

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

The Future: To some extent the future is now. Our present acts and attitudes create our future. But we know that we come up short here. Our grasp is not wide enough; our understanding is too paltry. We can fiddle with probabilities and make projections from past experience. We can consult the computer printouts or the Farmer's Almanac, but we can't see very far. We have to tend to our present and think rationally about the future, but a greater truth guides us and tempers our plans. Our faith shows us that our future is in God's hands. There are surprises and wonders in store for us. Often we say to ourselves and others, "Well, who wouldn't have thunk it?"

Paul tells us in the second reading that the scriptures have been written that we might be instructed and find a source of hope. The opposites unite when we make it out crucial and vital work to accept one another as we have been accepted by Christ and in him. We can be faithful because God is faithful. Salvation is the great wonder we celebrate in this most sunless time of year. Salvation is ours because God is good, not because we are. For we, by and large, are in the dark. The first, slight turn of our heart toward conversion is our Advent offering. There is just no end to what God can do with this kind of humility. That's the sacred mystery. It is a great wonder--the way God meets us and catches us up.

PARISH NEWS

Saturday Mass: December masses will be held at St. Joseph's.

(SJP & SMP) Parish website: stjoseph-stmichaelparishes.org

Hall rental for St. Joseph's: If you would like to rent the hall, you will now need to contact the church office.

Funerals: All funerals are at 10 am (unless it conflicts with daily mass).

Weddings: All weddings are at 1:00 pm at both churches with no exceptions. Permission is needed before having a visiting priest perform the ceremony. Anyone preparing for a wedding needs to contact the office at least 6 months prior.

Rosary: The Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; it is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God...and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary. Pope Saint Pius X

Please remember with the holiday season approaching, the bulletin will need to be in early to the printer. The December 27th bulletin will need to be in to the printer by Wednesday, December 16th and the bulletin for January 3rd will need to be in to the printer by Wednesday, December 23rd. If you have anything that needs in the bulletin during these times, please have it in to the office before the above dates.

St. Michael Church Roof Update: So far, our total available monies for the project are \$580,895. The contractor's estimated cost for the entire project is \$642,000.00. Please consider joining your fellow parishioners in supporting this effort by donating to this fundraiser. St. Michael Church also has 2 hearts handcrafted from pieces of broken glass from our steeple windows available for a donation of \$10,000.00. Please contact Cathie Zacherl at 814-782-3938.

All Lectors and Altar Servers: Please pay attention to the bulletin for the exact weekend you are to be reading or serving. Thank you!

PARISH NEWS

Office: Contact the office at St. Joseph with any questions or concerns you may have from either Parish. (814)226-7288. Thank you!

2020 Giving Tree: The giving trees will be at the entrances of both churches the weekend of November 14th/15th. Please return gifts by December 8th. In the event the church is closed, the gifts may be dropped off at Kelly's Store, Route 66 in Lucinda or Leeper Red and White in Leeper.

St. Michael's CCD: No religious education classes for students until December 6th. Please check email for details and updates.

Mona Rita Guth is convalescing at the home of her daughter, Diane Williams, in California. If you would like to send her a card or anything else her address is: 5324 Indian Wood Drive, Redding, CA 96001.

Armstrong Indiana Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission: There are many faith based organizations for alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and gambling/gaming that offer presentations that you can utilize free of charge. Here are some of the programs: Naloxone, Gateway Drugs & Gambling, Had I Only Know Drug Trends, Vaping Awareness, Teen Scene, Why Animals Don't Smoke, Why Athletes Don't Smoke, Peer Pressure, and Healthy Choices. Special presentations may also be requested, but not limited to alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, fetal alcohol spectrum, and/or gambling. Presentations can be customized based on each school, organization, or community needs. To schedule prevention programs, please contact Armstrong Indiana Clarion Drug & Alcohol Commission at 814-226-6350 ext. 106

St. Michael 2021 Loot Lotto Calendar tickets will be available for purchase at the back of the church following Sunday Mass throughout December. Tickets are \$10 each - see flyer insert for more information!

Liturgy Schedule December 12th & December 13th

**5:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Church**

Lector: Judy Wolbert
Altar Server: None
Ushers: None
Rosary: Karen Schmader

**8:00 a.m.
St. Joseph Church**

Lector: Anne Ochs
Altar Server: Eliza Datko
Ushers: None

**10:30 a.m.
St. Michael Church**

Lector: Clay Smerkar
Altar Server: Braxton Cyphert
Ushers: None
Rosary: Cathy Longacre

Mass Schedule December 7th - December 13th

Monday, December 7th

5:15 p.m. - (SJP) Bud Lander by Gib & Darlene Wolbert

Tuesday, December 8th

(The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

-8:00 a.m. - (SMP) Paul & Eileen Fletcher & Michele Spence by Paulette Colantonio

Wednesday, December 9th

8:30 a.m. - (SJP) Donald Schill by Mike Wolbert

Thursday, December 10th

8:00 a.m. - (SMP) Dorothy Weaver & Marvin Cussins by Gerry & Dave Weaver

Friday, December 11th

8:00 a.m. - (SJP) Cyril & Phyllis Wolbert & Deceased Family Members by The Family

3rd Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 12th

Confession at St. Joseph, 4:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. — (SJP) Delmar Lauer by The Family

Sunday, December 13th

8:00 a.m. — (SJP) Living & Deceased Members of the SJP Rosary Society by The Rosary Society

10:30 a.m.—(SMP) Parish Family

Collection Counters

SJP: Annette & Robert Wielock, Ken Lander
SMP: Eric Schmader, Ray Beichner, Jen Detar

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE burning in memory of

SJP: Delene Ochs & Dick Schill by Cele Schill
SMP: Ruthie Bruce & Tom Weaver by The Family

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Parish Family, All Special Intentions

Service People on Active Duty

Sluggar Wagner, Steve Phillips, Jayleigh Ochs, Brendan & Terry George, Punkie & Joe Griebel, Jim Pfaff, Barb Wigton, Traci Kumer, Chuck Zacherl, Fr. Daniel Prez, Roxanne Miller, Adam Lutz, Sally Hockman and a special intention

All victims of disasters and violence

If you'd like to add someone, call the office or drop a note in the collection basket.

School News (814) 226-8018

**—You can register your children now for the '20-'21 school year.
Call the school for more information. (814) 226-8018.**

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Special Thanks to all who sacrifice to support St. Joseph's

DATE: November 21st & November 22nd

Sunday Collection: \$790

Loose Collection: \$38

Special Thanks to all who sacrifice to support St. Michael's

DATE: November 21st & November 22nd

Sunday Collection: \$1414

Loose Collection: \$475

SJP: St. Joseph assessment to Diocese: \$29,345

Parishioners Pledged: \$38,278

Parishioners Paid to Date: \$35,958

Balance Due to Diocese of Erie: \$0

Roof money: \$6,613

SMP: St. Michael assessment to Diocese: \$36,015

Parishioners Pledged: \$37,523

Parishioners Paid to Date: \$36,093

Balance Due to Diocese of Erie: \$78

Roof money: \$0

Roof Money to Date: \$580,895

St. Michael's Church 2021 Loot Lotto Calendar

\$10,000 in Potential Winnings!!!

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Winning Number Based on PA Lottery Pick 4 Evening Drawing

Payouts

**Solemnity of Mary (Jan 1), \$50
Easter (Apr 4), \$50
Ascension (May 13), \$50
Memorial Day (May 31), \$35
Independence Day (Jul 4), \$35**

**Assumption (Aug 15), \$50
St. Michael Day (Sept 29), \$500
All Saints Day (Nov 1), \$50
Immaculate Conception (Dec 8), \$50
Christmas (Dec 25), \$50**

**All Other Days, \$20
Monday, September 6th, Labor Day, \$2,000**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!

\$10 Donation Each – 4 different numbers per ticket

- **Calendar runs from 01/01/2021 through 12/31/2021; you can only win prizes during that time frame!**
- **Each ticket contains four different 4-digit numbers.**
- **Winning numbers are based on the PA Lottery Pick 4 Daily Evening Drawing!**

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!!!!

To purchase tickets, please contact the following sellers:

Janet Fesenmyer, 814-428-2328

Becky Vickers, 814-657-2656

Jill Foys, 814-229-6004

Emily Weaver, 814-673-1623

Tim Gilara, 814-657-3393

Cathie Zacherl, 814-227-7139

Parish Office, 814-226-7288

Tickets are ONLY available for purchase through the sellers listed above!
No online sales!

All proceeds benefit St. Michael's Parish of Fryburg

December 6th

Even St. Paul was restless and asked to be relieved of the difficult test in his flesh,...but was he not assured that the help of grace would always be sufficient for him?

Our enemy, who is committed to our harm, wants to convince you otherwise, but spurn him in the name of Jesus and laugh at him. This is the best remedy for beating him into retreat. He becomes emboldened by our weakness, but when someone confronts him with a weapon in hand, he becomes a coward. (To Raffaellina Cerase, April 25, 1914)

Padre Pio's Spiritual Direction for Every Day

By Gianluigi Pasquale

Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments-Keeping God's

Children Protected and Safe: The safe environment training of our children and youth is a key component in the Policy for the Protection of Children. Each year our schools and parishes are mandated to provide this training to all youth in catholic school and parish programs. Since 2003 over 200,000 children have received age-appropriate abuse prevention education. The Diocese maintains a working relationship with agencies in each of our 13 counties to provide training for our youth in schools and parishes. In addition, the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth maintains a media library containing videos for schools and parishes to provide child abuse prevention education. Visit <https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

Confession Dates and Times: Monday, December 21st will be held at St. Michael's at 6:00 pm. Wednesday, December 23rd will be held at St. Joseph's at 6:00 pm.

The Oil City Catholic Community will be holding Christmas masses by **SIGN UP ONLY** this year. If you would like to attend, you must go to our website www.oilcitycatholic.com and follow the link on the top of the page to register with your name and the number of people in your party. If someone does not use the Internet, or has difficulties with the online sign-up process, they may call the parish office at 677-3020 x 2 for assistance. Our Christmas Mass Schedule will be as follows: **CHRISTMAS EVE:** 4pm @ St. Joseph Church, 5:40pm @ St. Stephen Church, 9pm @ St. Joseph Church **CHRISTMAS DAY:** 10am @ St. Joseph Church



3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2020

(Lec. 8)

- I. Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
- II. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- III. John 1:6-8, 19-28

Liturgy of the Word

In the first reading, Isaiah rejoices as he brings glad tidings of God's vindication for his people.

In the second reading, Paul encourages rejoicing as God prepares his people for the return of the Lord.

In the Gospel, John testifies to the light and cries out in the desert to make straight the way of the Lord.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Catholic Rural Ministry (814) 677-2032

7 Pulaski St., Oil City, PA 16301

Sister Tina Geiger, RSM ~~ Sister Marian Wehler, OSB

srtinag@gmail.com or marianwehler@yahoo.com

24 Hour Emergency

Pregnancy (814) 459-3103

Community Counseling (814) 793-6602

PJ Defelice Electrical Contracting