

# Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

Saint John Gualbert  
Cathedral  
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Johnstown PA  
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## *Bishop*

Most Rev Mark L Bartchak, DD

## *Rector & Pastor*

Very Rev James F Crookston

## *Parochial Vicar*

Father Clarence S Bridges

## *In Residence*

Father Sean K Code

## *Deacon*

Senior Deacon John J Concannon



## **SUNDAY LITURGY**

Saturday Evening

5:00 pm

Sundays

8:00 am

11:00 am

5:00 pm



## **DAILY MASS**

Monday through Friday

7:00 am

12:05 pm

Saturday

8:00 am

## **CONFESSION**

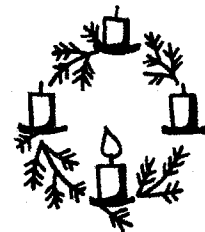
Saturday

3:00 pm — Cathedral

Thursday before First Friday

3:00 pm — Cathedral

Show us Lord, your love;  
and grant us your salvation.



## Sunday, November 27, ~ First Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 / Romans 13:11-14 / Matthew 24:37-44

8:00 am: For the Intentions of the People of the Parish

11:00 am: For the Intentions of the Television Ministry

5:00 pm: Amelia Bartlebaugh (Judy Calaboyias)

## Monday, November 28, ~ Advent Weekday

Readings: Isaiah 4:2-6 / Matthew 8:5-11

7:00 am: Catherine Hollern, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 11/25 (Ann Eicher & Son, Jeff)

12:05 pm: Don Behe (Bill Caddy)

## Tuesday, November 29, ~ Advent Weekday

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 / Luke 10:21-24

7:00 am: Brenda King (Ron & Family)

12:05 pm: Mary Krall (Family)

## Wednesday, November 30, ~ Saint Andrew, Apostle

Readings: Romans 10:9-18 / Matthew 4:18-22

7:00 am: Saint Anne Society

12:05 pm: Harold Berkebile, Anniversary (Daughters)

## Thursday, December 1, ~ Advent Weekday

Readings: Isaiah 26:1-6 / Matthew 7:21, 24-27

7:00 am: Charlotte Secatch (Martha Banda)

12:05 pm: Roger Stoy (Family)

## Friday, December 2, ~ Advent Weekday

Readings: Isaiah 29:17-24 / Matthew 9:27-31

7:00 am: Luby Bauer (Florence Gost)

12:05 pm: Barbara Holtzman (Janice Zucco)

## Saturday, December 3, ~ Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Readings: Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 / Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

8:00 am: Anna "Dolly" Kegg (William & Marye Timmons)

5:00 pm: Charles E. Schuster, Sr. (Wife, Mark, & Linda)

## Sunday, December 4, ~ Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 / Romans 15:4-9 / Matthew 3:1-12

8:00 am: Margaret Kist (Niece, Mary)

11:00 am: For the Intentions of the Television Ministry

5:00 pm: For the Intentions of the People of the Parish

## From Father Crookston...

**Advent: 'Tis the Season for Reconciliation** Our parish reconciliation service is Sunday, December 11, 1:30 PM. First Reconciliation for our second graders and their families will be part of part of this parish service. Several priests will be available for the hearing of confessions.

At least five additional opportunities exist for your celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the Birth of Our Lord. These are: St. Clement, Upper Yoder – Thursday, December 1, 7:00 PM; Our Mother of Sorrows, Westmont – Monday, December 12, 6:30 PM; St Patrick, Moxham and Transfiguration, East Conemaugh – both Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 PM; St. Benedict, Geistown – Sunday, December 18, 5:00 PM.

**The Envelope Please** Your 2017 offertory envelopes will be available for pick up near the Clinton Street entrance ways beginning this weekend, November 26/27. Please take your envelopes home with you.

**Advent Wreath Helpers** We invite volunteers to light the Advent wreath candles. We welcome at least two Advent wreath helpers and especially enjoy seeing entire families bringing the light of Advent forward. One person carries a small candle to the Advent Wreath and another uses a taper to light the Advent wreath candles from the carried light. Other family members may accompany the candle and taper bearers. A signup paper for each week is at both the Clinton Street and St. Anne Shrine entrance ways. You may also volunteer by contacting Fr Jim at the rectory (536-0117). The procession to the wreath is a wonderful preparation for Christmas. Please volunteer now.

**Pope Francis: To counsel and to instruct** Now that the Jubilee is over we shall return to usual, but there are still some reflections on the works of mercy, and so we shall continue with this. Today's reflection on the spiritual works of mercy concerns two works which are firmly linked: counsel the doubtful and instruct the ignorant. That is, those who are unformed. The word ignorant is too strong, but it means teaching those who do not know something. They are works which can live either in a dimension that is simple, familial, available to everyone, or — especially the second, that of teaching — on the most organized, institutional level. For instance, let us consider how many children still suffer from illiteracy, the lack of education. This is incomprehensible: in a world where technological-scientific progress has come so far, there are illiterate children! It is an injustice. How many children suffer from a lack of education. It is a condition of grave injustice which undermines the very dignity of the person. Without education, one easily falls prey to exploitation and various social disadvantages.

The more education increases, the more people gain assurance and knowledge, which we all need in life. A good education teaches us the critical method, which also includes a certain kind of doubt, the kind used for asking questions and verifying the results achieved, with a view to greater knowledge. However, the work of mercy of counseling the doubtful is not about this kind of doubt. Rather, it is about expressing mercy towards those who doubt, alleviating that pain and suffering which comes from the fear and anguish caused by doubt. It is therefore an act of true love, whereby support is given to someone in their weakness which has been provoked by uncertainty.

I think that some of you might ask me: "Father, but I have many doubts about the faith; what should I do? Don't you ever have doubts?". I have many.... Of course, everyone has doubts at times! Doubts which touch the faith, in a positive way, are a sign that we want to know better and more fully God, Jesus, and the mystery of his love for us. "Still, I have this doubt: I seek, I study, I consult or ask advice about what to do". These are doubts which bring about growth! It is good, therefore, that we ask questions about our faith, because in this way we are pushed to deepen it. Doubts, however, must also be overcome. For this, it is necessary to listen to the Word of God, and to understand what he teaches us. An important path that really helps with this is catechesis, in which the proclamation of the faith is encountered in the concreteness of individual and community life. And there is, at the same time, another equally important path, that of living the faith as much as possible. Let us not make of faith an abstract theory where doubts multiply. Rather, let us make of faith our life. Let us seek to practise it in service to our brothers and sisters, especially those who are most in need. And thus, many doubts disappear, because we feel the presence of God and the truth of the Gospel in love, which — without our deserving it — lives in us, and we share it with others.

As you can see, dear brothers and sisters, even these two works of mercy are not far from our lives. We can each commit ourselves to living them, to put into practice the Word of the Lord when he says that the mystery of God's love is not revealed to the wise and the intelligent, but to the little ones (cf. Lk 10:21; Mt 11:25-26). Therefore, the most profound lesson which we are called to transmit, and the most certain way to get out of doubt, is the love of God with which we have been loved (cf. 1 Jn 4:10). A great love, free and given to us forever. God never goes back on his love! He always moves forward and waits: he forever gives us love, from which we must feel the steadfast responsibility to be witnesses, offering mercy to our brothers and sisters. Thank you.

## FROM OUR PARISH

**Take an Angel Home with You** - Angel Tree Ornaments will be available at all Masses Nov. 26/27 and Dec. 3/4. The tag that you take with you contains needed items and optional further suggestions for a child's gift and instructions for using the tag. The needed item(s) are required. You may add the suggested items. Please purchase and wrap gift. Be sure to attach the Tag to your gift bundle. The tag is the way we will match your gift bundle with intended child recipient. Return your gifts at any Mass the weekend of December 10/11.

Our Christian Life and service Committee sponsors this event and invites your participation. Please take time to make this Christmas special for a deserving child. The committee volunteers thank you in advance for your generous support. Look for them "hanging out with the angels" at the entrances to our cathedral.

**Offertory Envelopes for 2017** will be available to be picked up in the back of the church at all Masses this weekend November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Looking for more Audio Ministers.** Particularly for Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass. If interested please drop a note in the collection basket with your name and a number where you can be reached or call the rectory.

**Best Advent Ever** A special Advent program is available on your computer. And it's free. Simply type in: [dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/](http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/) Each day of Advent will bring you something inspirational including: short videos, practical tips for Advent, and free Christmas music. This is for your own and your family's faith enrichment.

## FROM OTHER PARISHES & COMMUNITY

**The Church of the Transfiguration**, 201 Third St, Conemaugh, **Spaghetti Drive- By**, Sunday, November 27, 2016, 10:30am - 1:30pm

**First Presbyterian Church**, 309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown, will present its **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of the Nativity**, to be held December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 9:00pm each evening and Sunday afternoon. Featuring: *A Live Nativity*, A Bell Choir, Church Choirs, Johnstown Reed Band, Michael Facciani, and MORE! Displays of Nativity Scenes, Creches, and Art Works. They will have a special "Kids' Room" for crafting. "A Spirit Gift To All The Community" - For more information call 814-536-8141.

"The **All Saints Parish Christmas Bazaar** is on Sat., Dec. 3, 9am-3pm, at **All Saints Parish Hall** on Center Street in Boswell, PA.---Crafts, Vendors, Raffles, Bake Sale--- Lunch served all day."

**St Nicks Toy Resale**, Saturday, Dec. 3, 11am-3pm, **Visitation Church School**, 1127 McKinley Ave., Johnstown, across from Memorial Medical Center. Buy gently used toys at garage sale prices in time for Christmas.

**The Church of the Transfiguration**, 201 Third St, Conemaugh, **Meatloaf or Lasagna Dinner**, Sunday, December 4, 2016, 11:00am - 2:00pm, Cost: \$9.00, Take-Out Available, (814)535-2698

**ULTREYA GATHERING** - The Johnstown West Ultreya Group will be meeting Thursday, December 8th from 6:30-7:30p.m. at The Oratory located at Eighth Ave. and Chestnut Street in Cambria City. Everyone is welcomed. Call Deacon Scott or Diane with questions - 341-6228.

**The Church of the Transfiguration**, 201 Third St, Conemaugh, **Fish Fry**, Friday, December 9, 2016, 3:30pm - 6:30pm, Baked or Fried, Cost: \$10.00, Take-Out Available, (814)535-2698

**Resurrection Roman Catholic Church in conjunction with Chan Soon-Shiong Medical Center at Windber is holding a Community Blood Screening** for \$30. The blood screening will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 7-9 am at Resurrection Catholic Church Hall, 324 Chestnut Street, Johnstown. Please call 814-467-3961 to schedule an appointment. A 12-14-hour fast is recommended. Testing to be performed: CBC (Hematocrit, Hemoglobin, MCV, MPV, Platelets, RBC, WBC, Differential) Albumin, Alk. Phosphatase, Bilirubin, Direct & Total, BUN, Calcium, Chloride, Cholesterol, CO2, Creatinine, Free T4, GFR, GGT, Glucose, HDL, Iron, LDH, LDL, Phosphorus, Potassium, ALT, AST, Sodium, Total Protein, Triglyceride, TSH, Uric Acid. You do not need to be a patient of a Windber Physician to participate; patients of any physician are welcome. No physician order is needed! Walkins welcome. Additional Tests Offered: PSA - \$20, Hemoglobin A1C - \$20, and Vitamin D level - \$35

**CHRISTMAS GOB TRAYS!! St. Francis Church** "Famous" Gobs will be sold in tray form. Bakers Dozen (13) on each tray decorated beautifully for special Christmas Gifts! Chocolate Gobs will be available with red, green and white icing. Placed on decorated tray, cellophane wrapped and tied with a beautiful bow. Deadline for orders: Sunday, December 11. Pick up for orders is Saturday, December 17 from 9:00AM - 12Noon. Orders can be placed by calling Betty Spisak at 536-4934 or Alice Havers at 536-0948.

**St. Francis of Assisi Parish**, 120 Barron Avenue will present **A Festival of Lessons and Carols** on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00PM. Please join us as we prepare to welcome the Christ Child. A light social will take place in the Activity Center following the presentation.

### Matthew 24:37-44

**In today's gospel Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being fearful; fear cripples! Instead pray for the strength to be courageous.**

**Good Stewards know they are accountable and use their gifts to do God's will. Stay awake for opportunities to share your time, talents, and treasures!**

**Liturgical Reflection...**The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops has directed the use of the revised Order of Celebrating Matrimony. The former rite was initially issued in 1969 following the Second Vatican Council. The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown begins the use of the revised ritual beginning the first week of Advent. Workshops have occurred throughout the Diocese for clergy and liturgical musicians. The liturgical inserts will reflect on the theology of matrimony, the gift of married couples to the Church, and the different aspects of the revised ritual. It is hoped that all Catholics will gain a deepened appreciation and love for this great Sacrament of the Church.

*An Advent of Christmas Concert will be held 7pm, Saturday, December 17 at St John Gualbert Cathedral, 117 Clinton Street, Johnstown. The program will feature the Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir and Youth Chorale under the direction of Cathedral music director, Evonne Yanzetich-Homway. The choral groups will be accompanied by the Hilltop Chamber Music Ensemble. Admission is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken.*



**COLLECTION: November 20, 2016**

Collection - cash	\$868.50
Collection - envelopes	\$4,258.50
Catholic Charities - cash	\$441.47
Maintenance	\$29.00
Thanksgiving Day - envelopes	\$65.00
Catholic Charities - envelopes	\$920.00
All Souls	\$30.00
Christmas Flowers	\$10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,622.47</b>

Thank you for your Stewardship!

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**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators December 3 - 4**

**Saturday, December 3, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Dixie Lochrie, Karen Pavlosky  
 Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich, Russ Gramlich, Betty King, Patricia Loughlin, Christine Russell  
 Server: Randy Russell, Rylee Russell  
 Audio Operator: Need one volunteer

**Sunday, December 4, 8:00 AM**

Reader: Carrie Weaver, David Weaver  
 Eucharistic Minister: Jodie Hall, Irene Ott, Rich Ott, Diane Thomas, Valerie Wilson  
 Server: Rachel Hall, Donald Klimek  
 CCA Gift Card: Lisa Leckey, Neil Leckey  
 Audio Operator: Ronnie Jezeskie

**Sunday, December 4, 11:00 AM**

Reader: Dave Harteis, Mary Jane Verbiar  
 Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair, James Hollis, Gene Podratsky, Russ Smith, David Wilson  
 Server: Zachary King, Briana Wadsworth  
 CCA Gift Card: Brian King, Nicole Scaletta  
 Audio Operator: Jim Horner

**Sunday, December 4, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Charlotte Amenti, Michael Stuck  
 Eucharistic Minister: Louise Aust, Vi Najjar, Pat Roth, James Sandoval, Justin Zierer  
 Server: Brent Zierer, Marcus Zierer  
 CCA Gift Card: Nikkita Babyak, need one volunteer  
 Audio Operator: Mattie Updyke

**We need volunteers, for all ministries, for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 7, 6:00 PM (Vigil), December 8, 12:05 PM and 6:00 pm.**

**LAW OFFICES  
OF**

**DAVID J. WEAVER, ESQUIRE**

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