

# *Saint Peter Church*

*4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

## *Second Sunday of Advent*



[www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com](http://www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com)



[info@stpetersccoplay.com](mailto:info@stpetersccoplay.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](mailto:victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org)

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

[pruso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto: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](http://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 10th Second Sunday of Advent**

*Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2Pt 3:8-14; ; Mk 1:1-8*

*8:00 AM Michael Bayer*

*10:30 AM Francis Wechsler*

**Monday December 11th Advent Weekday**

*Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26*

*No Morning Mass*

**Tuesday December 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe**

*Zec 2: 14-17; Lk 1:26-38*

*8:00AM Anna and Al Edelman, Sr.*

**Wednesday December 13th Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

*Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30*

*8:00AM Parishioners of St. Peter*

**Thursday December 14th Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

*Is 41: 13-20; Mt 11:11-15*

*8:00AM Ida Simon*

**Friday December 15th Advent Weekday**

*Is 48: 17-19; Mt 11: 16-19*

*8:00AM Mary Molchany*

**Saturday December 16th Advent Weekday**

*Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13*

**Vigil Mass**

*4:00 PM Joseph Alban III*

**Sunday December 17th Third Sunday of Advent**

*8:00 AM Altar and Rosary Society*

*10:30AM John Wechsler*

**MASSES SAID BY RETIRED PRIESTS:**

Deceased: Anita Lang , Lou Klucharich,

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

**Sunday Collection Week of Sunday 12/3/2023**  
**Basket collection \$6187.00 plus online \$995.00**

*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 11, 2023**



**HOLY HOUR**  
**We will not have Holy Hour Wednesday, December 13.**



**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*



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.

**BAMBINELLI SUNDAY**

*The weekend of December 16-17, we will observe Bambinelli 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  
The Deceased Members of the Falco and Hoffer  
Families

Offered by Barry and Jo Ann Walakovits.

### Saint Joseph Vigil Light

Will burn this week in memory of  
Fr. Francis Opps and  
Msgr. John Auchter

Offered by the  
Altar and Rosary Society

### Blessed Mother Vigil Light

Will burn this week in memory of  
The Deceased Members of the  
Miskowsky Family

And

In memory of George and Theresa Miskowsky  
Offered by  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Gutleber

## 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 outdat-  
ed. They are in need of microwavable food... spa-  
ghetti sauce, rice pouches, fruit cups, tuna, Hor-  
mel 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.



## GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL 1300 Newport Avenue Northampton

We have limited space available for stu-  
dents entering grades K-8, Preschool (3  
years old) and Pre-K(4 years old). For more infor-  
mation regarding enrollment, or to set up a tour  
please call or email Ms. Erica Nochtton, Advance-  
ment Director at 610.262.9171 or [msnochtong-  
scs@goodshepherd-catholic.com](mailto:msnochtong-<br/>scs@goodshepherd-catholic.com)

We will now be selling GSCS Family Prayer Cards.  
Each card is \$5.00. You can enroll de-ceased family  
members or friends, or someone for health and bless-  
ings. Prayer cards are available for purchase during  
school hours, and before and after our school Masses.  
Good Shepherd Catholic School Family members will  
be acknowledged in the following ways:

A votive candle will be lit in their honor.

Their name will be written in our intention book.

They will be remembered every day in the prayers of  
all the children during morning prayer. Good  
shepherd Catholic School Prayer Family members  
will be remembered at every school Mass.

This card is not a Mass Card, rather a Prayer card  
where a general intention inclusive of all Prayer Family  
Members will be mentioned



## HOLY APOSTLES RE

[holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org](mailto: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



## CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Invites you to come and join us for our annual 40  
Hours Devotion. Take time during this busy time of  
year to really celebrate the Advent Season. Please  
join us on Thursday, December 14 from 3:00-7:00pm  
For quiet adoration or from 7:00-9:45pm for reflec-  
tions and music with adoration. Benediction will be  
celebrated at 10:00pm to sign up for a time slot  
please visit: [tinyurl.com/ACC40hr](http://tinyurl.com/ACC40hr) or call Sister  
Mathilde at 610.437.4601

*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,*

**ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE:**

Thursday, December 14  
Advent Penance Service— 3 priests attending

Saturdays, 12/9, 16, and 23 from 2:30-3:45PM

Wednesday, 12/6 and 12/20 at 6:15PM

Tuesday, 12/19 8:30-9:30AM

**CHRISTMAS 2023**

**Mass Schedule**

Parishioners can fulfill their 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas Obligations by attending one of the following combinations of Masses in keeping with our parish's schedule.

*4th Sunday of Advent*

Saturday 12/23 at 4pm  
Sunday 12/24 at 8 and 10:30am

*Christmas Eve*

Sunday, 12/24 —————4:00 & 10:30PM

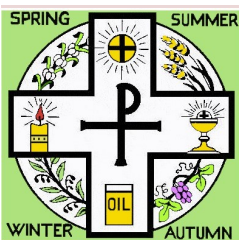
*Christmas Day*

Monday, 12/25 —————9:30AM

*Solemnity of Mary*

Sunday, 12/30 —————4:00PM

Monday, 01/01 —————9:30AM



**ADVENT EMBER DAYS**

The Advent Ember Days will be observed on Wednesday, December 20, Friday, December 22, and Saturday, December 23. The Ember Days are voluntary days of fasting and abstinence like that of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Bishop Schlert encourages the faithful of the Diocese of Allentown to observe these days of penance and to especially pray for more vocations to the priesthood on these days.

CARMELITE MONASTERY + 3551 Lanark Rd + Coopersburg, PA 18036

*Advent Afternoon with  
Jesus  
Sunday  
December 10*



2:30 PM

3:00 PM

- + Sacred Hymn Presentation by the St. Thérèse Chapel Choir
- + Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Rev. Philip Maas will Speak on Apparitions of Our Gracious Mother Mary
- + Benediction
- + Veneration of the Relic of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

Refreshments (Kiffles, Cookies, Coffee) will be Served in the Lower Level of Chapel

In honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saint Theresa Parish 1408 Easton Rd., Hellertown invites to a Buffet Dinner and a bilingual Holy Hour on Tuesday, December 12. Dinner will take place in the Friendship Hall at 4pm. Featuring a basket raffle. Holy Hour will begin at 6:00 pm. Please register at [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org). For more information email :[StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com](mailto:StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com)

**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





# HORIZON OF HOPE

The Second  
Sunday

## They Acknowledged Their Sins

Mark 1:1-8

*John the Baptist appears in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah that a messenger would appear ahead of the Messiah. One of his messages was to acknowledge humanity's sinful nature and encourage repentance. This same call is extended to each of us this Advent.*



CNS photo, Above: Keith McIntyre / Shutterstock.com

### POINTS TO PONDER

- How can I use this Advent season as a way to grow more deeply in my faith?
- How long has it been since my last confession?
- Am I more caught up in the cultural expression of the “holiday season” than I am of the “holy day season”?

The Jordan River runs through the hot and harsh landscape of the Judean desert. Why would John choose such a distant locale to proclaim the coming of the Messiah? Perhaps it is precisely because the area is so desolate. There, away from all the distractions of everyday life, the people were able to focus on what really mattered and acknowledge their own sinfulness. Stripped of all the comforts of home and family, they could look at their lives and feel the pressing need for salvation.

Similarly, during this Second Week of Advent, we are called away from the lures that the season places before us to consider that God so loves each of us that he was willing to send his only son for our salvation.

*“Advent is here. What a marvelous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come — for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us: Ecce veniet! — He is about to arrive!”*

— Saint Josemaría Escrivá



Thinkstock photo





## FAMILY FOCUS

# A Taste of the Season

Be with us, Lord, as we continue in this waiting season of Advent.

We thank you for the many blessings in our lives, and with anticipation, preparation, and hope, we look forward to the arrival of your son, Jesus, the light of the world.

Amen.



Thinkstock, Top left: Shutterstock.com

Special sweets are a part of many families' Advent preparations. One all-time favorite is the candy cane with its distinctive red and white stripes. As you enjoy the peppermint flavor, explain to your family the meaning behind this sugary treat:

- The white base represents the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus.
- The red stripes indicate the blood shed by Jesus on the cross for our salvation.
- The "J" shape reminds us of the name of Jesus, as well as the staff of the Good Shepherd.

## HEROES OF HOPE

### SAINT LUCY

Saint Lucy is one of only eight women saints mentioned by name in the Mass. Her name, Lucia, comes from the Latin word for light. Before the reform of the Gregorian calendar in the Middle Ages, her feast fell on the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, and heralded the return of longer, lighter days. Even now, she is associated with light and fire. In the Scandinavian countries, especially Norway and Sweden, on Saint Lucy's feast day, the youngest daughter of the family wears a crown of lighted candles (now often battery powered) and serves special rolls and cookies to her family at dawn. In parts of Italy, her feast is commemorated with homemade pasta and a dessert called *cuccia*, made of wheat berries in hot chocolate. *Saint Lucy, pray for us!*

Feast Day:  
December 13



## SIGNS OF THE SEASON

### The Legend of the Poinsettia

The brilliant red leaves of the poinsettia are a common decoration at this time of year. Its association with Christmas began many years ago when the story developed of Pepita, a poor Mexican girl who had no gift for the Christ Child at Christmas. Her cousin Pedro told her that even the most humble gift given in love is a welcomed present. So, Pepita gathered a handful of weeds into a small bouquet. As she laid it at the foot of the crèche, it burst into blooms of red. From that day on, the poinsettia has also been known as the *Flor de Nochebuena*, or Flower of the Holy Night (Christmas Eve).

### Come, O Lord!

“Attend to the sound of my cry, / my king and my God! / For to you I will pray.”

— Psalm 5:3