

### Saint Mary's Masses

Saturday, December 6th - 3:30 p.m. - Dorothy Zielinski

Sunday, December 7th - 10:30 a.m. - Catherine Pieja-Cirulli

Monday, December 8th - 8:00 a.m. - Homebound Parishioners

Saturday, December 13th - 3:30 p.m. - Chester Chelstowski, (10th Anniversary)

Sunday, December 14th - 10:30 a.m. - Henry & Barbara Lapa (50th Wedding Anniversary)

We will be decorating St. Mary's on December 17, 2025 starting at 9:30 am. This will include the placement of the poinsettias.

*Congratulations to Henry and Barbara Lapa who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary next weekend. May they be blessed with many more years together!*

### From Fr. Miller

Plenty of opportunities for prayer and reflection during the season of Advent in preparation for Christmas. Please consider making the 40 hours celebration a priority for the celebration of the founding of our parish on December 16th. Do not forget to prepare for Christmas by taking advantage of the additional confession times.

Please come each night to celebrate 40 Hours in thanksgiving for the parish's 100th anniversary. The dates are December 14th, 15th, and 16th with the 16th being the 100th anniversary of the parish. There will be adoration each day, Sunday Dec. 14th from 12:30pm to 7pm and Monday and Tuesday Dec. 15-16th from 8am to 7pm. **Each night there will be Vespers and Benediction at 7pm with Fr. Pat Lamb the guest homilists on Sunday Dec. 14th, Fr. Matthew Kuna on Monday Dec. 15th, and Msgr. Edward Domin on Tuesday Dec. 16th.**

We will continue with evening daily Masses during the season of Advent. It will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays starting on Dec. 2nd and ending on Dec. 18th. The time will be at 6:30pm. **Wednesday Dec. 3rd will be a special teaching Mass on Dec. 3rd by Fr. Miller.**

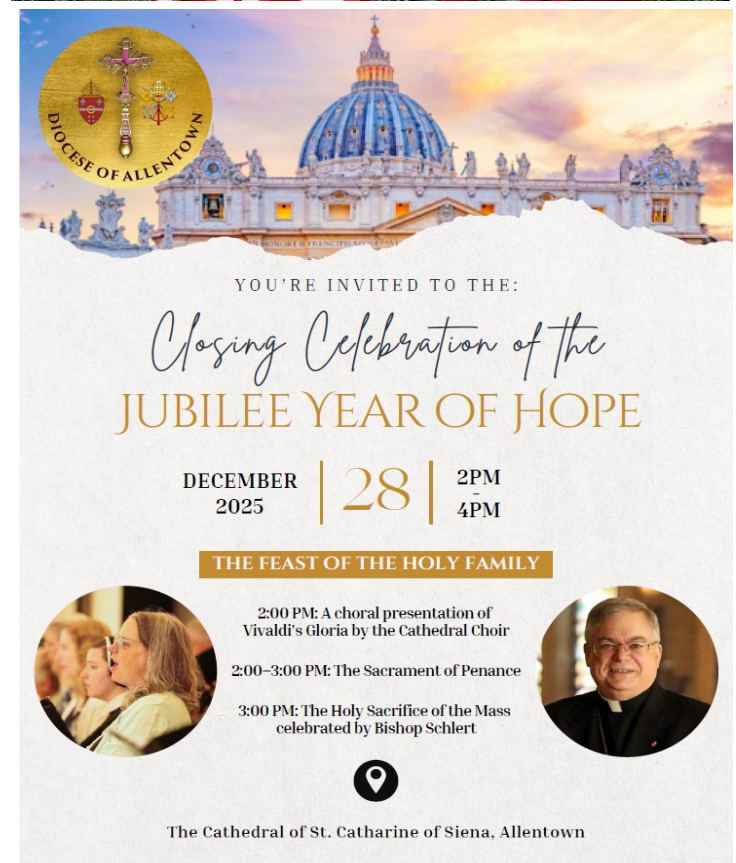
Finally, additional Advent confessions will be available. For the 4 Sunday's in Advent (Nov. 30th, Dec. 7th, Dec. 14th, and Dec 21st) there will be confessions available 30 minutes before the Sunday Masses. As well as penance services hosted by 3 parishes in Berks County. St. Ignatius will be Thursday Dec. 18th, Holy Guardian Angel will be on Sunday Dec. 21st and **St. Catharine's will be on Monday Dec. 22nd.** All begin at 7pm.



2025  
Christmas Mass  
Schedule

St. Catharine's  
Christmas Eve:  
4 pm, 7 pm, 10 pm  
Christmas Day:  
8 am & 10 am

St. Mary's  
Christmas Eve:  
9 pm  
Christmas Day:  
9 am



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE:  
*Closing Celebration of the*  
**JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE**

DECEMBER 2025 | 28 | 2PM - 4PM

**THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

2:00 PM: A choral presentation of Vivaldi's Gloria by the Cathedral Choir  
2:00-3:00 PM: The Sacrament of Penance  
3:00 PM: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert

The Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Is 11:1-10:** Jesse, the father of David, is the ancestor of the Messiah. All nations will turn to him.

**Rom 15:4-9:** Remember that the Scriptures are written for our instruction. In Christ, the promise of Scripture is fulfilled.

**Mt 3:1-12:** John the Baptist calls the people to prepare for the Messiah. He urges a change in lifestyle and calls for repentance.

**Today's Message:** Reform your lives: live in God's peace so that justice may flourish.

### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9:30 a.m. – Meeting Room  
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA following the 7:30 & 9:30 Masses – Social Hall

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room  
WOMENS' ADVENT REFLECTION – 4:30 -8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass until 6:00 p.m.

CUB SCOUTS - 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. – Social Hall  
LIFE AFTER LOSS – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 6:30 p.m. – Meeting Room

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

ROSARY/DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET– 7:00 p.m.- Social Hall  
PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. - School

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.  
OCIA – 5:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. – Church

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP -6:30-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Church  
BAPTISMAL WORKSHOP – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room  
MILLIONS OF MONICAS – 10:15 – 11:15 a.m. - Church

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9:30 a.m. – Meeting Room  
YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room  
FORTY HOURS – 7:00 p.m. - Church

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:00 Owen A. Holbrook  
4:30 Richard Heins (6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:30 Edward Powers  
9:30 Chester & Dorothy Sychertz  
11:30 Alberto & Beatriz Acuna

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

7:15 Marie P. Bassler  
6:30 pm Joyce Gavaletz

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:15 Frank Marabella  
6:30 pm Mary & Barry Scheirer

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:15 Intentions of Julia Nowak  
6:30pm William McKendry

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:15 Carl & Marie Heine  
6:30 pm Baby Eli

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:15 Jesse & Mary Arnold

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00 Anna Sajdak  
4:30 Nancy Fries

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:30 Benedito Salkowski  
9:30 Jeffrey Kolb  
11:30 Steve Bibbo

### Scripture Readings

#### For the Week of December 7, 2025

##### Sunday

##### Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rm 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

##### Monday

##### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gen 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

##### Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14

##### Wednesday

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

##### Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

##### Friday

Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

##### Saturday

##### Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

##### Sunday

##### Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**Parish Nurse News** - Inflammation plays a role in cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, depression. Plan healthy holiday meals with fresh fruits and vegetables, nuts, seeds, lean protein, fatty fish, whole grains, and healthy oils that fight inflammation! Limit or avoid fried foods, processed meats, and sugary snacks and drinks that cause inflammation (health>clevelandclinic.org.>anti-inflammatory>diet. Sept.2025)



For the week of December 7th  
The Sanctuary Candle  
will burn In  
Loving Memory of

**St. Catharine's Church** - Deceased Members of the Nicholas Family

**St. Mary's** - Catherine Pieja- Cirulli



### PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/8	Rev. Leon Weisenberger, M.S.C.
Tuesday 12/9	Rev. Samuel Yeboah
Wednesday 12/10	Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Yenushosky
Thursday 12/11	Rev. Msgr. Vincent P. York
Friday 12/12	Rev. Christopher M. Zelonis
Saturday 12/13	Rev. Msgr. Edward S. Zemanik

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Due to the Holidays, all information for the bulletin must be received in our office as follows: **December 21st, 28th and January 4th by Friday, December 12th by noon.** *Information for the bulletin can be emailed to [dsitler@comcast.net](mailto:dsitler@comcast.net).*

Berks & Lehigh County Chapter - If you are underemployed or unemployed or know someone who is, let Joseph's People help! Join us on Zoom on Tuesday, Dec. 9th at 6 pm. Our topic will be "Holiday Job Search." We have helped thousands of people over the years and there is never a fee for our services. Email Paul Licata for more info at [pauljosephlicata@gmail.com](mailto:pauljosephlicata@gmail.com).  
[www.josephspeople.org](http://www.josephspeople.org)

**CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI):** available at the parish office throughout the week. The wafers are broken and shared on Christmas Eve at the family meal.

**The Siena Stitchers will be displaying handmade articles for sale at the Church. All proceeds will go to the Saint Vincent De Paul Society.**

**DID YOU KNOW?** - Through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Pennsylvania Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), businesses and individuals can lower their tax bills by donating to private schools, scholarship organizations, pre-K programs, and other educational enrichment initiatives. The bulk of the tax credits — \$110 million per year — are reserved for donors that give to scholarship organizations, which provide financial aid to children attending K-12 private schools. The program also sets aside a small amount of tax credits for donors that give to pre-k scholarship funds. At Saint Catharine of Siena School, our EITC and OSTC program plays an essential role in the school's financial strategy as well as the fulfillment of our mission. Saint Catharine of Siena School is seeking donors to participate in the EITC/OSTC program to alleviate the burden of financial aid on our operating budget AND to give as many children access to a Catholic, Saint Catharine of Siena education as possible. If you are interested in learning more about this tax credit scholarship program, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Conlon, SCS Advancement Director @ 610-779-5810.

A sincere "Thank You" to all of our loyal sponsors, who year after year, continue to support our parish bulletin. Please say "Thanks" to all our sponsors for their generous support and mention their ad when doing business with them.



**THE SCS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE HOSTING**



**ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th (at the SCS SOCIAL HALL)**

Visits with Santa and Breakfast will begin following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude at 11:30 AM

*Santa will have a small gift bag for each child visiting with him*

**BREAKFAST MENU:** Scrambled Egg Casseroles (Plain Egg, Ham & Cheese, and Western Style)  
Creamed Chipped Beef Bacon Sausage French Toast  
Home Fries Toast Coffee Milk Juice



*The SCS Knights thank you all for your support through the year and wish you and your families all the blessings of this joyous Christmas Season!*



**A parishioner at Our Mother of Perpetual Help parish in Ephrata, PA is asking for prayers** and the help of a truly generous individual. Jody is in need of a living donor kidney transplant. Due to a genetic condition, both her kidneys are slowly failing. If you would like to learn more about the disease or the donation process, please contact her at: [kidneyforjody@gmail.com](mailto:kidneyforjody@gmail.com).

**We invite the wonderful community of St. Catharine of Siena Parish to join us in a meaningful initiative by collecting soda tabs.** Together, we can make a significant impact by gathering a large number of tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central PA. Your participation not only supports a worthy cause but also strengthens our community spirit. Let's come together to make a difference! Thank you for your generous support!

**Christmas Vespers - Berks Catholic High School invites you to celebrate the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ with our Christmas Vesper Prayer Service on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 3:00 P.M. at Sacred Heart Church, West Reading. Admission is free and open to the public.**

Formed is a Catholic online streaming service that provides movies, books, educational materials, documentaries, daily reflections, seasonal programs, lives of the saints, and so much more; all at no cost to our parishioners. It is an amazing resource for our children, teens and adults. Use the links below to signup/view content. [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) [formed.org](http://formed.org)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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: **Gabriel Gaskill**

**Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way:** Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, Carl Andrzejewski, Anthony Antonucci, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe & Patty Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene & Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Susan Bolognese, Jim Boris, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Maria Bunch, Connie Burkhart, Jennifer Burrell, Marvin Bush, John Callaghan, Pauline Cappel, Jordan Cassidy, Richard Cunnius, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Alivia Devlin, Jennifer & Thomas Devlin, George Dietrich, **Msgr. Edward R. Domin**, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Ann Entzinger, Marian Ertel, Joe Essig, Robert Flipping, Deane & Ann Foster, Jocelyn Franek, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Dave Garman, Charles Gierschick, Todd Gladfelter, Theresa Grabowski, Joe Grippe, David J. Gubernot, Clara Hartline, Marie Hartranft, Terry Hayward, William M. Hedl, Wayne & Mary Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Curtis S. Hill, Jesse Hill, Roger Hilton, Michael Hivner, Margaret Iuso, Michael & Dorothy Jurasinski, Katelynn Solecki Kajunski, Lesley Kaminski, Krissy Kelly, Maryanne Kenton, Mary Klick, Cindy Kohl, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, Genny Kopel, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Stanley Kuter, Walter LaSota, Paul Lepore, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Pat & Fred Lenich, Ann Lewandowski, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Peter Manolakis, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinozzi, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, Christine Motley, Madeline Mullen, William Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Luis Osorio, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, David Plumley, Chuck Rackie, Antonio Mark Ramos, Lorraine Ransom, Phyliss Rathman, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, Dave Robertshaw, Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Bill Schlosser, Barbara Schock, Edward Senkowski, Mark Serino, Bob Shardin, Earl Sheetz, Gabbie Sierra, Shaun Sisk, Joan Skoczen, Anne Smith, Patricia Soto, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, **Father Leo Stajkowski**, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, Thomas Sword, Sean Tipping, Kimberly Trigstead, Tom Testa, Richard Uliasz, Janet Ustaszewski, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, John Vogel, Alexandra Wachowicz, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Lyn Weidenhammer, Frank White, Walter Yourkavitch, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zerkowski, Dan Zielinski, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman  
**A Time to die:** Patricia Hill, (mother of Kim Kostival) Pat Wertz, (mother of Marci Zambito, Mike & Jeffrey Wertz, grandmother of Colin & Drew Wertz & Hailey & Kevin Zambito); William McGuire; Terese Truninger, (mother of Mary Jo Griffith); Joyce Abramowicz, (mother of Mark Abramowicz) & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11

*We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: First Lt. David J. Wentling, IV, Second Lt. Nicholas A. Wentling, Cpts. Juliana & Sean Coleman, Petty Officer Matthew J. Dobroskey, Jr., Cpl. Bruce Bogertey, SPC, Alex Heintz, Captain Chelsea Pellicano, LT. Nicholas Tomczyk, Captain Steffan Lis, MD, SPC, Dylan Einfalt, Airman 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, TSgt. 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., 2nd Lt. Jorge Taveras, please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to [dsitler@comcast.net](mailto:dsitler@comcast.net).*



### MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH SAINT CATHARINE'S CHURCH

7:15 A.M.  
6:30 P.M.

**ST. MARY'S - 8:00 a.m.**

# Hallow

## TIPS and TRICKS

*Daily Quote:* Hallow has a Daily Quote near the top on the Home screen. Advent is the perfect season to share prayer with others, so at the bottom of the Quote there is a button to "share quote". Send the quote to family and friends to inspire them to join you in prayer. You can text it, send through WhatsApp or Messenger, post it on Facebook, or copy the link to send it. In addition to finding the Quote on the Home screen, you can go to the Me tab, the settings wheel top right, general, notification settings, and Hallow will send you the Daily Quote so you see it daily as a reminder to pray. We look forward to praying with you this Advent!!!





Congratulations to Joe and Debbie Kastenmaier who will celebrate their 30th Wedding Anniversary this weekend. May they be blessed with many more years together!

### 50 Plus News

Please call, President Bev Gallo for any 50 Plus Club inquiries. Her phone number is 610-763-7058. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.

### Meetings

January 7, 2026: Bev Bard, the club's new trip coordinator, will discuss trips for 2026! Bev Bard's phone number is 610-763-5654.

### Trips

An early preview of the August 12-14, 2026 trip: Ohio Island Hoppin, featuring Kelly's Island and Put-in-Bay! More information will be coming!

Please call Maria Bunch at 610-914-7005 with the names of members who are sick or who have died. We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 PM on the first Wednesday of most months at St Catharine Social Hall. There will be no meetings during the special events months of April, August, and December.



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