

Third Sunday of Advent:
December 17, 2023

Masses for the Week

Sunday, December 17, 9:00 AM

+ Romaine Troutman (1st Anniversary)

Tuesday, December 19, 8:00 AM

+ Jack Troutman

+ Dominic & Leona Vottero

Thursday, December 21, 8:00 AM

Living and + Deceased Members of the
Immaculata Boone Family

Sunday, December 24, 9:00 AM

+ Deacon Charles H. Rebeck (18th Anniversary)

Sunday, December 24, 6:00 PM (Christmas Vigil)

Parishioners of St. Patrick and Our Lady of Hope



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

Ministry Schedule

Sunday, December 24, 9:00 AM

Lector: Glenda Whary

Extraordinary Ministers: Mike Mazer,
Dorothy Renn

Servers: Jaden, Landen & Cullen Myers

Sunday, December 24, 6:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Lector: Anna Troutman

Extraordinary Ministers: Patrick & Melissa Myers

Servers: Jaden, Landen & Cullen Myers

Diocesan Annual Campaign – UPDATE

As of this date, we need \$2,400 to meet our goal.

There is still time to contribute to the 2023 DAC.

Pledges for the 2023 Campaign must be met by
December 31. Please honor your pledge if you
haven't already done so.

A St. Joseph Candle burns in loving memory of
Kevin D. Kinder (Birthday Memorial)
from Mom.



Third Sunday of Advent:
December 17, 2023

9:00 AM Liturgy

9:45 – 10:45 AM Religious Education Classes

TITHING REPORT

Collection: 12/10/2023: \$1885.00

Maintenance Fund, \$105.00

Donations to Defray Heating Costs, \$105.00

Christmas Flowers, \$150.00

Immaculate Conception Offering, \$228.00

Retirement Fund for Religious, \$197.00

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.

Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 PM

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Announcements

Saturday, December 23

6:30 PM Living Nativity Pageant at Our Lady of Hope
(With children's petting zoo – refreshments to follow)



The **Advent Tree of Giving.....**
awaits your donations of warm mittens, gloves, socks,
hats, etc.



Christmas Schedule

Living Nativity – Saturday, December 23

Our Lady of Hope – 6:30 PM

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.

Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Dinner

The Shamokin K of C will be serving a **FREE** traditional holiday meal (ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, a roll and dessert) on Monday, December 25 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. If anyone would like to help to financially support this Christmas tradition a \$5.00 donation feeds two people and for \$20.00 you can feed a family of four.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

If you would like a meal delivered contact the parish office.

Deacon's Corner

As a community of living faith, we begin the Third Week of Advent. This Sunday is "Gaudete Sunday." The theme of this Advent week is "one of joy" for the first word in this Sunday's liturgy is "rejoice".

As Catholics, we rejoice because Jesus Christ, Our Savior, comes to live among us and be one of us.

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw His glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Jesus tells us that He comes into our world, "because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners" (Isaiah 61:1). In today's world, suffering, isolation and poverty still exist among our sisters and brothers. Our Lord comes to free all of this existence and to bring light into our lives.

There are our brothers and sisters who are broken-hearted, lonely and unwanted. They await this same light of Christ so they, too, can experience joy in their lives. The joy of Christmas will be ours as we follow Christ by bringing His love into others' lives—the true meaning of Christmas. In this season of joy, let us be forgiving, kind and grateful; welcoming of others; and charitable through our corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Catholics can receive a plenary indulgence by praying before a Nativity scene.

This year, Catholics will be able to receive a plenary indulgence from December 8 (Immaculate Conception) to February 2, 2024 (Feast of the Presentation in the Temple), by praying before a nativity scene in a Franciscan church. Earlier this year, on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the faithful gathered at the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy, to honor the beloved Italian saint, and celebrate the 800th anniversary of the approval of the Rule of St. Francis (1228) and the creation of the Nativity in Greccio.

As part of the celebration of this Franciscan Centenary, the conference of the Franciscan Family asked Pope Francis for the approval of this plenary indulgence by visiting churches run by Franciscan families throughout the world and stopping in prayer in front of the Nativity scenes set up there.

The Apostolic Penitentiary welcomed the request, allowing the faithful to receive this indulgence under the usual conditions.