

Saint John Gualbert  
Cathedral  
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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

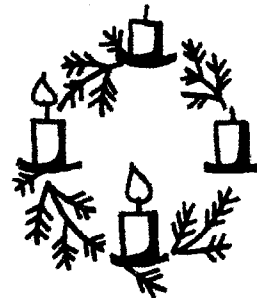
3:00 pm — Cathedral

Thursday before First Friday

3:00 pm — Cathedral

# Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths:  
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.



**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

**Monday, December 5, ~ Advent Weekday**

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10 / Luke 5:17-26

7:00 am: Saint Anne Society

12:05 pm: Edward Urbassik (Sister, Evelyn Bunja)

**Tuesday, December 6, ~ Advent Weekday, Saint Nicholas, Bishop**

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11 / Matthew 18:12-14

7:00 am: Rose Bachani (Brian & Rachel Schenkemeyer, Jack & Cloe)

12:05 pm: Mary C. O'Donnell (Mr. & Mrs. Edward O'Donnell)

**Wednesday, December 7, ~ St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

Readings: Isaiah 40:25-31 / Matthew 11:28-30

7:00 am: Lud Vautar (Andy & Mary Ellen Percinsky)

12:05 pm: Henry J. Furman (Mary Ellen Boreck)

6:00 pm: Robert Crookston (Mary Spenger)

**Thursday, December 8, ~ The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Readings: Genesis 3:9-15, 20 / Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 / Luke 1:26-38

7:00 am: Joseph & Leona Yambor (Linda & Nicholas Delich)

12:05 pm: Sandra Balog, Birthday Remembrance (Family)

6:00 pm: Krall & Leech Families (Frank Krall)

**Friday, December 9, ~ Advent Weekday, St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, Hermit**

Readings: Isaiah 48:17-19 / Matthew 11:16-19

7:00 am: Betty Jane Burke (Barb & Mike Bozic)

12:05 pm: George Najjar (Wife, Children, & Grandchildren)

**Saturday, December 10, ~ Advent Weekday**

Readings: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 / Matthew 17:9, 10-13

8:00 am: Verna Samo (Bernard & Betty Vrabel)

5:00 pm: Richard Maurer (Karen Zucco)

**Sunday, December 11, ~ Third Sunday of Advent**

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 / James 5:7-10 / Matthew 11:2-11

8:00 am: Tony & Betsy Bongiovanni (Ron & Teresa Buterbaugh)

11:00 am: Mary Louise Lowes, Anniversary (Bill & Cookie Antesberger)

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: 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; St Francis of Assisi, Morrellville – Monday, December 19, 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. Please take your envelopes home with you.

**Holy Day of Mass Obligation** The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary had its origin in the Byzantine Church as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne." It spread through the Europe during the Middle Ages as the "Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrates Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception. She is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what God calls his people to be.

This year the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception retains its obligation of participation in the celebration of the Eucharist. Masses celebrating of Mary's selection to be our advocate with God and our pattern of holiness are: Wednesday evening, December 7, at 6:00 PM, Thursday, December 8, at 7:00 AM, 12:05 PM and, 6:00 PM.

**Pope Francis: Act of Veneration to the Immaculate Conception** Mary our Mother, today the People of God celebrate, they venerate you, the Immaculate, ever preserved from the stain of sin. Accept the homage I offer you in the name of the Church in Rome and throughout the world.

Knowing that you, our Mother, are totally free from sin is a consolation to us. Knowing that evil has no power over you fills us with hope and strength in our daily struggle against the threat of the evil one. But in this struggle, we are not alone, we are not orphans, for Jesus, before dying on the Cross, gave you to us as our Mother.

Though we are sinners, we are still your children, the children of the Immaculate, called to that holiness that has shown resplendent in you by the grace of God from the beginning. Inspired by this hope, today we invoke your motherly protection for us, our families, this city and the world. Through your intercession, may the power of God's love that preserved you from original sin, free humanity from every form of spiritual and material slavery and make God's plan of salvation victorious in hearts and in history.

May grace prevail over pride in us, too, your children. May we become merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful. In this time leading up to the celebration of Jesus' birth, teach us to go against the current: to strip ourselves, to be humble, and giving, to listen and be silent, to go out of ourselves, granting space to the beauty of God, the source of true joy.

Pray for us, our Immaculate Mother!

## FROM OUR PARISH

### Angel Tree Ornaments -

All Angel Tree Ornaments have been distributed. However Our Christian Life and Service Committee sponsors are still accepting cash donations in support of this event. If you wish to make a cash donation please place in an envelope, mark "ANGEL TREE" on the envelope and place it in the collection basket or give to one of our priests. Those of you who already have an ornament are reminded to return your gifts at any Mass the weekend of December 10/11. The committee volunteers thank you in advance for your generous support.

**NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:** Please note our new email address: [sjgcathedral@outlook.com](mailto:sjgcathedral@outlook.com).

**Offertory Envelopes for 2017** will be available to be picked up in the back of the church (daily). Please pick up your envelopes as soon as possible. Envelopes will NOT be mailed.

**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.

**Your donation works for aging religious.** "I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to work." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

## FROM OTHER PARISHES & COMMUNITY

**First Presbyterian Church**, 309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown, will present its **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of the Nativity**, to be held December 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 Church of the Transfiguration** will be having a **Lasagna & Meat Loaf Dinner ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016** from 11:00AM to 2:30PM. Come join us for a nice meal and give Mom a break from cooking. The cost is \$9.00 for the meal and take-outs are available by calling the School Hall at 535-2698 to reserve your take out order.

**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** will be having a **Fish Fry Dinner Friday** December 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:30PM to 6:30PM. Come join us for a nice and fresh meal. The cost is \$10.00 for the meal and take-outs are available by calling the School Hall at 535-2698 to reserve your take out order.

**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 3:1-12

**Today's gospel raises many questions. Was the Baptist's family embarrassed by his life style, diet, clothing, and message? Did they avoid or ignore him or advise him to come home and be "normal"? Advent, a time to change our hearts, raises another question: Who in your family needs for your acceptance?**

***A lifestyle of discipleship and stewardship - with God at the very center - is precisely what all baptized Believers are called to fulfill. May we recognize our dependence upon God by giving Him thanks in all our deeds.***

*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.*



**Liturgical Reflection...** Advent is a time of longing and expectation as we remember Mary awaiting the birth of the Son of God. The new ritual for the Order of Celebrating Matrimony (OCM) offers an Order of Blessing an Engaged Couple. The engaged couple is longing and expecting the day of celebration of their marriage. The honorable betrothal of Christians is a special occasion for two families to pray together and receive a divine blessing. The blessing of the engaged couple is a formal beginning of what will be completed at the celebration of the Matrimony (OCM 218). This celebration prayer is to be adapted to suit particular circumstances.

**COLLECTION: November 27, 2016**

Collection - cash	\$1,169.91
Collection - envelopes	\$3,441.79
Second Collection	\$283.08
Maintenance	\$5.00
Thanksgiving Day	\$333.00
Catholic Charities - envelopes	\$136.00
Archdiocese Military Services	\$2.00
All Saints	\$10.00
Christmas	\$35.00
Christmas Flowers	\$30.00
Assumption	\$5.00

Total \$5,450.78

Thank you for your Stewardship!

**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators December 10-11**

**Saturday, December 10, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Rose Batzel, Beth Stern  
 Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich, Russ Gramlich, Betty King, Patricia Loughlin, Terry Rhoades  
 Server: Keara Brandon, Thomas Meagher  
 Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

**Sunday, December 11, 8:00 AM**

Reader: Rachel Hall, Heather Jezeskie  
 Eucharistic Minister: Jodie Hall, Dolores Podratsky, Gene Podratsky, Pam Sabol, Rose Ann Schellhammer  
 Server: Carlie Jezeskie, Ron Jezeskie  
 CCA Gift Card: James Gustkey, Kara Homan-Gustkey  
 Audio Operator: Ronnie Jezeskie

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

Reader: Terry Johnson, Mary Jane Verbiar  
 Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair, James Hollis, David Wilson, Need two volunteers  
 Server: Alaina Popovich, John Werzyn  
 CCA Gift Card: Todd Freidhoff, Nichol Popovich  
 Audio Operator: Jim Horner

**Sunday, December 11, 1:30 PM First Reconciliation Service**

Need volunteers for Reader, Servers, and Audio

**Sunday, December 11, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Charlotte Amenti, Dixie Lochrie  
 Eucharistic Minister: Vi Najjar, Pat Roth, Need three volunteers  
 Server: Levi Giffin, Eli Updyke  
 CCA Gift Card: Need two volunteers  
 Audio Operator: Monica Updyke

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