

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

		†	MASS INTENTIONS	†
Sat.	12/12	4:00 PM	Mary and Thomas Ferko by Mrs. Frances Breznitsky and Son	
Sun.	12/13	11:00 AM	Sonia and Stanley Wilczek by Their Son Stanley	
Mon.	12/14	7:00 PM	Barbara Banyas Patton by Her Sister Cathy and Brother Jackie	
Tue.	12/15	7:00 AM	Thomas Barron by His Wife Annamarie, Daughters Stacey and Kelly, and Sons-in-Law Travis and Jacob	
Wed	12/16	7:00 AM	Agnes Falatko by Feissner Family	
Thur.	12/17	7:00 AM	Anthony "Ike" Kolensky by the Latella and McCall Families	
Fri.	12/18	7:00 AM	John, Richard, and Vincent Kasarda by Bernadine and Robert Kisatsky	
Sat.	12/19	4:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families and Steve Korol by JoAnne and Barbara	
Sun.	12/20	11:00 AM	Daniel and Susan Myers by Joan Sando, Robert & Cindy Myers, and Patricia Myers	



Last Weekend:

Sunday \$3,947.00; Loose \$327.00; Dues \$1,110.00; Care and Education of Priests \$329.00; All Saints Day \$15.00; Human Development \$58.00; Immaculate Conception \$252.00; Religious Retirement \$46.00; Christmas Flowers \$214.00; Poor Box \$64.26

CANDLES ON THE ALTAR are in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families and Steve Korol by JoAnne and Barbara



OUR SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in Memory of Elizabeth and Joyce Hrabovecky and Thomas Barron by Annamarie, Stacey and Travis, and Kelly and Jacob

IN-PERSON BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES will be resuming following protocols established by Diocesan, State of Pennsylvania, and CDC guidelines. This class is **MANDATORY** for **ALL** those parents wishing to have their children baptized. Please register by calling the parish office of Immaculate Conception at 570-636-3035 or Good Shepherd at 570-788-3141. All persons attending the classes must wear face masks. Baptisms will have a limit of 25 persons. Social distancing must be observed.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Now that the holidays are over but the pandemic and quarantine still in full swing, there are more and more people who are feeling very alone. If you know of someone who could use a boost of kindness from their parish family, please get their names added to our "Hour of Kindness" greeting card list. Everyone likes to be remembered, and we are so happy to send out a monthly "Thinking of You" greeting card. All you need to do is call Janet in the parish office at 570-636-3035. It's that easy. And if that person is **YOU**, please make sure you call!



A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MIKE:

For the second week in a row, we hear from John The Baptist. This time religious leaders ask if he is the one who is to come. John answers not with a specific yes or no, but with a challenge: look at the signs around you and answer your own question! I can think of no better response for us today. We ALL want things to be different. Look around you and see all the things that are happening. The answer is in two places: in your heart and in the church. Look!



A VIEW FROM THE PEW, DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

I recently read an interesting article in a newspaper for the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin "The Compass" titled Before Smart Phones, There Were Bells. I summarized some of the points I thought were interesting. Church bells used to be so common and heard so often in the Hazleton area, but not so much now. Bells throughout history, especially in Medieval times, had an important purpose; they regulated everyday life, sounded an alarm, and called everyone to prayer. The Angelus bell was sounded as a call to pray morning, noon, and evening. The pattern would be three rings, a pause, three rings, a pause, three rings, a final pause and then nine rings in succession, the same pattern as the Angelus prayer. When I was younger you took church bells for granted, and to tell you the truth,, I never knew the logic behind the practice. Pope Paul VI, from his teaching on Marian devotions, says: "Despite the changed conditions of our times, for the majority of people, there remain unaltered the characteristic periods of the day - morning, noon and evening - which mark the periods of their activity and constitute an invitation to pause in prayer." Times have changed, but maybe we can put our smartphones to another use and regulate our lives to include a little time to stop, take a breath, and say a short prayer.

VIRTUAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Winter and the post-holiday season can be difficult times to navigate grief, particularly during an ongoing period of social distancing. Please consider joining the virtual grief support group offered by Cathedral of Saint Peter Parish in Scranton. Anyone is welcome; you do not have to be a member of the parish to participate. The group will convene online, Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30. The dates of the virtual meetings will be January 6, 13, 20 and 27. For more information please contact Deacon Ed Shoener at 570-814-5133 or the parish office at 570-344-7231.



PARKING LOT RADIO MASS: All weekend Masses at the Church of Good Shepherd (Saturday 6:00 PM, Sunday 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM) will be available over your car radio. We ask that you park in the lower lot (to the left of the church) and



tune your car radio to FM 98.3. You will be able to listen to the Mass over your radio in the comfort of your car and remain socially distant. At the end of Mass an Extraordinary Minister will come to the parking lot to distribute Holy Communion. If you bring your envelop those will also be collected. Spread the word! **THIS INCLUDES ALL OF THE CHRISTMAS MASSES!**