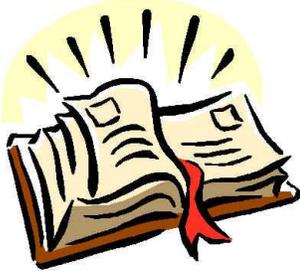


## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Baruch tells Jerusalem to rejoice because of God's plan to bring his exiled people back to Jerusalem. He emphasizes God's power and describes his plan to lower mountains and fill gorges to make their journey easier.



#### Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Paul encourages the Philippians to love each other completely. He hopes that their love and understanding will continue to grow so that they are prepared for the return of Christ.

#### Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Luke describes the work John the Baptist carried out to help people prepare for the birth of Jesus. Luke also discusses who was in power at the time, which helped historians to figure out the exact dates of certain events, including Jesus' birth.



For the Week of December 6<sup>th</sup> through December 12<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

#### Monday

Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

#### Tuesday

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

#### Wednesday

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

#### Thursday

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

#### Friday

Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

#### Saturday

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab;  
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47



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 INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

4:00 p.m. Marion Ewing

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

8:00 a.m. Stella Belcak

10:00 a.m. Judy Cameron

#### Monday December 7<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Alex Tubman

7:00 p.m. (SJ) Mass for the People

#### Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

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

7:00 p.m. (SH) Mass for the People

#### Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

#### Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. Barbara Daugherty

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

8:30 a.m. Alvin Bronstein

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

8:30 a.m. Charles Liberto

4:00 p.m. Anita Gelderman

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

8:00 a.m. Edna Shearer

10:00 a.m. Jack Depoultier

## REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Remember in your prayers the sick of the parish:

*Julia Ridgely, Barron*

*Scott, Barbara*

*Darrah, John Troffo,*

*Valerie Lindyberg,*

*Patricia Dana, Ryan*

*Elizabeth Quintero,*

*Edith Follin,*

*Elizabeth Montague,  
Sandy Bugni, Angela*

*Wilmer, Amy Rhodes, and all those whose names*

appear in the PARISH BOOK OF INTENTIONS

located in the front foyer of

Sacred Heart/St. John's.



## 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 RE Office by Sunday, December 13th.**

**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, December 6<sup>th</sup> – Class  
Sunday December 13<sup>th</sup> – Class  
Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> – Class  
Sunday December 27<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASSES  
Sunday January 3<sup>rd</sup> – NO CLASSES

**PREP OUTREACH PROJECT REPORT:** Thank you to the PREP families for providing *5 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.



## RECONCILIATION

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** The following children in our parish community received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>:

Faith Connolly  
Chase Dolgos  
Sophie Pierce

Brianna Antao  
Nate Peregoy  
Grace Gerstung

Jamison Woodward

Alida Trumbauer  
William Wilson  
Elizabeth Assante di  
Cuppillo

Jamison Kendall  
Olivia Busick  
Peter Sine

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**COME ONE, COME ALL  
To the Annual Sacred  
Heart Christmas Pageant**



**Saturday, December 12,  
2015 following the 4:00 p.m. Mass.**

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**HELP NEEDED!!** Placing Christmas decorations on the graves at St. John's cemetery is an annual tradition. This year the youth of our parish will help with this effort by meeting at St. John's on **Saturday, December 12** to assemble evergreens with ribbon bows which will be placed on each grave.

We are in need of additional evergreens (fir and spruce) and holly branches to complete this project. Anyone who is able to trim a few branches off one or two of your trees is asked to bring them to Sacred Heart or St. John's during the week of December 5 through December 11. At Sacred Heart they can be placed alongside the garage and we will gather them up. At St. John's the greens can be placed alongside the hall. Thank you!

## TEACHINGS AND TRADITIONS

Teachings and Traditions of the Catholic Faith meets weekly **following the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday.** The readings of the day are discussed so that we can better apply them to our daily lives; and a particular piece of Catholic doctrine is then presented and explored. This is a wonderful way to grow in knowledge of our faith! *Won't you join us??*

#### December 6<sup>th</sup> – Season of Advent: Overview

**Facilitators: Ted Kremer and Steve Sappay**

Advent is a time not just of expectant waiting but of profound renewal. On the first Sunday in Advent we look at the teachings of the Church regarding the **ADVENT SEASON.**

Next Week: Mary  
Facilitator: Dick Swanson

## MASS TIMES FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

St. John's: December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart: December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

## PARISH LIFE



It is once again the “season of giving”, but for us Catholic Christians, our season of giving should last all year! There are so many opportunities for us to share our faith by volunteering in our community.

**The Salvation Army Kettles** are in need of bell ringers each weekend through December 22<sup>nd</sup> for two hour shifts. Families are especially encouraged to volunteer. Almost all of the money collected in the Chestertown kettles stays in the Kent County area. Call Pat McDonald at 410-928-5160.

**The Giving Tree** once again presents us with the privilege of making sure that some of our less fortunate neighbors are not forgotten during the Christmas season. **GIFTS ARE DUE UNDER THE TREE BY NO LATER THAN THE 13<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER. WE CANNOT DISTRIBUTE GIFTS LEFT AFTER THAT DATE.**

During the months of January, February and March, we have an opportunity to help those in our community who have no permanent housing, by serving as volunteers at the **Samaritan Group Winter Shelter**. Many of you volunteered last year and can speak to others about how rewarding this experience is. Two volunteers are needed each night from 5:30 until 11:00. Dinner and conversation with the residents of the shelter is a bonus! To select your night(s) please contact Barbara Harrison at [barbara.hrrsn@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.hrrsn@gmail.com)

**St. Martin’s House in Ridgely**, a transitional shelter for women with young children, is in need of volunteer drivers to help these young moms get their little ones to doctors’ appointments, etc. Volunteers are also needed to help the paid staff, or just to come and play with the little ones to give these frazzled moms a little time off! Contact Barbara Kelly at [bksquared01@aol.com](mailto:bksquared01@aol.com) for more information.

Additional evergreens and holly are needed for the annual **St. John’s Cemetery Christmas Decorations**. Please bring them to church by December 11.

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**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** The offertory envelopes for 2016 are at the back of the Church in Sacred Heart and St. John’s. 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 please call Senta Burton at 443-875-6898.

**CHURCH OFFICES WILL CLOSE AT 12:30 P.M. THROUGH DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>.**

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**THANK YOU.....and a Reminder**

Many, many thanks to those who contributed to a record-breaking amount of 753 pounds in our *Special Thanksgiving Food Drive* for the Community Food Pantry. This will help to feed the 150-200 families served by the Food Pantry each month.



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

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS:** This weekend’s second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Tens of thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated their lives to sharing their faith. Generations of Catholics recall with gratitude their work in Catholic schools, hospitals, and social service agencies. Yet years of ministering for little or no pay came at a price, and now their religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide prescription medications, nursing care and more.

*Please be generous.*

### Offertory – Weeks Ending 11/22/15 and 11/29/15 – Weeks 21 and 22

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John’s are made possible. “Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold.”

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 11/22-Wk.21	\$5,779	\$680	\$6,442	\$17
YTD Wk. 21	\$112,841	\$24,269	\$135,282	\$1,828
Offertory 11/29-Wk. 22	\$5,642	\$415	\$6,442	-\$385
YTD Wk. 22	\$118,483	\$24,684	\$141,724	\$1,143

