

December 31, 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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

Tithing income for the week of December 24, 2023:

Regular: Unavailable

Loose: Unavailable

ONLINE GIVING: Unavailable

Tithing income December 24, 2023: Unavailable

Tithing income December 25, 2022: \$7,745.00

Mass Attendance for December 24, 2023 Unavailable

Mass Attendance for December 25, 2022 74

Tithe for December 24, 2023

St. Vincent dePaul Society

United Way Energy Bank

Tithe for December 25, 2023 (Christmas)

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Catholic Near East (CNEWA)

Tithe for December 31, 2023

Salvation Army

Tithe for January 1, 2024 (Solemnity of Mary)

Habitat for Humanity

Tithe for January 7, 2024

Lumina Center

Parish Office Holiday Hours



The office will be closed on **Monday, January 1st** in observance of New Years. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd at 8:30 AM.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

O God our Father, we thank you for protecting us and bringing us safely through another year. Help us to grow not only in body, but also in heart and mind. May we look upon each new day as another chance to follow you more closely. As the new year unfolds, may we be more merciful towards others and more generous in serving you. Amen.

FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 31, 2023

"The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child... And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."

As the year draws to a close, it is customary to review the events of the prior twelve months. Disasters like war, wild fires and political indictments jump from the headlines. The crowning of a king, the gathering of millions for World Youth Day, mark special positive celebrations.

May we return to this past week when we celebrated the Incarnation, the birth of Jesus as our Savior and Redeemer as we begin a new year.

Like Mary, we reflect prayerfully on the many sacred events of 2023, and take the gift of Jesus Christ into 2024. For many Christmas is over, but for believers the presence of God with us, Emmanuel, is so important. As we greet others for the new year, may we be like the shepherds, and make known the message we have heard and experience, the love of the Holy Family in our own hearts and homes.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

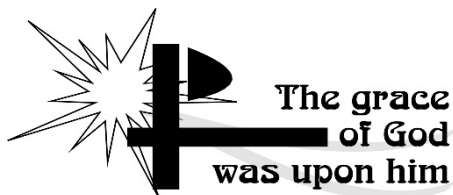
Abram shows us the Lord keeps His promises, for his offspring were indeed many, like the stars in heaven. We, too, must trust in the Lord, so like Abram, our families might prosper.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

By faith Abraham and Sarah were blessed with Isaac, and through him, many descendants because they trusted in God's promise and believed in what they could not see. We see that faith, trust and prayer bring forth God's miracles in our lives.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus was brought to Jerusalem to be consecrated according to the law of Moses. A man named Simeon had learned he would not die until he had seen God's anointed. Upon seeing Jesus, he immediately declared he had witnessed "the glory of your people of Israel." The prophetess Anna also gave thanks and spoke of Jesus to all who would listen. Both recognized the power of Jesus, although he was still an infant.



LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  for the
Intentions  for the
Week



Saturday, December 30: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 John 2:12-17; Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10;
Luke 2:36-40

4:00 PM Catherine Schultz from Jill Steward

Sunday, December 31: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5;
Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM People of the Parish

Monday, January 1: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

10:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, January 2: Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church (Memorial)

1 John 2:22-28; Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
John 1:19-28

8:00 AM Don Parson & Kelli Parson Cross from the Family

Wednesday, January 3: Christmas Weekday

1 John 2:29 – 3:6; Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6;
John 1:29-34

7:00 PM Tyson Searer from Anne Marie Showers

Thursday, January 4: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious (Memorial)

1 John 3:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 7-8, 9; John 1:35-42

9:00 AM Theresa Dybach from Denny & Dottie Peiffer
In Memory/Honor of SHS Memorial Society Members

Friday, January 5: Saint John Neumann, Bishop (Memorial)

1 John 3:11-21; Psalm 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; John 1:43-51
8:00 AM Caroline Banik & Madeline Berkey from Denny & Jane Berkey

Saturday, January 6: Christmas Weekday

1 John 5:5-13; Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20;
Mark 1:7-11

4:00 PM Thomas Bell from K of C #1338

Sunday, January 7: The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13;
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

7:30 AM People of the Parish

11:00 AM Ann Smith from Bob & Judy Peters



Calendar of Events

Saturday 12/30/23

Confessions/3:00PM/Church

Mass/4:00PM/Church

Sunday 12/31/23 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass/7:30AM/Church

No Adult Sunday School

No CCD Class



Mass/11:00AM/Church

No Youth Group

Spanish Mass/1:30PM/St Jude

Monday 1/1/24: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

No 8:00AM Mass

Solemnity of Mary Mass/10:00AM/Church and St. Jude



Tuesday 1/2/24

Mass/8:00AM/Church

SHS Christmas Vacation

Wednesday 1/3/24

Sacred Heart School Resumes

Confessions/6:30PM/Church

Mass/7:00PM/Church

Thursday 1/4/24

Mass/ 9:00AM/Church

RCIA/7:00PM/Parish Office

Friday 1/5/24

Mass/8:00AM/Church

First Friday Adoration/8:30AM/Church

Benediction/6:00PM/Church

Saturday 1/6/24

Confessions/3:00PM/Church

Mass/4:00PM/Church

Sunday 1/7/24 – The Epiphany of the Lord

Mass/7:30AM/Church

Adult Sunday School/9:00AM/Parish Office

CCD/9:00AM/Church

Mass/11:00AM/Church

Spanish Mass/1:30PM/St Jude

Youth Group/6:00PM/Church Basement



Epiphany



The Sanctuary Lamp
for the week of December 31st
burns in loving memory of
Sisters Carmelita Smith &

Anna Marie Ziegler

From The Companions of Pauline



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



The Poinsettia Flowers
for the week of December 31st
are given to the Glory of God
and the birth of His Son, Jesus
by the People of the Parish



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 and February 4, 11, 18 & 25.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Ministry Schedule: December 30 – January 1

Sat. 4:00 PM

Greeter: Ken Johnson, Steven Lilley

Lector: Barbara Bratton

EMHC: John Maroney

Knight of the Holy Temple: Tristen Kline

Altar Server: Ethan McMonigal

Cantor: Cathy Stout

Sun. Dec. 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sun. 7:30 AM

Greeter: Donath Korbich, Penny Nerhood

Lector: Don Spangler

EMHC: Mario Andrie

Knight of the Holy Temple: Unfilled

Altar Server: Robert Auker, Jr.

Cantor: Mary Smith

11:00 AM

Greeter: Del Guerrini, Linda Treaster

Lector: Jeff Michaels

EMHC: Christina Stryker

Knight of the Holy Temple: Landon Mazur

Altar Server: Ellie Tressler

Cantor: Rose Guerrini

Mon. Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary Mass 10:00 AM

Greeter: Keith & Kathy Duff

Lector: Judy Sieber

EMHC: Joann Loht

Knight of the Holy Temple: Matthew Murray

Altar Server:

Cantor: Dr. Michael Murray

NO 8:00 AM MASS



Ministry Schedule: January 6 – January 7

Sat. 4:00 PM

Greeter: Diane Bray, Al Specht

Lector: Pete O'Donnell

EMHC: Nora Torquato

Knight of the Holy Temple: Tristen Kline

Altar Server: Daniel McMonigal

Cantor: Rose Guerrini

Sun. 7:30 AM Epiphany of the Lord

Greeter: Donath Korbich, Penny Nerhood

Lector: Bill Napikoski

EMHC: Mike Leeper

Knight of the Holy Temple: Unfilled

Altar Server: Anthony Palopoli

Cantor: Mary Smith

Sun. 11:00 AM Epiphany of the Lord

Greeter: Keith & Kathy Duff

Lector: Jean Mank

EMHC: Wendy Vogt

Knight of the Holy Temple: Matthew Murray

Altar Server: Kenneth Shank

Cantor: Dr. Michael Murray



Christmas Basket Collection and Giving Tree Gifts



St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank you all for your most generous help with our Giving Tree. We were able to help many children and their families. We were also blessed by your help to provide Christmas Food Baskets to 106 families. Christmas is truly Christmas when we celebrate God's love by helping those in need! **Merry Christmas!**

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 St. Vincent DePaul office or placed in the basket in the narthex.

Youth Group News



The Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, December 31st. Meetings will resume on January 7th at 6 PM in the church basement.



CATECHISM in a YEAR -- ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School Class will **NOT** meet on Sunday, December 31st.

Class will resume Sunday, January 7th at 9 AM in the Parish Office.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who volunteered their time and talent during this year's Christmas Masses at Sacred Heart. Thank you to our Sacristans, Adult and Children's Choir Directors, Choir Members, Organists, EMHC's, Altar Servers, Knights of the Holy Temple, St. Michael's Guardsman, Lectors, Greeters, Cantors and Ushers for your willingness to serve at Sacred Heart. Thank you also to those who helped to decorate the Church and Rectory, made and served food for the Cantare Singers, Rectory Open House and the Youth Group Caroling. Our church family would not be a family without all of these dedicated members. We pray that throughout 2024 our parish continues to thrive with the love of Jesus.



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 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!**



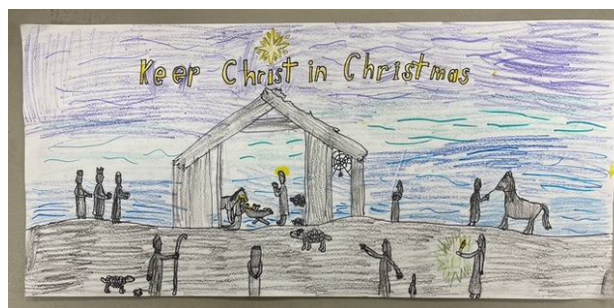
Update: Please contact the school office if you are interested in ordering any gift cards in January. This is a year round fundraiser. Thank you for your support!

Sacred Heart School will be closed from December 22, 2023 at 11:15 AM through January 2, 2024. School will resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. **The Administration, Faculty, Staff, Parents and Children of SHS wish all of you a Blessed Christmas and joy in the coming year! Thank you for all you do for Sacred Heart School all year long!**

Congratulations to Sacred Heart School Students **Molly Fornwalt, Grade 3** and **Hannah Russler, Grade 5** who were winners of the “Keep Christ in Christmas” Billboard Contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #1388. Each student received a \$50 gift card and their billboard design can be seen around Lewistown in two locations!



Molly Fornwalt



Hannah Russler



Save the Date

SHS Gala:

Diamond Jubilee:

Celebrating 75 years of Catholic Education at SHS, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Lewistown Country Club. Tickets are now available at the Parish Office; prices are \$60 per person through Jan. 26th and \$70 Jan. 27th thru Feb. 1st.

