



# SS. Peter and Paul Parish

## A Roman Catholic Faith Community



### *The Third Week of Advent* *December 13, 2015*

*God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low*

*Baruch 5:7*

### *Welcome*

*To all who are tired and need rest; to all who mourn and need comfort;  
to all who are friendless and need friendship;  
to all who are discouraged and need hope;  
to all who are homeless and need sheltering love; o  
and to all who sin and need a Savior;  
and to whomsoever will,  
the Parish of SS. Peter and Paul opens wide its doors  
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!*

### **Mission Statement**

As members of SS. Peter and Paul,  
we have as our mission the sharing of our faith and our talents.  
We proclaim the Word of God through  
compassion for our community and sharing of our treasures as Disciples of Christ.

#### **Office**

13 Hudson Road  
Plains, Pa 18705  
(570)825-6663  
(570)823-4556 fax  
[www.sspeterandpaulplains.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulplains.com)

#### **Office Hours**

Monday 10AM – 3PM  
Tuesday through Friday 8AM – 3PM  
Saturday by appointment

#### **Mass Schedule**

Monday – Communion Service – 7AM  
Tuesday through Friday – 7AM  
Saturday 4PM  
Sunday 8AM & 11AM

#### **Confessions**

Daily 6:30AM – 6:45AM  
Saturday 3:00PM - 3:30PM  
And by appointment anytime

#### **Parish Center**

(570)822-8761

*Working Together to Build the Kingdom of God*



Mass Intentions  
for the Week

**December 14 through December 20**

M 12/7 7AM **Communion Service**  
T 12/8 7AM **Josephine Rygielski (A)**  
by Frances Hrab  
W 12/9 7AM **Joseph Drako Sr.**  
by Andy & Arlene Katsack  
Th 12/10 7AM **Rose Lasiewicki** by Gary Isbitski  
F 12/11 7AM **Paul Binker** by Lena Spagnuolo  
S 12/12 **Noon Reconciliation for parish**  
4PM **Edward Krulack**  
by Gary & Delores Robinson  
S 12/13 8AM **Mary R. Trasciatti**  
by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Vincenti Jr.  
11AM **Living and Deceased Parishioners**

## CELEBRATE

This Sunday, God rejoices and sings because of us. We read in Zephaniah today that God "will sing joyfully because of you, / as one sings at festivals" (Zephaniah 3:18). We know plenty about singing at festivals. Already our ears are ringing with the songs and carols that anticipate the Christmas season.

Paul reminds us of the source of our own double rejoicing: God is the mighty savior who is in our midst (in Zephaniah's words). Because this is so, says Paul, we can rejoice and be at ease. We don't have to worry, for God's peace will stand guard over our hearts and minds.

A medieval carol depicts Christmas as "my dancing day" and urges us to enter into the dance. Why all the merrymaking? Because "the Lord is near," as Paul reminds us (Philippians 4:5). He then points to another reason for the dancing: the dawn of the promise of peace, the peace beyond all understanding, that is now within our grasp.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

**Psalms** — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

**Second Reading** — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

**Gospel** — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## In Memory of

**The Sanctuary Lamp**

*John Kozik*

**Votive by the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*Paul Binker*

**Flowers on the Altar**

*Peter Paul Olszewski*

**December 6, 2015**

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>\$8,558</b>
<b>Care for the Priest</b>	<b>\$1,492</b>
<b>Charity</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Dues</b>	<b>\$485</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>\$142</b>
<b>Holy Day</b>	<b>\$279</b>
<b>All Souls Day</b>	<b>\$17</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$41</b>
<b>Christmas Flowers</b>	<b>\$1,656</b>
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>345</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>\$233.50</b>

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. John of the Cross

## STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the fainthearted with courage.

—Anonymous

### Pastor

Rev. John C. Lambert

### Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Joseph Greskiewicz

### Liturgical/Musical Consultant and Choir Director

Joan Turel

### Faith Formation

Sande Holena

### Buildings/Maintenance

Michael Levandowski

### Organist

Christine Katsock

### Eucharistic Minister/Lectors

David Loiacono

### Ushers

Paul Muczynski

### Altar Servers

Gloria Flynn

### Food Pantry

Pauline Makowski

### Youth Group

Maryann/Michael Quinn



## Christmas Schedule



*Christmas Eve*  
4pm & 9pm

*Christmas Day - 10am*



*Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God*

*New Year's Eve - 4pm*  
*For all those Parishioners, Family and*  
*Friends who died during 2015*

*New Year's Day - 10am*

**Christmas Wafers and Pierogi and Lottery**  
**Tickets are available at the office.**

### **Penitential Services for the Advent Season**

The following are the local services for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Several priest will be present at each location. Please come and be reconciled with the Lord.

Tues, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at 7PM – St. Monica's W. Wyoming  
Wed. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM – St. Mary's, W-B  
Thurs, Dec 17 at 7PM – SS Peter and Paul Church  
Mon, Dec 21 at 7PM - St. John Church. Pittston  
Tues, Dec 22 at 7PM - St. Benedict, Wilkes-Barre

**\*\* Father Jack will also hear confessions, here on**  
**Saturday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 1PM**

## **Parish Activities**

December 13 through December 20

<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>9:30AM</b>
	<b>Presents for Giving Tree Due</b>	
	<b>Vespers Service</b>	<b>6:30PM</b>
<b>Mon.</b>	Quilting	5PM
	Rosary	6:30PM
	<b>Grief Support</b>	<b>6PM</b>
	<b>Women's Meeting</b>	<b>7PM</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	Quilting	9AM
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Choir</b>	<b>7PM</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	Quilting	9AM
	<b>Food Pantry Prep</b>	<b>9AM</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Food Pantry</b>	<b>9AM</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Reconciliation for Parish</b>	<b>Noon</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Faith Formation</b>	<b>9:30AM</b>

### **Lottery Winners**

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> #865 Charlotte Hendershot  
Seller Winners are Stella Szymanski - \$50 and \$10  
goes to Joan Marchetti

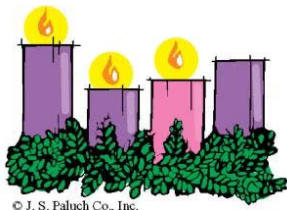
*Congratulations!!!!*

**The Women's Society of SS. Peter and Paul** will be celebrating the Baptism of the Lord at the Irem Clubhouse, 64 Ridgeway Dr, Dallas on Jan 10<sup>th</sup>. All members, women of the parish and their guest are invited to attend. Please join us for dinner (choice of one of 3 entrees), entertainment and the good fellowship of the women of the parish. Reservation can be made by calling Joann Melman at 570-824-6735, Joanne Nixon at 570-823-8968 or Martha Yanaitis at 570-829-2870. Payment of \$40 is due to Joann Melman at the time of reservation and no later than Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>. If possible, please bring a donation for the Pro Life Center, such as clothing or baby items suitable for a newborn – two year old.

### **Diocesan Annual Appeal**

Our parish goal is \$70,000, thus far 322 parishioners made a pledge contributing \$52,441.

## Liturgy Corner: Did You Know?



### Third Sunday of Advent

The traditional name for the Third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday. The name comes from *Gaudete in Domino semper*, Latin for "Rejoice in the Lord always," opening words of today's entrance antiphon (brief scriptural text that is usually replaced by an opening hymn).

Since one of Advent's tasks is to prepare us for Christ's return at the end of time, this season once had a penitential quality similar to that of Lent. Gaudete Sunday with its rose vestments and relaxation of austerities softened the period and gave a glimpse of its fulfillment just as its counterpart, Laetare Sunday, did at the midpoint of Lent.

Viewed now as a season of devout and joyful expectation, Advent retains very little of its old penitential focus, but we still have the option of using the liturgical color of rose today as we rejoice that Christmas is near, and the Second Coming is nearer than it was yesterday.

Please consider making a pledge if you haven't already.

### Bulletin Briefs

"If we ask him, Jesus will be with us every step of the way, giving us the grace we need, and his plans are wildly more fulfilling than we can imagine."

USCCB 2015-16 Respect Life Program  
"Love, Sex, & Sterilization"

## Marriage Moments

In the spirit of Advent waiting, practice waiting on your spouse today. While waiting for your spouse to arrive, calmly remember the good person you are awaiting (instead of stewing if he or she is late). Or "wait on" your spouse in the sense of doing a favor for him or her.

- Susan Vogt

**Israel: A Biblical Journey** with Optional 4-Night Discover Jordan Post Tour Extension, April 11<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Highlights...Jaffa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, Golan Heights, Caesarea Philippi, Mount Tabor, Tel Megiddo, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, Mount Zion, Ein Karem, Via Dolorosa, Western wall, and Garden Tomb. Price for double is \$3,859, Single is \$4,509 and Triple is \$3,829 per person. Please contact Karen at Sea the World Travel at 570-714-5566.

## Parenting Pointers

Too busy? "A traditional Hindu attitude toward service is for parents to pull back from doing much outside service while their children are young. When the children are raised, they jump fully back into the service area. To everything there is a season." (*Raising Kids Who Will Make a Difference*)

- Susan Vogt



### AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.  
May God keep us blameless in spirit,  
soul and body  
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—  
God our Father!  
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope  
for the revelation of the glory  
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!  
To him be glory forever!  
Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright 1976, 1981, Lucien Deiss. Published by World Library Publications. p. 127



# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

### Third Sunday of Advent | Luke 3: 10-18

John the Baptist was a powerful teacher, and led many to be baptized. When questioned if he were The Messiah, he answered, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with The Holy Spirit and Fire." *Luke 3:16*

Cycle C

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#### WEEK 3, evening lighting prayer

Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Mother lights the first & second purple and the rose/pink candle.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

— GAUDETE SUNDAY —



--- COLOR & CUT ON DOTTED LINES ---

ROLL & OVERLAP  
EDGES & GLUE OR  
TAPE TOGETHER

COLOR PINK

FOLD

COLOR GREEN

OVERLAP WITH  
OPPOSITE SIDE



*This is what the  
finished candle  
should look like*

CUT BASE

**WEEK 3** Cut, color and fold our third advent candle - tape or glue this pink candle to the 9" paper plate or cardboard circle that was used for the first two candles. Place as shown on the diagram at right.

