

Saint John Gualbert
Cathedral
PO Box 807
Johnstown
15907-0807



Office
539-2611
536-0117
Cemetery
536-0117
FAX
536-6771

sjgcathedral@outlook.com

Most Rev Bishop
Mark L. Bartchak, JDC

Rector & Pastor
Very Rev James F. Crookston

SUNDAY LITURGIES

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm

Sundays
8:00 am
11:00 am
5:00 pm

OUTDOOR COMMUNION

Sundays
12:30-1:00 pm
St John Activities Center

DAILY MASS

Monday through Friday
7:00 am
12:05 pm

Saturday
8:00 am

CONFESSION

Thursday before 1st Friday 3:00 pm
Saturday 3:00 pm @ the Cathedral

Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish

ALL MASSES ARE NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
CALL THE RECTORY TO SECURE A WEEKEND SEATING LOCATION

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests.



- Sunday December 20 *Fourth Sunday of Advent***
Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 / Roman 16:25-27 / Luke 1:26-38
8:00 am People of the Parish
11:00 am George Pappas *Anniversary (Family)*
5:00 pm John D. Kendera *Anniversary (Monica & Angela)*
- Monday December 21 *Weekday***
Readings: Song of Songs 2:8-14 / Luke 1:39-45
7:00 am Louis Laurenzio *(Granddaughter-Nancy)*
12:05 pm Amador Valenzuela Pulido *(Cha Cha & John Bair)*
- Tuesday December 22 *Weekday***
Readings: 1 Samuel 1:24-28 / Luke 1:46-56
7:00 am Dorothy Prieto *(Cha Cha & John Bair)*
12:05 pm St Anne Society
- Wednesday December 23 *Weekday***
Readings: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 / Luke 1:57-66
7:00 am Eileen Pohl Rengh & Family *(Estate of Eileen Pohl)*
12:05 pm Alan DeCastro *(Cha Cha & John Bair)*
- Thursday December 24 *The Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass***
Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1-2, 8b-12, 14a, 16 / Luke 1:67-79
7:00 am Robert F. Crookston *(Family)*
Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5 / Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 / Matthew 1:1-25
4:00 pm Charlene Tarnowsky *(Cha Cha & John Bair)*
7:00 pm Charles Huffman *(Cheryl Sisteck)*
Readings: Isaiah 9:1-6 / Timothy 2:11-14 / Luke 2:1-14
12:00 am Dante Todaro *(Marissa Todaro)*
- Friday December 25 *The Nativity of the Lord***
Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10 / Hebrews 1:1-6 / John 1:1-18
8:00 am Mary C. & John M. O'Donnell *(Ed O'Donnell)*
11:00 am Michael H. Rosey *Anniversary (Cookie & Bill Antesberger)*
- Saturday December 26 *Feast of St Stephen, 1st Martyr***
Readings: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59 / Matthew 10:17-22
8:00 am Anna Mitchell *(Cha Cha & John Bair)*
5:00 pm Mary Ann Sabo *(Husband, Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchild)*
- Sunday December 27 *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph***
Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Colossians 3:12-21 / Luke 2:22-40
8:00 am Leo Concannon *(Barry & Mary Spangler)*
11:00 am Eugene F. Ritter *(Joe & Janet Ritter)*
5:00 pm People of the Parish

Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Luke 1:26-38



“Mary said yes”

In her book **Jesus Freak**, Sara Miles, journalist, parish minister and founder of The Food Pantry at San Francisco’s St. Gregory Episcopal Church, offers this reflection on Mary’s “yes” to God:

“Following an astonishing encounter with the angel Gabriel, Mary says *OK, God* to the impossible proposition, and Jesus comes to live in her.

“As an unmarried girl in the ancient agricultural world, Mary represents the most unlikely spokesperson for a powerful deity. Nevertheless, this unimportant person fearlessly carries God’s good news that the proud will be scattered in their conceit, the hungry will be filled with good things, the rich sent away empty, and the lowly lifted up.

“She said yes.

“Mary sings out her yes without knowing what will happen. Trusting God, she opens herself to humiliation, physical pain, dislocation, terror, loss. And yet, just as Jesus will, she calls herself blessed.

“Mary’s courage remains a signpost for all humankind — for all the unimportant, frightened, powerless people who doubt that God can work through us. As the fourth-century bishop Gregory of Nyssa wrote, ‘What was achieved in the body of Mary will happen to every soul of everyone who receives the Word.’



“Because of the annunciation, Mary did not get safety. She got a child; she could not give a place to lay his head, a child she could not save from violence.

“Mary said, yes. She got Jesus.”

It can be a hard word to say – especially in times of fear and anxiety like the present: Yes. OK, God. We are in. Compassion for the struggling and

stumbling? Yes. Support for the grieving? Yes. Healing for the broken? Yes. Regardless of the cost, putting aside our doubts and anxiety? Yes. God calls every one of us to bring to birth his life and love, his compassion and healing into our small corners of the world. By God’s grace, we can say yes — a yes that is total and committed; a yes that is clear and determined; a yes we give fully aware of the obstacles but see reasons for hope; a yes that is selfless and openhanded. Despite her understandable confusion and fear, Mary offers her yes in complete faith and trust in the God of all that is good. Furthermore, because of her yes, the Christ event, the new Genesis, the second creation is put into motion. In her yes to God, Mary, our sister, becomes a model and inspiration in our own yes to God.



Welcome, Yule! We warmly welcome all who will come this Christmas Season to celebrate the glorious feast of the Messiah's birth. We welcome the stranger, the traveler and guest! We welcome our students, home from college for a good winter's rest! We welcome parishioners who moved far away but join us today as old friends! We welcome all who have not been active of late in their Catholic faith. We hope they will find new hope and inspiration this Christmas to come back again and again! We welcome our faithful parishioners, loyal and true; may the Lord bless you for all you do! Welcome to all! May our gathering this Christmas gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds. We are after all one People of God -- redeemed by the Light. May we walk by the Light and live by the Light -- together in the mercy and favor of Christ.

God Saves — A Christmas Message from Bishop Mark

Christmas just won't be the same this year. How many of us have heard those words lately? As a result of an invisible virus, people will not be getting together with extended family and friends to celebrate Christmas. Who would have thought that shoppers would be more concerned about finding toilet paper and basic food items, than finding the "perfect Christmas gift" for someone who is special to them? How many more can't even think about Christmas shopping because they are currently out of work? And dare I ask if some people only want the long-awaited vaccine, while for others the word vaccine represents all types of suspicion about certain groups or organizations who are trying to take over the world?

So many elements of the difficult circumstances of today's world were evident in the time when the Blessed Virgin Mary received, with humility and joy, the awesome news that she would conceive a child through the power of the Holy Spirit. That this child was to be known as Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Mary had little opportunity to rejoice, even though that was her first reaction. Her life was soon upended when just at the time she was to have this baby, she and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem for the census. So much for government making life difficult!

The rest of the story of the birth of the Lord Jesus, as you know, is a mixture of hardship and rejoicing: no room at the inn; baby is born in a stable; dirty shepherds are the first to visit; astrologers come with gifts that were not on the shopping list; Joseph had to literally grab Mary and the baby and run for their lives into Egypt to escape the jealous King Herod; their experience of the first

Christmas resulted in them becoming homeless refugees. Yet the Gospel tells us that "Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart" (Lk 2:1).

One of my favorite Christmas stories is about a family that decorated their house. It was an all-day activity, both inside and outside. When they were finally finished and sat down for supper that evening, one of the children noticed that there was no Baby Jesus in their manger scene. An elder sibling reported that it was not in the box. No one could find it.

Later that evening, the 8-year-old son in that family came down the stairs and went over to the family manger. His parents thought he was saying a prayer. He quietly left. As the parents went to turn off the lights, they noticed that the boy had placed a small Crucifix in the crib. The next morning at breakfast a family discussion ensued about the missing baby Jesus and how it seemed so out of place to see the adult crucified Jesus there. The 8-year-old who had put it there simply said, "Isn't that why Jesus came?"

In the confusion, antagonism, alienation, fear, anxiety and distress that so many are experiencing these days, we need the joy and the hope that was born into the world in a manger in Bethlehem. Even more so, we need the power of the redemption that the Lord Jesus brought through his suffering, death, and resurrection. If you are trying to grasp how that can happen in the circumstances of our world today, ask the Blessed Virgin Mary how she could find anything to treasure in the midst of her family's hardship. Her answer would be one word: Jesus; which means "God saves."

With prayers and best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Better New Year,

Bishop Mark



Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, and Audio Operators December 26–January 1st

Saturday December 26 5:00 pm

Readers: Pat Loughlin
Dixie Lochrie
Eucharistic Minister: Elizabeth Gramlich
Server: John Werzyn
Audio Operator: Kevin Slonka

Sunday December 27 8:00 am

Readers: Gloria Stephens
Brigid Starchok
Eucharistic Minister: Rich Ott
Server: Lorenzo Favor
Audio Operator: Rose Eckenrod

Sunday December 27 11:00 am

Readers: Mary Jane Verbiar
Lonnie Rietscha
Eucharistic Minister: James Hollis
Server: Hayleigh Rietscha
Audio Operator: Brian Vuletich

Sunday December 27 5:00 pm

Readers: Heather Jezeski
Christine Brothers
Eucharistic Minister: Pat Roth
Server: Namita Gallo
Audio Operator: Matthew Updyke

Thursday December 31 6:00 pm

Readers: Dixie Lochrie / Pat Loughlin
Eucharistic Minister: Geoffrey Stumpo
Server: Rich Ott
Audio Operator: Jim Horner

Friday January 1 9:00 am

Readers: Mary Ann Verbiar
Volunteer Needed
Eucharistic Minister: Rose Ann Schellhammer
Server: Vi Najjar
Audio Operator: Volunteer Needed

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

515 Main Street
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15901
Telephone (814) 535-5571
Email: dweaver@djweaverlaw.com

**PICKING-TREECE-
BENNETT**

**Mortuary, Inc.
921 Menoher Blvd.
814-255-4040**

Caring, Compassionate Service Since 1909
The Area's Most Spacious and Accessible Funeral Home
Thomas L. Dixon, Supervisor
PTBMORTUARY.COM

Frank Duca Funeral Home, Inc.

Westmont Chapel East Hills Chapel & Crematory
1622 Menoher Blvd 404 Walters Avenue
Frank Duca, *Funeral Director*
Bradley Duca, *Supervisor* Alexis Mueller, *Supervisor*
255-DUCA (3822) 266-DUCA (3822)
Traditional Burial and Cremation
Funeral Services
www.ducafuneralhome.com

COLLECTIONS: 12/13/2020

Cash	\$ 511.00
Envelopes	3,633.05
Maintenance	85.00
All Saints	12.00
Christmas	245.00
Christmas Flowers	290.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	206.00
Immaculate Conception	554.00
Catholic Charities	30.00
Catholic Register	10.00
Retired Priests Medical	20.00
St. Croix	10.00
Total	\$ 5,606.05

Resurrection Religious Education News

*Safe Environment Lesson acknowledgement forms are due. Please return as soon as possible.

* Our monthly Parent Session and Confirmation Student meetings will be January 10, 2021.

2021 Religious Calendars

Ushers will distribute calendars, one per family, after all Masses while supplies last.