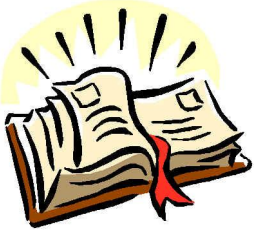


## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for “the glory of the Lord to be revealed.” Rather than looking only at God’s power, Isaiah focuses on God’s kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.



#### Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

#### Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to “stoop and untie his sandal straps.” John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he, who would walk among them.

### For the Week of December 7<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

#### Monday

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

#### Tuesday

Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

#### Wednesday

Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

#### Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

#### Friday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;

Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

#### Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

**MASS TIMES FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (MONDAY DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>):**

**SACRED HEART: 8:30 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M.**

**ST JOHN’S: 10:00 A.M.**



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

4:00 p.m. Ann R. Sullivan

### Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m. Stella Belcak

10:00 a.m. Bernard Folker

### Monday December 8<sup>th</sup> Immaculate Conception

8:30 a.m. (SH) Mass for the People

10:00 a.m. (SJ) Stella Belcak

7:00 p.m. (SH) Jane Spray

### Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

### Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

### Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Jane Spray

### Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Pauline Koleszar

### Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Jane Spray

4:00 p.m. Anita Gelderman

### Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m. Mass for the People

10:00 a.m. Ken Burns

## REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish:

*Julia Ridgely, Barron Scott, Thomas Parson, Barbara Darrah, John Troffo, Ed Yianakis, Valerie Lindyberg, Patricia Dana, and Jim Kestell* and all those whose names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF



INTENTIONS located in the front foyer of the Sacred Heart and St. John’s.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### PREP

#### Parish Religious Education Program

*Come, Come Emmanuel! Son of God appear! Heaven and earth rejoice!  
Salvation is drawing near!*

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POSTER CONTEST:** All children grades 1 - 8 are invited to participate in the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest. Informational flyers and poster board can be obtained from the PREP Office. Please submit all posters to the Religious Education Office by **Sunday, December 14th.**

**PREP ATTENDANCE:** Our attendance rates have been very inconsistent. When you consider that the catechists have *only 1 hour per week* with the students, you can understand how one or two absences a month takes away from quality catechesis and relationship building. Even though the holiday season is upon us, please make every effort to bring your children to PREP every week.

#### December PREP Class Schedule:

Sunday, Dec. 7th - Class

Sunday, Dec. 14th - Class

Sunday, Dec. 21st - NO CLASSES

Sunday, Dec. 28th - NO CLASSES

Sunday, Jan. 5th - Class

**PREP OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT:** Thank you to the PREP families for providing *7 bags of groceries and 2 dozen winter items* (hats, gloves, scarves) to our local Food Pantry and Shelter for those less fortunate than ourselves.

These items were delivered and received with much appreciation in this season of thanksgiving and love. *Thank you for your faithful participation.*

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** The following children in our parish community received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on **Saturday, December 6th.**

Robert Fink	Jamie Baldwin	Lawrence Peach
Mia Tucker	Ellie Macielag	John Connolly
Kate Cannon	Emma Melvin	Garett Hemingway
Laurel Clarke	AJ Besse	Sarah LaPointe
	Maverick Woodward	



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

"A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REVIVAL"

COME ONE, COME ALL



Join us for a revival of the 1995 Sacred Heart Christmas Pageant **Saturday December 20, 2014** immediately following the **4:00 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart.** Please bring a dessert to share at the social following the pageant in the Hall.

## MINISTRIES AND MUSIC

**USHER MINISTRY:** We are in need of a few more people to help as ushers. The task of the usher involves helping with the collection at mass and handing out materials at the church doors from time to time. Your commitment is flexible and can be tailored to your mass preference time and your special scheduling needs through our online scheduling program. Please consider stepping up to offer service in this important ministry. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Frank Creegan at [fcreegan2@washcoll.edu](mailto:fcreegan2@washcoll.edu).

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**MUSIC NOTES:** As Cantors and Leaders of Music, it is our joy to provide music and prayer at mass and we take our ministry role very seriously. We remind all of you that our primary role as minister is to "promote active participation" of the assembly in the mass. **Please join with us in song and in prayer.** We are not praying *FOR* you through song but *WITH* you. God knows what your voice sounds like and He loves it! Praise Him! Consider making this your Advent gift. **SING TO THE LORD, PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME!**

## TEACHINGS AND TRADITIONS

**TEACHINGS AND TRADITIONS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH:** This Adult Formation activity meets **each Sunday after the 10:00 a.m. Mass** in the front foyer of Sacred Heart Church. *This week's topic: THE SEASON OF ADVENT*

Advent is a time of prayer and of hopeful waiting. It is a time to look within, to ask God to make us into the person he wants us to become as we wait for the manifestation of Christ anew in our hearts at Christmas. *What might you do this Advent season to prepare for the coming of Christ in your heart?*

**Sunday, December 14 Topic: The Incarnation**

## PARISH LIFE

**GIVING TREE:** Sacred Heart Parish will once again support our community this Christmas through donations to the Giving Tree. Please take an ornament, read it for information about the recipient, purchase and wrap the gift and attach the ornament securely to the outside of the gift. Please

### The Giving Tree

Helping Those in Need



place the gift under the tree located in Church. **All gifts are needed by Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.** Your generous giving allows us to bring Christmas joy to many families. For more information, contact Jeanne Yeager, [jyeager@mscfv.org](mailto:jyeager@mscfv.org) or 410-778-0554.

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**ADVENT WREATH:** Thank you to *Vince & Kathy Higgins and to the Walls Family* for representing the hope of the season in the lighting of the Advent Wreath this weekend at mass.

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**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** The offertory envelopes for 2015 are at the back of the Church in Sacred Heart and St. John's. *Please note that even if you are contributing through Electronic Giving, you will still need to pick up envelopes because special collections are not part of Electronic Giving.* We have sent envelopes up to St. John's for anybody with a Rock Hall address. If you do not attend the church where the envelopes were placed, give our office a call at 410-778-3160, and let us know. **PLEASE BE ADVISED, WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A TAX STATEMENT FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IF YOU USE ELECTRONIC GIVING OR THE OFFERTORY ENVELOPES. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ENVELOPES AND THERE ARE NO ENVELOPES WITH YOUR NAME AND WE WILL MAKE SURE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A SET.** Call Becky Davis, 410-778-3160 if you wish to start receiving envelopes or, with any questions. If you have questions about Electronic Giving or would like to sign up, please call John Davis at 443-875-6898.

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### BREAKFAST AT ST. JOHN'S:

There is a Breakfast scheduled for this **Sunday, December 7th following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. John's Church Hall.** We welcome any "family favorite" breakfast dishes that you would like to share alongside

the traditional breakfast menu! There is no charge - received donations help those with need in our Parish. We look forward to seeing you there!!

## Christmas Elves!

We are asking parishioners to join in preparation of the Sacred Heart Christmas environment. There are a variety of opportunities. On the morning of December 22<sup>nd</sup> we need four elves to help decorate the church – to fluff bows, hang wreaths, set up window candles and the gathering space Christmas tree. In addition, four volunteers are needed to create a welcoming holiday arrangement, either for one of the three Sacred Heart entrances or for the chapel. Your choice of flowers, greens, berries, etc. to be reimbursed. Church vases are available as are floral foam and ribbon.



Contact Louise Shearer: 410-490-3595;  
[shibshearer@verizon.net](mailto:shibshearer@verizon.net)

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### THANK YOU.....and a Reminder



A **BIG Thank you** for the generous donation of 581 pounds of food donated by Parishioners to the *Special Thanksgiving Food Drive.* Your donations helped feed 58 families in that week.

And a **Reminder of our weekly collection** for which there are baskets at the entrances of the churches. During wintertime the need is especially great.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

### OFFERTORY 11/23/14:

SACRED HEART:	\$	4,256
ST. JOHN:	\$	925
ELECTRONIC GIVING:	\$	403

### OFFERTORY 11/30/14:

SACRED HEART:	\$	3,601
ELECTRONIC GIVING:	\$	403

### CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

SACRED HEART:	\$	1,343
ST. JOHN:	\$	278