



**Immaculate Conception Parish**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Gaudete Sunday**  
**December 17, 2023**



**Mass Intentions**  
**FOR THE WEEK**



Sat. 12/16 4:00 PM  
 Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families and Steve Korol by JoAnne4

Sun. 12/17 11:00 AM  
 John and Millie Durso by Terry, Gina, and Melane

Mon. 12/18 7:00 PM  
 George and Verna Soltis by Their Daughter Mary and Family

Tue. 12/19 7:00 AM  
 Joseph Smith by Jean and Joseph Smith

Wed. 12/20 7:00 AM  
 Michael Dias by His Mother Virginia

Thur. 11/21 7:00 AM  
 John Rodriguez by Ruth Mason and Family

Fri. 12/22 7:00 AM  
 Anne Marie Ceriani by Walter and Theresa Golab

Sat. 12/23 4:00 PM  
 Buzzy Peters and the Deceased Members of the Freeland High School Class of '66 by the Class of '66

Sun. 12/24 11:00 AM  
 Rose M. Quinn by Virginia Dias  
 4:00 PM Christmas Eve  
 Rusell and Elizabeth Shupp by Sally and Les  
 10:00 PM Christmas Eve  
 John and Emma Grega by Their Children Jackie and Mary

Mon. 12/25 7:30 AM Christmas Day  
 Magdaline Kislán by Her Husband Bob  
 11:00 AM Christmas Day  
 Colleen Donlin by Her Family

**CANDLES ON THE ALTAR** are in Memory of Michael Dias by His Mother Virginia.



**OUR SACRISTY CANDLE** is burning this week in Memory of the Deceased Members of the Batcha and Ceriani Families and Steve Korol by JoAnne



**MEMORIAL DONATIONS:** In Memory of Agnes Ferreira: \$25 by M/M John Jastremsky and \$25 by JoAnne Korol. In Memory of Anna Marie Della Croce: \$25 by Virginia and Patrick Dias

**CHRISTMAS CARD ADDRESSES:**

Rev. Arun Lakra 612 Hudson Street Forest City, PA 18421	Rev. Rawel Toppo 5700 Bear Creek Blvd. Bear Creek, PA 18602
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**GIVING TREE GIFTS** are due on the altar or in the parish office this Sunday, December 17th. If your gift is going to be late, please call the office and let us know so that we do not purchase a duplicate gift.



Our Community/Service Team is requesting Canned sauerkraut, instant mashed potatoes, rice, and paper products this month. We thank all who support the needy families in our community.



**ADVENT GIFT WRAPPING SERVICE SCHEDULE:** Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00 PM; Saturday 12:00 – 3:00 PM; and Sunday 12:00 – 4:00 PM.

**OPLATKI WAFERS** are available on the table at the entrance to the church. Cost for each packet is \$3.00 each.

**ADVENT WINDOW CANDLES** are still on sale in the parish office and in the back of the church for a cost of \$10.00. We are lighting the way for the Christ Child.



**Weekly Offering** Sunday \$3,932; Loose \$131; Dues \$616; Care and Education of Priests \$123; Capital Improvement \$156; Christmas Flowers \$351; Immaculate Conception \$514; Religious Retirement \$431; Other \$15; Poor Box \$112

**NEW USER-FRIENDLY PARISH WEBSITE:**  
<http://sites.google.com/view/olichome-freeland-pa/home>



For the second week in a row, John the Baptist is a “voice crying in the wilderness.” Last week he was Baptizing folks in the Jordan asking them to turn away from sin. This week John is mistaken for the Messiah. He plainly says he is not the Messiah, but again, the “voice crying in the wilderness.” His job is to “prepare the way of the Lord.”

This third week of Advent, I ask YOU to take seriously John’s two-fold message: Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and prepare your heart for the coming of Jesus. You have 9 opportunities between the two parishes to go to confession. What an awesome way for you to prepare your heart for the coming of Jesus! You know you need to go; have the courage to go! And proclaim that Jesus is coming!

**MANDATORY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS** will be at 6:00 PM on Thursday, January 11, 2024, in the St. Joseph Room at Good Shepherd Church. Please register by calling the Immaculate Conception Parish Office at 570-636-3035 or the Good Shepherd Parish Office at 570-788-3141. Please plan to attend the Baptismal Preparation class well in advance of your baby’s birth so that you are aware of all the information necessary to schedule your baby’s Baptism.



**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS FROM BOTH PARISHES:** If you are an adult and have volunteered for our parish for any event (bingo, picnic, festival, monthly breakfast, lector, extraordinary minister, Messenger of Hope just to name a few), you are invited to a **THANK YOU** dinner at Sands Springs on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH, AT 2:00 PM.** This is an **ADULT ONLY DINNER.** Your spouse (if not a volunteer) is welcome to come at a cost of \$25.00. We so value all of you who work to make our parishes a welcoming community. **DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS DECEMBER 29TH.** Please clip and fill out the coupon below so that we know how many will be attending. We look forward to seeing all of you on the 7th of January.

Volunteer:	_____	<b>FREE</b>
Spouse:	_____	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>Drop in the collection basket or at the office.</b>		

**SPONSORS NEEDED FOR PURSE BINGO** to benefit Shine Women’s Center. Support life in our communities! Please consider sponsoring a purse (by Coach, Michael Kors, Kate Spade, or Fossil) for our upcoming Purse Bingo in January. Sponsor 1 purse for \$150 or 3 for \$400. Call the center at 570-433-1435 or email [director@shinewomenscenter.com](mailto:director@shinewomenscenter.com) for more information. Deadline for sponsors is December 31, 2023.



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH HAS A NEW WEBSITE. THIS WEBSITE IS VERY USER FRIENDLY. THE URL IS <http://sites.google.com/view/olichome-freeland-pa/home>**



**OUR SEXUAL ABUSE POLICY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRANCES OF OUR CHURCHES.**





# Good Shepherd Church

## Third Sunday of Advent

### December 17, 2023



#### † MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

##### Saturday, December 16

**6:00PM** Michaline & Sylvester Grzymiski ~ Family

##### Sunday, December 17

**8:00AM** Charles & Frances Benintende – Robert & Carol Carr (Daughter)

**9:30AM** Dorothy Marcinko ~ Daughters, Donna & Debbie

##### Monday, December 18

**8:00AM** Souls of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Purgatorial Society

##### Tuesday, December 19

**8:00 AM** Theresa Pfeil ~ Robert & Doreen Mathuse

##### Wednesday, December 20

**8:00AM** Dorothy Nitka ~ Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Ferderko

##### Thursday, December 21

**8:00AM** Grace DeLorenzo ~ Jean DeLorenzo & Family

##### Friday, December 22

**8:00AM** Angelo Gadola ~ Wife & Family

##### Saturday, December 23

**6:00PM** Genevieve Krasko ~ Karen Thomas

##### Sunday, December 24

**8:00AM** Leona Price – Al & Ronnie Olshefski

**9:30AM** Stephen Michalochick ~ Wife, Joan

**4:00PM** Stefanick Family ~ Linda, Diane & Family

**9:00PM** Kristine Roig ~ Daughter, Jennifer Stone

#### Stewardship

**December 9 & 10:** Loose \$1,702; Offertory \$4,313; Dues \$941; Care & Education of Priests \$130; Holy Days \$74; Christmas \$97; Flowers \$536; Capital Improvement \$15; Retired Religious \$572  
Mass Attendance – 565



The **Tabernacle Candle** burns this week for **Dorothy Marcinko** by Daughters, Donna & Debbie



**The Roses for Life** this week are in memory of **Dorothy Marcinko** by Daughters, Donna & Debbie and **Ann Marie Barna** by Daughters, Janet & Joann



**Tuesday Night Bingo:** Come join us for Bingo at Good Shepherd Church on Tuesday evenings. The kitchen opens at

**5:00PM** with special soups, sandwiches, beverages, ethnic foods and a variety of other goodies. Our Early Bird game begins at **6PM**.



**The Valley Food Pantry** helps those in need. We have been asked to collect items for children: canned pasta, cookies, crackers, and Pop Tarts, in addition to bar soap. If you wish to send a monetary donation, the address is: Valley Food Pantry, PO Box 187 CUCC, Conyngham, PA 18219.

**Oplatki Wafers:** Packs of Oplatki wafers are available on the table in the church vestibule. **The cost is \$3.00 per pack of wafers.**

**2024 Calendars** and **Advent Booklets** are on the tables at both side exits of the church.

**Mark your calendar:** Halupki rolling- **January 13**. We will be rolling Halupki at **9AM**. Come and join us if you can! Thank you.

Signed copies of Father McHugh's poetry book, **Kaleidoscope of the Heart**, will be available for purchase in the church office for \$20.00 during normal business hours.

We welcome **Edward, Sarah, Scarlett & Quinn Zinga, Matthew & Brittany Kimock & Kace Fulmer** as our newest members.



Funerals were held from Good Shepherd Church in November for **Mary Beth Elias** and **Stanley Merker**. Please remember them and their grieving loved ones in your prayers. May they rest in peace!

#### Sacred Heart of Jesus Purgatorial Society

The next monthly mass will be **Monday, December 18 at 8 AM** and then it will be the **second Monday of each month for 2024**. Our Friday rosary is offered for our loved ones prior to the mass at **7:30AM**. Please join us if you can. If you have not already done so you can enroll your loved ones, simply by submit their names below and your loved ones will be permanently enrolled. There is no charge and you are not obligated to become an active member.

I would like to enroll my loved ones listed below:  
There is no limit to how many you can enroll. If more space is needed attach a separate paper.

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