

*Saint Lawrence/Saint Philip  
Catholic Church*

*Fr. Marc Solomon - Pastor  
Deacon Paul McCoy - Deacon Assistant*

*Hope*

**THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

Therefore the Lord himself will  
give you a sign: The virgin will  
conceive and give birth to a son,  
and will call him Immanuel.

*Isaiah 7:14*



*Sunday, December 3, 2023  
First Sunday Of Advent*

# December 3, 2023 - First Sunday Of Advent

## Contact Information

Fr. Marc Solomon  
Email - marcjosephsolomon@yahoo.com

Deacon Paul McCoy  
Email - pwmccoy@aol.com

Parish Office  
Lori Adamson  
Phone - 814-756-3623 Fax - 814-756-5918  
Mailing Address  
St. Lawrence/St. Philip Church  
180 East State Street  
Albion, Pa 16401  
Email - stlawrencealbion@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours  
9:00 am till 2:00 pm  
Monday thru Thursday  
Thursday - Closed 12:00-12:45 For Mass

Faith Formation Leader  
Cassie Adamczyk  
Faith Formation Leader  
814-756-4840 - Office  
814-873-8339 - Cell  
Email - stlawrencelife180@gmail.com

Maintenance  
Jim Mitchell

Parish Center/Rental Information  
Rena Mihalak  
814-756-4840 -- Please Leave a Message.

St. James Cemetery  
Manager - Greg Petrus

## Mass Schedule

### Weekend Masses

Saturday @ 5:00 pm at St. Lawrence  
Sunday @ 8:00 am at St. Philip  
Sunday @ 10:00 am at St. Lawrence  
(Live-Streamed For Your Convenience)

### Weekday Masses

All at St. Lawrence  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday - 8:00am  
Thursday - & Friday - 12:00pm

### Holy Hour

Tuesday Evenings 6:00 at St. Lawrence

### First Friday

Adoration 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Mass @ 5:15 pm at St. Lawrence

### Reconciliation

Saturday @ 4:15pm to 4:45pm at St. Lawrence  
Sunday @ 7:30am at St. Philip



## Mass Intentions For The Week

### Monday, December 4, 2023

#### Advent Weekday

8:00 AM *Maxine Hawthorne*  
*In Honor Of Her Birthday*  
( Steve & Tracy Balczon )

### Tuesday, December 5, 2023

#### Advent Weekday

8:00 AM ✠ *Michael W. Kearns*  
( Jim & Norella Consedine )

### Wednesday, December 6, 2023

#### Advent Weekday

8:00 AM *Max Stephen*  
*For Health*  
( St. Lawrence-St. Philip Church )

### Thursday, December 7, 2023

#### Vigil Of The Immaculate Conception

#### Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

#### Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor Of The Church

At St. Philip Church - 5:00 PM ✠ *For The Living &*  
*Deceased Members Of*  
*St. Lawrence And St. Philip Church*

### Friday, December 8, 2023

#### The Immaculate Conception

#### Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

At St. Lawrence Church - 5:00 PM ✠ *Fr. Francis Johnson*  
( St. Lawrence-St. Philip Church )

### Saturday, December 9, 2023

#### Sunday Vigil Mass

#### Advent Weekday

5:00 PM ✠ *For The Living & Deceased Members Of*  
*St. Lawrence And St. Philip Church*

### Sunday, December 10, 2023

#### Second Sunday Of Advent

8:00 AM ✠ *Laura Revak*  
( The Kaleida Family )  
  
10:00 AM ✠ *Mary Miller*  
( Jay & Marianne Pacansky and Family )

## Deacon's Corner

December 3, 2023



### Advent

As we start the Advent season, it is significant and exciting to know more about the history and what Advent means.

It is not certain when the first celebration of Advent was introduced into the Church. In the homilies from the sixth century from St. Maximus, Bishop of Turing, and St. Casarius, Bishop of Arles, we find discussions of preparation for the birth of Christ. The Gelasian Sacramentary notes five Sundays for the preparation season. The five Sundays were later reduced to four by Pope St. Gregory VII (1073-85).

Advent comes from the Latin phrase “ad-venire” or “to come to.” *It is the season encompassing the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas.*

Furthermore, Advent is a season of preparation, reminding us:

To Look Back and reflect on the Lord's birth at Christmas

To Look Ahead toward His second coming

The liturgical color for Advent is purple, like Lent, since both seasons are preparing us for a great feast day. In addition, Advent includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

This Advent season, let us remember to take some time to slow down and pray for God's peace. It also seems appropriate to contemplate that in the darkest winter season, that this is when God's “great and infinite light,” Jesus Christ, came into the world.

“Come, Lord Maranatha! Come and bring us your peace. Come, Lord, Maranatha! Come to us; set us free. Come, Lord, and bring us your peace.”

Deacon Paul

## The Blessing Tree

### Special Collection

Thank you everyone for your generosity with our special collection the weekend of the 19th. A total of \$610.00 was donated to help with the heating bills for both of our churches this winter.

Thank you!

Thank you for your amazing response to our Blessing Tree. Almost all of the tags have been taken!

Please remember to attach the tag securely to your gift so the sorters are able to match it with the correct child and family. Please return gifts to St. Lawrence Church and place them under the tree no later than December 11th. All gifts will be sorted on December 12th and given to families on December 16th by the Northwestern Food Pantry.



## Ladies of the Rosary



Meetings  
First Thursday of the  
month at 6:30PM

Contact: Tammy Maskrey

All Ladies of the parish are welcome!



## Cursillo

"Making a friend, being a friend,  
and  
introducing that friend to Christ."

Parish Coordinators:  
Needed



## JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #3979

A CATHOLIC  
FAMILY FRATERNAL  
SERVICE ORGANIZATION

CALL: JOHN SHADE - 756-4512

## Mattera Funeral Home

**Pasquale (Pat) Mattera**  
**Funeral Director / Owner**

188 East State Street  
Albion, PA 16401  
814-756-4151  
fax 814-756-4648



**Irene's  
TAILORING**  
Alterations

Irene Petruska  
12450 Rt. 98  
Edinboro, Pa. 16412  
(814)384-3176

## Springfield Monument Company Cemetery Memorial Specialists

**Jim & Rosa Youschak**  
Owner / Memorial Designer

**PO Box 247**  
**11885 Main Street**  
**East Springfield PA 16411**

**1-800-729-3516**

**Local: 922-3596**

**www.springfieldmonument.com**



## St. Lawrence/St. Philp Faith Formation

Sundays 11:00am-12:30pm  
K through 11

To register contact:  
Cassie Adamczyk at  
814-756-4840 (Office)  
814-873-8339 (Cell)



**Ministries**  
*Serve the Lord and serve the  
Parish as an:*

Altar Server  
students grade 4 and up

Lector  
post confirmation Adults

Greeter  
high school students and up

Contact Parish Office for  
more information  
756-3623

## Your CHOIR Needs YOUR Voice

- \* to lead the singing of the Assembly
  - \* to embellish the music of the liturgy
  - \* to become a future cantor
- Consider becoming a member TODAY!



*"Those who sing pray twice!"*

### Sacrament of Matrimony

Parishioners are requested  
to contact the pastor  
at least six months in advance  
to begin preparation.

Participation is required in  
Pre-Cana or Engagement Encounter.

### Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment.  
Please call the Parish Office  
for more information.  
Pre-Baptismal instruction  
is required.

### Sponsor Certificates

Letters of recommendation issued  
only to confirmed parishioners  
(age 16+) in good standing,  
who attend Mass regularly and  
support the parish with time,  
treasure or talent.

### Sick Calls

Visits to the hospitals are made  
per patient request. Please notify  
the office of any hospitalization,  
Communion to the sick and  
shut-in visits. Emergencies will  
be addressed at any time.



## St. Lawrence/St. Philip Church

### Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Check One

- ☐ New
- ☐ Address Change
- ☐ Moving out of Parish





## ~Praying With A Purpose~

To add a prayer request, please contact  
Cathy Wojtecki 756-5961 or  
Norma Jafko 756-3889

Please keep the following People in your prayers...

Melissa  
Cherie  
Mike Sawin  
Andrew Segal  
Judy Diehl  
Maddalena Ranelli  
Kelly Wojtecki  
Tom Lascek  
Lisa Ballmann  
Angela Mulligan  
Dawn Betle

Jon Reibel  
Jim Bernoski  
Marilyn Madden  
Tonya  
Missy  
Skip Buttaccio  
Morgan  
Carol (Schultz) Raiff  
Bill Pavolko  
Colleen Lance  
Janet Lance

Tammy Lynn  
& Kevin  
Shawn  
John Proske  
Judy Graham  
Pat Gilbert  
Nancy Cherry  
Barb Wallet  
Max Stephen  
Our Homebound  
Parishioners

### The Advent Wreath

The circle of the wreath reminds Christians of God, His eternity and endless mercy, which has no beginning or end. The green of the wreath speaks of the hope that Christians have in God, the hope of newness, of renewal, of eternal life. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.



Thank you to Peg Balogh for chairing our Christmas Craft Fair again this year. The Fair brought in \$1,025. for the churches from Table Spaces, and \$545.30 for our Faith Formation Program from the Auction, 50/50 and Concessions.

Thanks to Chris Balogh, Renae Mihalak, and Cassie Adamczyk for all your help the day of the Fair, taking over while Peg was ill. Thanks also to Criss, John, Ty, and Seth Rotko, who ran the concessions, and to Hannah Adamczyk who ran the Christmas Auction.

We are Blessed to have such amazing Parishioners!

## This Week at St. Lawrence/St. Philp

**Monday, December 4**  
\*Bingo - 6:30  
St. Lawrence Parish Center  
Doors Open at 5:30  
\*AA Meeting - 8 pm  
St. Lawrence Parish Center

**Tuesday, December 5**  
\*Holy Hour - 6 pm  
St. Lawrence Church

**Wednesday, December 6**  
\*Woman's Bible Study - 7 pm  
St. Lawrence Church  
Conference Room  
\*AA Meeting - 8 pm  
St. Lawrence Parish Center

### Faith Formation

Sunday, December 10th  
Pageant Practice Following Mass  
Class

Sunday, December 17th  
Pageant Practice Following Mass  
Christmas Party

If you have any questions or concerns,  
please contact our Faith Formation Facilitator,

Cassie Adamczyk  
Office - 814-756-4840  
Cell - 814-873-8339



## The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil Mass  
Thursday, December 7th  
5:00 pm ~ St. Philip

Mass  
Friday, December 8th  
5:00 pm ~ St. Lawrence  
\*Lector - Marge Mayer\*



*"O MARY,  
conceived without sin,  
pray for us  
who have recourse to Thee."*

## Lector Schedule

Saturday, December 2 - 5:00 pm - Patricia Thompson  
Sunday, December 3 - 10:00 am - Criss Rotko

Saturday, December 9 - 5:00 pm - Marge Mayer  
Sunday, December 10 - 10:00 am - Carl Pry

Saturday, December 16 - 5:00 pm - Patricia Thompson  
Sunday, December 17 - 10:00 am - Criss Rotko

Sunday, December 24 - 10:00 am Carl Pry

Vigil Mass of Christmas  
Sunday, December 24 - 5:00 pm - Marge Mayer



## ~Christmas Party~

St. Lawrence Ladies Of The Rosary, would like to invite all women of St. Lawrence and St. Philip to attend our Christmas Party on Thursday, December 7th at 6:00 at Valenza Restaurant. If you would like to attend, please call the Church Office at 814-756-3623 as soon as possible to make a reservation.

We will be having an ornament exchange. If you would like to participate, please bring an ornament (limit \$10). We will also be collecting "personal care items" for the Food Panty.

Hope to see you there!

**The 2023  
Catholic Services Appeal  
Our Diocesan Assessment—\$28,655.00**

**Current Households—152**

**Total Pledges Made—41**

**Total Amount Pledged—\$21,275.00**

**Total Amount Paid—\$24,203.00**



**Sacrificial Giving For The Weekend Of  
November 25 & 26**

**Weekly Offertory Budget Goal  
\$ 3,750.00**

**Amount Collected  
\$1,695.00**

Before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner, many families with roots in Poland and other Eastern European countries will take part in a tradition, which has roots dating back hundreds of years. Christmas Eve marks the end of Advent. Traditionally, that meant the last day of fasting, so in mostly Catholic Poland, the dinner was typically meatless. At the start of dinner, just after grace, the sharing of Oplatki, (unleavened bread) with another person is sharing all that is good with life. Many families still celebrate this tradition.

Oplatki will be available for you to purchase at St. Philip and St. Lawrence beginning next weekend, for \$3 each.