

## December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

### Stewardship is a Way of Life. Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of December 3, 2023:

Regular:	\$4,098.50
Loose:	\$ 570.00
ONLINE GIVING:	\$1,709.00
Tithing income December 3, 2023:	\$6,377.50
Tithing income December 4, 2022:	\$7,616.25

Mass Attendance for December 3, 2023	283
Mass Attendance for December 4, 2022	272

#### Tithe for December 3, 2023

United Way Energy Bank	\$638
Christmas Flowers (envelope)	

Tithe for December 8, 2023 (Immaculate Conception)  
Sister's of Christian Charity

#### Tithe for December 10, 2023

St. Vincent dePaul Society  
Retirement Fund for Religious (envelope)

### Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to  
those who have  
given a lifetime.



Support aging religious. Our envelope today is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.



#### Rectory Open House Christmas Party

Father Weary's Rectory Open House Christmas Party will be held on **Sunday, December 10th from 3-5 PM**. All are welcome to join us for this annual celebration. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

#### Prayer for Advent

O Lord, the Advent candles, with their familiar, glowing light, help us to turn to you. May we stay alert in these weeks, anticipating the joyful celebration of your Son's arrival into the world. As the Advent lights keep darkness at bay, may they also keep us from wandering from your ways. Help us to stay ever watchful, like the gatekeeper. Help us, we pray, to hold your mercy deep within our heart, carrying it with us as we prepare for the coming of our infant Savior. Amen



### FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

"Here begins the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In Isaiah the prophet it is written: 'I send my messenger before to prepare your way': a herald's voice in the desert crying, 'Make ready the way of the Lord, clear him a straight path.' Thus it was that John the Baptizer appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance which led to the forgiveness of sins...One more powerful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal strap. I have baptized you in water, he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

We meet John the Baptist, the second principal figure of advent, exhorting us to take seriously the need for preparing for the Lord in our lives today. We begin with ourselves, making sure that with the Lord's help, that we are living the life of grace, His plan and gift for us. We seek His gift in the sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist. While we become preoccupied with Christmas preparations, how sad that we sometimes fail to prepare ourselves, or fail to encourage others to join with us in what really matters, our readiness to discover anew the presence of Christ. John's reference to Isaiah provides the direction that we all need - make ready, clear the path. 'Come Lord Jesus.'

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11**

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for "the glory of the Lord to be revealed." Rather than looking only at God's power, Isaiah focuses on God's kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.

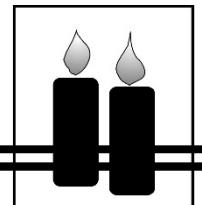
#### **Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14**

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

#### **Gospel: Mark 1:1-8**

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to "stoop and untie his sandal straps." John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he, who would walk among them.

**Prepare the way  
of the Lord**



## LITURGICAL NOTES

*Mass Intentions for the Week*



### Saturday, December 9: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;  
Matthew 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8

4:00 PM Joseph Tice, Sr. from his Loving Family

### Sunday, December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14;  
2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

7:30 AM Harry Krepps from Jeannie and Family

11:00 AM People of the Parish

### Monday, December 11: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14;  
Luke 5:17-26

8:00 AM Special Intentions of Donath Korbich from Marie Bender

### Tuesday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde,  
19; Luke 1:39-47

8:00 AM Special Intentions of Fr. Peter Rettig from the Companions of Pauline

### Wednesday, December 13: Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr (Memorial)

Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10;  
Matthew 11:28-30

7:00 PM Frank Guerrini, Jr. from Del & Rose Guerrini

### Thursday, December 14: Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab;  
Matthew 11:11-15

9:00 AM Bill Rieg from Russ & Shirley Krug  
In Memory/Honor of SHS Memorial Society Members

### Friday, December 15: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6;  
Matthew 11:16-19

8:00 AM Katherine Kozicki

### Saturday, December 16: Advent Weekday

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19;  
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

4:00 PM Catherine Schultz from Betsy Tressler

### Sunday, December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54;  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

7:30 AM Peter Meloni from Mom

11:00 AM People of the Parish

## Rectory Open House/3:00-5:00PM

Youth Group/6:00PM/Church Basement

### Monday 12/11/23

Mass/8:00AM/Church

### Tuesday 12/12/23

Mass/8:00AM/Church

### Wednesday 12/13/23

Confessions/6:30PM/Church

Mass/7:00PM/Church

Adult Choir/7:30PM/Church

### Thursday 12/14/23

Mass/ 9:00AM/Church

RCIA/7:00PM/Parish Office

### Friday 12/15/23

Mass/8:00AM/Church

SHS Christmas Musical/11:00AM & 7:00PM/Church

### Saturday 12/16/23

SVDP Christmas Basket Distribution/9AM-1PM

Confessions/3:00PM/Church

Mass/4:00PM/Church

### Sunday 12/17/23 – Third Sunday of Advent

Mass/7:30AM/Church

Adult Sunday School/9:00AM/Parish Office

CCD Class/9:00AM/Sacred Heart School

Mass/11:00AM/Church

Children's Choir Practice/12:30PM/Choir Loft

Spanish Mass/1:30PM/St Jude

No Youth Group



The Sanctuary Lamp  
for the week of December 10th  
burns in Loving Memory of  
Theresa Dybach  
From Friends, Betsy & Jill



Memorialize Sanctuary Candles: The following dates  
are available: February 11, 18 & 25 and March 3 & 17.



The Sanctuary Flowers for the  
week of December 10th  
are in loving memory of  
Louis DeLande



From the Dedmon, Egolf and Reed Families

Memorialize Flowers: If you would like to memorialize  
flowers at the altar or ambo (pulpit) please call the office to  
schedule. The following dates are available:

January 7, 14, 21 & 28 and February 4, 11, 18 & 25.



Mifflin County High School Cantare will  
perform at approximately 10:40 AM,  
prior to 11:00 AM Mass and after  
Communion on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Come and enjoy!

## Calendar of Events

### Saturday 12/9/23

Confessions/3:00PM/Church

Mass/4:00PM/Church

### Sunday 12/10/23 – Second Sunday of Advent

Mass/7:30AM/Church

Adult Sunday School/9:00AM/Parish Office

CCD Class/9:00AM/Sacred Heart School

MCHS Cantare Sings/10:40AM/Church

Mass/11:00AM/Church

Children's Choir Practice/12:30PM/Choir Loft

Spanish Mass/1:30PM/St Jude





### Ministry Schedule: December 9 – December 10

#### **Sat. 4:00 PM**

**Greeter:** Ken Johnson, Nan Yeater

**Lector:** Bernie Howard

**EMHC:** Joann Loht

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Tristen Kline

**Altar Server:** Ethan McMonigal

**Cantor:** Dr. Michael Murray

#### **Sun. 7:30 AM**

**Greeter:** Sue Reinke, Linda Treaster

**Lector:** Jean Mank

**EMHC:** John Maroney

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Unfilled

**Altar Server:** Anthony Palopoli

**Cantor:** Unfilled

#### **Sun. 11:00 AM**

**Greeter:** Ruth Allison, Judith Stroup

**Lector:** Cathy Michaels

**EMHC:** Wendy Vogt

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Landon Mazur

**Altar Server:** Ellie Tressler

**Cantor:** Cathy Stout

### Ministry Schedule: December 16 – December 17

#### **Sat. 4:00 PM**

**Greeter:** Ken Johnson, Steven Lilley

**Lector:** Pete O'Donnell

**EMHC:** Christina Stryker

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Tristen Kline

**Altar Server:** Daniel McMonigal

**Cantor:** Dr. Michael Murray

#### **Sun. 7:30 AM**

**Greeter:** Bill & Kim Napikoski

**Lector:** Don Spangler

**EMHC:** Mike Leeper

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Unfilled

**Altar Server:** Caroline Palopoli

**Cantor:** Mary Smith

#### **Sun. 11:00 AM**

**Greeter:** Judy DeVecchis, Judith Stroup

**Lector:** Judy Sieber

**EMHC:** Greg DeVecchis

**Knights of the Holy Temple:** Landon Mazur

**Altar Server:** Kenneth Shank

**Cantor:** Cathy Stout

### Youth Group News



meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.

The Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> in observance of the holidays. The next

### Christmas Basket Collection

St. Vincent dePaul Society is collecting canned goods and other items for our Christmas Basket Giveaway. We will be distributing 100 baskets on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please be generous to help those less fortunate. We are in need of Turkeys, Canned Cranberry Sauce, Boxed Stuffing, Boxed Potatoes, Fruit Cocktail, Canned Pumpkin, Pie Shells, Corn, Green Beans, Cake Mix, Canned Frosting, Soups, Jell-O or Pudding mix, Canned or Bottled Gravy and Candy Canes or monetary donations. We would like the donations to be to us by **Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Contributions should be dropped off at the SVDP office at 3 W Monument Square, Suite 203 on Tuesdays or Fridays. Questions call (717) 363-4812 or email us at [stvincentdepaullewistown@gmail.com](mailto:stvincentdepaullewistown@gmail.com)

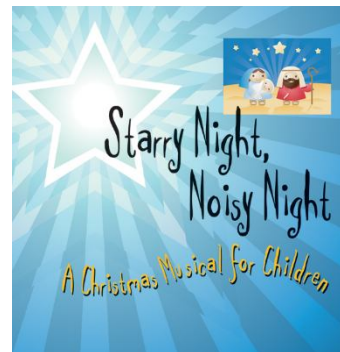


**Thank you for your support and generosity!**



We are still in need of personal care items such as **shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, as well as diapers size two and three**. They can be dropped off at the office or placed in the basket in the narthex.

### Sacred Heart School Christmas Musical



The students of Sacred Heart School invite you to their Annual Christmas Musical! They will be performing **Starry Night, Noisy Night** on **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM**, with a cookie

social to follow the evening performance at the school. In case of inclement weather, the musical will be held on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.



Children's Choir practices for the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass will be held from 12:30 -1:30 p.m. in the Choir Loft on the following dates:

Sunday, December 10  
Sunday, December 17

All children in grades 1-8 are invited to join. The children's choir will sing at the 4 PM Mass on Christmas Eve. For questions, please contact Cathy Stout at 814-360-4268.





One of our Catholic traditions is the wearing of the Brown Scapular. It is a devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Our Lady appeared to Saint Simon Stock in the year 1251 and gave him the Brown Scapular. She promised that anyone who wears the Scapular will be given the Grace of Final Perseverance to attain Eternal Life in Heaven. Fr. Rich will bless Scapulars in a brief

ceremony on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 17th, immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass.



A special thank you goes out to the Stout family for their hard work to enlarge each of the missal holders in the pews.

And also, a heartfelt thank you to all who contributed their time and talent in preparing the new

missals and putting them in place. Sacred Heart parish is incredibly thankful for all of you! God bless you!

### 2023 Diocesan Annual Campaign

#### Update as of November 30

The Diocese of Harrisburg continues to process gifts from the faithful who are making gifts in support of the DAC. Below is Sacred Heart's up to date information. **Please continue to honor your pledges to the DAC.**

Sacred Heart Parish Goal for 2023	<b>\$36,246.43</b>
Total Paid to date	<b>\$40,881.75</b>

<b>Over</b> Goal to Date	<b>\$4,635.32</b>
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### SCHOOL NEWS

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday – Friday 7:30 AM- 3:30 PM**

\*\*If assistance is needed outside of office hours, leave a message on the school answering machine at 717-248-5351 or contact the Parish Office at 717-242-2781



### Sacred Heart School Angel Fund

You will find nicely decorated apples in the Narthex. These apples were decorated by the students of SHS in hopes that you will make a gift to the SHS Angel Fund. The SHS Angel Fund

provides scholarships and financial assistance to children who attend our school. If you would like to make a donation, you can make checks payable to **Sacred Heart School with Angel Fund** in the memo and placing it in the collection basket, mailing it to the school or you can go online to [sacredheartschool.com](http://sacredheartschool.com) and make an online donation. Donations to the SHS Angel Fund are accepted at any time during the year; however, if you are able, we encourage you to participate at this time.

**Consider using your 5% tithe to other charitable organizations to participate, if possible. Thanks for your support of SHS!**



Formerly ShopWithScrip

**RaiseRight**, formerly SCRIP, is a wonderful fundraiser for our school. Families purchase gift cards for everyday expenses (i.e. groceries, gas, clothing, eating out) or gifts for holidays (i.e. Christmas, Birthdays, Mother's Day, and Father's Day) and HSA receives a percentage of each purchase. Percentages vary based on the company. The money HSA receives goes back to the school for assemblies, playground improvement, teacher expenses, etc. There are over 750 brands from which you can purchase gift cards. You can purchase gift cards 3 different ways:

1. Fill out a form available in the Narthex. Send it into the school or the Parish Office with cash or a check made out to SHS-HSA.
2. Download the app or go to [RaiseRight.com](http://RaiseRight.com) and order gift cards. You can choose to have the gift cards shipped to you or to the school. There is a small fee to have the gift cards shipped to you and there is a small fee to pay for your order through the website or app.
3. Download the app or go to [RaiseRight.com](http://RaiseRight.com) and order e-gift cards or reloadable cards. These cards are made available to you immediately. There is a small fee to pay for orders through the website or app.

The RaiseRight enrollment code for SHS is:

**986DCAA961532**

**Thank you for your support. Happy Shopping!**

**Update:** **December 19<sup>th</sup> is the expected delivery date for orders placed on December 6<sup>th</sup>.** Cards can be picked up at the School or Parish Office. **This is a year round fundraiser.**

