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.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 24, 2023

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR: Ms. Wendy S. Krisak - <u>Direct</u> 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

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Ken neckman

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

Monday, The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

December 25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14;

<u>Dawn</u>: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk2:15-20; <u>Day</u>: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Midnight Celebrant's Intentions

9:00 AM Christmas Spiritual Bouquet Intentions

11:00 AM Stephen J. Paukovits

r/b Paukovits and Raykos families

Tuesday, Saint Stephen

December 26 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

9:00 AM Jeanne Lauber

r/b sister

Wednesday, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 27 1 In 1:1-4/In 20:1a and 2-8

8:00 AM Rita and Dallas Kohler

r/b Pat Kohler and family

Thursday, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

December 28 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

8:00 AM Hilda Steier

r/b niece, Marion

Friday, 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

December 29 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

8:00 AM Shirley McElroy

r/b sister, Jean Pulli

Saturday, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 30 (anticipated)

Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or

Lk 2:22, 39-40

5:00 PM Elma Jean Cimino

r/b Nye Family

Sunday, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 31 Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or

Lk 2:22, 39-40

7:00 AM Deceased members of Paukovits and Raykos families

r/b Barbara and Stephen Raykos

9:00 AM Parishioners of Sacred Heart

11:00 AM Susan Cobb

r/b Terence and Roz O'Reilly

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 22 through December 28 for the repose of the soul of



Peggy Hoff r/b daughter, Sharon

SAINT JOSEPH CANDLES

are burning from
December 22 through December 28
for the repose of the soul of



John Ozdinec
r/b wife, Roseann

THE SEVEN DAY ALTAR CANDLES

are burning from

December 22 through December 28 for the repose of the soul of



Constance Wheary r/b Family

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Liturgical + Roles

12/30-12/31	Lectors	Deacons/EMHCs	Altar Servers
5:00 PM	Frank Molchan	Deacon Lewis Ferris	Peter Vallance
7:00 AM	Lisa Wilde Barnhorst	Deacon Lewis Ferris	
9:00 AM	Beth Beers	Deacon Edward Saukulak	
11:00 AM	Tom Weber	Deacon Edward Saukulak	
		10.00 SUB	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 24TH

First Reading—When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!" Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, "Thus says the LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?"...

(2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16)

<u>Psalm</u>—"For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord." (Ps 89: 2-3, 4-5, 27, 29)

Second Reading—Brothers and sisters: To him who can strengthen you, according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Rom 16:25-27)

Gospel-The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. (Lk 1:26-38)

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

is burning from

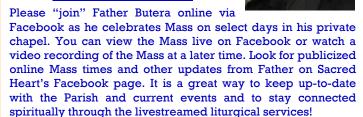
December 22 through December 28

for the repose of the soul of

Stephen J. Paukovits r/b Paukovits and Raykos families

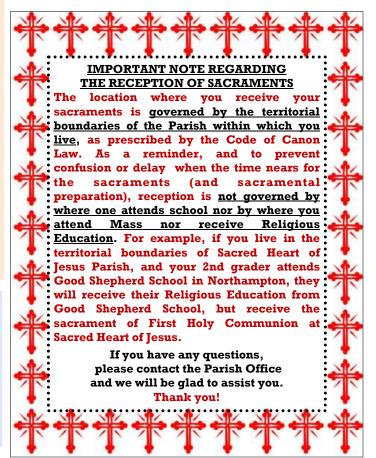


ONLINE MASS WITH FATHER BUTERA



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





Congratulations to those who were confirmed by Bishop Alfred A. Schlert at Sacred Heart of Jesus on Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Marco Barracato
Aidan Michael D'Avanzo
Anna Alicia Dormarunno
Cole Anthony Gable
Aaron Fulton Georgeson
Alana Marie Ide
Thomas Anthony Markiewicz
Tyler Jason Matz

Confirmati continued....

Kevin Samuel Franco Prasanna
Justin Thomas Reilly
Madelyn Ann Taff
Giavonna Jessica Volkert

A special "thank you" to the teachers for helping the children in their preparation for this important sacrament: Mrs. Deb Hayes and Mr. Tom Weber, Sacred Heart of Jesus Religious Education; Ms. Sue Parker and Ms. Connie Sisko, Good Shepherd Regional Catholic School, Northampton





















A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!!

- UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE:

Monday, January 8- Monthly Membership Meeting
7:00pm Rosary; 7:30pm Meeting Burkhart Building and Zoom
Monday, January 22 - Officers' Planning Meeting
7:00pm Burkhart Building & Zoom

Over the next four weeks, we will explore the meaning and practical applications of the Four Core Principles of the Knights of Columbus. The first Core Principle is CHARITY. Our Catholic faith teaches us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Members of the Knights of Columbus show love for their neighbors by conducting food drives and donating the food to local soup kitchens and food pantries, by volunteering at Special Olympics, and supporting, both spiritually and materially, mothers who choose life for their babies. Knights recognize that our mission, and our faith in God, compels us to action. There is no better way to experience love and compassion than by helping those in need, a call we answer every day.

<u>Did You Know</u>: A Prayer Intention of Our Holy Father is: "We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war: may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

For additional information about joining our Council; the activities we foster and the sharing of fellowship with millions of Brother Knights; go to www.KofCl4464.org or contact our Grand Knight, Brother Paul Bunting at pwbunting@gmail.com for details.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This year, the 4th 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 23rd) 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 on page 7 for the complete Christmas schedule.

PRAYER FOR ORDAINED AND LAY PEOPLE

Heavenly Father, since the time of the Apostles you have inspired the Church to commission certain members to assist in a special way in the pastoral mission of Christ. Bless the priests, deacons, and all other ordained and non-ordained lay people who are involved in all aspects of Sacred Heart Parish. Bless all who participate in our weekly Masses and funerals, upkeep of the altar and church, Religious Education, and all who dedicate their time in keeping our parish up and running with faith and community. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Thank you for ALL you do!!!

GIVING TREE

Thank you!

Thank you so much for your participation in blessing others through our Giving Tree project. Your kindness and generosity are unmatched



Every year we are in awe as we see beautiful gifts come through: handmade blankets and tiny little caps for newborns, strollers, diapers, and everything in between. You have given hope to new parents. You have helped victims of domestic violence feel safe and cared for. You have honored veterans' dignity by providing clothing and basic care items that we sometimes take for granted. You have reached out to your fellow parishioners, some of whom can no longer make it to Mass, and some who are in new living situations. It's a nice reminder that they are thought of at this time of year even though we may no longer see them in church.

If you missed the deadline, we will be posting a list of the organizations' addresses, and you may send or drop off to them directly.

GOD BLESS YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Sacred Heart Giving Tree Committee

Your Stewardship Report - December 10					
First Collection	\$7,385	Other collections -			
Immac. Conception	\$1,435	from envelopes dated			
Other Collections	\$1,224	other than			
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$34</u>	December 10			
Total Collections	\$10,078				
Retired Religious	\$1,504	Other - donations, candles, etc.			

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE PARISH Next Week's Collections - December 31



<u>First</u> Sunday Collection

> Second None

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL Sunday, 24th December 2023 4:00 pm - Parish Auditorium 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm and 12 Midnight - Church CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, 25th December 2023 9:00 am, 11:00 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Monday, 1st January 2024 9:00 am

BLESSING OF EPIPHANY WATER
Saturday, 6th January 2024, 4:45 pm,
prior to Vigil Mass



PLEASE PRAY FOR

THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF

Anita Harris

of Sacred Heart Parish



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday, December 28th 8:30 am—9:00 pm in Church

Confession: 7:00 pm—8:00 pm

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 <u>www.sacredheartbath.org</u>. 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!

PRO-LIFE CORNER

In the very excellent movie, "Jesus of Nazareth," King Herod, after realizing the Magi had outsmarted him and not returned from Bethlehem, shouts: "kill them, kill them all!" He refused the potential possibility that he would have to share his Kingdom with another King. His solution was to slaughter all of the two-year-old boys and younger who are found in Bethlehem.

Sounds pretty brutal, but it emphasizes the reality of the reasons for most abortions. "I will not share my kingdom." It's my life, my body, my choice. King Herod could have accompanied the wise men to be one of the first to witness this newborn King of Kings. Rather he chooses to protect his own little kingdom at the expense of dozens of innocent babies. He could have been remembered as a great man who welcomed the baby Jesus. Instead, he is remembered as a petty, cruel despot. Too bad.

- - Deacon Lewis Ferris

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD December 25th (Christmas Day)

We read all kinds of books about love, devotion, and trust. One book that has all this and more is the Bible. Start by reading the gospel of Matthew Chapter 1. It starts with a miraculous birth and continues with the life of Our Savior. We all know the story of the Nativity of the Lord, but have you actually read the words from Saints Matthew and Luke?

The Birth of Jesus. Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph, her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. He had no relations with her until she bore a son, and he named him Jesus.

This is the start of a story which will keep you turning the pages to find out what happens in Jesus's life. The Gospel of Matthew has all the great elements of a beautiful novel, from the birth of Christ to Our Lord's crucifixion. It is filled with suspense, faith, miracles, and love. What more can you ask for in an exciting piece of literature? Consider opening the bible to Matthew Chapters 1 through 28 with your family and read this brilliant story. What a wonderful why to introduce God to your children and loved ones. *MERRY CHRISTMAS!!*

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

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

Parish offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 8:00 am.

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

Never forget why Our Savior was born.

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

BIBLE STUDY—OPEN TO ALL BURKHART BUILDING



SATURDAY'S 10:00 AM—11:30 AM

Bible Study will be <u>December 30th,</u>
<u>January 13th & 27th</u>

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.



LAY DOMINICAN LIBRARY

will be OPEN

January 7th and 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 <u>DLtanczos@aol.com</u> or 610-349-7734



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.

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.

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 14th 2024. 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 and we will do our best to get the articles in upcoming bulletins.



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!!!!!!



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!



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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!!!!



SACRED HEART PARISH GIFT CARD PROGRAM



GREAT FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND ALL YEAR ROUND!

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).

VISA

(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!



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



2023 STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION

If you would like to receive a statement of your 2023 contributions, please put a note in the Sunday collection basket at church and/or the Parish Office and include your envelope number on the request. All contributions must be received by Sunday, December 31st to be included on your 2023 Contribution Statement. Due to the cost of postage, you MUST include a stamped, self -addressed envelope with your request or pick the statement up in the parish office during regular business hours. Statements will be sent in late January 2024. We are grateful to all who contributed and especially those who sacrificially supported the parish family of the Sacred Heart of Jesus throughout the year.

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	Dage	Toys
	goods	Rags	

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

> 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 <u>Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs</u>, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, visit <u>www.allentowndiocese.org</u> 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 or by calling 800-276-1562.

JAMES FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICE, PC

Successor to Snyder, Hinkle & Lunsford Funéral Home

Louis C. James - Supervisor
Member of AOH, KofC and CBOA



527 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 610.867.4617 www.jamesfuneralhome.org

Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...
Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

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