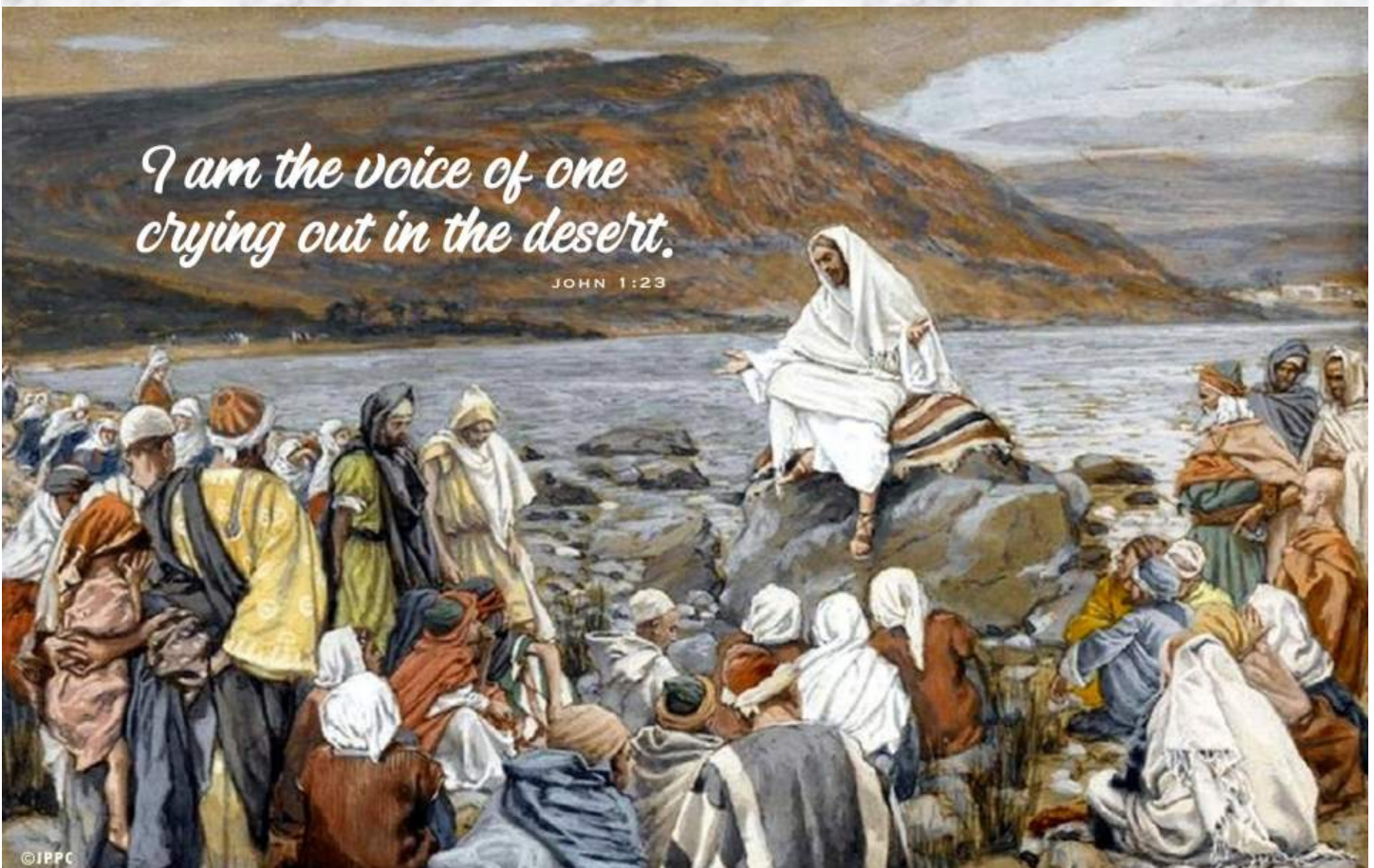


*SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH*  
*117 Washington Street*  
*Bath, Pennsylvania 18014-1524*

*OUR MISSION*

*Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish is a defined community of the Roman Catholic Church which seeks, as its ultimate goal, the fullness of the Kingdom of God as proclaimed by our Lord Jesus Christ, and as taught by the authentic teaching authority of the Holy Catholic Church.*

*We profess unity in belief, worship, and morals with our Holy Father and our Bishop. We seek to provide the fullness of life in the Church through the Sacred Liturgy, prayer, education, religious formation, outreach, and service to our neighbors and each other.*



*THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

*DECEMBER 17, 2023*

**DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR: Ms. Wendy S. Krisak - Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209**  
**DIOCESAN SECRETARY FOR YOUTH PROTECTION: Pamela J Russo- Telephone: (610) 871-5200, Ext. 2204**  
**CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE: Telephone: 1-800-276-4562 [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org)**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, 3rd Sunday of Advent (anticipated)**  
**December 16** **Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28**  
 5:00 PM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

**Sunday, 3rd Sunday of Advent**  
**December 17** **Is 61:1-2A, 10-11/1Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28**  
 7:00 AM Anna Marie Yagerhofer  
*r/b Lucille and Stephen Sismanovich*  
 9:00 AM Annmarie Scholl  
*r/b sister, Doris*  
 11:00 AM Kenneth Haldaman  
*r/b Family*

**Monday, Late Advent Weekday**  
**December 18** **Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25**  
 8:00 AM Kathleen Glancy Klug  
*r/b Ken and MaryJane Pietrzak*

**Tuesday, Late Advent Weekday**  
**December 19** **Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25**  
 8:00 AM Jose Morales (living)  
*r/b Family*

**Wednesday, Late Advent Weekday**  
**December 20** **Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38**  
 8:00 AM Mr. and Mrs. Julius Schrey  
*r/b Dale and Dolla*

**Thursday, Saint Peter Canisius, Priest**  
**December 21** **Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45**  
 8:00 AM Mariantonia DeVirgilio  
*r/b DeVirgilio Family*

**Friday, Late Advent Weekday**  
**December 22** **1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56**  
 8:00 AM Erma LePage  
*r/b Denise LePage*

**Saturday, 4th Sunday of Advent (anticipated)**  
**December 23** **2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/  
 Lk 1:26-38**  
 5:00 PM Theresa McManus  
*r/b Natalie and Cathryn*

**Sunday, 4th Sunday of Advent**  
**December 24** **2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/  
 Lk 1:26-38**  
 7:00 AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart  
 9:00 AM Deceased members of the Olivi and  
 Sampson families  
*r/b Mick and Ginny Olivi*  
 11:00 AM Ken Heckman  
*r/b wife, Rosanne, sons Rick and Todd*

**Sunday, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)**  
**December 24** **Vigil (anticipated)**  
**Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or  
 Mt 1:18-25**  
 (CHU) 4:00 PM Andrew Donello  
*r/b Pat and George Gasper*  
 (AUD) 4:00 PM William Baker  
*r/b Robert and Mary Lou Ross*  
 7:00 PM John and Eleanor Chuss  
*r/b children*

**SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

**Saturday Evening (Vigil):** 5:00 PM  
**Sunday Mass:** 7 AM, 9 AM and 11 AM

**Weekdays:**  
 Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM



**THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

**Saturday** 3:45 – 4:30 pm  
**Thursday** during Adoration at 7:00 pm  
**Monday through Friday mornings**  
 7:30 – 7:50 am  
 Anytime upon reasonable request



**BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES**

are burning from  
 December 15 through December 21  
 for the repose of the souls of



**Vincenza and Saverio LaForgia**  
*r/b DeVirgilio Family*

**SAINT JOSEPH CANDLES**

are burning from  
 December 15 through December 21  
 for the repose of the soul of



**Kenneth Haldaman**  
*r/b Family*

**THE SEVEN DAY ALTAR CANDLES**

are burning from  
 December 15 through December 21  
 for the repose of the souls of



**John Kondikoff**  
*r/b wife, Betty*  
 and  
**Constance Wheary**  
*r/b Family*

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Liturgical Roles\*

<p><b>12/23-12/24</b> 5:00 PM 7:00 AM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Lectors</b> Beth Beers William Doncsecz Tim Geiger Tom Weber</p>	<p><b>Deacons/EMHCs</b> Deacon Edward Saukulak Alfred Krantz Deacon Edward Saukulak Deacon Lewis Ferris</p>	<p><b>Altar Servers</b> Peter Vallance -- Daniel Holub --</p>
<p><b>12/24—(Christmas Eve) Vigil</b> 4:00 PM (AUD) 4:00 PM (CHURCH) 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Lectors</b> William Doncsecz Lisa Wilde Barnhorst Christina Gehringer</p>	<p><b>Deacons/EMHCs</b> Deacon Lewis Ferris Tom Weber Deacon Edward Saukulak</p>	<p><b>Altar Servers</b> -- -- --</p>
<p><b>12/25—(Christmas)</b> Midnight Mass 9:00 AM 11:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Lectors</b> Bill Wilde Beth Skinner Tom Weber</p>	<p><b>Deacons/EMHCs</b> TBD Deacon Edward Saukulak Deacon Lewis Ferris</p>	<p><b>Altar Servers</b> Peter Vallance Daniel Holub --</p>

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 17th**

**First Reading**—The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. (*Is 61:1-2A, 10-11*)

**Psalm**—“My soul rejoices in my God”  
(*Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54*)

**Second Reading**—Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it. (*1 Thes 5:16-24*)

**Gospel**—A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, “Who are you?” He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, “I am not the Christ.” So they asked him, “What are you then? Are you Elijah?” And he said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” He answered, “No.” So they said to him, “Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?” He said: “I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’*” as Isaiah the prophet said.” Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.  
(*Jn 1:6-8, 19-28*)



**ONLINE MASS  
WITH FATHER BUTERA**

Please “join” Father Butera online via Facebook as he celebrates Mass on select days in his private chapel. You can view the Mass live on Facebook or watch a video recording of the Mass at a later time. Look for publicized online Mass times and other updates from Father on Sacred Heart’s Facebook page. It is a great way to keep up-to-date with the Parish and current events and to stay connected spiritually through the livestreamed liturgical services!

**Sacred Heart Live Streaming events found at:**  
**Facebook:** follow @sacredheartofjesusbath (<https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartofjesusbath>)  
**Twitter:** follow @sacredheartbath (<https://twitter.com/sacredheartbath>)  
**Periscope:** follow @sacredheartbath (<https://www.pscp.tv/sacredheartbath/follow>)  
Videos may also be live-streamed on YouTube or uploaded when available:  
<https://www.youtube.com/SacredHeartBath>



**THE SANCTUARY LAMP**

is burning from  
December 15 through December 21  
for the repose of the soul of  
**John Kondikoff**  
r/b wife, Betty



**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF  
Catherine Sema, mother  
Kathy Wettstein of  
Sacred Heart Parish**



**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

This year, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent falls on Sunday, December 24. Sunday is also Christmas Eve day. Please note that the Sunday morning Mass schedule will be the same as all other Sundays—7 am, 9 am and 11 am. These Masses (and the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>) will fulfill your Sunday obligation. If you chose to go to Mass for Christmas on Christmas Eve, those Masses begin at 4:00 pm that same Sunday, December 24. Please also note the time of one of our Christmas morning Masses has changed from 9:30 am (in prior years) to 9:00 am. Please refer to page 2 Mass listing and article below for the complete Christmas schedule.

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**BAMBINELLI SUNDAY BLESSING**  
 Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 At all Masses

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS**  
 (multiple Priests present)  
 Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 6:30 pm

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL**  
 Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 4:00 pm – Parish Auditorium  
 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm and  
 12 Midnight – Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 9:00 am, 11:00 am

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY,  
 MOTHER OF GOD**  
 Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
 9:00 am

**BLESSING OF EPIPHANY WATER**  
 Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 4:45 pm,  
 prior to Vigil Mass

**IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING  
 THE RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS**

The location where you receive your sacraments is governed by the territorial boundaries of the Parish within which you live, as prescribed by the Code of Canon Law. As a reminder, and to prevent confusion or delay when the time nears for the sacraments (and sacramental preparation), reception is not governed by where one attends school nor by where you attend Mass nor receive Religious Education. For example, if you live in the territorial boundaries of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, and your 2nd grader attends Good Shepherd School in Northampton, they will receive their Religious Education from Good Shepherd School, but receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion at Sacred Heart of Jesus.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office and we will be glad to assist you. Thank you!

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Thursday, December 21st  
 8:30 am—9:00 pm in Church  
 Confession: 7:00 pm—8:00 pm



**- UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE:**

**Sunday, December 17 - "Knight Before Christmas" Exemplification**

**12:30pm Sacred Heart Church**

**Monday, December 18 - Monthly Planning Meeting**

**7:00pm - Burkhart Building & Zoom**

\*\*\*\*\*

**A monthly reflection from Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:** "John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." (Lk 3:3-4) The preaching of John the Baptist reminds us what Advent is all about: turning away from sin and preparing for the coming of the Lord. It's all too easy to get sidetracked or distracted by Christmas shopping and parties, and fail to prepare spiritually for Christ's coming. My brothers, let us truly prepare our hearts this Advent - and help our families do the same - so that we might fully and fruitfully celebrate Christ's birth.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Did you know:** Our Council continues to accept donations for our Christmas Food Baskets through Monday December 18. To donate perishable items, dry goods and gift cards, please contact Brother Bob Wilkin at (610) 746-4211 or at nancinator@aol.com.

\*\*\*\*\*

**For additional information about joining our Council; the activities we foster and the sharing of fellowship with millions of Brother Knights; go to [www.KofC14464.org](http://www.KofC14464.org) or contact our Grand Knight, Brother Paul Bunting at [pwbunting@gmail.com](mailto:pwbunting@gmail.com) for details.**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
FOOD BANK DONATION UPDATE**

Due to the generosity of our **Sacred Heart parishioners**, our Council of the Knights of Columbus delivered 127 pounds of non-perishable items to the St Vincent dePaul Food Bank on November 29, bringing our year-to-date total to **2,074 pounds**. This was the 6th donation for the 2023-24 Fraternal Year. Our next donation will be made to the Bath Area Food Bank.

The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus rebates \$100, up to \$500 annually, to local Councils for each 1,000 pounds of food delivered. This rebate is then passed on by our Council to the Food Banks; **THANK YOU** for your past donations. The need in our communities is still great with current economic conditions; please continue to support this worthwhile endeavor.

*Please check the "Best By" date on all food items before donating, we cannot accept items with a "Best By" date earlier than 2022.*



**HOLIDAY DONATIONS**

**Are you or your family in need of help?**

**Do you know a parishioner family in need? Food? Children's coats?**

Sacred Heart of Jesus has many generous supporters who typically make donations around the holidays to help those parishioner families in need. Donations in past years have included monetary gifts, frozen turkeys and other holiday food. In addition, our Knights of Columbus council is very faithful at collecting food donations and putting together amazing food baskets for families in need this time of year.

**Many times it is hard to know who needs our help.**

**Please ask!**

Contact the parish office if you would like to request this type of aid or to submit the name of a family/person in need.

**Email us at [office@sacredheartbath.org](mailto:office@sacredheartbath.org) or phone at 610-837-7874.**



**SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICES CLOSED FOR  
CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**CLOSED: Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 and Monday, January 1, 2024.**

**Parish offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.**

**All of us here at Sacred Heart wish you and your families a wonderful and blessed Christmas season.**

**Never forget why Our Savior was born.**

**God loves us so much He sent His Only Son for our salvation.**

**JANUARY LOTTERY CALENDARS**  
**GREAT AS A STOCKING STUFFER!!!**

**\$\$\$\$Take a chance to win from \$50 up to \$500 \$\$\$\$**  
**Increase your chances with 3 for \$25.00**  
**If you are feeling lucky, fill out the return portion with a check or cash to the parish offices, collection basket or by mail before December 31st. Extra calendars are available in parish offices. This is a fun way to help support our parish.**

**WE HAD (6) NOVEMBER WINNERS**  
**November winners won from \$55 up to \$150!**  
**You can be next.....**  
**GOOD LUCK!!!!!!**

**GIVING TREE**  
**UPDATE AND DEADLINES**  
**DID YOU????**

1. Take a tag?
2. Purchase the item on the tag?
3. Put the tag on the outside of the gift or envelope with gift cards?
4. Place the gift under the trees? Drop the Gift Cards in the offertory, parish offices or the Pope Room of the Burkhart Building?

**DEADLINE for Cay Galgon gifts was December 10th.**  
**Absolute Deadline for all other gifts is December 17th.**

**Wegmans**      **SACRED HEART PARISH**      **VISA**  
**GIFT CARD PROGRAM**

**GREAT FOR**  
**THE GIVING TREE AND CHRISTMAS**  
**Every Time You Grocery Shop**

Make grocery shopping more convenient by purchasing gift cards in the lower-level parish office: Ahart's, Giant, Wegmans, Weis, Redner's (by order).

**(NOW AVAILABLE: SHOPRITE, BURGER KING and MCDONALDS)**

We have on hand **VISA cards with NO ACTIVATION FEES** and Amazon gift cards and many more or you can place an order for gift cards from our extensive retail list. Please stop in at the lower level of the Burkhart office (BLUE DOORS) between 8:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday to get gift cards or place an order!

**Questions or to place an order, please call Karen at 610-837-6391.**

**Wawa**      **DUNKIN' DONUTS**

**CHRISTMAS SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS**

Christmas spiritual bouquet cards are available during Advent in the Church ramp entrance and in the pick-up station in the Burkhart Building.

**A donation of \$10.00 per card is suggested.**

The 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass will be offered for all those to whom you send a card and there will be a remembrance at all Masses throughout the Christmas Season. All donations will go to Sacred Heart Church Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

**Please place donations in the collection basket or drop off at the parish office.**

<b>Your Stewardship Report - December 3</b>		
First Collection	\$8,502	<i>Other collections - from envelopes dated other than <b>December 3</b></i>
Parish Improvement	\$1,643	
Other Collections	\$2,103	
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$35</u>	
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$12,283</b>	<i><b>Other</b> - donations, candles, etc.</i>


**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE PARISH**

**Next Week's Collections - December 24**



**First**  
Sunday Collection

**Second**  
None



**OCTOBER 2023**  
**SACRED HEART**  
**MEMORIAL FUND**  
**DONATIONS**

**In Memory of Agnes Blasko**  
Judith and Michael Blasko  
Mary Ann and Neil Dancho  
Vincent Grabarits  
Frances and Stephen Habrial  
Catherine and Thomas Klepeisz  
Debra and Robert Kriebel

**In Memory of Andrew Donello**  
Vince Grabarits

**In Memory of Patricia Gillich**  
Linda Savarese

**In Memory of Kathleen Glancy Klug**  
Patricia Repasch  
Lorraine and John Fish

**SACRED HEART MEMORIAL FUND**

Please consider remembering your loved one in the Sacred Heart Memorial Fund. A donation to the Memorial Fund assists the mission of the parish and benefits the person remembered through the fruits of Holy Mass offered every First Friday.


**Memorial Fund Remembrance Cards are available in the Parish Office.**

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

If you are not able to attend Mass, please continue to submit your weekly offering envelopes:

- ⇒ Mail your envelopes to:  
Sacred Heart Church  
210 E. Northampton Street  
Bath, PA 18014
- ⇒ Online Giving available through Sacred Heart's website at [www.sacredheartbath.org](http://www.sacredheartbath.org). Click on the "Donate" button on the home page below the picture of the altar.
- ⇒ Drop-off your envelopes at our "self-service station" in the Burkhart Building during Parish office hours

Thank you for continuing to support Sacred Heart of Jesus parish!



**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR**  
for the week of  
**December 15—December 21**  
are in memory of  
**Kenneth Haldaman**  
*(100th Year Birthday)*

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

Advent has arrived, and our thoughts turn towards the baby Jesus lying in the manger. Why did God choose such a "strange time in such a strange place" (a line from Jesus Christ Superstar) for the birth of His son? Imagine if he choose our time, in our Country?

He would have had to get past the inevitable possibility of aborting Jesus in Mary's womb. Afterall, he, Jesus, was conceived to an unwed, probably very young mother, with little chance of success. In our secular terminology, he was an unwanted baby. Mary would have lost all chances of going to Harvard and becoming a brain surgeon!

I guess God knew what He was doing by having Jesus born in backward, occupied Israel those 2000 years ago. No hope of having a sanitary delivery, but also very little chance of having the abortionist knife looming over the head of the unborn Messiah who had come to save the World from our sins. Praise be God!

-- Deacon Lewis Ferris

**PRAYER FOR A JOYFUL LIFE**

Father of Mercies, please, Lord, I long for joy in my heart and peace in my soul. Bless me with contentment, so I may know what it feels like to love this life entirely. I desire to be near You every moment, and I know if I am, I will be able to receive the joy that is waiting for me. Hold my hand, guide me, and let me live in Your perfect will. Wrap Your Spirit around me, so I can feel comfort and joy. Let peace surround my thoughts and show me your undying love. Amen.

**BIBLE STUDY—OPEN TO ALL  
BURKHART BUILDING**



**SATURDAY'S 10:00 AM—11:30 AM**  
Saturday, December 16th Bible Study has been canceled due to Christmas.

*Next Bible Study will be December 30th  
and January 13th & 27th*

We are presently studying all of St. Paul's epistles. We use Dr. Scott Hahn's Ignatius Catholic Study Bible. All are welcome. Please join us.

Any questions contact Deacon Lewis Ferris at lferris\_2000@yahoo.com.

**OPLATKY (CHRISTMAS WAFERS)**



**\$2.00 PER PACKET**

**(three wafers in each packet)**

Oplatky are available from the sacristan before weekend Masses or at the Burkhart Building drop-off/pick-up station during parish office hours.

**CLOTHING SHED**

**USED CLOTHING DROP-OFF - OPEN 24-7**

Sacred Heart Church upper parking lot

Proceeds to Sacred Heart Church

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

The clothing is sent to people in need both in the US and in third world countries.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ARTICLES  
OUTSIDE THE BIN. THANK YOU!**

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

Belts	Blankets	Clothing	Drapes	Purses
Sheets	Shoes	Sneakers	Stuffed Animals	

**UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

Fabric Scraps	Household	Rags	Toys
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**LAY DOMINICAN LIBRARY**

*will be OPEN*

**December 17th and January 7th, 21st  
from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM**

If you don't see something you like, please feel free to come back again. If you have religious resources/items to donate, feel free to drop them off in the Library on these dates/hours. Please no Bibles, Missals or Catechisms. We have an overabundance of these items.

We work on the honor system but some information will be needed to keep track of the books. Instructions are conveniently listed in the library or ask the volunteer working there for help. Come check us out!

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Donna Tanczos, OP at [DLtanczos@aol.com](mailto:DLtanczos@aol.com) or 610-349-7734



**LAST CHANCE!**

**SACRED HEART PARISH AND**

**K9 KOP PROJECT**

**2024 - K9 CALENDAR FUNDRAISER**

**K9 CALENDARS ARE \$10.00**

**\$6.00 of every K9 calendar sold goes directly to**

**K9 program and \$4.00 will go to**

**Sacred Heart Parish**

Please give to this very heroic cause...they make great Christmas gifts!

***\*\*This beautiful calendar is available in the Church sacristy after weekend Masses and at the parish offices during office hours.\*\****



**CONSIDER DONATING BLOOD**

**MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER**

Help save a life by donating blood. The center is always in dire need for blood donations. Please consider giving blood at one of their local donation centers. What a wonderful way to give someone a life saving Christmas gift.

Please go to <https://www.giveapint.org>

**Miller-Keystone Blood Center**

**for locations and more information.**

**Thank You!**

**SACRED HEART PARISH—BULLETIN DEADLINES FOR HOLIDAY SEASON**

Anticipating carrier delivery delays, our bulletin publishing company has provided updated deadlines for our bulletin submissions. These shortened timeframes will **run through till January 14<sup>th</sup> 2023**. Please send any articles for publication in the bulletin as far in advance as possible. If you have any specific deadline questions for upcoming bulletins, you may **email [bulletin@sacredheartbath.org](mailto:bulletin@sacredheartbath.org)** and we will do our best to get the articles in upcoming bulletins.



**THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT—JOY**  
**December 17, 2023**

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete* Sunday because of the first word “Rejoice” in the *Introit* or entrance antiphon of Sunday’s Liturgy. “Rejoice” is also repeated throughout the readings and prayers. The vestments worn by the priest can be the color rose (sometimes referred to as pink). The third candle of the Advent wreath is also rose. Both are reminders that Christ’s coming is very soon; we are nearing the end of Advent, and we can hardly contain our joy.

- † *How would you describe who you are in the sight of God? How would the Father describe who you are in his eyes? Are you joyous when following the teaching of Our Lord?*
- † *John points the way to Jesus and prepares people to receive Him, the Christ. In what ways, like John, do you point the way towards Jesus? Do you feel joy when speaking about Jesus or listening to someone filled with love for God?*
- † *Joy, prayer and gratitude are three attitudes that prepare us to experience Christmas in an authentic way – how do you experience these in your life and what affect do they have upon you and your relationship with God? Do you understand that God is the way to find joy in your life and do you thank him when you find it?*

Joy, prayer and gratitude are three special characteristics that prepare us for the experience the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. In this last period of the Season of Advent, let us entrust ourselves to the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary. She is a “cause of our joy”, not only because she begot Jesus, but because she keeps directing us to him. Prepare yourself for the way of Our Lord...



**SACRED HEART PARISH**  
**CHRISTMAS CARD LIST**

**Reverend Msgr. Robert Kozel**  
 3276 Oakland Square Drive  
 Bethlehem, PA 18020-1292

**Reverend Luigi Palmieri**  
 Holy Family Villa  
 1325 Prospect Avenue  
 Bethlehem, PA 18018-4916

**Reverend Msgr. Walter Scheaffer**  
 Holy Family Villa  
 1325 Prospect Avenue  
 Bethlehem, PA 180018-4916

**Deacon and Mrs. Lewis Ferris**  
 5431 Congress Way  
 Bethlehem, PA 18017

**Deacon and Mrs. Edward Saukulak**  
 5385 Colony Drive  
 Bethlehem, PA 18017-9255

**Reverend Dominic Pham**  
 St. Joseph Parish Center  
 84 N. Center Street  
 Ringtown, PA 17967

**Reverend Jason Stokes**  
 Holy Family Rectory  
 538 Sunbury Street  
 Minersville, PA 17954

**Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Yenushosky**  
 Holy Trinity Rectory  
 4102 South Church Street  
 Whitehall, PA 18052

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!**



**“THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS”**

- \* It’s not for money, it’s not for fame and it’s not for any personal gain.
- \* It’s just for love of their fellow man.
- \* It’s just to lend a helping hand.
- \* It’s just to give a bit of self.
- \* That’s something you can’t buy with wealth.
- \* It’s not the medals worn with pride.
- \* It’s just for that feeling deep inside.
- \* It’s that reward down in your heart.
- \* It’s feeling that you’ve been a part of helping others far and near.
- \* That’s what makes you a VOLUNTEER.

Big thank you to the **VOLUNTEERS** who took time out of their busy Saturday and Sunday to help with our annual Sacred Heart Shop Stop. Also, a big thank you to all who donated Christmas Tricky Tray baskets to help spread Holiday cheer at the Christmas Shop Stop. Thank you to the **Women’s Guild** for supplying the delicious baked goods and all their contributions through the year. Shout out of thanks to the **Knights of Columbus** for all the charitable work they do for Sacred Heart Parish and the community. **ALL VOLUNTEERS** are so highly appreciated throughout the year and your efforts will never go unnoticed. We here at Sacred Heart Parish are blessed to have each and everyone of you.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!!!!**

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**SACRED HEART OF JESUS RECTORY**  
 210 East Northampton St., Bath, PA 18014-1625  
**PARISH OFFICE - BURKHART BUILDING**  
 Office Hours - Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Closed 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

**Rectory and Parish Office:**

Phone : 610-837-7874, Fax: 610-837-4570,  
 Email: office@sacredheartbath.org  
 Website: www.sacredheartbath.org

**Pastor:** Rev. Christopher S. Butera

**Deacons:** Mr. Lewis Ferris, Mr. Edward Saukulak

**Director of Accounts:** Mrs. Sharon Hillhouse

**Administrative Assistant:** Mrs. Kathleen Wachholz

**Outreach & Advancement Office:** Ms. Karen Shimko

\*\*\*\*\*

**Director of Religious Education:** Mr. Thomas Weber  
 610-837-7841 or dre@sacredheartbath.org

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bulletin Editor:** Ms. Karen Shimko  
 bulletin@sacredheartbath.org

**CYO Athletic Director:** Mr. Frank Hesch  
 cyodir@sacredheartbath.org

**Director of Liturgy:** Mr. Brad Barnhorst  
 brad.barnhorst@sacredheartbath.org

**RCIA Coordinators:**

Chris and Marcia Tallarico  
 ctallarico@sacredheartbath.org, 610-442-3589

**Safe Environment Coordinator:** Ms. Karen Shimko  
 kshimko@sacredheartbath.org 610-837-6391

**Youth Ministry:** Mrs. Sharon Hillhouse  
 shillhouse@sacredheartbath.org

**WELCOME**

We welcome all who join us at our Mass. We encourage you to become an active participant in the life of our Parish. All Catholics who live within our Parish boundaries should register. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

is given to those who are seriously ill and in danger of death. When there is danger of death, please call the Pastor anytime, day or night.

**GODPARENT/SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORMS**

In order to act as a godparent for Baptism or a Sponsor for Confirmation, one must be a Catholic in good standing. Specifically this means Mass attendance every Sunday (Exodus 20:8), striving to live the moral precepts of the Church, and if married, a valid marriage in the Catholic Church.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

is celebrated on Sunday at Noon. If you are a parishioner and would like to schedule a Baptism, please contact the Parish Office. Prior to the baptism, parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Class which is designed to instruct the parents about the teachings of the church regarding Baptism, and to offer assistance in the spiritual preparation for their child's reception of the first of the Sacraments of the Church.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Parishioners who are contemplating the Sacrament of Matrimony should contact the Pastor and mutually agree upon a date at least a year prior to the Wedding. The Church takes the preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony very seriously, and requires completion of the Diocesan Marriage Preparation Program six months before the wedding. The normative time for weddings is Saturday between 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM. Weddings are not celebrated on major holidays, nor on the first weekend of June in deference to Ordination of Priests each year at that time. Either the Bride or the Groom must be a practicing member of Sacred Heart Parish in order to request a wedding date.

**COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND**

A Priest or Deacon will visit monthly. Extraordinary Ministers visit those who wish to receive more often. Always notify us about the homebound parishioners who wish to be visited.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

Those who desire entrance into the Catholic Church are warmly welcome through the **RCIA**. Please contact the Pastor for more information.

**CONSOLATION MINISTRY**

The Consolation Ministry Reaches out to families who have experienced the death of a loved one in order to help them prepare for the Funeral Mass and gain an understanding of death as a believing Catholic. For more information on this ministry, please contact Joan West at 610-216-8062.

**PARISH MEMORIALS**

Following the death of a relative or friend, offerings may be made to the Church in loving memory of the deceased. Offerings may specify a particular request or be placed in the Memorial Fund for parish needs.

**VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR**

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church.

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator,**

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC, Direct Telephone  
 Number: 1-800-791-9209

**Secretary for Youth Protection**

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS, Telephone Number: 610-871-5200,  
 Ext. 2204, prusso@allentowndiocese.org

To learn more about the **Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct**, visit [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) and click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right-hand corner.

**COURAGE – Diocesan Help Line:** Father Ezaki at 610-573-7150 or Deacon Christopher May at 484-602-9400.

**CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE**

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562.

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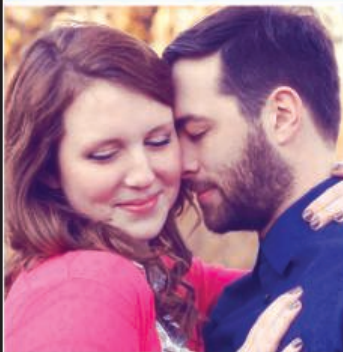


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