

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent



The Old Testament Book of Samuel reminds us that King David (about one thousand years before Christ) decided to build a house for God- the Temple. But God told him through the prophet, Nathan, that David would not build a house for God; no, God would give David a house: a dynasty. His descendants would always be the shepherd Kings of God's People.

In the Gospel story of the Annunciation, the angel of God tells Mary that God will give her child "the throne of David his father.... and of his kingdom there will be no end." Jesus is the long awaited Messiah, "the Son of David". God keeps and more than fulfills His promises to us!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

5:00pm, 7:30pm & Midnight

Christmas Day

7:00am, 9:00am, & 11:00am



**Christmas Blessings and Best Wishes
from Monsignor Russell, Father Fahey
and the whole parish staff!**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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.

We will be live streaming on Christmas Eve the 5pm and Midnight Masses.

2021 PARISH CALENDARS

*will be available NEXT weekend
at all the exits of church.*

We ask one calendar per family. Thank you!

Schedule of Masses for New Year's Day

Thursday, December 31st at 5:00pm

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

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

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 up to 30% of Fire Marshall Capacity.

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, December 20 4th Sunday of Advent

2nd Collection: Christmas Flowers

7:00pm Youth Group-Rectory

Monday, December 21

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Zoom

Wednesday, December 23

Holiday-Rectory Closed

Thursday, December 24 Christmas Eve

Mass Times: 5pm, 7:30pm, Midnight

Holiday-Rectory Closed

Friday, December 25 Christmas Day

Mass Times: 7am, 9am and 11am

Merry Christmas-Rectory Closed

Sunday, December 27 The Holy Family

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 Schaeuber, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Anita Tyrawski, 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, Anna Mae Shewbrooks, Aliyah Miller



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Dec 19

5:00pm (SR) John A. Krupa (17th Anniversary)

Sunday, Dec 20

7:00am (EF) Jane Steele

9:00am (SR) Dorothy Moore

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish

Monday, Dec 21

9:00am (SR) Felix Giova

Tuesday, Dec 22

7:00am (EF)

9:00am (SR) Francis Fedena

Wednesday, Dec 23

9:00am (SR) William & Eloise Hart

Thursday, Dec 24

7:00am (ER)

9:00am (SR) Albert Minuti, Sr.

5:00pm (SR) People of the Parish

7:30pm (EF) People of the Parish

Midnight (SR) People of the Parish

Friday, Dec 25

7:00am (EF) People of the Parish

9:00am (SR) People of the Parish

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish

Saturday, Dec 26

9:00am (SR) Mamie Connolly

5:00pm (SR) Francis Owsiany

Sunday, Dec 27

7:00am (SR) People of the Parish

9:00am (EF) James Kelleher

11:00am (SR) Lisa Waterfield



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.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

SOLIDARITY

We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they live. We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Learning to practice the virtue of solidarity means learning that "loving our neighbor" has global dimensions in an interdependent world.

AMAZON



OH NO!!! DID YOU FORGET SOMEONE ON YOUR LIST? Amazon can help! Be sure to use 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.



Support Knights of Columbus - Christopher Council 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FIRST graders will be meeting with Ms Hummy in her office for class. ALL FIFTH GRADERS are to report to Masci Hall tomorrow (MONDAY) for class. A schedule for January will be emailed to all families by the end of the year.

YOUTH GROUP meets at 7pm in the Rectory tonight (SUNDAY) to decorate the tree! Pizza for all! Wear your masks please.

Dear Santa,

First Santa, I want to Thank you for giving me a chance to really appreciate the mundane, everyday activities that I took for granted for so many years. The "naughty virus" has made me look forward to seeing someone smile without a mask, to appreciate being able to hug and kiss my kids and grandkids, and to welcome the opportunity to be vaccinated even if it will take 2 doses! I am "over" watching Mass on Sundays from my couch and not being able to receive the Eucharist even if it is safer! I must say however, I hope Msgr's Friday Reflections continue post Covid. I guess what I truly want for Christmas is a return to normalcy! I will never take it for granted again (I promise). You can forget the gift cards and assorted gifts this year, but PLEASE watch over all the people who help to make us safe and healthy. Keep from harm my family, and all St. Helena's parishioners and their families, and bring us a springtime filled with hope, health, flowers, laughter and NO COVID!

Drive safe Santa,

Sincerely,

Hummy

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!





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.

All 2020 profit benefits the Little Sisters' Jeanne Jugan Residence, Newark. For more information, visit www.dennis-skirvin.com

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



Christmas Fact:

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS (ALSO KNOWN AS CHRISTMASTIDE) IS THE PERIOD THAT IN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY MARKS THE SPAN BETWEEN THE BIRTH OF CHRIST AND THE COMING OF THE MAGI, THE THREE WISE MEN. IT BEGINS ON DECEMBER 25 (CHRISTMAS) AND RUNS THROUGH JANUARY 6 (THE EPIPHANY, SOMETIMES ALSO CALLED THREE KINGS' DAY)

Merry Christmas from the
Office of Communication, Diocese of Wilmington
www.cdow.org



PRAYER TO JESUS IN THE MANGER

O divine redeemer Jesus Christ, prostrate before thy crib, I believe thou art the God of infinite majesty, even though I do see thee here as a helpless babe. I humbly adore and thank thee for having so humbled thyself for my salvation as to will to be born in a stable. I thank thee for all thou didst wish to suffer for me in Bethlehem, for thy poverty and humility, for thy nakedness, tears, cold and sufferings.

Would that I could show thee that tenderness which thy virgin mother had toward thee, and love thee as she did. Would that I could praise thee with the joy of the angels, that I could kneel before thee with the faith of St. Joseph, the simplicity of the shepherds. Uniting myself with these first adorers at the crib, I offer thee the homage of my heart, and I beg that thou wouldst be born spiritually in my soul. Make me reflect in some degree the virtues of thy admirable nativity. Fill me with that spirit of renunciation, of poverty, of humility, which prompted thee to assume the weakness of our nature, and to be born amid destitution and suffering. Grant that from this day forward, I may in all things seek thy greater glory, and may enjoy that peace promised to men of good will.

- Author Unknown



Merry Christmas