

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405
(610) 275-1750

“Prepare the
way of the Lord,
make straight
his paths.”

LUKE 3:4



Rev. Peter J. DiMaria
Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
Pastor Emeritus

Linda Moser
Coordinator of Religious Education
lmoser@shswedesburg.org

FOCUS Missionaries:

Caitlyn Sechuk
csechuk@shswedesburg.org
Thomas Horlander
thorlander@shswedesburg.org

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am
Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Sunday: 9:30 to 9:50 am
Wednesdays:
7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Leo Brady
Sacristan

Valerie DiFilippo
*Parish Bookkeeper/
Cemetery Manager*
vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro
Parish Office Manager
jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik
*Director of
Liturgical Music*

Joe & Jeff Houseal
*Directors of Parish
& Cemetery Facilities*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SACRED HEART PARISH
 120 JEFFERSON ST. BRIDGEPORT, PA

come let us adore him

YOUNG ADULT HOLY HOUR
 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION,
 CONFESSION, & MUSIC
 DRINKS TO FOLLOW

7pm - 8pm

Join us on Wednesday,
 December 18

CONTACT KENNEDY BUCKO W/ ANY QUESTIONS KENNEDYBUCKO@GMAIL.COM



Our giving tree tags are now available. We are asking for \$25.00 gift cards which will be given to Martha's Choice Market as well as the Missionaries of Charity. We ask that all gift cards be returned by **December 15th** so that they may be distributed in time for Christmas.

  *Oplatki*
Christmas wafers

Oplatki
(Unleavened wafers)
are now available at
the rectory.

A donation will be
gratefully accepted.

FATHER *Sacrament of*
FORGIVE ME!
Reconciliation ©JPPC

Sacrament of Confession Schedule:

Thursday, December 19th
 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Saturday, December 21st
 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Monday, December 23rd
 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Christmas
Mass Schedule

 ©JPPC

Christmas Eve Masses, December 24th
 4:00pm & 8:30pm

Christmas Day Masses, December 25th
 10:15am



Caring For Friends

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 11** at 6:00pm and come out and join our Caring for Friends Ministry. Do God's work and at the same time make new friends from our parish!



Margaret Mary Kalivas

Baptized on Sunday,
December 1, 2024

Congratulations to Margaret's Parents:
Victor & Marianna

May your Child's Baptism be just the start of a life filled with blessings!

Suddenly Seniors

Our Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 19th at 12:00 at the Swedesburg Fire House on Jefferson St. Lindinger's is the caterer and music is being provided by Sal and Charlotte DiNenna. Tickets are available after all Masses this weekend, December 7 & 8 and again on December 14 & 15. Members are \$15. and Non-Members are \$20. Cash or checks made payable to Sacred Heart Church will be accepted. Deadline to purchase tickets is December 15. Questions, call June at 610-247-4398.

Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!

Raymond Vincent Kalivas, Jr.

Baptized on Sunday,
December 1, 2024

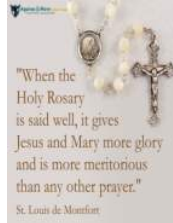


Congratulations to Raymond's Parents:
Raymond & Rachel

May your Child's Baptism be just the start of a life filled with blessings!

Monday Night Rosary will be recited in church each Monday at 7 p.m.

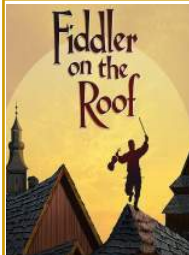
Pro Life Holy Hour at 12:00 noon each Wednesday in church.




DECORATE the Church

Christmas Decorating

Volunteers are needed to help decorate the church for Christmas immediately following the 10:15 Mass on Sunday, December 22nd. Many hands make light work! Please join us.



DINNER THEATER BUS TRIP LANCASTER

WHEN: Tuesday, April 15, 2025
WHERE: Dutch Apple Dinner Theater
SHOW: **Fiddler on the Roof**

COST: \$119.41 Per Person (due upon making reservation)
TIME: Departs 9:30 AM Sacred Heart Church parking lot promptly
Returns 4 PM (buffet lunch 11:30, show 1PM)

Checks payable to: Sacred Heart Church

Any questions, contact June at 610-247-4398

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 7

4:00pm Blanche & Ignatius Guzewicz

Requested by Jeanette, Jas, Jennifer and Families

Sunday, December 8

8:00am Bernie Kenzakowski

Remembrance

Requested by Karen Hinchey

10:15am For the People of Our Parish

Monday, December 9

8:00am Angelo Pagnotti

Requested by Wife, Elisa

Tuesday, December 10

8:00am Anna Mae Daloisio

Requested by Michael & Gina Fabrizio & Family

Wednesday, December 11

8:00am Anna Mae Daloisio

Requested by Bill & Bridget Maruszczak

Thursday, December 12

8:00am Luigi & Concetta DiNenna

Requested by The Family

Friday, December 13

8:00am William Schutter

85th Birthday Remembrance

Requested by The Family

Saturday, December 14

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm Sophie Pruskowski

Remembrance

Requested by Margie & Ted Pruskowski

Sunday, December 15

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am Stanley & Mary Wlazelek

Requested by Wanda & Family



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, December 14:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Pat Moletzsky

Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou

Sunday morning, December 15:

8:00am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Valencia Zaremba

Lector: Rich McVoy

10:15am

Lector: TBD



November 23 – 24, 2024

\$6,668.00

November 30 – December 1, 2024

\$8,567.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!



Every little task is an opportunity to do something for the love of Jesus. The more you want to help Jesus, the more you want to reach out to people in love, even loving those people who you do not like. Jesus asked us to love everyone. This is one of your earthly challenges that you should take to heart in your striving for perfection.

~St. Therese of the Little Flower

ETERNAL REST, GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD!

*In your kindness,
please pray for the happy repose of the soul of*

Ronald Dalasio

*Who was called from this life on
November 28, 2024*

*"May His soul and all the souls of the
faithful departed Rest in peace."*



This week the bread and wine for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is in loving memory of
Anna Mae Daloísio



at the Request of
Eric & Belinda Fabrizio & Family



This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in loving memory of

Vincent Bergandino

Anniversary Remembrance

at the Request of His Wife, Mary



Please Pray For All Who Protect Our Country, especially...

John F. K. Benedict (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen Brandt; **Matthew J. Capaldo** (Commander, U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (LCpl, U.S.M.C), grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry** (Specialist, U.S. Army), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant U.S. Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 4 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton; **Stephanie Zugay** (National Guard), granddaughter of Greg & Grace Zugay.

BINGO

**Friday,
December 13th**

Doors open 6:00 PM
Games at 7:00 PM

Parish Hall

Chance to win up to \$500.00

Sponsored by:

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 17th at 1:30pm.** The book for December is **Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ** by Timothy Keller - a profoundly moving and intellectually provocative examination of the nativity story.

Michael J. Estock Francis Rodenbaugh III Karen Braithwaite Carol Katkowski Chester Kowalski Elaine Fertal Barbara Pruskowski George Minnis Al Cowling Mary (Puzio) Stephenson Mary Boyle Fran Toth Joan Birely Martha Smoczylo Kelly Benedict Patricia Gaffney Andrew Andreyko Angela Desmond Fred Zugay Mike Piskai Eileen Brandt	Denise Kavanagh Tom Kavanagh Michael Martin Ronald Halas Marge Leszczynski Dolores Burton Fran & Rob Worrall Marion Raup Joseph Saboe Irene Elliott Stanley Leszczynski Ayden Boone Butch Rodenbaugh Nicholas Janicki Michael Myers Melissa (Myers) Sillah George Estock Helen Bednar Barbara A. Burkert John Smoczylo Laurie Ronan
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“Vision 26: God’s House, Our Home” Program

Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your Commitment Card. For those parishioners who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their card, a final letter will be mailed to you with a personalized Commitment Card. We invite all faithful parishioners to complete a card as our parish goal is 100% participation! You may return your card by:

- mailing it to the church using the pre-addressed envelope included with the letter.
- or bringing it to Mass next Sunday.
- or scan the QR Code below.

All cards need to be returned to the parish by Sunday, December 29.

As a friendly reminder, electronic giving is an easy, safe and secure way to support Sacred Heart Parish. To set-up a recurring weekly or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit our website at www.unitedinthesacredheart.com and follow the instructions.

We are grateful for your support!

Father DiMaria



Discerning Your New Commitment

Fill out the enclosed Commitment Card and bring it to Mass next weekend
or
scan this QR code to complete your Commitment Card online.

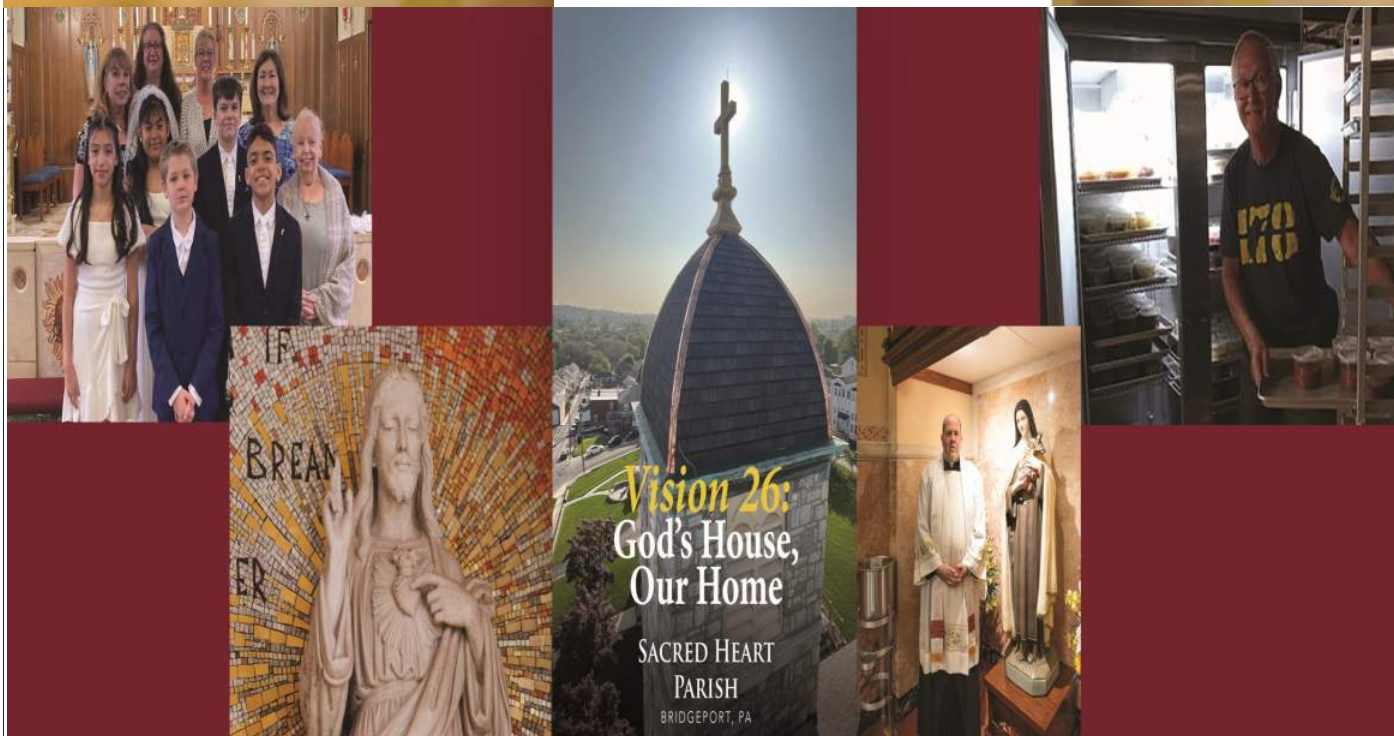


Fulfilling Your New Commitment

To sign up for **Online Giving** or to update your current online gift, visit www.unitedinthesacredheart.com and click on the donate button.

Use your **offertory envelope** and bring it to Mass or mail it to the parish office.

To learn more about making a **Planned Gift** to Sacred Heart, contact the parish office at 610-275-1750.





SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 8, 2024

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Fans of TCM (Turner Classic Movies) will have no problem imagining the opening fanfare of the Twentieth Century Fox studio productions. The theme is complete with trumpets and searchlight beams reflecting off the call letters. If that scene doesn't resonate with you, then consider instead the NFL (National Football League) theme song heard on most Sunday afternoons in the Fall. Whenever I read St. Luke's opening sentence about the arrival of St. John the Baptist and his message about the Messiah, Jesus Christ I hear the Fox theme for sure. As we believers know, the announcement heralds what will prove to be an earth-shattering event. It will have far-reaching consequences for John's world and still has them for our own.

As the commercial world around us hypes up its preparation for Christmas, already begun last July, the Church asks us to do something different. It wants us to be quiet; slow down and take at least a little time each day of Advent to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate Christ's first coming. The bible tells us it will not take place with pounding drums and clashing cymbals, but with hushed silence until we hear a tiny infant cry on a Bethlehem night.

I realize that the Church's Advent plea for some extra prayer and a little preparatory penance is tough to do. What with shopping, decorating, baking and required partying all crammed into 24 days, slowing down seems next to impossible. But then we are called to be different from the world as Christians, are we not?

So, we should try when we can, perhaps in the morning, or when the house quiets down at night, to light an Advent wreath candle, and think about the seasonal Scriptures. That should lead us to pray in wonder at the love of God for us that brought Him down to earth in the nick of time. What follows is more than just a relaxed heartbeat. We regain our composure. We recharge our patience with all that's going on. We appreciate our young ones and are less likely to snap at our older ones. We avoid nasty behavior toward restaurant servers, harried store clerks and fellow drivers. We can exude joy rather than jumpiness in our preparations. After all, joy is what Christmas is about.

We read today of the joy offered to the exiled Jewish ancestors of Christ as they are finally released and able to return home. We also hear it in St. Paul's words to his Philippian community. And certainly, it resounds in Luke's notable opening announcement.

Certainly, the Blessed Mother felt joy deep in her heart as she had nine months to reflect on what Archangel Gabriel had told her about her baby. The calendar compels us to celebrate her faith and humility in an Immaculate Conception feast day moved to tomorrow.

For all of us, her children, I offer the best "spelling" of joy that I ever heard from a preacher that offered it long ago: "J" is for Jesus. "Y" is for you, and the "O" is for nothing in between.

God love you, and experience true joy.

Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
Funeral Director



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*This offer is for pre-need only and ends December 31, 2024 and cannot be combined with any other offers. www.PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com

We hope we can help you get all your ducks in a row.

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Darryl R. Bacchi

Julia K. Meyers
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