

December 10, 2023, Second Sunday of Advent

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of	
October 29, 2023	\$1,712.00
Votive:	\$68.00
November 5, 2023	\$4,062.50
All Saints	\$135.00
All Souls	\$60.00
Capital Imp.	\$70.00
November 12, 2023	\$2,995.80
All Saints	\$70.00
All Souls	\$50.00
Capital Imp.	\$200.00
Food for	
The Poor	\$20.25
World Mission	\$20.00
November 19, 2023	\$2,465.00
Catholic Miss.	\$25.00
Matthew 25	\$185.00
November 26, 2023	\$1,946.00
Capital Imp.	\$10.00
Matthew 25	\$20.00
Votive	\$41.00
December 3, 2023	\$4,216.00
Votive	\$120.00
Immaculate	
Conception	\$100.00
Christmas	\$100.00
Christmas	
Flowers	\$380.00
Capital Imp.	\$275.00

FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
 Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ
 Second Sunday of Advent
 December 10, 2023

“Here begins the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In Isaiah the prophet it is written: ‘I send my messenger before to prepare your way’: a herald’s voice in the desert crying, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord, clear him a straight path.’ Thus it was that John the Baptizer appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance which led to the forgiveness of sins...One more powerful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal strap. I have baptized you in water, he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.”

We meet John the Baptist, the second principal figure of advent, exhorting us to take seriously the need for preparing for the Lord in our lives today. We begin with ourselves, making sure that with the Lord’s help, that we are living the life of grace, His plan and gift for

us. We seek His gift in the sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist.

While we become preoccupied with Christmas preparations, how sad that we sometimes fail to prepare ourselves, or fail to encourage others to join with us in what really matters, our readiness to discover anew the presence of Christ. John’s reference to Isaiah provides the direction that we all need - make ready, clear the path. ‘Come Lord Jesus.’

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for “the glory of the Lord to be revealed.” Rather than looking only at God’s power, Isaiah focuses on God’s kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.

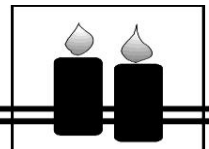
Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to “stoop and untie his sandal straps.” John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he, who would walk among them.

**Prepare the way
of the Lord**



LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass & Intentions for the Week



Saturday, December 9: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
 Matthew 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8

5:30 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14;
 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

9:15 AM George & Lorraine Hazard from
 Shane Armstrong

1:30 PM People of the Parish

Monday, December 11: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Luke 5:17-26

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Luke 1:39-47

Wednesday, December 13: Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr (Memorial)

Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10; Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday, December 14: Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday, December 15: Advent Weekday

Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday, December 16: Advent Weekday

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

5:30 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

9:15 AM Terry Boyd from

Joe & Lori Boyd

1:30 PM People of the Parish

ANGEL TREE



Thank you to everyone who so generously participated in the Angel Tree benefiting Crossroad Pregnancy Center and the children of Head Start.

ADVENT VESPERS

In preparation for the Nativity of our Lord, this year, St. Jude Parish will be praying the Vespers of the Liturgy of the Hours, the three Sundays prior to Christmas at 6:00 p.m. Please join us for one or more of the Sundays on December 3, 10, and 17 for this special Advent prayer service which will include special readings, songs, and the rosary.

SAINT JUDE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our Parish Christmas/Epiphany party on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

The dinner will be a covered dish with the parish providing the meat, beverages, and bread. Our evening will include a special children’s program, caroling, and a visit from the Magi. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the podium at the entrance of the church. Come and enjoy!

ROSARY

Please join us as we pray the Rosary each Sunday at 8:45 a.m. before the 9:15 a.m. Mass.

“The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life.

It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.”
- Pope Leo XIII



**THANK YOU FROM
THE WOMEN’S GUILD**

The Women’s Guild of St. Jude Parish wish to thank everyone who participated by baking cookies for our annual Cookie Walk, and would like to thank everyone who donated items to our White Elephant Sale. Your contributions help fund the projects set by the Guild throughout the year.

WEIS GROCERY CARDS

Saint Jude's Women's Guild will have Weis Grocery cards for sale in the Social Hall after Mass on Sundays. Please see Karen Thome to purchase your cards and support the Guild's charitable works!

THANK YOU!



Thank you to all who participated in our annual Advent by Candlelight. Our volunteers made this a truly special event!

MASS INTENTIONS

Requests for Mass Intentions are welcome for all Masses celebrated at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish. In order to make the request of Mass Intentions more convenient, we now have Mass Intention envelopes which can be completed and placed in the offering box found in the entrance of the church. To request a Mass, please fill out the front of the envelope, indicate if you would like a Mass Card in the sheet provided and include the customary offering of \$10.00 for the Mass and place it in the box in the Narthex. You may also request a mass via email rectory@stjudemifflintown.org or by making arrangements with the Parish Secretary on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or after the Sunday 9:15 a.m. Mass.

Rectory Open House Christmas Party

Father Weary's Rectory Open House Christmas Party will be held on **Sunday, December 10th from 3-5 PM**. All are welcome to join us for this annual celebration. Snacks and drinks will be provided.



Mifflin County High School Cantare will perform at approximately 10:40 AM, prior to 11:00 AM Mass and after Communion on Sunday, December 10th. Come and enjoy!



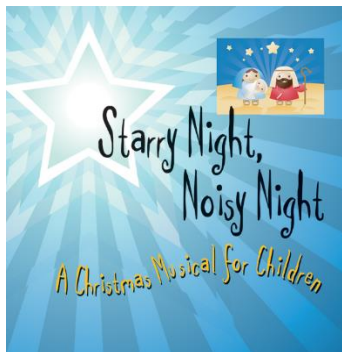
COFFEE SOCIAL HOSTS:

December 10	MEGAN
December 17	LADIES
December 24	NONE
December 31	LYDIA

Prayer for Advent

O Lord, the Advent candles, with their familiar, glowing light, help us to turn to you. May we stay alert in these weeks, anticipating the joyful celebration of your Son's arrival into the world. As the Advent lights keep darkness at bay, may they also keep us from wandering from your ways. Help us to stay ever watchful, like the gatekeeper. Help us, we pray, to hold your mercy deep within our heart, carrying it with us as we prepare for the coming of our infant Savior. Amen

Sacred Heart School Christmas Musical



The students of Sacred Heart School invite you to their Annual Christmas Musical! They will be performing **Starry Night, Noisy Night** on **Friday, December 15th** at

11:00 AM and 7:00 PM, with a cookie social to follow the evening performance at the school. In case of inclement weather, the musical will be held on Monday, December 18th.

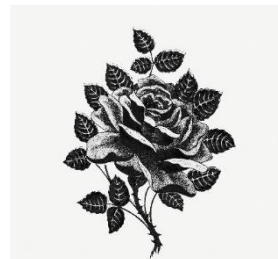


One of our Catholic traditions is the wearing of the Brown Scapular. It is a devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Our Lady appeared to Saint Simon Stock in the year 1251 and gave him the Brown Scapular. She

promised that anyone who wears the Scapular will be given the Grace of Final Perseverance to attain Eternal Life in Heaven. Fr. Rich will bless Scapulars in a brief ceremony on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 17th, immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass.

UPDATE REQUEST

If you have moved, changed phone numbers or have any other changes you would like made to your information at the parish office, please contact the office at 717-436-6722 on Thursdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. or email the office at rectory@stjudemiffintown.org



MEMORIALIZE FLOWERS:

If you wish to place flowers on the altar in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Dave Treaster for information on availability of dates. (717) 436-2968.



SATURDAY, December 9, 2023

Lector: T. Kromel
Cantor:
Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski
Usher:

SUNDAY, December 10, 2023

Lector: E. Armstrong
Cantor: R. Perez
Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard
Usher: S. Arnold, J. Boyd

SATURDAY, December 15, 2023

Lector: C. Hazard
Cantor:
Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski
Usher:

SUNDAY, December 16, 2023

Lector: J. Hazard
Cantor: A. Arnold
Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard
Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

SATURDAY, December 23, 2023

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor:

Altar Servers: J. Zarnowski

SUNDAY, December 24, 2023

Lector: T. Kromel

Cantor: M. Miller

Altar Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: S. Arnold, R. Aufer

DECEMBER 24TH (EVENING)

CHRISTMAS EVE: 6:00 p.m.

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor: Megan Miller & Youth Choir Altar

Servers: St. Michael's Guard

Usher: S. Arnold, J. Boyd

DECEMBER 25TH

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 a.m.

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

Cantor: A. Arnold

Altar Servers: D. Treaster

Usher: D. Ames, P. Ames

FORMED – ON-LINE RESOURCES

We are pleased to provide all Parishioners a FREE subscription to formed.org

Discover all the best Catholic content in one place, Enlighten programs, entertaining movies, inspiring talks and a great selection of popular e-books for everyone in the family all just a click away.

To sign up for free visit: signup.formed.org

Enter our parish zip code: **17059**

Select: **St. Jude and Sacred Heart and Next**

Enter your **Name** and your **email address** and select **Sign Up After you sign up all the content is available through PC through FORMED.ORG, and Smart TVS, Roku, I-Phone or Android with the FORMED Ap**

EMERGENCY EXITS

Designated emergency exits are found in the front of the church to the left and right of the altar, and in the back of the church through the main entrance and the hallway by the restrooms.

We request in case of emergency you select the closest exit to your seat.

Those sitting in the front half of the church should exit using exits found on their respective side. Those sitting back half of the church should exit through the center doors and the doors to the right of the main entry door of the church.

Those in the cry room or the restrooms.

SHS Celebrates 75 Years of Catholic Education:



For those of you who weren't aware, Sacred Heart School of Lewistown is celebrating their 75th Year during the upcoming 2023-24 school year. While many special things will be going on during the year to commemorate this great achievement, we would like to plan a celebration for the school in the spring.

If you would like to help in planning this event, please let us know. We will keep you updated on future planning meetings. We welcome participation in the planning from all groups associated with the school - families, alumni, faculty, school board, and both parishes.

Please consider participating in this endeavor with us as we celebrate our school. If you have any questions, or wish to help and aren't able to be at a meeting please contact Megan Miller at 717-363-7319 or by email at mfitzy6@hotmail.com.



Formerly ShopWithScrip

RaiseRight, formerly SCRIP, is a wonderful fundraiser for our school. Families purchase gift cards for everyday expenses (i.e. groceries, gas, clothing, eating out) or gifts for holidays (i.e. Christmas, Birthdays, Mother's Day, and Father's Day) and HSA receives a percentage of each purchase. Percentages vary based on the company. The money HSA receives goes back to the school for assemblies, playground improvement, teacher expenses, etc. There are over 750 brands from which you can purchase gift cards.

You can purchase gift cards 3 different ways:

1. Fill out a form available in the Narthex. Send it into the school or the Parish Office with cash or a check made out to SHS-HSA.
2. Download the app or go to [RaiseRight.com](https://www.RaiseRight.com) and order gift cards. You can choose to have the gift cards shipped to you or to the school. There is a small fee to have the gift cards shipped to you and there is a small fee to pay for your order through the website or app.
3. Download the app or go to [RaiseRight.com](https://www.RaiseRight.com) and order e-gift cards or reloadable cards. These cards are made available to you immediately. There is a small fee to pay for orders through the website or app.

The RaiseRight enrollment code for SHS is:

986DCAA961532

The order deadline is December 4th

Thank you for your support. Happy Shopping!