

December 6, 2020  
Second Sunday of Advent



**Prepare the way of the Lord! This message we hear from the Book of Isaiah and the voice of John the Baptist.** Each year we hear on this second Sunday of Advent, the figure of John, the cousin of Jesus and the last of the prophets preparing for the coming of Christ.

The words of Isaiah are the beginning of Second Isaiah, words addressed to God's people in exile in Babylon. "Comfort, give comfort to my people" were spoken to a people, crushed, enslaved in exile. This ray of hope is now given to us in our exile. In spite of all the darkness and sufferings of life, we have hope for the Lord is coming to us! Prepare his way!



**Holy Day of Obligation**

*Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of Mary The Patroness of our United States. We pray for our nation as we celebrate this feast!*  
*Masses: 7am, 9am, Noon, 7:30pm*

**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 the second collection on December 12 & 13 or via online giving.**

The Offertory Collection for the weekend 11/15 was 5,176.00 and the on-line collection was \$2,177.00 for a total of \$7,353.00.

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 11/22 was \$4,863.00 and the on-line collection was \$2,317.00 for a total of \$7,180.00. Thank You!

**PLEASE NOTE**

**Delaware State -Update Guidelines**

- **Indoor gatherings outside of homes** must be limited to 30 percent of the venue's stated fire capacity, up to a limit of 100 people. **This includes all events, such as weddings, funerals, services in houses of worship, performances, political gatherings, and events in public spaces including fire halls.**
- **Outdoor public gatherings** are limited to 50 people. Up to 250 may be allowed with a plan approved by the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH). For approval, please email a plan to [HSPContact@delaware.gov](mailto:HSPContact@delaware.gov).
- **Indoor private gatherings** should be capped at no more than 10 people.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR



### Sunday, December 6 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Maintenance & Repair**

12:00pm Baptism-Church

### Monday, December 7

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes-School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Zoom

### Tuesday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

Mass Times: 7am, 9am, Noon and 7:30pm

### Thursday, December 9

Bingo-Suspended due to updated DE State mandates until the New Year.

### 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

#### ***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 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, Edwin Blevins

#### **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.

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, Dec 5

5:00pm (SR) Joseph Bower

### Sunday, Dec 6

7:00am (EF) People of the Parish

9:00am (SR) Erin Lynch

11:00am (SR) Rosalina Menders

### Monday, Dec 7

9:00am (SR) Betty O'Connor

### Tuesday, Dec 8

7:00am (EF) Elizabeth O'Connor

9:00am (SR) Lawrence Michael O'Donnell

12:00pm (SR) Betty O'Connor

7:30pm(EF) People of the Parish

### Wednesday, Dec 9

9:00am (SR) Connor Madden

### Thursday, Dec 10

7:00am(SR) Rosario Gracias

9:00am (EF) Catherine Kozak (Anniversary)

### Friday, Dec 11

7:00am(EF) Mary Ann & Leonard Kelleher

9:00am (SR) Battista Turcol

### Saturday, Dec 12

9:00am (SR) Christine Roberts

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



## **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.

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

### **OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE**

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

### **Knights of Columbus - Christopher Council Coats of Kids Program**

This year's Coats for Kids Program was a huge success! With your help, Christopher Council better than doubled last year's number of coats distributed. Many groups benefited - children of our parishes, Spring Church, Maple Lane Elementary School, Claymont Elementary School, Austin D. Baltz Elementary School, Gauger-Cobbs Middle School, Mifflin County PA, Middle School, Ministry of Caring, and Latin American Community Center. Thank you, my fellow parishioners, Knights, family, and friends for donating coats, hats, gloves, and money during this crazy COVID year, where fundraising has been next to impossible. With your support we made a lot of children a little warmer and holidays brighter.

## 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.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Families have been sent a "revised" calendar of classes by email. Please make sure to check your "junk mail" if you do not see this important email. One class a week will be asked to come in to Masci Hall for an "in person" session. The hall is huge so the children will be very safely distanced. On weeks where children are working from home, we ask that you complete one chapter a week. **Our Advent Prayer Service** is cancelled on December 14 as well as our Mitten Tree. My hope is that in January things will look brighter and we can revisit our schedule.

My thoughts and prayers go out to all of our families and fellow parishioners as we try to navigate this virus and stay safe. Any questions please email Ms Hummy at [hpennell@sainthelenas.org](mailto:hpennell@sainthelenas.org) or call the office at 762-4280.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our First Reconciliation children for celebrating the Sacrament yesterday. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

## 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.



**2020 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**  
**WINNERS**

**\$500 Cash Prize**

**Michael A. Cuthbertson**

**Christmas Quilt**

**Sharon Dean**

**Bucket of Cheer**

**Jeannie Vannier**

**Mixer**

**Mrs. Kelleher**

**Young At Heart Basket Raffles**

**Irish ~ John Gilman**

**Money Tree ~ April Ebright**

**Wine ~ Beth Masci**

**Amish Quilt ~ Loraine Spillan**

**Eagles ~ Ed Hennessy**

**Wreath ~ Larry Carosino**

**Vera Bradley ~ Chris Brockson**

**Women's ~ Lisa Spano**

**Games~ Lisa Spano**

**Dine Around Town - Kathy Quinn**

**Phillies~ Cindy Jennings**

**Jewelry- Rosemarie Turcol**

**THANK YOU to all  
who have worked so hard  
and contributed so much to  
the success of  
our Christmas Bazaar!**

**We are also grateful  
to all who stopped by to support  
this wonderful parish event  
by shopping!**



**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.)*



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



**VICTIMS ASSISTANCE**  
**DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON**

**If you have been sexually exploited or abused** by a priest, brother, sister or lay person employed by the Diocese of Wilmington or by a church volunteer in service to a parish or school or other church organization call the **Victims Assistance Coordinator** by telephone (302)656-0651 and report the incident to the **Delaware State Attorney Generals Office** (302)577-8310