

Mass Times

SATURDAY

4:00 PM at Lucernemines

6:00 PM at Coral

SUNDAY

9:00 AM at Coral

11:00 AM at Lucernemines

WEEKDAY

8:00 AM at Coral (Tues-Fri)

Stay Connected



Watch Mass

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Facebook

[facebook.com/OLAParishPA](https://www.facebook.com/OLAParishPA)



The Second Week of Advent

Scripture Reflection: "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:4-7

**pause for reflection*

Advent Wreath Prayer: Dear Jesus, you entered our world on Christmas as the Prince of Peace. This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, fill us with a deep and abiding peace. Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most. Amen.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2023

*Serving Indiana County's
Rt 119 Corridor since 1912*



OUR LADY *of the* ASSUMPTION

A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG • A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST

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Prayer Chain..... 724-464-8716

Prayer for Eucharistic Revival

Lord Jesus, You are the living bread who satisfies the hunger of the human heart. In the Eucharist, the bread and wine become Your Body and Blood, the gift of Yourself to the Church. Deepen our faith in Your Eucharistic presence and strengthen us as members of the Church, the Body of Christ. As we encounter and revere Your Eucharistic presence, open us to the needs of our brothers and sisters here and everywhere throughout the world. Help us to reveal Your love, Your promise, Your presence to them by our lives and in all we say and do. Amen.



Bake Sale December 9th & 10th following the 6pm and 9am masses on this weekend All are invited to contribute baked goods to support our parish.

Last Minute Christmas Gift!

Looking for a last minute Christmas gift? **Christian Mothers** have extra Koeze Nut and Candy items. If interested in purchasing, contact Jackie at 724-549-8119.

Christian Mothers are selling microfiber cleaning (streak-free) cloths. If interested, call Jackie at 724-549-8119.

The Parish Office hours on Monday, December 11th and Friday, December 15th will be 9am-1pm.

Public Rosary Rally – Saturday, 16

December 2023, 10:00 a.m.: Join local-area Catholics in praying a public Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the **Indiana County Courthouse**, 825 Philadelphia Street. Praying in public is **powerful witness of our Catholic Faith!** In this month of **December**, we will honor the **Immaculate Conception** of Our Lady and the **Nativity of Our Divine Savior**. The Rally will last about 45 minutes and will occur rain or shine, so please dress appropriately. Call/text Marianne 724-717-3278 with any questions.

Don't forget that we are still looking for sponsors for our bulletin

13 weeks-\$156.00 (\$12.00 per weekend)
 26 weeks-\$288.00 (2 weekends are free)
 52 weeks-\$576.00 (4 weekends are free)
 Personal sponsorships are available also-\$12 for one weekend. Say Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, Congratulations, etc. Email: khenry@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Elementary Faith Formation students participated in a new online art program called "Drawing Closer to God."



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Dear Parishioners,

Illusive Peace, 2023

Although the Prophet Isaiah names the **Messiah a Prince of Peace**, our observance of Advent to **look forward to the Peace of the Kingdom** hardly generates enough wind to blow even a leaf from a tree sprouted from the stump once **left for dead and seemingly attacked again and again**. Jesse, the father of King David, once the proud father of many brave sons, later will recall that his sons and daughters have scattered, and some have lost their way. The real estate God assigned as far back as Abraham to Israel's sons and daughters has always proven to be contentious. Just this past week a Cease-Fire in Gaza held too briefly to offer much relief to weary soldiers fighting terrorists, intent on killing all Jews in the Holy Land and to Gaza residents whose lives the Hamas militants compromise every day by hiding weapons of war and launching strikes from among the residents.

And, what about the huge number of Christians who populated **Ukraine**? Peace has not come to them. Russia's President Putin, who early on in the war asserted that he is a Christian in the Orthodox practice of faith, had first denied that he intended to invade Ukraine even up to hours before launching destructive missiles, air strikes, artillery and infantry strikes on villages and cities that happened to be in path of his war plan. **Ukraine once gave us that rousing Carol of the Bells as a vibrant expression of joy about the coming of Jesus, the Christ, but where might we hear that carol this Christmas Season?**

As in so many Christmases in past generations, **red bows this year will reflect not only Jesus' blood poured out for us to ransom us, but also will refer directly to blood spilled in both combatants and in those objectified as "collateral damage."** At the historical coming of Jesus as the Christ, people want to state that a peace prevailed over the world as it was then known, a Peace/Pax of Rome, but one seemingly **initiated by God to allow a welcome for Jesus**. "Peace to His People on Earth," the tellers of Good, Good News sang like angels sang, and as such became a fleeting reality, like a cease-fire because a **higher law of Reconciliation** would shortly be at work. In the sky above Bethlehem, no rockets' red glare nor whistling artillery, no fearful or thunderous thuds at that first coming, but streams of angelic choirs brightened the night and **chased away the fear of the dark as the realm of evil**.

Back to the present, after a **bombing attack on a Catholic Mass in the southern Philippines** killed four and wounded over forty, **Pope Francis expresses his broken heart** and says he is "close to the families, to the people" of the region. The attack occurred at a Mass celebrated at a gymnasium in Mindanao State University in the south in the Philippines. Pope Francis concluded his message with "**prayers that Christ the Prince of Peace will grant to all the strength to turn from violence and overcome every evil with good**" and imparts his blessing "**as a pledge of strength and consolation in the Lord.**"

This attack occurred in Marawi. The largest Muslim city in the Philippines, Marawi was besieged for five months in 2017 by pro-Islamic State militants. The commander of police in the region said that Sunday's attack **could be revenge** for a recent government operation which killed 11 members of an Islamist terror organization.

Meanwhile back in Italy, in Rome, the Church prepares to **remember the first Christmas Creche ever assembled by that little man of Peace, St. Francis of Assisi, 800 years ago**. The remembrance began with the Immaculate Conception and will last throughout the Christmas Season with Pope Francis offering a **plenary indulgence to anyone who prays at a Creche in a church or chapel served by Franciscans**. Hey, people, that's us. We are preparing a short prayer service especially to be used for Christmas week; our churches will be open for visits and prayers. Is there some chance that the **Prince of Peace will use us to offer Peace to those without it? Can our prayers be efficacious? Yes.**

Father John

Mass Intentions for December 9 thru December 17

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Lucernemines 4:00 pm †Dick Farabaugh (Jenny & Family)
 Coral 6:00 pm †Grassoni Family (Rita & Rick Stipcak)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Coral 8:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Coral 9:00am ProPopulo
 Lucernemines 11:00am †Gary Welsh (Mike & Irene Grimes)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11—NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Coral 8:00 am †John Stipcak (Children)
Advent Penance Service, 7:00pm at St. Thomas More, Indiana

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Coral 8:00 am †Jim Yanoscsik (Sam & Betsy Arone)
Advent Penance Service, 7:00pm at St. Matthew's, Saltsburg

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Coral 8:00 am †Mandy Thomas (Daughter, Peggy)
Advent Penance Service, 7:00pm at Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Coral 8 am †Anthony & Eleanor Borzcik (Julie Mills)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Advent Penance Service, 10:00am at St. Bernard's, Indiana
 Lucernemines 3-3:30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Lucernemines 4 pm †Mike Buzi (Beth, Jaison, Tuscan, Rylin & Bowen)
 Coral 6 pm ProPopulo

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Coral 8-8:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Coral 9 :00 am †Sophia Esachina (Ann & Paul Esachina)
 Lucernemines 11:00 am †Many Ann Barletta (Joanna Kuta)

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Coral Rick Adamson by Mother, Sisters & Brothers
 Lucernemines Dick Farabaugh by Jenny & Family

The Host is in memory of:

Coral Leonard Evansic by Mike & Irene Grimes
 Lucernemines Mary Popp by Zicha Family

November 2023	
Income	\$37,389.34
Expense	\$35,578.04
Difference	\$1,811.30

December 2 & 3 2023	Offertory
Adult, Loose, Children & Online Giving	\$10,034.00
Votive Candle	\$158.80
Maintenance	\$185.00
St Vincent de Paul	\$10.00
Flowers	\$315.00
Accent	\$184.00
Diocesan Collections	\$40.00
Special Collections	\$402.00
Cemetery	\$273.00
Families receiving envelopes—463	
Envelopes used this week—275	
Online giving this week—26	

Mass Attendance Dec 2 & 3

Lucerne 4:00 pm—134
 11:00 am—84
 Coral 6:00 pm—42
 9:00 am—116

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Live Nativity at Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent, on Friday, December 15 from 6-8pm and Saturday, December 16, from 7-9pm. Parishioners will portray Jesus' birth dressed in character along with live animals, caroling, a bonfire, hot chocolate or coffee, and cookies. Come and drive through or stroll our campus to enjoy up close Christ Jesus, the Reason for the Season. No charge, however, donations will benefit Catholic Charities Children & Family fund. All are welcome.

CRS SPOTLIGHT The U.S. House introduced an appropriations bill that would reduce foreign aid in the fiscal year 2024 federal budget by \$7 billion. At a time when global hunger and poverty are on the rise, these cuts would have devastating consequences for millions of people around the world. Foreign assistance accounts for less than 1% of the U.S. budget. You can make a difference to ensure this critical aid isn't reduced further! Visit www.crs.org to see how you can help!

Find Advent penance services, Christmas Masses and activities online. Advent penance services and Christmas Mass schedules throughout the Diocese of Greensburg. Information provided by parishes is available at theaccentonline.org.

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ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES 2023

DECEMBER 12, TUESDAY, 7:00PM AT ST. THOMAS MORE, INDIANA
DECEMBER 13, WEDNESDAY, 7:00PM AT ST. MATTHEW'S, SALTSBURG
DECEMBER 14, THURSDAY, 7:00PM AT CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, KENT
DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY, 10:00AM AT ST BERNARD'S, INDIANA
DECEMBER 18, MONDAY, 7:00PM AT CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION, CLYMER
DECEMBER 19, TUESDAY, 7:00PM AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, LUCERNEMINES
****LAST CHANCE** DECEMBER 22, FRIDAY, 6:00PM-8:00PM, OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, LUCERNEMINES**

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

ASSUMPTION CINEMA PRESENTS...Special Presentation, Sunday, December 10th (2pm-5pm) Addressing HUMAN TRAFFICKING

We will be hosting a special viewing of *Sound of Freedom* (PG-13) at Podowski Hall of this newly released film based on the true story of Tim Ballard, a former US government agent, whose mission it is to rescue children from sex traffickers in Columbia. The movie will be followed by an update and resources on Human Trafficking by Sr. Mary Norbert Long, Sisters of Charity at Seton Hill. Although the movie is not graphic, it is suggestive about Human Trafficking encounters. Parents are encouraged to accompany any teens. Begin the conversation! Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Our current Adult Enrichment Series features Season 2 of *The Chosen*. Wednesday Evenings: *The Chosen* in Podowski Hall beginning at 6pm 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20

Advent Enrichment Series: The Infancy Narratives

Join us for a fascinating study on the Infancy Narratives as we prepare to make way for the Lord during the season of Advent! Our sessions are scheduled on the following Thursdays: 12/7 (morning session at 9am) and 12/14. We will be meeting for identical sessions immediately following the 8am Mass in the Coral Social Hall, and at 6pm in Podowski Hall at the Lucernemines site. All are welcome! No charge! Light refreshments and materials provided. *Listen to God's Word in Scripture and reflect on His surprising Presence with us!*

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Elementary Grades K-5

9:30am-10:45am at Podowski Hall (Lucernemines) 12/3, 12/10, and 12/17 (immediately following 11am Mass)

Middle School Grades 6-8 and Youth Group Grades 9-12

5:30pm-7:30pm at Podowski Hall (Lucernemines) 12/3, and 12/17 (immediately following 11am Mass)

Please note: Faith Formation for both Elementary and Middle School/Youth Group will be held from noon until 2:30pm on Sunday, December 17th at Podowski Hall. We are preparing a very special afternoon focusing on Family Catechesis for all of our students and their families as we explore "Christmas Around the World!"

Upcoming Service Projects for Youth (grades 6-12)

If you are interested and available in volunteering for any of the following events, please contact cmarcoline@dioceseofgreensburg.org at your earliest convenience with the time that you would be available to help out. These service hours will count toward Confirmation for middle school students, and as community service for high school students.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Podowski Hall
Thursday, December 28th from noon until 6pm

Art Workshop for Epiphany Fundraiser
Friday, December 29th from 1-3pm in Podowski Hall

Give the gift of love this holiday season!

Annual American Red Cross Blood Drive. Noon until 6pm at Podowski Hall, Thursday, December 28th. Register online at redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767

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The artist explained the meaning of the Advent Wreath as she walked the students through the steps of drawing their own wreath. We have amazing artists in our midst!



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Celebration of St. Nicholas Dec. 15-16 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg

Two special events are planned Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. St. Nicholas the Gift Giver and the Gift of the Eucharist, a free immersive experience, is set for 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 15. The event will feature artist Pipka Ulvilden and her St. Nicholas-inspired collectibles, Christmas carols, cookies, vendors and St. Nick's workshop. Register at DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival. Breakfast with St. Nicholas, a faith-focused event for children and families, is set for Dec. 16 at 9:30 a.m. The morning will include a buffet, visits from several cultural versions of St. Nick and St. Nick's workshop; Bishop Larry J. Kulick will lead a prayer, and children will make a craft with Ulvilden. Register at DioceseofGreensburg.org/StNickBreakfast.

Take a moment to spend time to receive Christ.

Spend an hour with us! **On December 17th, at 3PM the Saint Regis Parish** musicians will present this unique blend of both hand bell and organ instrumental meditational music along with prayerful scripture readings. Continue to prepare your heart and enhance your spirit to receive Christ this Advent season. Please come to **Saint Regis Parish in Trafford PA.**

Live Nativity at Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent, on Friday, December 15 from 6-8pm and Saturday, December 16, from 7-9pm. Parishioners will portray Jesus' birth dressed in character along with live animals, caroling, a bonfire, hot chocolate or coffee, and cookies. Come and drive through or stroll our campus to enjoy up close Christ Jesus, the Reason for the Season. No charge, however, donations will benefit Catholic Charities Children & Family fund. All are welcome.

