Gloria Schmeck, Greg Schwartz, Vincent Skimski, Tyler Skoczen, Margaret Smith, Harv Snyder, Veronica Stoss, Andy Strangarity, Kim Trois, Alan Wachowicz, Aiden Watkins, Frank White, Sylvia Willey, Leo Woelkers, Bernette Wrobel, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zimmerman. **A time to die: & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11**

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.

Berks Catholic News:

Registration is open for the 2021-2022 School Year!

Please contact Nicky Smith for information on how to **Be A Saint** and how Berks Catholic prepares young men and women to **Be College and Life Ready**. All inquiries are confidential. nsmith@berkscatholic.org or 60.374.8361 ext. 244

Berks Catholic Christmas Vespers

Berks Catholic High School invites you to celebrate the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ with our **Virtual Christmas Vesper Prayer Service** on Sunday, December 20, 2020 at 4:00 P.M. at Sacred Heart Church, West Reading. The Virtual broadcast will be launched live through YouTube at 4pm on December 20, 2020.

Employment Opportunity

Berks Catholic High School has an opening for a part time maintenance person. Please email aeinolf@berkscatholic.org for more information

***We pray for the Gift of Peace** in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Captain Steffen E. Lis, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Lance Corporal Connor A. Soja, Corporal Kadan C. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Sgt. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Staff Sgt. Timothy Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net. Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.*



Gift of Life Collection

Christmas serves as a wonderful reminder of the precious gift of all life. During the weekend of December 5th and 6th, the Saint Vincent DePaul Society will be collecting items to support the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program ran by Catholic Charities. We hope that you will consider supporting this work by donating a gift. Specific items needed include diapers, wipes, new clothing, towels, blankets, and gift cards to places that sell baby items (Walmart, Target, grocery stores). Gifts can be placed in the Gift of Life Collection box in the vestibule. Monetary donations will also be accepted and can be placed in the poor box in an envelope marked "Gift of Life Collection." Checks should be made payable to Saint Vincent De Paul Society. Thank you for supporting new life during this Advent season.

50+ CLUB NEWS

Please call **Carol Buddell**, President of the 50+ Club at **610-401-0600** with any questions or concerns. You can see us on **Facebook** for additional information.

MEETINGS

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, I AM VERY SORRY TO SAY, WE WILL BE CANCELLING ALL MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2020.

Hope everyone has a **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**, please stay safe.

The **dues** paid by members in 2020 will carry over to **2021**. Hopefully we will be able to resume our meeting in February of 2021.

We hope all of our members and families are staying safe & that we will see each other in the near future.

Any **MEMBERS** who have saved **Redner's tapes** for the club, would you please mail them to:
Trudy Oliver – 886 Fernleigh Place, Reading, PA 19606

2020 TRIPS

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we will be cancelling ALL of the scheduled trips for 2020.

CONTACT: **Pat White 610-582-1437** for any information concerning the trips.

Please call **Rosalie Snyder at 610-779-6562** with the name of members who are sick or have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are **NORMALLY** held at **1:00 P.M.** on the first Wednesday of every month at **St. Catharine's Social Hall at 4975 Boyertown Pike, Rt. 562, Reading, PA.**

Financial Stewardship

October 18, 2020

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 17,398	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 288,574	\$ 374,736
Year to date deficit	\$ 86,162	
Last Year	\$ 19,691	

October 25, 2020

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 18,181	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 306,755	\$ 398,157
Year to date deficit	\$ 91,402	
Last Year	\$ 19,572	

November 1, 2020

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 18,479	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 325,234	\$ 421,578
Year to date deficit	\$ 96,344	
Last Year	\$ 22,164	

November 8, 2020

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 18,539	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 343,773	\$ 444,999
Year to date deficit	\$ 101,226	
Last Year	\$ 19,253	

LETTER FROM MSGR. JOSEPH SMITH:

Dear Parishioners:

During the pandemic, I decided to write and publish a hardbound book entitled "Stories of My Life." Some are biographical, some funny, some scary, some inspiring, all of them interesting and true. Originally, I intended the book for family and close friends. As it began to take shape, I decided to offer it as a fundraiser to St. Joseph's Parish and to St. Catharine's Parish, Reading. I have served these parishes for a total of fifty years. I will pay the entire cost of publishing and printing the books. For those who would like to order a copy of the book (**the cost is \$20.00**), please put your name, address and phone number & check (**payable to Saint Catharine's**) in an envelope and mark it: **"For Msgr. Smith's Book,"** and place it in the collection or mail it to St. Catharine's Parish Center. Your timely return of your order will let me know how many books to have printed.

Msgr. Joseph Smith

(We will put a notice in the bulletin when your book is ready for pick-up.)