

Purple Advent Candle, Peace

On the fourth and final Sunday of Advent, the last candle is lit, which is purple. This candle represents peace and reminds us of the importance of Peace as the true savior of the world is coming.



OUR LADY OF
HOPE
CHURCH
863 W Chestnut St
Coal Township, PA 17866

December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Unto Us
a Child is Born*

The Week Ahead

Saturday, December 23

4:00 PM - Mass +Walter Joseph Czech

6:30 PM - Live Nativity

Sunday, December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM - Mass +Beth Ann Snyder

Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve Mass

4:00 PM - Mass +Mary Lou Sherupski

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

10:30 AM - Mass +James Taylor

Wednesday, December 27

12:00 PM - Holy Hour in Our Lady of Hope Chapel

Saturday, December 30

4:00 PM - Mass +Chester Milbrand

Sunday, December 31 New Years Eve

10:30 AM - Mass +Alma & Gerard Haile

+Clara Angelo

Monday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary

Not a Holy Day this Year

10:00 AM - Mass at Mother Cabrini



Ministers Schedule

Monday, December 25

10:30 AM

Lector: **Needed**

E Minister: C Alexander, J Alexander

Saturday, December 30

4:00 PM

Lector: L Ferrari

E Minister: C Kruskie, C Waugh

Sunday, December 31

10:30 AM

Lector: **Needed**

E Minister: R Zawalick



Confessions in the Area

Our Lady of Hope - Saturday

3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Mother Cabrini - Tuesday & Thursday

7:30 AM - 7:50 AM



Beginning on Tuesday, February 6, we will be offering a **five-session program** that will help you to learn about and experience Christ's Passion and Death. In **No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk-Through Christ's Passion**, we are going to walk step-by-step with Jesus on his journey from His Agony in the Garden to His Crucifixion on Calvary. **Program Dates:** Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 5. **Snow dates:** March 12 and 19 if needed.

Place: Our Lady of Hope Parish Hall, 863 West Chestnut St., Coal Township

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Deacon Bob Wislock

Cost: \$15 per participant – Each person will receive a book and a workbook.

Register: To register for program, please visit Our Lady of Hope or St. Patrick Parish Offices Monday through Thursday From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Deadline to register is Friday, December 29

Note: Participants will prepare for each session by reading excerpts from the *No Greater Love* book and completing workbook discussion questions.

God's Plan for Giving

12/10/23

Offertory Collection	\$,4425.00
Candles	\$ 96.00
Immaculate Conception	974.00
Retirement Fund	648.00



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

This year, Catholics will be able to receive a **plenary indulgence** from Dec. 8, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to Feb. 2, 2024, the feast of the Presentation in the Temple of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 (1223) and the creation of the Nativity scene 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 the 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.



Tabernacle Candle

In Loving Memory

+Al Nezerski, Sr

By Joannie & Don

Friar Nicholas and the Staff of Our Lady of Hope

Wish all of you a

A Very Merry Christmas and many Blessings in the New Year

DEACON'S CORNER

The Feast of St. Stephen

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 perform 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 Apostles 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).

Pray for the Sick

Please pray for all who are sick, hospitalized, or undergoing medical tests especially:

Connie Yucha, Paul Pachuski, Gene Snyder, McKenzie Navaara, Natalie Broskley, Mary Ann Brass, Bill Danisevich, Joe Mazzatesta, Christine Noll, Mike Noll, Holly Madden, Chris Zalewski, Jake Ozga, Jimmy Lenig, Terry Venefskie, Tiffany Marie, Francis Koczur, Kim Plasters, Jane Klembara, Victor Sassani Jr., William T. Dietzler, Shelly Little, Andrew Wislock, Rosemary Rogowsky, Sam Bressi, Ramona Cambria, Dave Moore, Barb Gotaskie, Patti (Hoffman) Pantalone, Brian Shaffer, Jack Dougherty, Sue Zarski, Don Blessing, Lorretta Buggy, Joan Fatool, Shawn Minnier, Mike Orleski, Cassie Bennett, Jay McAndrew, Bill Bordell, Marie Kosmer, Nicole Voekler, Kathy Lenig, Debbie Christian, Gary Snyder, Linda Venn, Christine Nestico, Bob Searls, Vincent Makowski, Steve Tehansky, Courtney Shirmer, Thomas Purcell, Joyce Koczur, Lottie Reiprish, Frank Jerome, Margaret Forbes, Jake Temple, Panunat Shontz, Jim Kelley, Rich Ringes and Sharon Eby Johnson.

To submit the name of an individual in need of prayers for the bulletin prayer list, please call Rose at 570-648-4432, or email at rzawalick@hbgdiocese.org.



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED MAKE THE
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS THANKSGIVING MEAL
POSSIBLE!**

Thanks to all who donated their time/talents, treasure and turkeys to help make the Knights of Columbus community Thanksgiving meal a success!! With all of your help we were able to provide over 650 meals to those in the community this Thanksgiving. A special thanks to all those who gave up 4-5 hours of their time serving their brothers and sisters in Christ. May God Bless you all!!!



PICKLEBALL

Our Lady of Hope is looking to start a "Pickleball" Team. If you are interested in joining, or would like information, please email Tony Leeman at aj.leeman@netzero.com.

Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Dinner

The Shamokin Knights of Columbus will be serving a FREE traditional holiday meal on

Monday December 25, 2023 from 11:00 - 2:00

The meal consists of ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, a roll and dessert.

Contact the parish office if you would like a meal delivered.

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! God Bless!!

Religious Education

Religious Education Class will not be held on Sunday, December 24, 2023 or Sunday December 31, 2023.

Class will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 9:45 AM. Have a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year!



Our Religious Education classes recently held a competition "Race in November" to donate money to support Toys for Tots. The total donated was \$104.27, with the 1st & 2nd grade class being the top contributors with \$44.71!

Congratulations to all the classes and their parents for supporting this collection.

Bayberry Candle Sale

*Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court
Our Lady of Victory #588, Mt. Carmel, PA
are selling Bayberry Candles \$10/Set*

Call: Jamie A. Bordell, Treasurer

Phone #570-847-5823

Christmas Office Hours



**Our Parish Office will close at 3:00 PM
Thursday, December 21, 2023 for the
Christmas Holidays. We will reopen on
Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 9:00 AM
A Blessed and Merry Christmas to All!**



NO GREATER LOVE

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH
CHRIST'S PASSION

Beginning on Tuesday, February 6, we will be offering a **five-session program** that will help you to learn about and experience Christ's Passion and Death. In *No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk-Through Christ's Passion*, we are going to walk step-by-step with Jesus on his journey from His Agony in the Garden to His Crucifixion on Calvary. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Dr. Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. Along the way, we will unpack the biblical background to these events, the prophecies, and most especially, the ways Jesus is inviting us to walk more closely with him today.

Program Dates: Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 5.

Snow dates: March 12 and 19 if needed.

Place: Our Lady of Hope Parish Hall, 863 West Chestnut St., Coal Township

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Deacon Bob Wislock

Cost: \$15 per participant – Each person will receive a book and a workbook.

Register: To register for the program, please call Our Lady of Hope (570-648-4432) or St. Patrick (570-797-8251) Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Deadline to register is Friday, December 29.

Note: Participants will prepare for each session by reading excerpts from the *No Greater Love* book and completing workbook discussion questions.

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