

December 13, 2020  
Third Sunday of Advent



Rose colored vestments and candle on the Advent wreath indicate we are celebrating the Third Sunday of Advent. We rejoice for we are drawing closer to the coming of Christ in mystery.

The words of Isaiah the Prophet were addressed to Israel when they returned to their own land after being delivered from their exile in Babylon. They find their home, their Temple Jerusalem in ruins. They are discouraged, disappointed. But the Lord, through the prophet tells them to rejoice. He will bless them and be with them. These words of Isaiah were quoted by Jesus in His first sermon in the synagogue as He began His ministry. These words are still spoken to us to give us joy and hope that our beloved Savior is indeed coming to us.

**PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE**

<https://www.sainthelenas.org>

**Coronavirus News Important Update!**

**Friday Reflections with Msgr. Russell**

Friday Reflections is a weekly check-in video with Msgr. Russell. Please visit our [YouTube Channel](#) to watch this week's video, and be sure to SUBSCRIBE to our channel. You can even arrange for YouTube to let you know every time we add a new video!

**Reminder!** We'll be broadcasting Mass on YouTube afterward for you to watch.

**Can You Help?**

We are in desperate need of more folks who are willing to read the sacred scriptures at Mass. A number of our lectors feel they cannot continue to serve our community because of age and infirmities. If you are willing to prepare for this ministry, please call Msgr. Russell 302-764-0325 ext 108

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS**

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others – educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection or via online giving. Thank You!

**We really do not know what to expect at Christmas.** But to be sure folks who want to participate in the **5pm Christmas Eve Mass**, will be able to, we are having tickets made available for that Mass.

If you wish to attend the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass, please call the Rectory or rear of church to pick up your tickets. We encourage all who wish to avoid a crowd, please attend the Midnight Mass or one of the Christmas morning Masses (7, 9 or 11am) (We may have an additional 5pm Mass in the school hall). The state has approved us to have to up 30% of Fire Marshall Capacity.

**Why are church windows open in December?**

Because the experts tell us the more fresh air we can have in church, the better it is for us in this time of the pandemic. Please be patient! If you do not want to be near a window, we suggest moving in the pews toward the center of the church. Thank You!



## WEEKLY CALENDAR



**Sunday, December 13 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Religious Retirement**

12:15pm Confirmation -Candidate & Sponsor  
Mtg-Masci Hall

**Monday, December 14**

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Zoom

**Thursday, December 17**

Bingo-Suspended due to updated DE State mandates.

**Sunday, December 20 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Christmas Flowers**

7:00pm Youth Group-Rectory

**Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners**

Ruth Bower, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Anita Tyranski, Mary Gabel, Alline Da Grossa, Toni Di Lezio, Sister Dorothy Prettyman, Janet Szubieolski, Catalina Weddle, Ray Altamuro, Marie Spinden, Jane Parsons, Francis Medeiros, Friends at the Kutz Home Nicolas Childs, Alfred Palmer, Bridget Robinson, Fr. Charles Dillingham, Tony Cutrona, Sande Richardson, Geri Crockett, Jim Fedena, Sr, Carly Fedena, Susan Watkins, Judy Wilbank, Joan Morgan, Edwin Blevins, Anna Mae Shewbrooks



**The Offertory Collection** for the weekend of 11/29 was \$4,018.00 and the on-line collection was \$1,852.00 for a total of \$5,870.00. Thank You!

### **Christmas Mass Schedule**

*Christmas Eve-5pm, 7:30pm, & Midnight*

*Christmas Day- 7am, 9am & 11am.*

**Schedule of Masses for New Year's Day**

*Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm*

*Friday, January 1, 2021 at 9am & 11:00am*

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, Dec 12**

5:00pm (SR) John O'Connor Sr.,  
Patricia DeCusatis

**Sunday, Dec 13**

7:00am (SR) People of the Parish

9:00am (EF) Anthony Louis Grandizio

11:00am (SR) Jane Verbanc

**Monday, Dec 14**

9:00am (SR) Fredrick J. Konitzer

**Tuesday, Dec 15**

7:00am (EF) William & Eloise Hart

9:00am (SR) Betty O'Connor

**Wednesday, Dec 16**

9:00am (SR) Richard Harris

**Thursday, Dec 17**

7:00am(SR) Ann Boyer Autorino

9:00am (EF) Linda Fedena

**Friday, Dec 18**

7:00am(EF) Jim Fedena, Sr. (Living)

9:00am (SR) Ruth Fedena (Anniversary)

**Saturday, Dec 19**

9:00am (SR) Catherine Deeney

5:00pm (SR) John A. Krupa (17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**Sunday, Dec 20**

7:00am (EF) Jane Steele

9:00am (SR) Dorothy Moore

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ALL SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADERS are to come to class in Masci Hall tomorrow (MONDAY) night. All other grades will be doing a chapter in your books at home. When reporting to Masci hall, please safely distance yourselves as you wait for your temperature check. Masks required.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS** for CANDIDATES and SPONSORS (or a parent if sponsor has not yet been chosen) meets TODAY (Sunday) in Masci Hall at 12:15 pm. Please space yourselves out when you come to Masci Hall so you are safely distanced. Masks required.

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

### **The Dignity of Work and The Rights of Workers**

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected – the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

### **17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS NATIVITY DISPLAY**

*Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>- Noon to 6pm*

*Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>-11am to 5pm*

At the historic Church of the Ascension, located in Claymont at 3717 Philadelphia Pike, near the entrance of I-495. Features more than 100 Nativities, from many countries and cultures, created from the materials available and reflecting the traditions of Christian faiths around the world. Plan to make time for this very special exhibit and enjoy beautiful Christmas music while you unwind for a while, away from the stress of the holidays.

### **Knights of Columbus - Christopher Council**

Support Christopher Council's charitable good works by purchasing homemade soup.

Soups are frozen and can be delivered or picked up. Because of COVID restrictions, orders must be placed in advance using

<https://2020soup-christopher-council-3182.cheddarup.com>

You may pay by credit card when you place your order or by check/cash at pickup/delivery.

Available flavors are listed on ordering website. Thank you for all you do to support Christopher Council fundraising; it helps us, Holy Rosary, and our community.



Stained Glass Window, Cathedral of St. Peter  
Wilmington, Delaware

### **Christmas Fact:**

THE MOST OBVIOUS SYMBOL OF CHRISTMAS ARE LIGHTS – CHRISTMAS CANDLES, WINDOW LIGHTS, LUMINARIES, LIGHTS ON THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRISTMAS TREE.

ALL SIGNIFYING THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

Merry Christmas from the  
Office of Communication, Diocese of Wilmington  
[www.cdow.org](http://www.cdow.org)



### PLEASE NOTE

Because we need to follow procedures to help maintain a safe situation for all:

- No one can enter the Church if you are sick or have been exposed to someone with the virus within the last 14 days. Or if you will not wear a mask.
- Every other pew will be roped off to help social distancing.
- All MUST WEAR A MASK except children under 2.
- Please use hand sanitizer.

### RETROUVAILLE

#### **Upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend...**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises.

The next program begins the weekend of February 12 - 14, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [HelpOurMarriage.org...](http://HelpOurMarriage.org...) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



**Claymont Lions Club Annual  
Christmas Tree Sale**

**Claymont Fire Company  
Sub Station**

**Corner of Marsh Rd (Rt 3) and Naamans Rd  
(Rt 92.)**

**November 27 Until Sold Out**

**Monday-Friday 3 to 8pm**

**Saturday & Sunday 9am to 8pm**

**All Proceeds Benefit the Community**



**CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!**

**Book fundraiser for the Little Sisters of the  
Poor through December 21st.**

Two Catholic novels, Jubal's Christmas Gift and The Treasure of Nonsense Woods by Dennis D. Skirvin, are on sale at Angel Crossing Catholic Books and Gift Store, 550 Colonial Ave, Elsmere and online at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).

All 2020 profit benefits the Little Sisters' Jeanne Jugan Residence, Newark. For more information, visit [www.dennis-skirvin.com](http://www.dennis-skirvin.com)

*"Loved it! Well crafted, and emotionally and spiritually uplifting!" ...Francis D. Vavala, Major General USA (Ret.)*

**AMAZON**

Doing your Christmas shopping on online this year? Don't forget, Amazon. They have their AmazonSmile Foundation, which donates one-half percent (0.5%) of each eligible purchase to the charity of your choice. Instead of going right to Amazon.com, just access your account through their AmazonSmile website <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0064838> and select St. Helena's Catholic Church to get the charitable donation. A great benefit to our parish! Start your Christmas; Shopping early. It's easy, simple and great speedy shipping! You can also send Amazon gift cards (via email or text) to those hard to buy for people on your list.

*Joy of Discovery*

*The joy of discovery  
that moment  
when hope and expectation  
were gloriously met  
by the illumination of one bright star.  
We cannot imagine  
what words were spoken by visitors  
or if first impressions  
left them somewhat confused.*

*Messiah, Savior, a King  
born in the barest of palaces.  
Yet they saw and fell down  
on their knees in adoration.  
Lord, they saw you and knew  
whom they had met.  
As we meet around crib  
candle or advent wreath  
draw us into that stable  
in our imagination.*

*In the quiet moments of prayer  
this Christmas, that brief oasis  
from the bustle of the world  
bring alive to us  
the smell of the hay  
the sound of the animals  
the cry of a baby.*

*Draw us close to our Savior  
Messiah and King as we bring  
not Gold, Myrrh or Frankincense  
but the gift of our lives  
the only offering we can bring.*

*Happy 3rd week of Advent!*

