

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 Concanon

### 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 10, - Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Mark 1:1-8

8:00 am: Victor C. Heptner (Dick & Janet Grady)

11:00 am: John Bair & Aurora Gilmour, Birthday Celebrations (Cha Cha)

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

## Monday, December 11, - Advent Weekday, Saint Damasus I, Pope

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

7:00 am: Saint Anne Society

12:05 pm: John DiMauro (Joseph DiMauro Family)

## Tuesday, December 12, - Our Lady of Guadalupe

Readings: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 / Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47

7:00 am: Cha Cha Bair, Birthday Celebration (John Bair)

12:05 pm: Joseph A. Carona (Wife, Mary)

## Wednesday, December 13, - Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

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

7:00 am: Peter Yanko (Dale & Stephanie Griffith)

12:05 pm: Paul Hollern, Sr., Anniversary (Loving Nephew, Jeff)

## Thursday, December 14, - Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Readings: Isaiah 41:13-20 / Matthew 11:11-15

7:00 am: Marie Werner (Patricia Puchko)

12:05 pm: John & Anna Marie Singel, 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary (Sister Honora)

## Friday, December 15, - Advent Weekday

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

7:00 am: Mary Spenger (Mary Spenger Estate)

12:05 pm: Herb Delawder, 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary (Wife, Cathy)

## Saturday, December 16, - Advent Weekday

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

8:00 am: Loretta Klug (Carol & Mary Malek)

5:00 pm: Roger Stoy (Family)

## Sunday, December 17, - Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 / 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 / John 1:6-8, 19-28

8:00 am: Judy O'Donnell (Fred & Barb Oliveros)

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 this Sunday, December 10, 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 six additional opportunities exist for your celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the Birth of Our Lord. These are: Transfiguration, East Conemaugh – Tuesday, December 12, 6:30 PM; St. Clement, Upper Yoder – Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 PM; St. Patrick, Moxham – Thursday, December 14, 7:00 PM; St. Benedict, Geistown – Sunday, December 17, 5:00 PM; Visitation, Eighth Ward – Monday, December 18, 5:30 PM; St. Francis of Assisi, Morrellville – Monday, December 18, 6:30 PM; and OMOS, Westmont – Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 PM.

**The Retirement Fund for Religious Collection** Pope Francis tells us, "Every consecrated person is a gift for the People of God on its journey." Many of us fondly recall special women or men religious who played meaningful roles in our lives. This may have been the sister who taught us in second grade, supporting our educational development. Or perhaps it was the religious brother who led us on retreat and nourished our spiritual growth. Their support of our journeys often required great sacrifices. Most senior religious worked for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. As a result, hundreds of religious communities now struggle to provide adequate care for aging members.

The Retirement Fund for Religious offers us an opportunity to support elder religious in this phase of their journeys. While many continue in some form of ministry, others are frail and need assistance. Your gift provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure both quality eldercare and continued service to the People of God. In thanksgiving for the faithful service of senior religious, please join in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praising God for the gifts that consecrated life offers our Church.

### **End-of-the-Year Charitable Giving — Benefit our parish and satisfy your tax obligations.**

In a year when the investment markets have helped to grow investment portfolios, please consider the benefits of charitable giving to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral. Here are two ways to satisfy tax obligations and help our Cathedral Parish:

#### 1. Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA:

If you are over age 70½, you may transfer, tax-free, up to \$100,000 from your IRAs to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral. The gift can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) each year, but does not count as income to you! This tax-free transfer can be a great way to make a gift to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, and enjoy the tax benefits. When the transfer is processed directly to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, you do not pay taxes on the distribution. The requirements are relatively simple. The charitable distribution must be:

- A distribution from a traditional IRA
- Paid directly from the IRA trustee/custodian to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral- Contact your IRA Trustee or Custodian for paperwork to process this distribution directly to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral
- The IRA owner must be age 70½ or older
- Must be completed now to qualify for 2017 tax benefits for the donor
- If you have already taken your RMD for this year, keep this gifting strategy in mind for next year!

#### 2. Donation of Appreciated Stock or Mutual Funds:

If you have shares of stock or mutual funds that have grown in value over the years, or low basis stock, consider gifting the shares to Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, rather than giving cash. At the time of the donation, you get a tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the stock and avoid paying the capital gains on the shares donated.

*To get the process started, please contact Pam Seasoltz, Director of Stewardship and Development, at 814.695.5577 or [pseasoltz@dioceseaj.org](mailto:pseasoltz@dioceseaj.org). Remember: Plan early to process your donation to receive your tax deduction in 2017!*

## FROM OUR PARISH

**Take an Angel Home with You** - Angel Tree Ornaments will be available at all Masses This weekend Dec. 9/10. 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 16/17.

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 2018** will be available to be picked up in the back of the church at all Masses this weekend.

**Our weekly Bulletins** are available on the Home Page of our website at [www.stjohngualbert.org](http://www.stjohngualbert.org).

## FROM OTHER PARISHES & THE COMMUNITY

**New Benedictine Oblate Novices** Benedictine Oblate Moderator for the Johnstown Deanery, Deacon Michael Russo welcomes four new Benedictine Oblate Novices to the Benedictine Oblate Community: Lori Little, Jerome Nevling, Lori Nevling, and Jill Van Scoyoc. Their installation is set for the February meeting.

The Johnstown Deanery parishes meet monthly at St. Benedict Church, Johnstown. Beginning in February, the Benedictine Oblates will meet on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. The monthly meeting begins with Evening Prayer in the church followed by the regular meeting in the St. John Paul II Center on the campus of St. Benedict Church. The Oblates are currently discussing the book, "Everyone Needs to Forgive Somebody" by Allen R. Hunt.

All are welcome to attend and learn about Benedictine Spirituality and the role St. Benedict plays in drawing us closer to God. For more information contact Deacon Michael at 288-3036 or [michael.russo@atlanticbb.net](mailto:michael.russo@atlanticbb.net).

**The Friar's Nook Gift Shop – Christmas Happenings**  
Celebrate the Christmas season by receiving 20% off your entire purchase at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop December 11th-23rd! The Friar's Nook is located across from St. Bernardine Monastery at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg

**ULTREYA GATHERING** - The Johnstown West Ultreya Group will meet on Thursday, December 14th from 6:30-7:30p.m. at The Oratory located at Eighth Ave. and Chestnut Streets in Cambria City. Everyone is welcomed.

**The Friar's Nook Gift Shop – Christmas Happenings**  
Take the stress out of your Christmas cookie prep work by stopping at The Friar's Nook Gift Shop on Wednesday, December 20th to purchase homemade Christmas cookie trays! There will be a variety of both traditional and ethnic cookies, so stop out early!

**SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH:** Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, will host the 8th annual Faith and Reason summer program from Sunday, June 10 to Friday, June 15, 2018. Students age 15 and older are invited to apply for admission to the program which introduces young minds to the rich intellectual tradition of the Roman Catholic faith and is designed to prepare students for college-level education. Housing in a college residence hall and three daily meals in the college dining hall are included in the cost (\$495). Limited scholarship funding is available. Further information is available by contacting Dr. Michael Krom at 724-805-2844 or [michael.krom@stvincent.edu](mailto:michael.krom@stvincent.edu). Students may register online at [www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason](http://www.stvincent.edu/faithandreason)

### **Families and the Gospel: Mark 13:33-37**

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

**Liturgical Reflection...** Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation as we prepare to celebrate the remembrance of the Lord's first coming and, also, recalling his final coming in glory at the end of time. As we celebrate our funeral rites, the goal is to bring hope to the living. We turn to the Lord of life at the time of death to find assurance in our faith. We turn to the God of mercy in time of crisis and pain. To those who mourn and grieve, there is reason to have hope. In God is our hope and our salvation.  
**Order of Christian Funerals**, 1998/1989. General Introduction, number 7.

**COLLECTION: November 26, 2017**

Collection – cash	\$1,115.43
Collection – envelope	\$5,070.87
Flush Fund	\$394.86
Catholic Charities	\$130.00
Maintenance	\$596.00
Retirement for Religious	\$35.00
Christmas	\$275.00
Christmas Flowers	\$1,014.00
Angel Tree	\$70.00
All Saints	\$70.00
All souls	\$20.00
Rosary/Altar Society	\$6.00
Immaculate Conception	\$47.00
Disaster Relief	\$20.00

Total \$8,864.16

Thank you for your Stewardship

**An Advent of Christmas Concert** will be held 7pm, Saturday, December 23 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.



**Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers,  
CCA Gift Cards and Audio Operators, Dec 16-17**

**Saturday, December 16, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Dixie Lochrie, Karen Pavlosky

Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich, Russ Gramlich, Betty King, Elizabeth King, Patricia Loughlin

Server: Keara Brandon, Thomas Meagher

Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

**Sunday, December 17, 8:00 AM**

Reader: Carrie Weaver, David Weaver

Eucharistic Minister: Anthony Kamnikar, Susan Kamnikar, Irene Ott, Rich Ott, Gene Podratsky

Server: Sam Grasso, need one volunteer

Gift Card: James Gustkey

Audio Operator: Rose Eckenrod

**Sunday, December 17, 11:00 AM**

Reader: Terry Johnson, Mary Jane Verbiar

Eucharistic Minister: Esperanza Bair, Jodie Hall, Lonnie Rietscha, Russ Smith, David Wilson

Server: Rachel Hall, Addison King

Gift Card: Brian King

Audio Operator: Tracy Smith

**Sunday, December 17, 5:00 PM**

Reader: Christine Brothers, Michael Stuck

Eucharistic Minister: Charlotte Amenti, Vi Najjar, Pat Roth, James Sandoval, Justin Zierer

Server: Andrew Zierer, Marcus Zierer

Audio Operator: Matthew Updyke

*LAW OFFICES OF***DAVID J. WEAVER, ESQUIRE**

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