

December 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent



For 2,000 years the voice of St. John the Baptist, has echoed across the centuries. He still calls us today to prepare the way of the Lord! And Isaiah the prophet still speaks to us a message of hope. He spoke to people of his time of a new shoot coming from the roots of a tree - from the destroyed dynasty of David would come another descendant of David—a Messiah! This is the holy season of Advent - a time of waiting, preparing for the real coming of Jesus to us.

Holy Day

This year, since Dec 8th falls on Sunday, the feast has been transferred but the obligation has not been transferred. Since Our Lady under the title of Immaculate Conception is the Patroness of the United States, we hope many will want to attend mass.

*Monday, December 9th
Masses: 7am, 9am, Noon*

ADVENT PENANCE CELEBRATION



Our Parish Advent Celebration is
Wednesday, December 18th at 7:30pm

Congratulations

to Sam Czachorowski who received his Eagle Scout award in November.

COME HAVE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019

8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

Santa will join us for Breakfast from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (If we can feed the reindeer, he may be able to stay a little longer.) So, leave the cooking to us and take some time out from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas Season to join Santa, your Parish Family and Friends for a festive full Brunch Buffet including the return of Eggs Benedict and Eggnog French Toast. While you are here, visit the Attic Treasures Table; wander by our creative "Young At Heart" Club's table full of crafts, jewelry and gift items; stock up on some delicious homemade soups; and take a chance on our monthly 50-50 raffle. **\$9.00 per Adult and Children 12+ \$4.00 per Child under 12.**

See Church bulletin boards for more details.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT

The Second Collection this weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members. Many elder religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a large gap in retirement savings.

At the same time, fewer religious are able to serve in compensated ministry. Like many Americans, religious communities face the monumental challenge of funding eldercare. Please be as generous as you are able!

2019 CHRISTMAS SPECTACULA

The 2019 Christmas Spectacular will be Saturday, December 21st at 7pm. You won't want to miss this amazing event at St. Helena's Church. Over 100 performers will be coming together to celebrate the coming of Christ. The performance includes a professional orchestra, children performing in tableau, choirs from Ursuline Academy, Salesianum, and our very own choir. A free-will offering will be taken.

Used Altar Candles

We have a small supply of used short altar candles (blessed) available to anyone who would like to have them for their home. If you are interested please contact Sue Dunn 302-893-1057.

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Ruth Bower, Charles Brumbaugh, Patricia Darmanin, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Shirley Kosek, Edward Mebs, Gay Meriggi, Dora Pacitti, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, James 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, Amy Jo Schosie-Jones, Nicolas Childs



WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, December 8 2nd Sunday of Advent

2nd Collection: Religious Retirement

8:00am Second Sunday Breakfast-Masci Hall

11:00am Children's Lit/Word - Church

Monday, December 9 Immaculate Conception

Masses 7, 9 and Noon

6:00pm Youth Choir-Church

6:30pm Religious Ed Classes -School

6:30pm Adult Scripture Study-Rel. Ed. Office

6:45pm Religious Ed Advent Penance Service-Church

Tuesday, December 10

7:00pm- Finance Council-Rectory

Wednesday, December 11

No P.C. Exec Committee Mtg

Thursday, December 12

5:30pm-Bingo-Masci Hall

7:30pm- Adult Choir-Church

Saturday, December 14

12:00pm Youth Grp. - Santa's Helper- Masci Hall

Sunday, December 15 3rd Sunday of Advent

2nd Collection: Christmas Flowers

11:00am Children's Lit/Word - Church

2:00pm Christmas Gift delivery- Giving Tree

3:00pm Musical Prayer Service-Church

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



SANTA'S ELVES ARE COMING TO TOWN.....

St. Helena's Youth Group would like to watch your children for 3 long hours on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019

12 Noon - 3 PM in Masci Hall

We will have pizza for the kids and sweets too. Enjoy this opportunity to finish wrapping, baking or just TAKING A NAP. Please email Ms Hummy

at hpennell@sainthelenas.org to sign up your children. DONATIONS will be happily accepted to offset our expenses.

Religious Education Advent Penance Service is tomorrow night (Monday) in Church at 6:45 pm.

This is for all family members so please do NOT just drop off your children at Church. This is a short service but a wonderful way for our parishioners to come together to thank God for all the gifts we have received. Classes are asked to bring the designated food item with them on Monday so we can help re-stock the Outreach Food Closet for those less fortunate among us. I thank you all in advance for your generosity.

AMAZON

Christmas is right around the corner!

When you shop on Amazon don't forget, 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!

Parish Social Ministry

An opportunity to reach out to families in the community. Christmas gifts from the Giving

Tree will be delivered on Sunday, December

15, 2019. Please meet in the convent at 1:30

p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call

Parish Social Ministry at 302-764-7545. Thank

you for your kindness and compassion.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 7

5:00pm (SR) Marie Reinholz

Sunday, December 8

7:00am (SR) Esther Lutcavage 12th Anniversary

9:00am (WK) Martha & Steve Budishak

11:00am (SR) People of the Parish

Monday, December 9 Immaculate Conception

7:00am (SR)

9:00pm (WK) Ellen Theresa Muldoon

12:00pm (SR) Paul O. Knight

Tuesday, December 10

7:00am (EF) Rosario Gracias

9:00am (SR) Catherine Kozak

Wednesday, December 11

9:00am (SR) Battista Turcol

Thursday, December 12

7:00am (SR) Michael Kilosgi

9:00am (WK) Mary & Bernard Fiore

Friday, December 13

7:00am (CAP) Anne Marie White

9:00am (SR) Ann Paytash

Saturday, December 14

9:00am (SR) Anna & John Delfino

5:00pm (SR) Mike Friel

Sunday, December 15

7:00am (EF) People of the Parish

9:00am (SR) William & Eloise Hart

11:00am (SR) Fredrick J. Konitzer

The Offertory Collections for the weekend of 11/17 was \$4,395.00 and the on-line collection was \$1,545.00 for a total of \$5,940.00.

For the weekend of 11/24 was \$4,579.00 and the on-line collection was \$1,610.00 for a total of \$6,189.00

Thank You!

BULLETIN DEADLINES

12/22 is due 12/10

12/29 is due 12/17

If you have any questions or concerns please email: ecuthbertson@sainthelenas.org or phone: 302-764-0325 Ext. 106. Thank you!

The Dialog, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Wilmington, is available to parishioners through distribution in churches 26 times a year. Its website, www.thedialog.org is updated daily with diocesan, national and international church news. Follow The Dialog on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.

RESERVE TICKETS FOR THE PHILLIES

FAN ON YOUR LIST



By popular demand, St. Helena's will be going to a Saturday game in 2020! We've reserved rows 1 through 9 in Section 433 for the game against the Miami Marlins on **Saturday, April 18th at 4pm.** Tickets can be purchased for only \$20 per seat, and \$10 will be donated to our Social Ministry for every ticket purchased! To reserve tickets, send an email to JimClark.StHelenas@verizon.net with your name, phone number and the number of tickets you would like.

A Christmas Concert



The parish of St. Joseph on the Brandywine Music Ministry presents **A Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at 2pm at the church, 10 Old Church Road, Wilmington, DE. The concert will include The First Nowell by Ralph Vaughn Williams, featuring soloists Madeline Ley, Soprano, and Brian Gilmore, Baritone, choir, chamber ensemble and organ. There will also be traditional Christmas carols with audience participation. All are welcome, and there will be a free will offering.

Victims Assistance of the 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

RETRouvaille



Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriages through Retrouvaille (Retro-VIE). If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and rediscover intimacy. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. **The next program in your area is the weekend of February 21-23 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Another weekend will be held in April.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



BE CAREFUL! In a number of parishes some parishioners have received emails, texts or phone calls saying they need to buy gift cards to help their pastor. **DO NOT BE TAKEN BY THIS SCAM!** Do not respond to them but please call the Rectory to let us know how you have received such a message. Also please see the following Federal Trade Commission's article about identifying, avoiding and reporting email scams (which are called "phishing" because phony emails attempt to fish for information or money):<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0003-phishing>. **ADDITIONALLY** there is someone who has been sending fake emails from Msgr Russell. Please do not respond to these emails if you receive them. **ALSO** please see the Scam Alert Advisories on the bulletin boards by the Delaware State Police. **Please be aware that more email scams may be around requesting gift cards. It is the holiday season and scammers are out and about.**

Catholic Charities Needs Your Help to Warm Up Winter

As temperatures start to decline, Catholic Charities is preparing to *Warm Up Winter* for its most vulnerable neighbors by collecting new and "gently used" blankets and other bedding, coats, hats, and gloves at each of its office locations now through the end of January 2020. Catholic Charities will freely distribute donated goods through its various programs.

Donors can bring their coats and blankets to any of the following Catholic Charities locations and receive a tax deduction receipt:

- Main Office, 2601 W 4th Street, Wilmington 19805, 302-655-9624
- Bayard House, 300 Bayard Avenue, Wilmington 19805, 302-654-1184
- Thrift Store, 1320 E. 23rd Street, Wilmington 19802, 302-764-2717
- Marydale Retirement Village, 135 Jeandell Drive, Newark 19713, 302-368-2784
- Kent County Office, 2099 S DuPont Highway, Dover 19901, 302-674-1600
- Sussex County Office, 406 S. Bedford Avenue, Suite 9, Georgetown 19947, 302-856-9578
- Casa San Francisco, 127 Broad Street, Milford 19968, 302-684-8694
- Seton Center, 30632 Hampden Avenue, Princess Anne 21853, 410-651-9608

Staff at all locations will accept donations between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All donated blankets and bedding, coats, and other clothing items should be clean, in good condition, and ready to use. Keep in mind that Catholic Charities staff cannot clean, mend, or repair items, and merchandise not fit for distribution must be discarded at Catholic Charities expense.

The Junior Board of St. Francis Hospital is hosting "Lights of Love" TODAY December 9th at Noon Mass in the Chapel (5th Floor) and celebration/reception following in the lobby led by the Most Reverend W. Francis Malooly, Bishop of Wilmington. By making a donation of \$10 or more per name, you can recognize loved ones whose names will be displayed on a scroll in the hospital lobby. For donations contact susanMclaughlin53@gmail.com Proceeds benefit Junior Board projects for the hospital.