

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019

## † MASS INTENTIONS †

Sat.	12/14	4:00 PM	Joseph and Antoinette Batcha and the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families by JoAnne and Barbara
Sun.	12/15	11:00 AM	Deceased Members of the Feissner and Staruch Families by Gerald and Mary Feissner
Mon.	12/16	7:00 PM	Joseph and Cecelia Jastremsky by Jack and Lynn Jastremsky
Tue.	12/17	7:00 AM	Anna Mae Gornal by the Legion of Mary
Wed.	12/18	7:00 AM	Clara Novotnak by Her Sister Alma Falatko
Thur.	12/19	7:00 AM	Gloria Matisak by Barbara Preat
Fri.	12/20	7:00 AM	Ann Gallagher by Bernie and Francis Bobis
Sat.	12/21	4:00 PM	Elizabeth Hrabovecky by Her Daughter Joyce
Sun.	12/22	11:00 AM	Jeffrey Kopczynskie by Henry and Dan Kopczynskie

### Last Weekend:



Sunday \$3,358.50; Loose \$216.00; Dues \$427.00; Care and Education of Priests \$122.00; Immaculate Conception \$343.00; Religious Retirement \$294.00; Human Development \$6.00; Christmas Flowers \$189.00; Poor Box \$132.04

**CANDLES ON THE ALTAR** are in Memory of Joseph and Antoinette Batcha and the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families by JoAnne and Barbara



**MEMORIAL DONATION** of \$50.00 was made in Memory of James Bradford, Sr. by His Wife Dolores



**HOUR OF KINDNESS** will meet on **Saturday, January 18th, at 9:00 AM** in the rectory to sign and address Valentine cards for our nursing home residents and shut-ins. Anyone who would like to donate an hour of kindness is welcome and encouraged to come. **Sincere thanks to Sandy Miller, Helen Cukauskas, Cheryl Turri, and Lillian Urenovich for donating an Hour of Kindness last weekend to sign and address Christmas cards.**

**OUR ANNUAL COATS FOR KIDS** was a tremendous success this year thanks to your overwhelming generosity. Because it is the end of season, many stores are offering wonderful discounts on their children's winter coats. If you would like to purchase a coat for next year, we will be happy to store it in the rectory until next year. We need all sizes, especially baby and toddler sizes. One size we **do not need** are girls size 4. For some reason we had a lot of that size.



**THANK YOU TO OUR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS ELVES:** John Sabo, Sally and Les Shupp, Jane Decowski, Steve Croshaw, and Cheryl Turri who helped to organize the Giving Tree gifts. This would never be possible without your dedication and help! Distribution of the gifts will be next Saturday, December 21st, from 9:00 AM until noon.





John the Baptist is again the featured person in this weekend's Gospel. Last week he was publically denouncing those who were doing wrong and challenging them to do right (have you stopped doing wrong and begun to do right?) his outcry landed him in jail. Imagine what must be going through his mind: "I'm here to announce the coming of the Messiah and I'm stuck in jail!" He even questions himself: "Is Jesus the Messiah?" John gets his answer: Look around you! Here's our challenge this week: Look around yourself to see the coming of the Messiah! Don't look in malls or shopping online. Don't look for the Messiah in holiday parties or outdoor decorations. Look in the Mirror! If you can't see Jesus in yourself, then you'll never recognize Him in the world.



**A VIEW FROM THE PEW, WAITING.**

"Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord." James 5:7. If you look around the next few weeks, I'm positive that you will not see too many patient people! We'll wait in all kinds of lines looking for that special something, but does that something really matter? Why not set some time aside to WAIT for something that really does matter? Let's take time to appreciate the JOY this season represents and the HOPE that will soon arrive. We should all be WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE for the ultimate gift, the birth of our savior JESUS CHRIST!



**DIOCESAN APPEAL DONORS:** Ms. Cecilia Banczek; Mrs. Ann Cosgrove; Mr. Henry Kopczynskie; Ms. Lisa Nocchi; Ms. Josephine Palermo



**ADDRESSES FOR CHRISTMAS CARDS**



Father Richard Zavacki  
Allied Services Meade Street Senior Community  
260 S. Meade St. Room 214  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-6221

Rev. J. Duane Gavitt  
134 South Washington Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-2901

**FAITH FORMATION NEWS:** On **December 15th**, our Faith Formation Program is celebrating Happy Birthday, Jesus, at 9:30 AM. Please be on time.

**REMINDER:** On **December 15th**, the 11:00 AM mass is the 6th Grade mass.

**December 22nd and December 29th**, there is no class in observance of Christmas and New Year's. Classes resume **January 5th**.

**January 5th**, there will be a First Grade parent meeting at 10:15 AM in the rectory.



We are so grateful for everyone involved in our Faith Formation Program. They are the greatest gift given to us and we appreciate each and every one of them. We wish everyone a safe, joyous holiday season. Looking forward to seeing you all in the new year!

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS:** Our next Baptismal Preparation Class with Deacon Jim will be held on **Tuesday, January 21st**, at Immaculate Conception and on **Tuesday, January 28th**, at Good Shepherd. This class is mandatory for ALL parents wishing to baptize their children. Please register by calling the parish office of Immaculate Conception at 570-636-3035 or Good Shepherd at 570-788-3141.

