DIVINE MERCY PARISH

312 DAVIS STREET • SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18505



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT • NOVEMBER 29, 2026

SERVED BY

Rev. Paul A. McDonnell, O.S.J.
Pastor
pmcdonnell@divinemercyparish.us

Rev. Francis L. Pauselli
Pastor Emeritus
fpauselli@divinemercyparish.us

Rev. Mr. Martin Castaldi
Deacon
Parish Maintenance
mcastaldi@divinemercyparish.us

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.divinemercyparish.us

SCHOOL INFORMATION

All Saints Academy
570-343-8114

Holy Cross High School
570-346-7541

Welcome

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday ..... 4:00 PM
Sunday ..... 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Monday - Friday ..... 12:00 PM

Wednesday Devotions to St. Joseph
..... following 12:00PM Mass

Eucharistic Holy Hour
Wednesday ..... 6:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday ..... 11:30 AM
Saturday ..... 3:00 PM
- or anytime by appointment -

OFFICE PHONE / HOURS

Phone 570-344-1724
Fax 570-344-4120

OFFICE STAFF

Nicholas Katchur
Office Manager
Director of Music & Liturgy
nkatchur@divinemercyparish.us

Jessica Fazzi
Financial Secretary
jfazzi@divinemercyparish.us

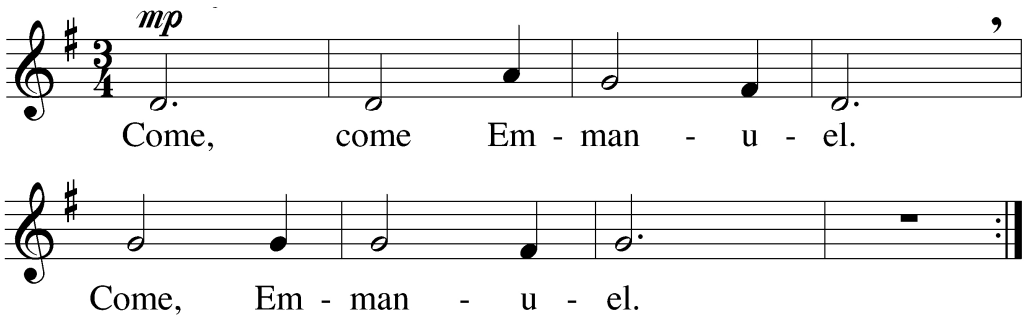
Brittain Banull
Director of Religious Education
bbanull@divinemercyparish.us

Eric Dixon
Accompanist

Martin Montoro
Groundskeeper

Order of Worship

Gathering Song Advent Gathering Rite



Sign of the Cross and Greeting

The response to the Greeting is: ***And with your spirit.***

Priest: Brothers and sisters, Let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord Jesus, you summon your holy people to embrace you as Lord and king:
Lord, have mercy.

People: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Priest: Christ Jesus, you reach out to us with a shepherd's care:
Christ, have mercy.

People: ***Christ, have mercy.***

Priest: Lord Jesus, you will come in glory to bring salvation to your faithful people:
Lord, have mercy.

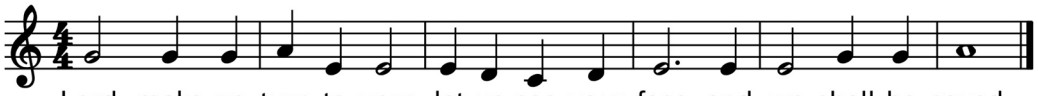
People: ***Lord, have mercy.***

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins
and bring us to everlasting life.

First Reading Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah
You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your heritage.
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you,
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.
Would that you might meet us doing right,
that we were mindful of you in our ways!
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;
all of us have become like unclean people,
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;
we have all withered like leaves,
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.
There is none who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to cling to you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us up to our guilt.
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter:
we are all the work of your hands.
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

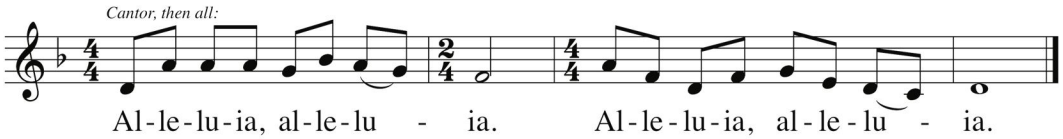
Responsorial Psalm



Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians
Brothers and sisters:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always on your account
for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus,
that in him you were enriched in every way,
with all discourse and all knowledge,
as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you,
so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift
as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He will keep you firm to the end,
irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God is faithful,
and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Mark 13: 33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Jesus said to his disciples:
"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.
Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

Profession of Faith

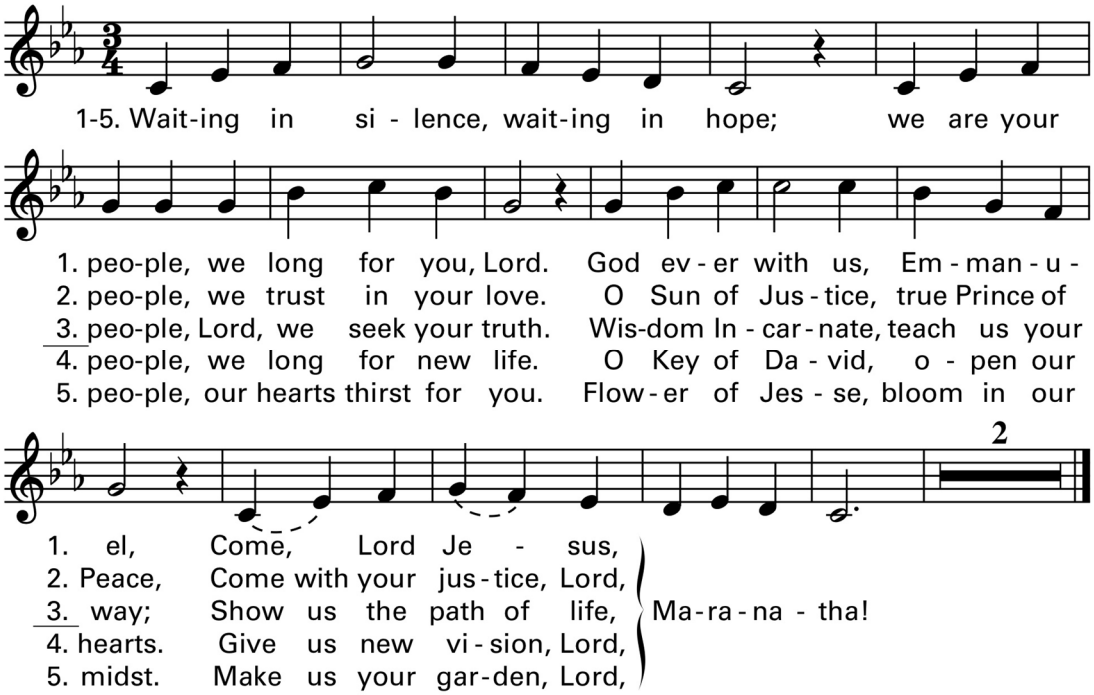
I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

General Intercessions

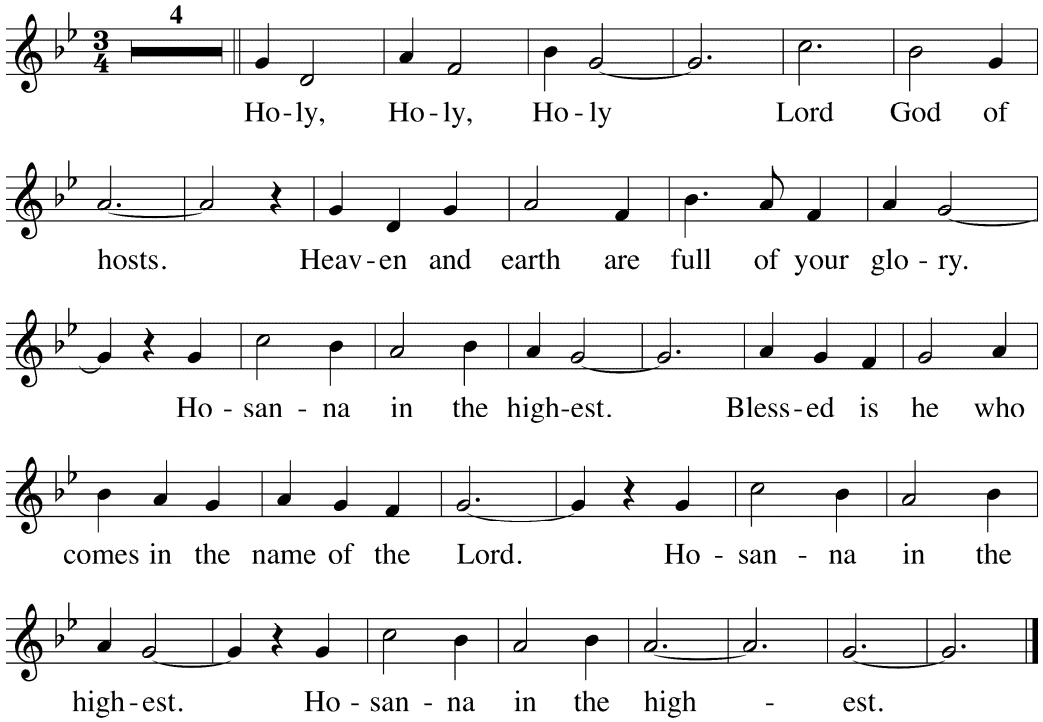
Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve
in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.
Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.
May our parish community support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

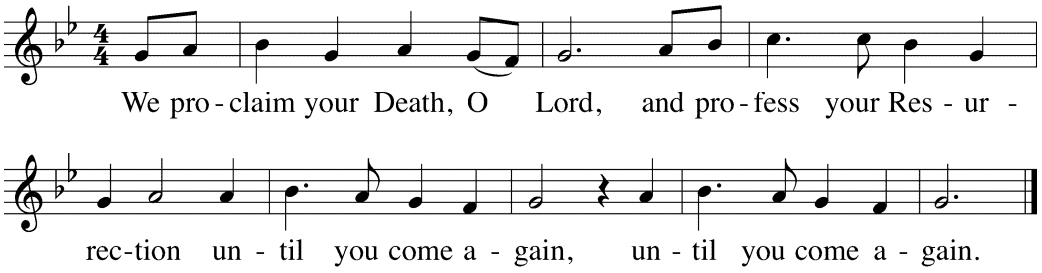
Preparation of the Gifts Waiting In Silence



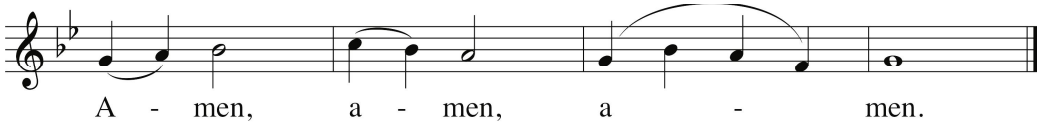
Prayer over the Gifts
Preface Acclamation



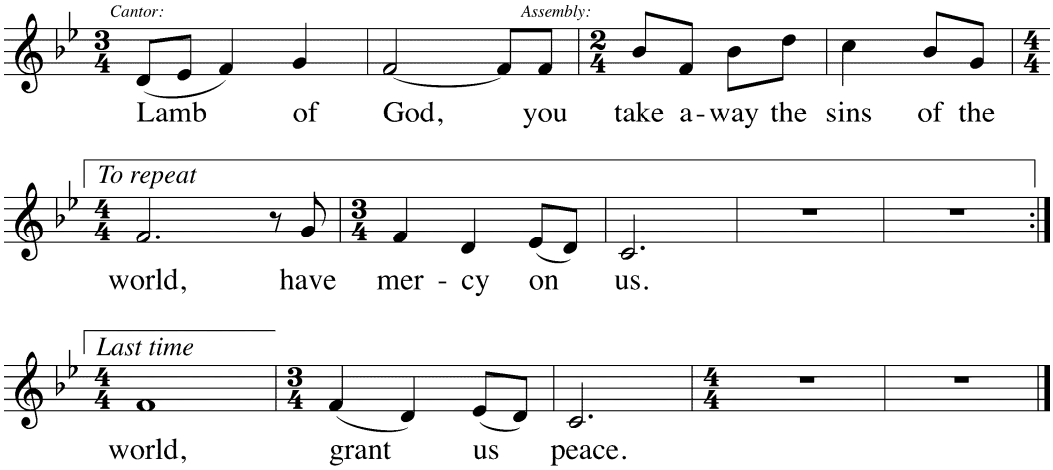
Memorial Acclamation



Doxology Acclamation



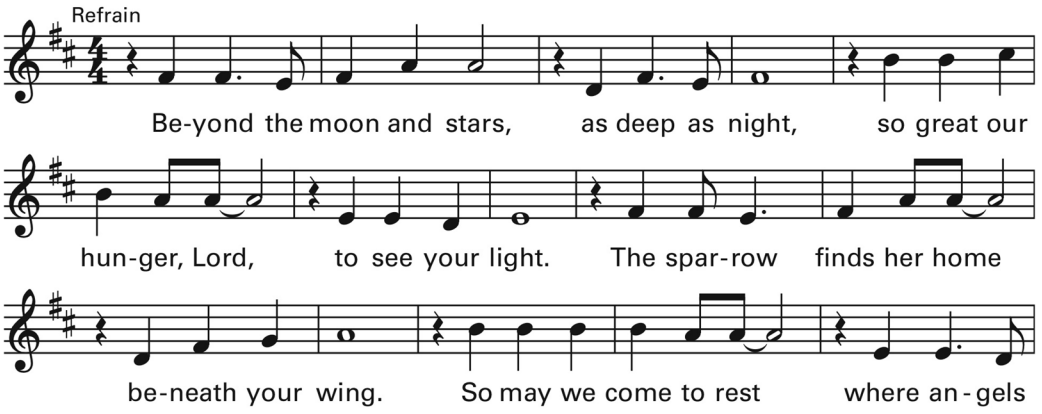
The Lord's Prayer
Lamb of God

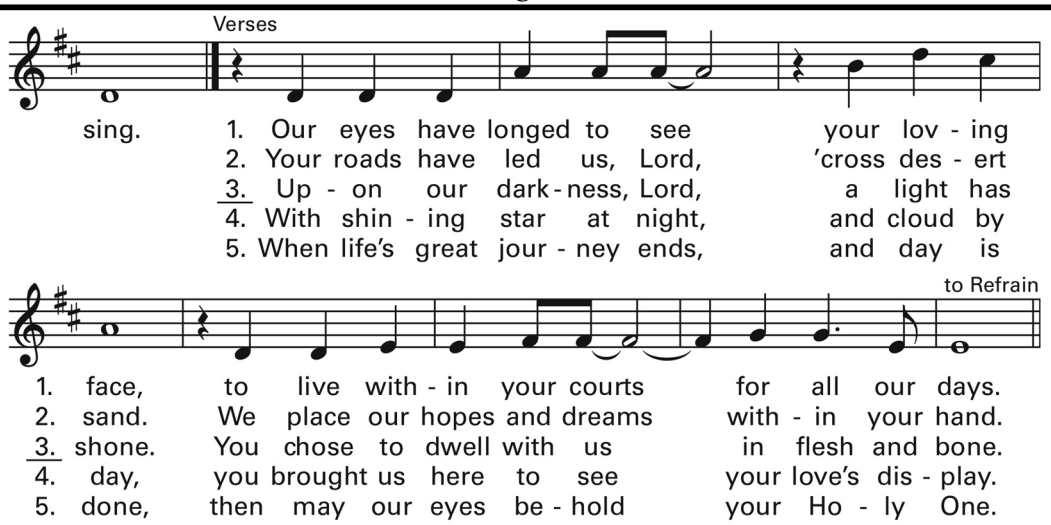


Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People: ***Lord, I am not worth that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.***

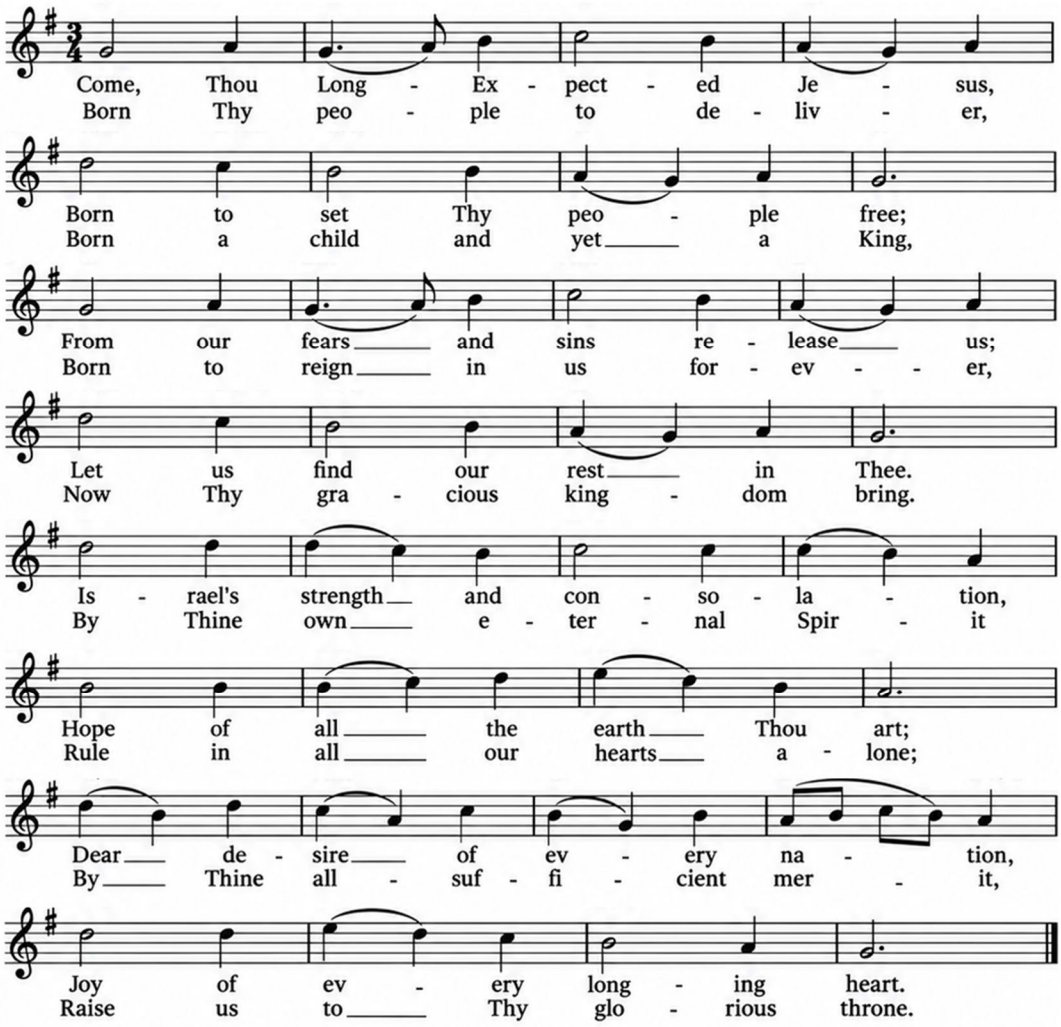
Song During Communion Beyond The Moon and Stars





Prayer After Communion
Blessing and Dismissal

Song of Sending Forth Come Thou Long Expected Jesus



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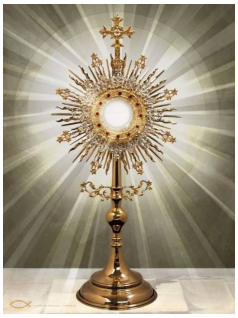
Ministry Schedule

Dec. 5/6:	4:00PM SAT	8:00AM SUN	10:00AM SUN
Cantor	Patrick Murphy	Terry Deitz	Laurie Gross
Lector	Ryan McBride	Gina Capitano	Barbara Gregorio
EM	Mary Ellen McDonough	Joe LaFratte	Joseph Schofield
EM	Steve Luciani	Marty Montoro	Thomas Gilhooley
Safety Team	Joseph Moceyunas	Edward Fortuna	Sara Shields
Safety Team	Kathy Moceyunas	Bill Gallagher	Jeff Carpenetti
Safety Team	John Segilia	Joe Chesna	John Boone

Nursing Home Ministry: Oak Ridge - *Linda Kavulich* Oakwood - *Joe Donovan*



FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION on Dec. 4th, following the 12 Noon Mass until 3:00 PM, which then is prayed together the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. If your schedule can allow you, please come and spend time with Emmanuel - *God with us* - in His Eucharistic presence.



FIRST SATURDAY MASS, Dec. 5th, at 8:30 AM. Rosary is prayed a half hour before Mass. We have been growing in attendance at this First Saturday morning Mass honoring our Blessed Mother. Come join us for this prayerful, peaceful Eucharistic celebration!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will hold a special meeting on Monday, Nov. 30th, at 6:30 PM in the parish hall. All members are asked to be in attendance.

Gifts for Kids Program
Help Brighten a Teen's Christmas!

Our annual **Gifts for Kids** drive is officially underway! This year, the Hands of Hope Committee is focusing on **teens ages 14–17**, whose needs are often overlooked during holiday drives. We are collecting new, unwrapped gifts for local youth in our Scranton community. The **'Giving Tree'** is located in the church vestibule. Simply take an ornament from the tree that will indicate the intended gift. Suggested gift ideas include:

- **Tech & Audio:** Wireless earbuds/headphones, Bluetooth speakers, mobile device supplies
- **Personal Care & Beauty:** Perfume, cologne, makeup sets, manicure kits, shaving kits, hair care products, blow dryers and hair straighteners
- **Style & Accessories:** Baseball caps (all teams/sports), small purses, backpacks, jewelry (watches, bracelets, necklaces, earrings and ankle bracelets) slippers

Room, Fitness & More: LED strip lights, bedroom decor/posters, water bottles, journals, stationery sets, books, sports/fitness equipment, yoga accessories

Because we are on a quick turnaround this year, we kindly ask that you place your unwrapped donations in the designated collection hampers by **Sunday, December 13** (with a final grace period until **Monday morning, December 14**) so our volunteers can deliver them in time for Christmas.

Thank you, as always, for your warmth, generosity, and continued support of our parish outreach!



Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

The "Nativity Story" will be acted out during the Choir show on **Sunday December 13th at 5:00 PM and at the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass**.

All 1-5 grade students are invited to participate in the telling of the Nativity Story. All 6-8 grade students are invited to help coordinate the show.

The practice dates are:

November 30 at 6:00 PM
December 6 at 5:00 PM

Also please plan on being at the Choir show by 4:30PM and at the 4:00PM Mass on Christmas Eve by 3:15 PM. This will allow us enough time to costume the children before the show and Mass begins.

If you have any additional questions please let me know. I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you,
Brit Banull, DRE



ADVENT SEASON begins this weekend, Nov. 28/29. It will be the start of a new Liturgical Year and our spiritual journey towards Christmas. We are strongly encouraged to make use of the Advent season to grow in our spiritual lives, changing for the better our daily attitudes and approach to life. In a world filled with much anxiety and stress --- especially with the shopping season ---may we step away from our busy, frantic lives and enjoy the peace and presence of Christ. Find some quiet time each day to pray, reflect and meditate on how the Lord comes into your life each day!



Once again, we will be looking for families or individuals to bring up the Advent candle in procession before the start of all our weekend Masses. If you are interested in giving our parish the honor of having you present the candle, simply notify the office or Nick, Deacon Marty or Fr. Paul. We found it to be so touching when we started this sacred tradition of bringing forth the Advent candle.

Our new outdoor pantry, located outside the parish hall, was officially blessed immediately following Mass on Thanksgiving!



This wonderful addition was designed and built by Mike Egan, a dedicated Friends of the Poor and Catherine McAuley Center volunteer, and installed by the Divine Mercy Knights of Columbus. We are deeply grateful to Mike for his craftsmanship, to the Knights for their installation work, and to our entire parish community for your ongoing support of the pantry. May it continue to be a blessing to all in need!



POPE FRANCIS HANDS OF HOPE TEAM will hold a Christmas luncheon/meeting at the residence of the Oblates of St. Joseph, Route 315, Laflin, on Thursday, Dec. 17th, beginning at 12 Noon. We are grateful to these members of our parish social concerns team for their loving and caring outreach to those who are in need. We always welcome new members to join our team!

PARISH YOUTH GROUP will meet this Sunday evening (Nov. 29) from 5:00 - 7:00 PM in the parish center conference room. We are grateful to our teenagers who are coming together to form a parish youth group. We invite other high school teenagers to be a part of this dynamic group of young people on fire with their Catholic Faith.



BAPTISMAL WELCOME this Sunday to *Sadie Cameron John Merrifield*, son of Charles and Katrina (Kemnetz) Merrifield of Scranton. Blessings upon this child reborn through the saving waters of baptism. Congratulations to the parents, godparents and family!

2026 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL UPDATE: Thank you to our parishioners who have generously donated thus far to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal of the Diocese of Scranton. Our parish is almost there in reaching our goal of $59,055.00. We invite those who have not yet participated to consider making a pledge or financial gift to the Appeal, especially during this week of Thanksgiving. We are grateful for all our many blessings and gifts, but we are especially reminded in this weekend's Gospel that "***what we do for the least of our brothers & sisters, we do for the Lord***". May God bless us in our parish effort to assist our diocese in all of the many services it provides throughout the year!



SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANTS

Your contribution helps empower parish efforts to create cultures of encounter and work for justice.

With annual grants of up to $5,000.00 from the Catholic Ministries Appeal, parishes can implement programs that directly assist their local communities and parishioners through initiatives like Family Outreach, Parish Food Pantries, and Care for the Elderly.

2026 Goal:	**$59,055.00**
Amount Collected:	**$51,024.70**
Percentage to Goal:	**86.40%**

Together, we can strengthen our communities.
To make your gift, visit:
AnnualAppeal.org

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY to the family of the late *Gary Marchesini*, whose funeral Mass was celebrated in our parish church this Saturday morning (Nov. 28). May he rest in the eternal peace of Christ and comfort to his surviving family and friends.

Women's Guild Christmas Party will be held Sunday December 6 at 12 pm. The party will be held at LUCCA's restaurant in Taylor.
Cost is $35.00 each reservation and everyone attending is asked to bring a $5.00 grab bag gift and a dessert, however the gift and dessert are not required to attend the party.
To make reservations stop by the parish office, place your reservation and payment in a marked envelope and place in collection basket or call Linda at 570-909-6251. Reservations close December 1. All members are invited to attend.

Our next **Coffee Sunday** will be held on Sunday, December 6 following both the 8:00AM Mass and the 10:00AM Mass. Thank you to Paul/Louise Pawlowski and Bill/Linda Gallagher/Joan Rempe for sponsoring the December social! If you would like to sponsor an upcoming Coffee Sunday reach out to Renee at 570-446-4718.





PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR LOOKING AHEAD!!!

~ 2026 ~

Dec. 13	Parish Christmas Concert / Party
Dec. 24-25	Christmas Eve/Day

~ 2027~

Jan. 16	Nite at the Races
Jan. 24	Christian Unity Prayer Service
Feb. 7	Knights Pancake Breakfast
Feb. 7	First Penance Ceremony
Feb. 10	Ash Wednesday / Start of Lent
March 28	Easter Sunday
March 31	Confirmation Mass
April 4	Divine Mercy Sunday
April 25	End of Religious Education Year
May 2	First Holy Communion
June 18-20	Parish Picnic
August 1	Parish Golf Tournament
Sept 19	Opening of Religious Education Year
Sept 25	Craft Fair
Oct 17	Pasta Dinner (**National Pasta Day**)
Nov 7	Veterans' Mass / Tribute
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Day / Family Mass
Dec 12	Parish Christmas Concert / Party
Dec 24-25	Christmas Eve / Day

PARISH SAFETY TEAM will meet for their regular monthly meeting this Tuesday evening, December 1, at 6:30 PM in the parish center conference room. We are grateful for our dedicated team members who are so vigilant and welcoming at our weekend Masses. If anyone would like to join this team, please let us know at the parish office.

SR. LORRAINE STUDLEY, I.H.M. has been a special part of our parish family, along with Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M., for over the past three years. Sr. Lorraine celebrated her 50th Jubilee of religious profession with us back in July. Unfortunately, Sr. Lorraine suffered a minor stroke in early October and is recuperating at the residence of the retired Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters on the Marywood Campus. If you want to send Sr. Lorraine a card over this holiday season, you can mail it to her attention at **Our Lady of Peace Residence, 1510 University Ave., Scranton, PA 18509**. We know she will appreciate hearing from you!

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday, November 30
Noon Mass
6:30PM—K of C Meeting

Tuesday, December 1
Noon Mass
6:30PM—Safety Team Meeting

Wednesday, December 2
Noon Mass

Thursday, December 3
Noon Mass
2:00—Friends of the Poor Food Pantry

First Friday, December 4
Noon Mass
Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday, December 5
8:30AM—First Saturday Mass
9:00AM—Men of Divine Mercy Meeting
4:00PM—Mass

Sunday, December 6
8:00AM & 10:00AM Masses
Coffee Sunday after each Mass

SANCTUARY CANDLE



In memory this week for the repose of the soul of

Zeranski/Schofield Families
by **Roberta Wywiorski/Joseph Schofield**

Collection Report
November 21 / 22



Weekend: $ 8,785.05
Online Giving: $ 1,370.00
Candles: $ 162.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH!

Capital Improvement Fund:

$ 620.00

Because of recent improvement projects, funds were taken from this account to pay for these allocated expenses. Thank you for your donations to this specific fund!

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

November 30 — December 6, 2026

Mon	12:00pm	Special Intention—Karen Misorek *Friend, Tammy*
Tues	12:00pm	Andrew Kettel *Anne Catalano*
Wed	12:00pm	Robert Evans *Family*
Thur	12:00pm	Deceased Members of Donovan/Petras Families
Fri	12:00pm	Santina Lonergan *Marywood Classmates of '67*
Sat	8:30am	William Warren/Regina Witkoski *Roberta Wywiorski*
	4:00pm	Linda Georgetti *Ron/Ann Talarico*
Sun	8:00am	Carol Morrison *Ostrowski Family*
	10:00am	Elizabeth Shimo *Jack, Donna, Brian, Billy Shimo*

This week we pray for our sick, elderly and homebound parishioners, especially…

Fr. Francis Pauselli, Erma Mecca, Jacob Walsh, Nancy Mott, Martha Dougher, Carol Nowacki, Harper Shimkus, Richard Peters, Emily Allegrucci, Joanne Dahms, Andrew 'AJ' Lafferty, Linda Woody, Msgr. Doug Reed, Joseph Tosolt

If you would like a home visit from Fr. Paul, feel free to call him directly at (570) 498-0590.

Readings for the Week of Nov. 29—Dec 6
First Week of Advent

Sunday
Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
Monday
Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday
Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday
Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday
Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday
Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday
Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday
Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

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