

# Parish Bulletin

TWO CATHOLIC PARISHES. ONE CATHOLIC FAITH.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS, LEWISTOWN | SAINT JUDE THADDEUS, MIFFLINTOWN

DECEMBER 7, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## WELCOME

We're glad you're here! No matter who you are, where you come from, or where you are on your journey of faith, please know that you are welcome here.

Sacred Heart Parish, Lewistown, and Saint Jude Parish, Mifflintown, are two separate Catholic parish communities in the Diocese of Harrisburg. Our shared office space is located in Lewistown, PA.

## PARISH

### **Sacred Heart & Saint Jude Parish Office**

9 N. Brown St.  
Lewistown, PA 17044  
717-242-2781

**Mon-Thurs: 9:00am - 3:00pm**

**Fri: 9:00am - 12:00pm**

Office hours are available by phone or in person at our Lewistown office.

## SCHOOL

### **Sacred Heart of Jesus School**

110 N. Dorcas St.  
Lewistown, PA 17044  
717-248-5351  
[sacredheartschool.com](http://sacredheartschool.com)

## CLERGY & STAFF

**Rev. Kevin J. Coyle**, Pastor

[frcoyle@sacredheartlewisstown.com](mailto:frcoyle@sacredheartlewisstown.com)

**Deborah Henry**, Principal

[principal@sacredheartschool.com](mailto:principal@sacredheartschool.com)

**Cathy Stout**, Pastoral Associate

[cstout@sacredheartlewisstown.com](mailto:cstout@sacredheartlewisstown.com)

**Jodi Peters**, Parish Office Manager

[shfinance@sacredheartlewisstown.com](mailto:shfinance@sacredheartlewisstown.com)

**Adrienne Zannino**, St. Jude Parish

Office Administrator  
[azannino@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:azannino@hbgdiocese.org)

**Ashley Henry**, Advancement Director

[development@sacredheartschool.com](mailto:development@sacredheartschool.com)

**Andrew Corkins**, Maintenance & Custodial

# Peace



Christ calms our fears.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

## CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Confession is offered at 3:00 pm on Saturdays at Sacred Heart, Lewistown, and at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays and 8:30 am on Sundays at St. Jude, Mifflintown. Appointments for confession can be made by calling the Parish Office.

## BULLETIN REQUESTS

Please submit bulletin requests to Ashley Henry at [development@sacredheartschool.com](mailto:development@sacredheartschool.com) at least 8 days before the Sunday of publication. Submissions may be edited or abbreviated.



# INFORMATION CENTER

## ALTAR FLOWERS

We invite you to honor or remember a loved one by sponsoring altar flowers throughout the year. The Parish Office will coordinate all flower memorial orders with our local florists. If you would like to sponsor flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact the Parish Office. Checks may be made payable to the Parish.

## MASS INTENTIONS

- Anyone may request a Mass to be said for a deceased family member or friend.
- Intentions are \$10 per Mass
- Intentions are printed weekly in the church bulletin.

## FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Delores Wagner who entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

## HELP IS HERE FOR YOU

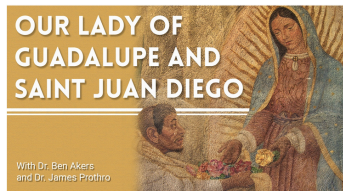
Counseling Services:

Diocese of Harrisburg Catholic Charities  
Capital Region Counseling Office  
Kelly Bolton, LSW  
939 East Park Drive, Suite 101  
717-233-7978  
kbolton@cchbg.org



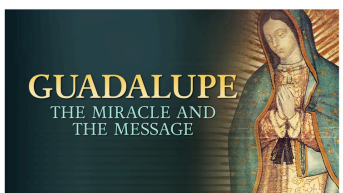
## THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Formed is free to all parishioners at both Sacred Heart and St. Jude. Simply visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) and click sign up to see what they have to offer!



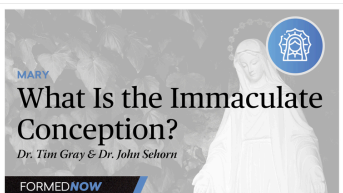
**formed**  
Forming Catholics for Life.  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego | Catholic Saints**  
Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. James Prothro to discuss Mary's apparition to Saint Juan Diego on Tepeyac hill under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



**formed**  
Forming Catholics for Life.  
**Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message**  
Enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has influenced the conversion of millions of people.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



**formed**  
Forming Catholics for Life.  
**What Is the Immaculate Conception?**  
Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception and what it means to the Church.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



# SACRAMENTS

## BAPTISM

Baptism workshops are offered for parents each month. To register for a workshop, please contact the Parish Office. Once you complete a workshop, we can schedule your child's baptism.

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Are you still in need of a few sacraments? Are you an adult who would like to be baptized, confirmed, or receive Communion in the Church? Through preparation and formation, teens and adults are invited to discover the teachings of the Catholic faith and come to know Jesus in the Eucharist. Our Parish Office can help guide you in your next steps to become Catholic.

## HOLY MATRIMONY & CONVALIDATION

If you would like to be married in the Catholic Church or if you are currently married civilly and would like your marriage to be convalidated (blessed by the church), contact the Parish Office to get started in a new engaging preparation program. We will need 9 months notice to schedule a Wedding Mass or Ceremony.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK & LAST RITES

Anyone who is seriously ill or preparing for surgery may schedule a sacramental anointing by calling the Parish Office. If someone is in danger of death, please contact the Parish Office and choose the emergency option.



# SACRED HEART PARISH

106 N. DORCAS ST., LEWISTOWN, PA | SACREDHEARTLEWISTOWN.COM

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*Let the little voices ring*

All children of the parish are invited to help fill our church with joyful song at the **4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass!**

Come be part of the celebration as we praise the newborn King with music, faith, and fun!

### Rehearsals:

**Sundays, December 14, and 21**

**4:00-5:00 PM**

**Sacred Heart Church**

No experience needed, just a willing heart and a joyful voice!

### Calling Confirmation and High School Students!

We also welcome our Confirmation candidates and high-school parishioners to assist with rehearsals and help lead the children's choir at the Christmas Eve Mass. This is a wonderful way to serve the parish, earn service hours if needed, and help our younger singers grow in confidence.

Let the children come and sing for Jesus this Christmas!



## FAMILY OF FAITH

*Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

Families are reminded that our community event for December is to come together in celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This holy day is a beautiful opportunity for us to honor Our Blessed Mother and reflect on God's grace at work in her life and in ours.

We warmly encourage all families to join us for Mass at either parish as we mark this important feast day in the life of the Church. Your presence enriches our parish community, and we look forward to gathering in prayer with you.



## SACRED HEART MASS SCHEDULE

*Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lewistown*

Saturday, Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm   Annie Hallinger
Sunday, Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am   People of the Parish
Monday, Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm   Increasing Vocations To the Priesthood & Religious Life
Thursday, Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am   Anita Smith
Friday, Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am   Barry Persing
Saturday, Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 pm   Nancy Wills
Sunday, Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am   Rocco J Soccio

## STEWARDSHIP

November 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	\$7,060.25
November 30 <sup>th</sup> :	\$5,639.00
Matthew 25:	\$1,250.00

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal:	\$36,246.43
Total Committed:	\$47,040.00
Donations Received:	\$46,176.00



# ST. JUDE PARISH

3918 WILLIAM PENN HWY., MIFFLINTOWN, PA | [STJUDEMIFFLINTOWN.COM](http://STJUDEMIFFLINTOWN.COM)



## SERVE WITH JOY THIS JANUARY

### *Volunteers Needed for the Food Pantry*

Saint Jude Thaddeus Parish is seeking volunteers to help at the Food Pantry throughout the month of January. Your time and support make a meaningful difference for our neighbors in need.

### **Volunteer Days & Times:**

Saturdays • 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

(Please arrive by 8:15 AM for a brief training and updates.)

Volunteer Duties Include:

- Assisting clients with shopping
- Stocking shelves
- Helping carry groceries to vehicles

Up to four volunteers are needed each Saturday, and teen volunteers are welcome. Please sign up by writing your name and phone number next to your preferred date(s) and time(s) in the narthex.

### **Location & Parking:**

Volunteer parking is available behind the Food Pantry building on Front St.

Please enter through the basement door.

If you are unable to attend your scheduled time, please call Glenda Fultz at the Food Pantry (717-436-9718) at least one day in advance.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve!

## CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK & BAZAAR

*Save the Date!*

Our annual Christmas Cookie Walk will take place Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM. Doors open at 8:00 AM.

The Guild is seeking cookie bakers to help make this event a success! Donations of as many dozen of one variety of your favorite Christmas cookie as you can provide, will be appreciated.

Cookie drop-off will be available in the Social Hall on:

- Friday, December 12 from 9:00 AM–6:00 PM
- Saturday morning, before the event

We are deeply grateful for your generous support. Our Christmas Bazaar will also be open during the Cookie Walk. Please consider donating new or gently used Christmas items. Donations may be dropped off in the Social Hall in the days leading up to the event.

For more information, please contact Joyce Price at 717-994-0209.



## ST. JUDE MASS SCHEDULE

### *St. Jude Parish, Mifflintown*

Sunday, Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am   Barbara K Soccio
Monday, Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am   Bertha Ames
Wednesday, Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm   Anne Zarnowski
Sunday, Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am   People of the Parish

## STEWARDSHIP

November 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	\$2,373.00
November 30 <sup>th</sup> :	\$1,999.00
Matthew 25:	\$408.00

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Parish Goal:	\$13,401.13
Total Committed:	\$15,955.00
Donations Received:	\$15,955.00



# COMMUNITY CORNER



## Quiet Christmas

*soft sounds of the season presented by local musicians*

**Molly & Kelsey Bishop • Rich Burns  
Bruce & Laura Buffington • Josh Hill**

**Jeff Kauffman • Peter Marsh**

**Ethan McMonigal • Sophie North**

**Patty Loudenslager**

**Jane Piper**

**Chris Prough**

**Ela Robertson**

**Chris Ruble**

**Kevin Zook**

**"Trillogy" Flute Trio**

**First United Methodist Church Choir**

**Friday, December 19, 7:00 pm**  
(Snow date: December 20)

**First United Methodist Church**  
**200 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lewistown**

*Donations benefit*

**THE THEIL & ANDREA KAUFFMAN  
MEMORIAL BIBLE FUND**



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

3 W. Monument Square, Suite 203

Lewistown, PA | 717-363-4812

[stvincentdepaullewisown@gmail.com](mailto:stvincentdepaullewisown@gmail.com)

*\*The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Lewistown is an independent 501(c)(3) organization and operates separate from the local parish. Neither Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish nor St. Jude Parish share in governance or financial responsibility of the organization. Please direct all questions and concerns to their office and administration.*

### Christmas Baskets Distribution

We are in need of turkeys, boxed potatoes, boxed stuffing, canned corn, canned green beans, canned sweet potatoes, fruit cocktail, canned/bottled gravy, cake mix, frosting, and monetary donations. Please have all donations to the SVDP office on Tuesdays or Fridays before December 16th. Thank you for your generosity.



To report suspected child abuse, call:  
PA Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-932-0313  
Diocese of Harrisburg 1-800-626-1608

# DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

## CALLING ALL SOUP MAKERS!

The Saint Elizabeth Guild in support of Catholic Charities is looking for soup makers who are willing to share quarts of their best homemade soup for our 2026 "Souper Bowl Sunday Soup Sale."

The 2026 sale will take place on February 7-8 at various parishes throughout the diocese.

If you are willing to make soup for the event, please scan the QR code below or contact Tara Benkovic, at [tbenkovic@cchbg.org](mailto:tbenkovic@cchbg.org) or 717-657-4804 ext 284.

Empty one-quart containers will be supplied.



**SIGN UP TODAY!**



[WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/9040C49ACAA29A5FE3-59630466-2026](http://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/9040C49ACAA29A5FE3-59630466-2026)

**Thank You!**



**Sponsored by the Office for Life & Dignity**

Rooted in the dignity of every human person, the Diocese of Harrisburg's inaugural Catholic Social Teaching Symposium is a day dedicated to exploring the Church's response to some of the most urgent issues of our time. Through panels, breakout sessions, and practical discussions, participants will deepen their understanding of human dignity, solidarity, and our call to serve the common good. Together, we will reflect, learn, and discern how we can bring Christ's love into our communities through action, advocacy, and encounter.

**All are welcome to register & attend!**

**\$20 per person (includes lunch)**

### Featured Topics:

- Human Dignity & CST
- Options for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Multicultural Welcoming
- Prison Ministry
- Working Lunch: Advocacy
- Human Trafficking
- Care for Creation
- Faithful Citizenship
- Healthcare Panel
- Immigration Panel



**SCAN TO  
REGISTER!**

**Registration Now Open: [www.hbgdiocese.org/csts](http://www.hbgdiocese.org/csts)**

# SACRED HEART SCHOOL

110 N. DORCAS ST., LEWISTOWN, PA | [SACREDHEARTSCHOOL.COM](http://SACREDHEARTSCHOOL.COM)

## Save the Date



SACRED HEART  
— of JESUS —  
SCHOOL

## New York, New York

*Under the City Lights Gala*

February 7, 2026

Lewistown Country Club

Cocktail Hour - 5:00pm

Tickets on Sale December 1

\$75 Through January 26

\$80 until February 5



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

*Service with a smile*

Sacred Heart School is looking for a few extra helping hands to serve breakfast on Tuesdays and Fridays. Volunteering is a wonderful way to be part of our school family and brighten our students' days! If you or someone you know would like to help, please contact the school office. Ashley Henry will gladly assist you with getting your clearances and setting up a time to volunteer.

## SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED

*Excellence in faith filled education*

Sacred Heart School is in need of substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. If you are interested or know of anyone that would be interested, please call the school office.

## SUPPORT SHS THROUGH GIFT CARDS

*Holiday Shopping that Helps SHS!*

Did you know you can help support Sacred Heart School just by purchasing gift cards for your everyday shopping or holiday gifts? Through the RaiseRight Gift Card Program, a percentage of each purchase comes back to our school, helping provide tuition credit and financial aid for SHS families.

With more than 750 brands to choose from, RaiseRight makes it easy to give back:

1. Paper Form: Pick up an order form in the Narthex. Return it to the school or Parish Office with cash or a check made out to Sacred Heart School.
2. Online or App – Physical Cards: Visit [RaiseRight.com](http://RaiseRight.com) or download the app to order gift cards shipped to your home or the school (small fees apply).
3. Online or App – E-Gift/Reloadable Cards: Order instantly available e-gift cards or reloadable cards (small fees apply).

## Sacred Heart School Enrollment Code:

986DCAA961532

**We are submitting another bulk order Due:**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**

Your everyday shopping can help open doors for students, thank you for supporting Sacred Heart School!

## Census Time in Bethlehem

December 12th

11 am & 7 pm

SHS Cafeteria







## DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG

## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

4800 Union Deposit Road | Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710  
bishopsoffice@hbgdiocese.org | (717) 657-4804 ext. 354 | www.hbgdiocese.org

November 26, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter the holy season of Advent, the Church invites us to slow down, watch, and prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. These weeks before Christmas are marked by a quiet yet profound anticipation—an invitation to renew our trust in God, to awaken our sense of hope in God's promises, and to recognize the many ways Christ is present among us even now.

During a recent audience with pilgrims from Latvia, Pope Leo XIV said that "Hope, which is the central theme of this year's Jubilee, does not mean having all the answers but rather it calls us to put our trust in God and to follow Christ more closely."<sup>1</sup> Advent offers us this very opportunity. In a world often filled with uncertainty, conflict, and distraction, Advent invites us to turn our gaze toward the One who comes to bring light into our darkness, hope into our challenges, and peace into our unrest.

This season also encourages us to be attentive to God's grace in the present moment. Pope Leo further reflected, "While we are encouraged by hope, at the same time, we need to unite it with the virtue of faith in order to keep our eyes on the present and see the many ways that God is blessing us here and now."<sup>2</sup> Advent is a time to prepare ourselves to celebrate Christ's birth while at the same time recognizing His presence already at work in our homes, our parishes, and throughout our Diocese. It also means recognizing Jesus where we do not expect to find Him, in the poor, the marginalized, and the stranger.

Each candle of the Advent wreath reminds us that Christ's light grows steadily, even gently, in our lives. We are called to carry this light to others—especially to those who are lonely, struggling, or seeking meaning. Simple acts of charity, compassion, and kindness can illuminate another person's life in extraordinary ways.

My prayer for you and your families is that this Advent will be a time of grace-filled renewal. May your hearts be strengthened in faith, your spirits lifted in hope, and your actions rooted in the love of Christ who comes to dwell among us.

May Mary, our Blessed Mother, who awaited the birth of Her Son with joyful trust, continue to intercede with Her Son for us during this holy season and throughout the new year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior  
Bishop of Harrisburg

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<sup>1</sup> Leo XIV, "Greeting of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV to the National Pilgrimage from Latvia," *The Holy See*, <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/speeches/2025/november/documents/20251124-pellegrinaggio-lettonia.html> (accessed November 25, 2025)

<sup>2</sup> Leo XIV, "Greeting of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV to the National Pilgrimage from Latvia," *The Holy See*, <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/speeches/2025/november/documents/20251124-pellegrinaggio-lettonia.html> (accessed November 25, 2025)