

SAINT HIPPOLYTE CHURCH

26012 N. Frenchtown Rd., Guys Mills PA 16327
(GPS only; send mail to the parish office)

Liturgies:

Monday 8:30am Communion Service
Sunday 11:00am

Confessions:

Before and After Mass or By Appointment

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 31, 2023

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

251 S. Franklin St., Cochranon, PA 16314
(GPS only; send mail to the parish office)

Liturgies:

Friday 8:30am Communion Service

IT IS THE MISSION OF SAINT HIPPOLYTE AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES TO FULLY, CONSCIOUSLY, AND ACTIVELY GROW AS A FAMILY CENTERED IN CHRIST MINISTERING TO THE ENTIRE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

Pastor

Rev. Jeffrey J. Lucas

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Kyle Seyler

Faith Formation Coordinator

Joyce Tarr 814-671-1009

Administrative Assistant

Desiree Wagner

Director of Music Ministries

Darcie Schoenfeldt

To schedule an appointment with

Father Lucas or Father Seyler, call 814-336-1112.

Parish Office

25997 State Highway 27, Guys Mills, PA 16327
Phone: (814) 789-2022 Fax: 814-789-2025
Email: office@sainthippolytechurch.com
www.sainthippolytechurch.com
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

St. Hippolyte Social Hall: 814-789-4533
Our Lady of Lourdes Social Hall: 814-425-7550

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
8:00am at Saint Agatha Church, Meadville

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2,
SAINT BASILTHE GREAT and SAINT GREGORY NAZIANZEN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, SAINT JOHN NEUMANN
8:30am OLL Communion Service and Rosary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, SAINT ANDRE BESSETTE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
11:00am SH For the Parishioners
of Saint Hippolyte/Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and
The Epiphany of the Lord Parish

Read the parish bulletin online at
www.sainthippolytechurch.com

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Coordinators:

Fran Greathouse 814-425-2549
Carole Jones 814-789-2881

Prayer Requests:

Bob & Denise Schoenfeldt.... 814-333-8464
Julia Hovis 814-657-3265

Visitation:

Carole Jones (cards) 814-789-2881
Pam Garofola (cards) 814-720-8190
Connie Molli (telephone)..... 814-967-3813
Brenda Withers (telephone).. 814-425-1062

Ministry of Welcome:

Garold Molli..... 814-967-3813
Jen Mitchell (newborns)..... 412-965-2141

Services to the Bereaved:

Kay Hotchkiss (Mass) 814-425-3933
Mary Ann Francic (Mass) 724-452-4492
Kitty Jehn (dinner) 814-425-8282
Cathy Kalinowski (dinner).... 814-425-2484
Rita Bogardus (dinner)..... 814-789-2679
Joyce Tarr (follow up)..... 814-671-1009

Emergency Home Care:

Mary Beth Coyle (meals)..... 814-350-6218
Amy Mercier (meals) 814-795-0052
Scott Wheelock (odd jobs).... 814-967-4319
Mary Everitt (temporary relief to a caregiver)
..... 814-853-0599

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish. New members are welcome to register by calling the parish office.

BAPTISM: Parents must attend the Pre-Baptism Program. Call the parish office for a copy of the program schedule and to schedule your child's baptism.

MARRIAGE: One party must be a registered parishioner and actively involved for one year before scheduling a wedding. Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed date of marriage. No date can be set before the first interview with the priest has been completed.

ANONING OF THE SICK: Please phone the parish office immediately if a loved one is sick or hospitalized.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is offered in our parish 10 minutes prior to and immediately following Sunday Mass. Confession is also offered at The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Saint Agatha Church (353 Pine Street, Meadville) on Saturday mornings following the 8:00am Mass and on Saturday afternoons at 3:30pm. To schedule an appointment with Father Lucas or Father Seyler, call 814-336-1112.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today	8:00am	Faith Sharing Group at OLL
Monday		Happy New Year!
Tuesday	6:00pm	Joint Pastoral Council meeting with Epiphany of the Lord Parish at Saint Agatha Center
	6:30pm	Rosary at OLL
Wednesday	6:00pm	Le Nom du Pere Society Christmas Party at SH
Thursday	6:00pm	Adoration at OLL
Sunday	8:00am	Faith Sharing Group at OLL
	9:15am	Faith Formation Grades PS-8 at SH
	12:00pm	Faith Formation Grades 9-10 at SH
	12:00pm	Sunday Social at SH

COMING EVENTS

Jan. 8 Family Society meeting at OLL 6:00pm
Jan. 10 Finance Council meeting at Rectory 6:00pm

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

TODAY: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/
Lk 2:22-40
MONDAY: Nm 6P:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
TUESDAY: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
WEDNESDAY: 1 Jn 2:29—3:61/Jn 1:29-34
THURSDAY: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
FRIDAY: 1 Jn 4:11-21/Jn 1:43-51
SATURDAY: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:33-38
SUNDAY: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jan. 1: Lance Smith
Jan. 2: Don Graham
Jan. 3: Mary Jane Muller, Coltin Steck
Jan. 5: Evan Kirk, Jennifer Nielsen
Jan. 6: Jenna Barickman, Betty Dailey

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Jan. 4: Mark & Christen Kirk
Jan. 5: Stephen & Rosanne Chamberlain

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Second Reading

Adults – Whether single, married, or divorced, how does Paul's advice ring true to your own life? Choose one of his suggestions and share how it touches your life.

Youth – God choose to be among us in the person of Jesus. How does having a God who knows what it means to be human affect the way you pray or think about God?

Children – Why is it important for you to obey your parents or guardians?

lifelongcatechesis.osv.com

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our gifts given in thanksgiving for what we have already received.

Due to the holiday printing schedule, last Sunday's collection was not available to publish.

Catholic Services Appeal 2023:

Diocesan Assessment: \$27,632

of Gifts/Pledges: 93

Pledged: \$36,210 Received: \$32,315

Thanks for your generosity and dedication.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE is burning this week at Saint Hippolyte Church in memory of Gaylord and Mary Seeley as requested by Pat and Seve Ferry.

HELPING HANDS PRAYER O God, Creator all-powerful, in Your wisdom and love, Your Son, begotten before the dawn of time, became in time a member of our human family. Give to parents the life-giving fruitfulness of Your own divine love. To daughters and sons give wisdom, godliness and grace. Make us all grow as your own Son did within the holy family to the praise and glory of Your name. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH RAFFLE TICKET RETURNS can be made through the collection basket or mailed to the parish office. If you need more tickets, please contact the parish office. Our first monthly drawing will be held on Sunday, Jan. 7.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A CURSILLO WEEKEND or NEED MORE INFO? Pick up a brochure in the church vestibule or call Carl and Kay Hotchkiss at 814-425-3933.

LOOKING FOR RESOURCES FOR YOUR FAMILY? Discover why families always matter at: <http://www.eriecd.org/fam.htm>



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:
Saint Hippolyte/Our Lady of
Lourdes Roman Catholic Church



Join the diocesan
Facebook page at
www.ErieRCD.org

Contact the parish office for bulletin announcements. The deadline for submitting information to be included in the parish bulletin is Monday at noon. To avoid confusion, information should be submitted in writing.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR from Father Jeff Lucas, Father Kyle Seyler and the parish staff!

If you would like the Sanctuary Candle to be lit for a week in memory of your loved one at either Saint Hippolyte or Our Lady of Lourdes, please call Desi at the parish office at 814-789-2022. Donation: \$10 per week.

Adoration is held every Thursday at Our Lady of Lourdes from 6:00-7:00pm. All are welcome!

Our Lady of Lourdes Church is open for private prayer each Friday until noon, following the Communion Service and Rosary.

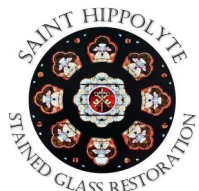
Next Sunday is Social Sunday at Saint Hippolyte. Please join us for lunch immediately following Mass next Sunday. Bring a dish to share and join us for good food and fellowship.

The Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC) will have a joint meeting with the Parish Council of Epiphany of the Lord Parish on Tuesday, January 2 at 6:00pm at the Saint Agatha Center. All members are asked to attend.

The Rosary will be prayed on Tuesday, January 2 at 6:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes. All are welcome.

The next regular Le Nom Du Pere Society meeting will be at 6:00pm this Wednesday, January 3 and it will be a CHRISTMAS PARTY! If you have ever wanted to come to a meeting to find out what LNDP is all about, this is your chance! If you would like to participate in the gift exchange competition, bring a \$15.00 unisex gift. Of course, a party isn't complete without food, so please bring a dish to share. All are welcome!

The Stained Glass Window committee thanks everyone for the very generous support of the Luminary Lighting for Christmas!



Thank you also to everyone who has bought and sold raffle tickets. And a huge, heartfelt thank you to the many donors who have contributed to the Stain Glass Window project in any way! We are very humbled

by the kindness and generosity of everyone. May you each be blessed this Christmas season with much joy, peace, and love!

Catholics Returning Home starts this week! If you have been away from actively practicing your Catholic faith for a while and would like to make it a bigger part of your life, we invite you to a program called Catholics Returning Home. There are 6 sessions on Wednesday nights starting on Jan. 3, held at St. Brigid, Meadville at 6:30pm. The informal sessions are held small group style. There are pamphlets by the doors of the church, or call the parish office for more information. We'd love to welcome you home.



I recently read an article comparing a young man entering military service with entering the priesthood. Both are soldiers, one for physical battle and the other spiritual battle, and both require strength, grit and determination. One big difference is the honors and glory military soldiers receive - people say "thank you for your service." The priest faces indifference and at times open hostility - and how often do we thank them for their service? We need to give them more help, whether by encouraging more vocations, our prayer, material/financial support, etc. A soldier can't win a battle without resources, why should we expect our priests to? What concrete commitment can we each make to helping our priests this year?

WHOLE COMMUNITY CATECHESIS

Holy Family

On the Sunday after Christmas, the Catholic community gathers at church to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. If Christmas falls on a Sunday, the feast is transferred to Friday, December 30, because the following Sunday is January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Prior to Second Vatican Council, the feast of the Holy Family fell on Sunday during the week after January 6. The revised calendar has moved the observance closer to the commemoration of the birth of Christ and therefore to the "birth" of his family.

The Scripture readings may change from year to year, but the Gospels tell episodes from the early days of Jesus' family life: the flight into Egypt to escape the forces of Herod, the Presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple, and the find of the twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple. All these events are human and hopeful. The other readings provide stories, psalms, and reflections on the beauty of family life.

For families reunited to celebrate Christmas, this feast provides a fitting opportunity to gather again in God's house.

The *Book of Blessings* and the *Catholic Household Book of Blessings and Prayers* both contain blessings for families. These can be offered by a priest or a deacon, or by any layperson at home. This feast would be an appropriate day for any family to seek the blessings that come from God, who became like us by living with human parents.

The Collect for the mass prays that we may imitate the Holy Family by practicing the virtues of family life and by bonds of charity. In this way, we who share a house on earth may enter the household of God in heaven.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish:
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Dear Parishioners of St. Hippolyte and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish:

There are two important news items in our partnered parish arrangement.

First, on June 2, 1988, the Congregation for Divine Worship in Rome *Directory for Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest*. The chapter titled "Conditions for Holding Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest" begins in this way: "**Whenever and wherever Mass cannot be celebrated on Sunday, the first thing to be ascertained is whether the faithful can go to a church in a place nearby to participate there in the eucharistic mystery. At the present time this solution is to be recommended and to be retained where it is in effect.**" The *Directory* doesn't even consider weekdays.

This is because, "Sacramental communion received during Mass is the more perfect participation in the eucharistic celebration. The eucharistic sign is expressed more dearly when the faithful receive the body of the Lord from the same sacrifice after the communion of the priest." (Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship, *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass*, June 21, 1973) A service consisting of a liturgy of the word and distribution of Holy Communion does not include the re-presentation of the one sacrifice of the Cross as is the case at Mass, the very source of the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

For this reason, Bishop Persico has directed that Communion services at St. Hippolyte and Our Lady of Lourdes Parishes be discontinued by January 2024. The plan was to relate this to Parish Council at the meeting in November and then to the parishes, but the meeting was cancelled due to the inability of council members to attend because of the snowstorm that day.

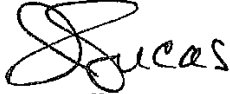
So, stretching the time frame a bit, Monday January 15, 2024 will be the date for the final Communion Service at St. Hippolyte, and Friday, January 19, 2024 the final Communion Service at Our Lady of Lourdes. I regret that this announcement leaves less time to adjust than I had hoped.

This directive from the Bishop only applies to Communion Services. Other services made up of the liturgy of the word and prayer, or the Rosary, or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, or Eucharistic Adoration, etc. are not affected.

I realize that we all have had many changes of late affecting our lives of faith. These can be painful and difficult. But we do have access to Mass and the sacraments at St. Hippolyte's and several other nearby parishes depending on where we live, and we have other activities that are also a significant part of parish life in our home parish.

Secondly, it is particular law of the Diocese of Erie that partnered parishes have a joint Parish Council. Having met and discussed this with Councils of both St. Hippolyte and The Epiphany of the Lord parishes we concluded that the best way to start down this road would be to have a joint meeting of the councils twice this year, one in January and one in May. In the meetings we want to emphasize members getting to know each other, councils getting to know what is going on at each parish, and together finding ways to volunteer at and promote each other's events. From this foundation we look to chart a course forward.

Sincerely,



Fr. Jeffrey Lucas
Pastor



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NEW TO OUR COMMUNITY? JOIN OUR PARISH!

Welcome to our parish! We hope you will become a part of our parish family!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Check One: Saint Hippolyte Our Lady of Lourdes

Please drop this form in the offertory basket or mail to the parish office.