

Fourth Sunday of Advent:
December 24, 2023

Masses for the Week

Sunday, December 24, 9:00 AM
+ Deacon Charles H. Rebeck (18th Anniversary)

Sunday, December 24, 6:00 PM (Christmas Vigil)
Parishioners of St. Patrick & Our Lady of Hope

Monday, December 25, 9:00 AM (Christmas Day)
Parishioners of St. Patrick & Our Lady of Hope

There will be no AM Mass on
Tuesday, December 26 and
Thursday, December 28.

Sunday, December 31, 9:00 AM
+ Robert Sager



The Parish Office is open Monday –
Thursday from 10 AM to 5 PM.

Ministry Schedule

Monday, December 25, 9:00 AM

Lector: Melissa Sitlinger

Extraordinary Ministers: Bill Long, Linda Young

Servers: Ray Bednar

Sunday, December 31, 9:00 AM

Lector: Glenda Whary

Extraordinary Ministers: Mike Mazer, Melissa Myers

Servers: Jaden, Landen & Cullen Myers

TITHING REPORT

Collection: 12/17/2023: \$3161.00

Maintenance Fund, \$325.00

Christmas Flowers, \$135.00

Immaculate Conception Offering, \$55.00

Retirement Fund for Religious, \$60.00

Matthew 25 Offering, \$5.00

Memorial Fund: In memory of Freda Boblick,
\$1,000.00

Unsold November Lottery Calendars, \$225.00

A Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of
Deacon Charles H. Rebeck (18th Anniversary)
from wife, Mary & Children.



Fourth Sunday of Advent:
December 24, 2023

9:00 AM Liturgy

No Religious Education Classes
(Christmas Vacation)

NO GREATER LOVE

A five-session biblical study program in which
we will walk step by step with Jesus on His
journey from His Agony in the Garden to His
Crucifixion on Calvary.

Tuesdays – February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 5
at Our Lady of Hope Parish Hall from 6 PM to
7:30 PM. The cost is \$15 and each person will
receive a book and workbook. To register, call
Our Lady of Hope Parish office at 570-648-4432
no later than Thursday, January 4.

Calendars

2024 Calendars are now available.
Please feel free to take one.

Christmas Wafers

Christmas Wafers are available in the vestibule of
the church.
Donations would be appreciated.

Announcements

The Parish Office will close at 5:00 PM on Thursday, December 21 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 2 at 10:00 AM.

Monday, December 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM K of C Free Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 26

4 – 6 PM Food Pantry and Clothing Closet



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24

Our Lady of Hope – 4:00 PM

St. Patrick – 6:00 PM

Christmas Day – Monday, December 25

St. Patrick - 9:00 AM

Our Lady of Hope – 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 31

St. Patrick - 9:00 AM

Our Lady of Hope – 10:30 AM

There will be no Mass at St. Patrick or Our Lady of Hope on Monday, January 1. There will be a 10:00 AM Mass at Mother Cabrini.

Pierogies.....

will be made on Monday, January 8. Since the Parish Office will be closed until January 2, please call Anita at 570-797-3873 to place your order.

Repose of:

Please remember in prayer the soul of **Michael Hart** who was buried in St. Patrick Cemetery on Thursday, December 21, 2023.

Deacon's Corner

The day after Christmas, Tuesday, December 26, is the feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr of the Church. Stephen was one of the first among the seven men chosen as deacons to assist the Apostles in their mission. He was a person "filled with faith and the Holy Spirit" who performed great works among the people. The elders and the scribes stirred the people against St. Stephen during his ministry of service. They said he blasphemed Moses and God.

(Acts of Apostle 6:1-15)

Arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin, St. Stephen gave a speech, the longest recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. He stated that God had prepared the world for the coming of His Son. But, the leaders of the people had resisted the Holy Spirit. He concluded with the words, "Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

Angered by these words, he was taken outside the city of Jerusalem near the Gate of Damascus and stoned to death. During his last moments of life, in imitation of Jesus, St. Stephen prayed that God would receive his spirit and forgive those who had committed this act (Acts of Apostles 7:1-60).

St. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons and altar servers. May we pray, "St. Stephen, pray that I may always be eager to serve God and His Church and that I may never hesitate to answer God's call in my life."

Thank you....

To all who helped to fill our Advent Tree of Giving with warm items. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you....

To those who helped decorate the interior and exterior of the church for the Christmas Season.
Great Job!

Snow Emergency Days

If Lourdes Regional (Shamokin School District) **OR** Line Mountain is delayed or cancelled there will be no 8:00 AM weekday Mass. Tune in to local TV or radio stations for this information.