

A vertical poster featuring a night sky with a bright star and silhouettes of a nativity scene. The text is overlaid on the sky.

Born
the King of
Angels

WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m. @ Immaculate Conception
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. @ St. Joseph Church; 10:30 a.m @ Immaculate Conception
 Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m. Mon. & Thurs. @ ICC; Tues. & Fri. @ SJC; Wed., rotates weekly
 Holy Days: As announced
 First Saturday: 9:00 a.m. rotates Church every month, Jan-SJC; Feb-ICC; March-SJC
 Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays, 12 Noon to 6pm, Rotates Weekly

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.
 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday of month @ ICC
 2nd & 4th Wednesday of month @ SJC

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Call the Rectory for registration and necessary preparations. Parents must attend a Baptism Prep Class, which are offered monthly.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Call the rectory at least six months in advance of proposed wedding date for registration and any necessary preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

This Sacrament is provided to any sick, or elderly person who requests it. Notify the Rectory office as soon as someone becomes seriously ill, so that they might receive this Sacrament, please do not wait until death is imminent.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:

Fr. Minner & Eucharistic Ministers visit monthly those who are homebound and wish to receive Communion. Please call the Rectory to notify us about someone who wishes to be visited.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome! Please call or email the Rectory in order to register. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

PREP Classes are held Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Sept-May
 Rose Strubinger, CRE , iccprep1@gmail.com

ST. JEROME REGIONAL SCHOOL:

Mrs. Amy Hannis-Miskar, Principal
 570-668-2757; sjrschool.com

ST. JOHN NEUMANN REGIONAL SCHOOL:

Mrs. Mary Comensky, Principal
 610-826-2354; altcsjn@ptd.net

MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

Mr. Michael Brennan, Head of School
 570-467-3335; mariancatholichs.org

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Mon. 12/26: RCIA, 6:30-8:30 pm
Tues. 12/27: Flame of Love Rosary, 8:30 am;
 Catholic Daughters - 6 pm;
Wed. 12/28: Adoration, Noon-6pm; Divine
 Mercy Chaplet, 3pm; Confessions, 5pm @ SJC
Thurs. 12/29: SJ Choir, 6:30pm



Weekly Adoration Schedule

Please consider joining us ~ **all are welcome** to attend at any time during the day! If you cannot make your scheduled time, and you are the only person scheduled, please find someone, or call Rita Mroz, 570-732-4130.

SJC	Wednesday, Dec 28
12 - 1 PM	Barbara Rodgers / Rita & Dcn Mroz
1 - 2 PM	Ceil Sebelin / Charlotte Kriley
2 - 3 PM	Louise Goldman / Anita Bott
3 - 4 PM	Louise Goldman / Anita Bott
4 - 5 PM	Pete & Maureen Gipprich /Dave Kriley
5 - 6 PM	Mary Marzen / Mary Sauka / Regina Rose / Marie Damian

Lay Ministers Dec. 31/Jan 1			
Ministry	Sat. 4:30 pm ICC	Sun. 8:30 am SJC	Sun 10:30 am ICC
Lector:	Karen Sofranko	Tricia Snisky	* need volunteer
E.M.:	Deacon Jack, Maggie Dugan, Jerry Nederostek	Deacon Jack, B. Schweibinz, Barbara Rodgers	* need volunteer

Have a Blessed & Merry Christmas!

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Nativity of the Lord ~ Christmas



Special Prayer Intentions- these are the people for whom we will be praying at Mass:

Sat. Dec. 24

4:00 pm (ICC)

For All Who Serve in the Military & Their Families

6:00 pm (SJC)

Living & Deceased Priests and Sisters Who Served at St. Joseph

Sun. Dec. 25

12 Midnight (SJC)

All Living & Deceased Priests of the Allentown Diocese

8:30 am (SJC)

Missa Pro Popula, All Living & Deceased Parishioners

10:30 am (ICC)

Missa Pro Popula, All Living & Deceased Parishioners

Mon. Dec. 26

St. Stephen

No Mass

Tues. Dec. 27

St. John

8:00 am (SJC)

**Eleanor & Walter Stoneback (Roush Family) /
Francis "Snitz" O'Donnell (Joe & Denise McGorry)**

Wed. Dec. 28

The Holy Innocents

12 Noon-6 pm

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

5:00-5:50 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

6:00 pm (SJC)

Maureen Hoppes (Jim & Diane Strubinger)/ Marjorie Haggerty (Leo & Jane O'Donnell)

Thurs. Dec. 29

St. Thomas Becket

8:00 am (ICC)

**Michael Martino (Ken & Rose McArdle) /
Daniel "Pete" McGinley, 18th Anniv. (McGinley Children)**

Fri. Dec. 30

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8:00 am (SJC)

**James & Sarah Straubinger (Thomas & Kathleen Straubinger) /
Ann Vanderbord, 1st Anniv. (Louise Goldman)**

Sat. Dec. 31

St. Sylvester I

9:00 am (SJC)

Rosary for Life



The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother Of God

Sat. Dec. 31

4:30 pm (ICC)

All Our Parishioners, Living & Deceased

Sun. Jan. 1

8:30 am (SJC)

Connie Marzen (Ed & Helen Marzen)

10:30 am (ICC)

In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary (Gedeon Family)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE burns in Loving Memory of *Mary Alice Jacobs* (From, Jacobs Family)

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE burns in Loving Memory of *Daniel "Pete" McGinley* (From, McGinley Children)

SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH CANDLES

SANCTUARY: In Loving Memory of *Ken Snerr* (Req. by Snerr Family)

SAINT JOSEPH: In Loving Memory of *my dad, Bob Lauer* (Req. by daughter, Jess)

SAINT JOSEPH: In Loving Memory of *Jack Marks* (Req. by Shirley)

OUR LADY OF FATIMA: In Loving Memory of *George & Kay Bimler* (Req. by Maryanne & Ronnie)

SAINT ANN: In Loving Memory of *Ann Vandembord* (Req. by Ceil & Frank Sebelin)

BLESSED MOTHER: In Honor of the *Deceased Members of the Sully Family* (Req. by Kim & Ernest Sully, Sr. & Family)

GUARDIAN ANGEL: In Loving Memory of *Louise & Joseph Thear* (Req. by Children & Families)

GUARDIAN ANGEL: In Loving Memory of *Elizabeth & Michael Hodor* (Req. by Family)

GUARDIAN ANGEL: In Loving Memory of *Rose & James Zurn* (Req. by Children & Families)

GUARDIAN ANGEL: In Loving Memory of *Matthew Reabold* (Req. by Family)

GUARDIAN ANGEL: In Loving Memory of *James D. Zurn* (Req. by Brothers, Sisters, & Families)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 11/20/22: \$ 5,332.00
Thank you for your continued support & generosity.



BAPTIZED: WE WELCOME to our parish family, **Kinsley Mae Klotz**, daughter of Stone Klotz & Autumn Madea, and **Natalia Ren Holland**, daughter of M/M Patrick & Sara (Kimborowidb) Holland, who were baptized last Sunday. Please pray for them and their families as they begin their faith journey in Christ.

THE RECTORY OFFICES

are closed for the Christmas holiday and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3rd. Messages and emails will be checked. Have a wonderful Christmas!



MANY THANKS to all those who generously participated in the Giving Tree program. Many needy families will be brought joy this Christmas by your kindness!

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU

to our Women's Club and all our parishioners who so generously supported the Raffle Drawing. We truly appreciate all those who donated items, and sold/purchased tickets for the raffle. It was a great success! May God Bless You all for your hard work!



Mass Intentions

THE 2023 MASS BOOK IS OPEN FOR REQUESTS.

Requests for specific dates can be scheduled through Immaculate Conception Rectory Office, 570-325-2791, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, from 8:30am to 2pm, or email iccjt@ptd.net. General Mass intentions without a specific date request can be done through either St. Joseph or Immaculate Conception Rectory. The Mass stipend is \$10/request. Please note that due to the high volume of weekend requests, a limit of two requests a year per family will be accepted for a Saturday vigil/Sunday Mass. Weekday Mass requests are not limited at this time.

A Christmas Thank You

It is always such a treat to experience Christmas here in our parish! There are so many good things to celebrate and enjoy. We thank our Adult Choir, who has provided super music for the Advent Season and Christmas Eve; we thank those who led the choir and played for all Masses; we thank those who decorated inside the church, and placed the flowers, and this year there were many new faces who had a "hand" with new ideas and approaches! We thank the brand new families and their children, the adults and students who did the various jobs inside church; we thank those who decorated outside the church and those who hung the wreaths and the garland. In a special way we thank those who made the new stable at Saint Joseph's. In a *very special* way we thank our office staff for their extra hard work in preparing for the Christmas Season. We are grateful to those who gave nice sweet treats to our staff; we thank our Liturgical Ministers who worked throughout the Advent Season and Christmas Eve and Day. Finally we thank all our parishioners who were so generous to the Giving Trees; you made so many needy children and families feel loved on Christmas morn and made Christmas a time of joy to celebrate the Incarnation of God, the Birth of Christ! May the Newborn King reward everyone greatly for their hard work, generosity and loyalty.

WEDNESDAY ADORATION: We are in desperate need of Adorers for the Holy Eucharist on Wednesday's between the hours of 1 and 5. Right now we have 3 Adorers who are sick and unable to do their time slots, from 1-2 and 2-4. We only have one couple for the 4-5 slot, so it makes it hard if they cannot make it. Please prayerfully consider a commitment of a ½ hour every week or one hour every week. Our time spent before the Blessed Sacrament can change the world. Please call Rita Mroz at 570-732-4130. Thank you and God bless you.



Christmas Window Candles at Immaculate Conception

In Loving Memory of David Formica, Love, Mom & Heather

In Loving Memory of Susan & Franklin Schatz, Love, Salli, Savah, & Jake

In Loving Memory of Susan Schatz, Love, Judy

In Loving Memory of Millie & Paul Radocha, Love, Family

In Loving Memory of Sarah & Francis Hefferty; Mary & Alois Schatz, Love, Salli, Savah, & Jake

In Loving Memory of Stella & Jake; Dorothy & Johnny, Love Jerry & Judy

In Loving Memory of Plesniarski Family, Love, Family

In Loving Memory of Joseph Paluch, Love, Family

In Loving Memory of Claudine Otto, Love, Angel & Family



CHRISTMAS DAY ~ Bright sunshine on a beautiful October afternoon fills my window as I set about writing this Christmas Reflection. That's the way it goes when one has deadlines to meet. But I had around me enough of those gift Christmas cards sent by many charitable groups every Autumn to set the right mood.

As I rummaged through my Christmas file to find something different for you, when what to my wondering eyes should appear but a 50-year-old document I forgot I had! It was produced so long ago that the paper has taken on a tinge of tan. It was typewriter produced, using what was then the best technology available. The paper was no less than the official stationery of Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield, Delaware County, PA, where yours truly was halfway through my third year of teaching teens.

The piece was entitled "Christmas Liturgy, 1972," which sounds so long ago and far away. I vaguely remember being asked to compose the priest's prayers for a Liturgy prayed by the whole school a few days before the holiday break (it still being officially Advent). Here below I present for your Christmas reflection the Preface for that Mass that I composed way back then, mostly as I wrote it, except for a bit of updated references to the war in Ukraine, and the natural disasters of devastating wildfires, floods and famine in our present world of 2022.

"It is truly right and absolutely just, that we give You thanks and praise, Loving Father, for the joys of Christmas, soon to be represented on this altar.

Those joys depend not on human effort to bring them about. If they did, the effort would be cut short by the sadness of an unjust war waged by a proud and stubborn dictator; devastating destruction of people's homes by fire and flood; of crowded prisons; of sad orphans; the troubled sick and the lonely old. Only God can be dependable to spread real and true joy.

We truly believe that Christmas is 'The Mass of Christ', in which He began the offering of Himself in a wooden manger on a bed of straw, only newly emerged from the womb of Mary our Blessed Virgin Mother. That same offering of His would climax on a Roman cross of wood. A glorious Resurrection would follow, on a day that outranks even Christmas.

For this generosity of God, all people can be deeply grateful. They can also rejoice that the Word of Promise grew to be the Man of action and the God of compassion.

The angels were there, along with His holy parents Mary and Joseph. They accompanied the launch of His new outlook; a new world of bursting Hope. And so we join in with their hymn of praise for all to hear, by singing 'Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might...'

I trust that these mostly half-century old words of mine, now presented here via a gadget called a "Word Processor," will help bring Christmas peace to you and yours.

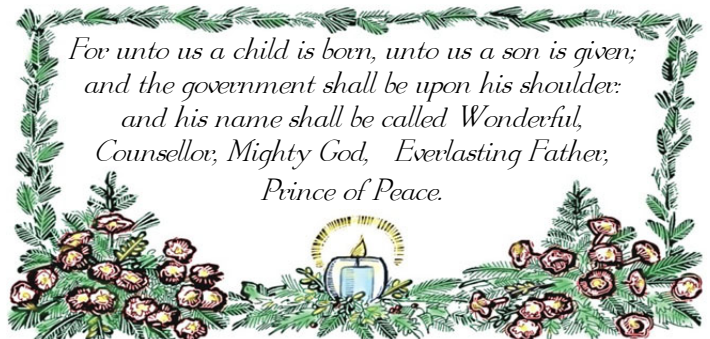


*Thanks be unto God
for his unspeakable gift.*

2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

During this Christmas time commit yourself to sharing the true meaning of Christmas. God shared His love fully by becoming human. We too can share His love by being Christ to one another. May God bless you and your family during this season of good will.



*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.*