

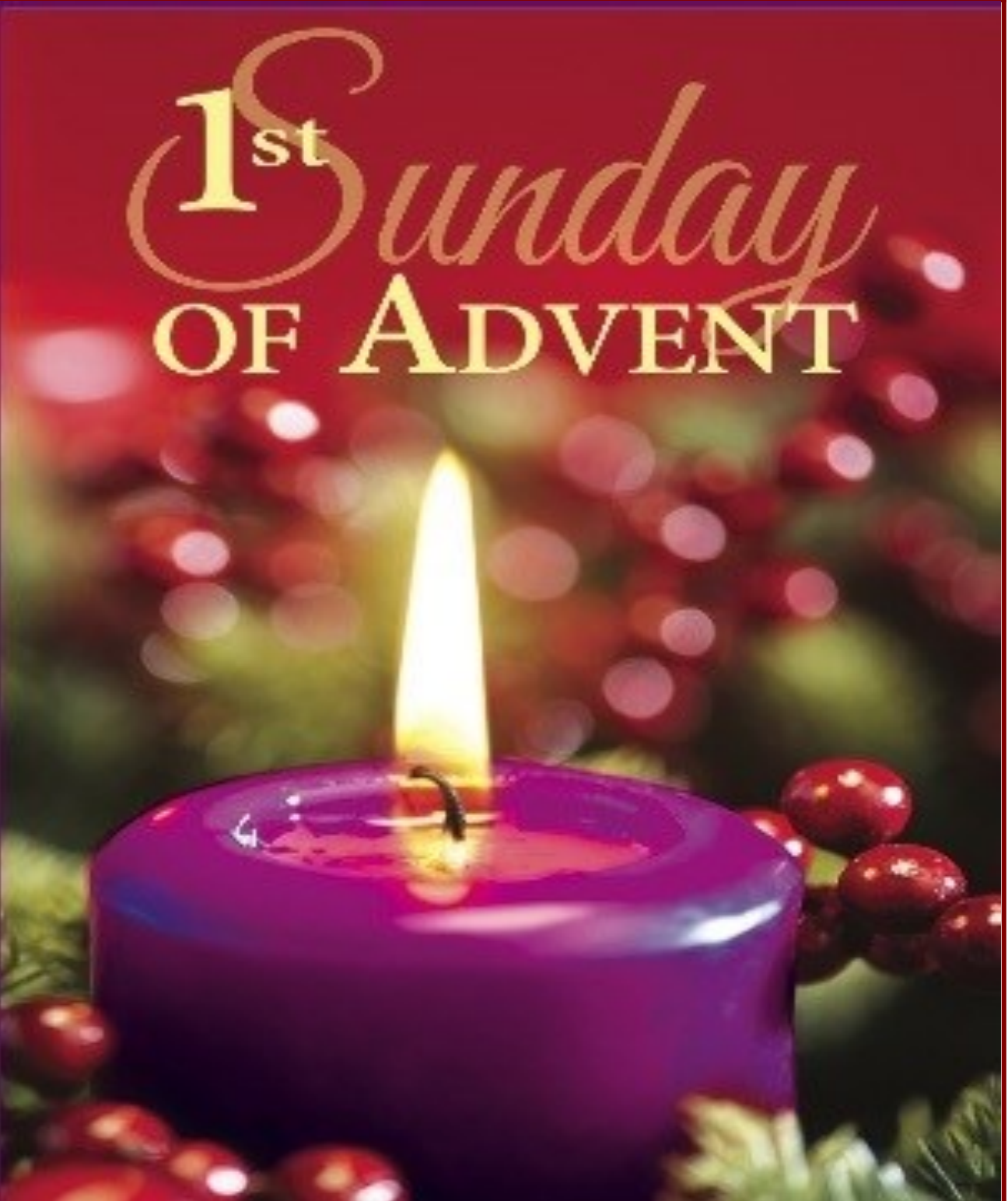
Saint Peter Church

4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

1st Sunday OF ADVENT



www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com



info@stpetersrcoplay.com



610.262.2417



St. Peter Roman Catholic Church



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. David L. James V.G., J.C.L.

PASTORS EMERITI: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin

Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges

PERMANENT DEACON: Mr. Thomas Reimer

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra

FINANCE MANAGER: Mrs. Michelle Ahern

DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson

MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY: 8 A.M. ~ Chapel (*except Monday & Saturday*)

Saturday Evening: 4:00 P.M. Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

Holy Days: Vigil Mass 6:30 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. on the Holy Day.

PENANCE: Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 P.M. and by appointment

During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday following the 10:30 A.M. Mass

Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Weddings are on Saturday between 10A.M. and 1P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone becomes seriously ill, or weak due to old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priest & Deacons perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew Sts., Allentown 18102; Phone 610-437-4601

ELEMENTARY: Good Shepherd Catholic School, 1300 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067

phone: 610-262-9171 Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center, 3008 Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052

The program is from September to the end of April.

These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the

Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

BEQUESTS: Please remember St. Peter Church in your Last Will & Testament.

IN MEMORIAM FUND: After the death of a family member you are invited to have that person's name commemorated on the Church Plaque by suggesting that memorial offerings be donated to the Church in memory of the deceased person.

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209 Email: victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 Email:

pruso@allentowndiocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.



Sunday December 3rd First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7, 1Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13: 33-37

8:00 AM Joe Fatul

10:30 AM Parishioners of St. Peter

Monday December 4th Advent Weekday

Is 2:1-5, Mt 8:5-11

No Morning Mass

Tuesday December 5th Advent Weekday

Is 11: 1-10; Lk 10:21-24

8:00AM Ronald Boger

Wednesday December 6th Advent Weekday

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

8:00AM Anna T. Edelman

Thursday December 7th Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

8:00AM Mel and Ann Procanyn

6:30PM Dolores Neupauer

Friday December 8th The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

8:00AM Joseph and Maria Heisler

Saturday December 9th Advent Weekday

Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36

Vigil Mass

4:00 PM John Schreiner

Sunday December 10th Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Michael Baver

10:30AM Francis Wechsler

MASSES SAID BY RETIRED PRIESTS:

Deceased: Anita Lang (2), Frank and Anna Wechsler,

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Sunday Collection Week of Sunday 11/26/2023
Basket collection 4,205 .00 plus online \$1359.00

Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass, kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot.

*Your **support** to your parish is critical.*

I thank you for your kind and generous response.

Please be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers

Monsignor James



FLAME OF LOVE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023



HOLY HOUR
Wednesday, December 6 at 6PM
Confessions will be heard



PRAYER GROUP

If you would like your name or the name of a family member to be added to the list please call the office at 610.262.2417



Cookies with Santa

Saint Peter's Altar and Rosary Society invites all Parish Children to Milk and Cookies with Santa on Sunday, December 17, 2023 Come to 10:30 Mass and then join us in the Church Hall, 4 S. 5th Street from 12-2pm.

SAINT PETER HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Our next Hoagie Sale is scheduled for Saturday, February 10 just in time for Super Bowl Sunday. Stay tuned for our next Coffee and Donut Social

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

The weekend of December 16-17, we will observe Baminelli Sunday. Please bring the Infant or the Holy Family from your home Nativity scenes/creches to Church to have them blessed and place them on the table inside the altar-rail. Please make sure that they are marked with your name.

OPLATKI

Don't forget to order your Oplatki/Christmas wafers. Each wafer is \$2.00. Please call the rectory at 610.262.2417 to place your order or pick up. We have a very limited supply.

DEVOTIONAL LAMPS

Sanctuary Lamp

Will burn this week in memory of
Cecilia Kraynek
Offered by her daughter.

Saint Joseph Vigil Light

Will burn this week in memory of
Robert Rabenold
Offered by Sue and Ron Rabenold

Blessed Mother Vigil Light

Will burn this week in memory of
Helen Troop
Offered by Barbara Lynn

COOKBOOKS

We have a few of them remaining.
They make a great Christmas gift!
Anyone interested should contact the office at
610.262.2417,
we now accept Cash, Checks and Credit/Debit

LUCKY CALENDAR - 2024

These calendars make great Christmas gifts.
Please support our parish by contacting one of our
sellers or the rectory at 610.262.2417 to purchase
a calendar!



COPLAY FOOD PANTRY

During the season of Advent, beginning December 3rd, we will be collecting food items for the Coplay Food Pantry.

Please make sure the items that you are donating are not outdated. They are in need of microwavable food... spaghetti sauce, rice pouches, fruit cups, tuna, Hormel meals, canned pasta, apple sauce, paper products, soaps, spam, instant potatoes, noodles, crackers, Jell-O, oatmeal, cooking oil, canned vegetables, etc. No big items please.

SAINT PETER ROCKS OUT MARDI GRAS

Saturday, January 27, 2024
Saint Peter Social Hall 5-10PM
Price is \$40.00 PP includes:

Hot Buffet Dinner, Beer, Soda, Water, Mixers, Beads, Masks, and Prizes BYOB (Adults only). Music and Dancing to the Music of the Josef Kroboth Band. For Tickets or info, please contact Beverly or Mike Sobchak at 610.767.1887



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1300 Newport Avenue Northampton

We have limited space available for students entering grades K-8, Preschool (3 years old) and Pre-K(4 years old). For more information regarding enrollment, or to set up a tour please call or email Ms. Erica Nochtan, Advancement Director at 610.262.9171 or msnochtong-scs@goodshepherd-catholic.com



HOLY APOSTLES RE

holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org 610.261.0144
Fall Office Hours: M-Th 3:00-8:00 pm; closed Fridays

First Penance Practice at Holy Trinity on Dec. 14 at 7pm

First Penance at Holy Trinity on Dec. 15 at 6:30pm
All classes will attend Mass at St Peter's Church on December 7th in observance of the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

TIS THE SEASON FOR THE GIVING TREE

The Program this year is accepting gift cards to Target, Walmart, Wawa, or any grocery store.

Please donate to brighten someone's Christmas!

Starting December 3rd, you may drop them off in the collection baskets in an envelope labeled Gift Card or

in the mail slot at the rectory. Your donations will be sent to Catholic Charities

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed"



QUEENSHIP OF MARY CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON

Invites you to attend a special Stations of the Cross in Support of Victims of Sexual Abuse and their families at 3pm On Sunday, December 3rd. Light refreshments and fellowship will follow.



Saint Peter Church Coplay



Annual

CHRISTMAS

CUT-OUT COOKIE

SALE



Pick up in Church Hall on 12/16

between 3-6pm

return the order form below no later than December 4

NAME _____

PHONE _____

AMOUNT _____

@ \$30.00 PER POUND

CASH _____

CHECK _____





HORIZON OF HOPE

The First
Sunday

You Do Not Know the Time

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus tells his disciples to “Be watchful! Be alert!” because they do not know when the Lord will come. As we begin the season of Advent, we are reminded that we, too, must be watchful as we wait for the coming of the Lord.

“The season of Advent, which we begin again today, restores this horizon of hope, a hope which does not disappoint because it is founded on God’s Word. A hope which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful!”

— Pope Francis, Angelus, December 1, 2013



Photos: A.dobe Stock and Shutterstock.com

There are two temptations behind today’s Gospel. The first is to presume that since we have been waiting for so long the Second Coming won’t be anytime soon and that we have more than enough time to get ready. The other is to assume the Second Coming is imminent and to live in fearful predictions of the end of days. But neither of these is the Catholic position. As Catholics, we use the opportunities of our daily lives to grow in our relationship with God, while still being aware that this world is not our final home. The season of Advent calls us to live in the present while looking forward to the future. We both celebrate the season of waiting while anticipating the happiness of Christmas.

POINTS TO PONDER

- What am I waiting for this Advent?
- How can I make this Advent season a new beginning?
- How can I pay full attention to the grace of the present, while remembering the past and anticipating the future?



giulio napoletano / Shutterstock.com



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

The Immaculate Conception

During the First Week of Advent this year we celebrate one of the holy days of obligation — the Immaculate Conception on December 8. Commemorating Mary’s conception without the stain of original sin, this feast is an ideal time to renew our baptismal promises — and remember that through our baptism we are brought into new life with Christ.

FAMILY FOCUS Advent Wreath

An Advent wreath customarily has three purple candles, symbolizing penance and waiting, and one pink candle (for the third Sunday) representing hope. This year, consider adding a different-colored pillar candle in the center of the ring each week. On the first week, use a blue candle for the Old Testament prophets who heralded the coming of the Messiah. On the second Sunday, place a white candle for the angel Gabriel who announced the virgin birth. On the third Sunday, use a green candle for the shepherds who were watching their flocks in the field. Then, on the last Sunday, light a gold candle for the Magi who brought their precious gifts to the Christ child.



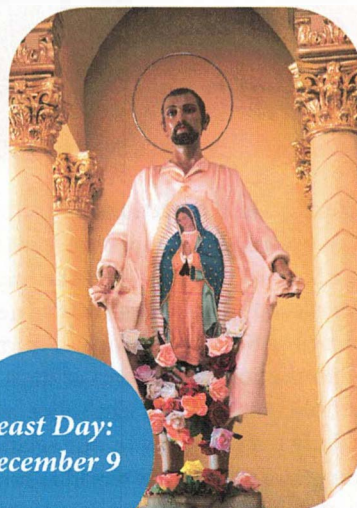
Catechism CONNECTION

“When the Church celebrates *the liturgy of Advent* each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming (cf. *Rev 22:17*). By celebrating the precursor’s birth and martyrdom, the Church unites herself to his desire: ‘He must increase, but I must decrease (*Jn 3:30*).’” — *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 524

HEROES OF HOPE

SAINT JUAN DIEGO

Saint Juan Diego never expected to see the Virgin Mary as he walked the 15 miles to attend Mass on December 9, 1531. Much to his shock, a beautiful young woman dressed like an Aztec princess appeared to him and, speaking in his own language, told him to go to the bishop and request that a chapel be built on the hill where she was standing. When the bishop resisted, the young woman gave Juan Diego a sign — roses blooming in winter — which he gathered into his *tilma*, a long cloak. When he presented them to the bishop, an image of Our Lady miraculously appeared on the *tilma*. The image, which has not deteriorated over the centuries, is called Our Lady of Guadalupe. *Saint Juan Diego, pray for us!*



Feast Day:
December 9

ADVENT PRAYER Come, O Lord!

“For they see directly, before their eyes, the Lord’s return to Zion.” — Isaiah 52:8

Lord, help us to wait with patience and anticipation, not caught up in the rush of the season, but resting in your ever-present love.

2023 Advent



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 DECEMBER Come Down, O God! Invite God to be with us this Advent. <i>Isaiah 64:2-3</i>	4 Come and Cure Us, Jesus! Ask Jesus to heal us in mind and body. <i>Matthew 8:5-7</i>	5 Send Your Spirit Upon Us Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you today. <i>Isaiah 11:2-3</i>	6 Call on God and Be Saved! If we grow in trust, God will give us new life. <i>Romans 10:9-13</i>	7 ST. AMBROSE Trust in God Always Ask God to guard and keep you from harm. <i>Isaiah 26:4</i>	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Say "Yes" As Mary Did Let God be born now and live in us. <i>Luke 1:38</i>	9 God Will Answer Me When we cry out to God, we know God will be there for us. <i>Isaiah 30:19-20</i>
10 One Mightier Is Coming! Spend time today to make room for Jesus in your life. <i>Mark 1:7</i>	11 Your Sins Are Forgiven Let us forgive others as we have been forgiven. <i>Luke 5:20</i>	12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Proclaim God's Greatness! Let us tell someone today what God means to us. <i>Luke 1:46-47</i>	13 ST. LUCY God Will Not Get Weary Ask God to give you strength to change your life. <i>Isaiah 40:28-31</i>	14 ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS God Will Help Us Ask God to help you become more like Jesus. <i>Isaiah 41:13</i>	15 Lead Us to Yourself, O God Let us follow more closely God's ways today. <i>Isaiah 48:17</i>	16 Give Us New Life Let us turn from our sinful ways and let God heal us. <i>Psalms 80:18-19</i>
17 God Is My Joy Share your joy that God is coming nearer. <i>Isaiah 61:10</i>	18 Joseph Accepts Jesus Like Joseph, let us decide to focus our life on Jesus. <i>Matthew 1:18-25</i>	19 Trust God's Messengers Like Zechariah, trust in God and not be afraid. <i>Luke 1:10-17</i>	20 Nothing Is Impossible for God! Like Mary, invite God to be with you. <i>Luke 1:36-38</i>	21 Share Your Joy Like Elizabeth and Mary, share your joy today. <i>Luke 1:39-45</i>	22 God Has Come to Help! Mary praises God who always helps those in need. <i>Luke 1:46-56</i>	23 The Messenger is Born! John the Baptist's birth prepares for that of Jesus. <i>Luke 1:57-66</i>
24 Do Not Be Afraid! Like Mary, let us welcome Christ into our lives. <i>Luke 1:30-32</i>	25 CHRISTMAS A Child Is Born for Us Jesus becomes like us so we may become like him. <i>Isaiah 9:6-7</i>					