



Sacred Heart Church

A Roman Catholic Community

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SERVED BY:

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Pastor

Rev. Cesar Chen
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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201-935-3094

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

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SMALL BLESSINGS DAY CARE 201-935-0506

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4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm(Spanish)
Monday - Friday: 12:00pm in the church
Saturday: 9:00am in the church,
5:00pm in church (Anticipated Mass of Sunday)
Holy Days & Holidays: As announced in Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00pm - 4:45pm
Daily: Upon request following the 12:00pm Mass

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents should contact the parish office to schedule an interview and register for the required baptismal preparation session.

Preparation: in the church at 7:00pm

Sacrament: in the church at 3:00pm
Dec.19

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

The Common Policy for Marriage in all Catholic parishes of New Jersey requires couples to begin preparation at least one year prior to the planned wedding date. It is advisable to contact the parish office before any other arrangements are made.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Anointing of the Sick is available for all seriously ill members of our parish family. Please call the parish office.

R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the Church's process to prepare to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please call the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION / OFFICE HOURS

We invite all new members of our parish family to register at the Parish Office during regular office hours: 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday - Friday; Saturdays and Sundays Closed.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We are close to Christmas and the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent clearly tells us how close we are. This part of Advent shifts our attention from the "last things" we heard about during the first part of Advent and last week's proclamation by John the Baptist that one is coming who will baptize with water and the Spirit. Today the announcement is about shedding fear and rejoicing at the birth of the Lord. Our preparation for Christmas focuses on being ready for Christ to come again. But we must remember that his coming in Bethlehem and his coming at the end of time are not isolated events, because he comes into our lives again and again every day.

Advent and Christmas invite us to dwell not so much on the Infant in the Crib, but the adult Jesus, baptized by John, anointed by the Spirit, living in a world of turmoil and then identifying Himself fully with humanity's sinful, guilt-ridden condition. He stands with all human beings who yearn for a radical change of heart and life, who crave liberation from the power of evil, who seek release from all forms of oppression - religious, political, social and economic. He stands as the only One who can take away our fear and make clear our vision.

The infant Jesus silently proclaimed this message by the circumstances of His birth - poverty, powerlessness, and simplicity. But it is the adult Jesus who lives the message, challenging political and religious systems, embracing a radical poverty of spirit, and reaching out with compassion and liberation for all the oppressed.

It is He who stirs the profound longings in all of our hearts for true freedom, justice and peace - for ourselves and for all of our brothers and sisters across the world. He invites us to commit ourselves more fully to these Gospel values. He begs us not to trivialize our resolve by being satisfied with token and occasional gestures of Christianity, and He invites us to rededicate ourselves to follow His example more faithfully, and to strive even more forcefully to eliminate the hoarding, climbing and controlling in our own lives and in the world at large.

The human family needs, as never before, to hear the message of Advent, to free us from our fears and to give us direction. But more than that, we need to recognize and respond to the constant invitation of Jesus, God-with-us, to join Him in a new world community of shared love, peace and justice.

Like Mary, we are to be the bearers of the Christ - for our bodies are the only places where he may live on this earth. We are the body of Christ - when we let Christ dwell within us, and when we share Christ with others, He will be with us always. By opening our lives to Christ, we, like Mary, are blessed among all men and women. By sharing Christ, we, like Mary, take part in the greatest, most wonderful thing the world has ever known.

But if we don't take hold of our time and attitude, even the holy can pass us by. We can miss the true message of what we confront in the stable at Bethlehem: a human become divine, spirit become flesh, time become eternity, salvation become nigh.

The spirit of Advent and Christmas is a mirror in which we see reflected the very best that life can become. Through our faith and courage, we can help each other to put away our fears, to move from darkness to light, to begin to hear again the words of life. We can reach out to support - by the strength of our love and concern - those whose hands are feeble, whose knees are weak. Through our witness to God's love, so many who are crippled by doubt and despair might be able to walk again with courage and energy and new life.

Let us continue this mission each day of our lives; let us be God's holy people, and faithful disciples of Jesus; let us be light in darkness, peacemakers and life-givers, in every aspect of our lives. Only then can the words of Elizabeth echo through our voices: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

A Christmas Reflection

The celebration of Christmas once again draws the world's attention to the humility and love of God. This holy night, this moment in salvation history has so much to teach our world today. Our God is not distant. Our God is very near and he comes in humility and with love. God who created the universe, now dares to be born in time, born of a virgin, born in human flesh, coming in the weakness and dependence of a new-born child. He comes as pure gift, not imposing himself upon anyone, but present to all who would receive him. Jesus is entrusted to Mary and Joseph who are homeless, born into a family that will soon be fleeing for their lives due to an unjust persecution of a tyrant king. Jesus is born outside a small village, a place with little or no worldly significance. Jesus, the Bread of Life is laid in a manger, where animals feed.

The Child of God wrapped in swaddling clothes comes to make our soiled garment spotless — to enrich our humanity with the glamour of his divinity. Jesus who is Light from Light, whose place of birth is illuminated by a brilliant star, is born into a world of darkness to bring forth the eternal light. Jesus who is Eternal Truth is revealed to wise men that we may know where to find wisdom. He who is the Good Shepherd is announced to the humble shepherds who keep watch over their flocks. He who is the Prince of Peace comes with peace for all men and women of good will. He who is from the Father, is born upon the earth and heralded by the angels in heaven. He who has no place to lay his head comes in search of us that we may find our true home in him. He who is the gift from heaven is born to those who have the humility and wisdom to receive such a gift. He who is Love comes with love beyond all telling.

So, what is the significance of all of this for us? It seems the way God chose to enter the world, to love the world, and to redeem the world, is the way we are to receive him — with humility, love, and making a gift of our lives to others. Humility, love and self-gift.

When we have received the unmerited and unconditional love of God, how can we not share this love unconditionally with others, particularly those who need our understanding, love and compassion? When we who have sinned know the loving gaze and mercy of Jesus, how could we dare to be judgmental and divisive in any fashion? God has loved us first. Let us also be initiators of love. Is your life not going quite as well as you would like? Are things not working out as you had planned? Just remember this: The world falls short of God's desire, yet God's love provides a way for us to reach his Kingdom. Mary was shocked at God's plan for her life, yet she availed herself to his plan of salvation. Joseph certainly had other plans, but he surrendered to the mystery of God. As for Jesus, we simply know he humbled himself to come down to earth as well as to the cross, and God raised him and us along with him to eternal life. We are called to such humility and self-surrender. Gifts are given to be received, and the greatest gifts are meant to be shared. Let us resolve every day to live with Christ, and make a similar gift of our lives to share his love with the world.

At Christmas our thoughts naturally turn to those friends and members of our family who shared their faith with us and helped to make each Christmas so special. If you would like to remember your deceased relatives or friends by donating Christmas Flowers and Decorations used to decorate the Church of the Sacred Heart throughout the Christmas Season, just fill in the form below and put it in a plain envelope marked "CHRISTMAS FLOWERS" and drop it in the collection or return it to the parish office at your convenience.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

In Memory of:

_____	Other:\$ _____
_____	\$50
_____	\$35
_____	\$25
_____	\$20
_____	\$15
_____	\$10



ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY

Sacred Heart Home-School Association presents their Annual **In Person** Tricky Tray on **Friday, Jan. 14th**, 2022 at Sacred Heart School. Tickets are \$15 per person-no one under 18 will be admitted. **MASKS MUST BE WORN.** Doors open at 6pm. Ticket include one sheet for 1st level prizes, coffee/tea and dessert. For tickets call the school office at 201-939-4277 or Patty at 201-803-9580. **Ticket deadline is Jan. 4th.** No tickets available at the door.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

SICK: Betty Tynan, Baby Ryan Joseph Lomuscio, Sal Russo, Charles Klimkowsky, Nancy Namoviez, Giovanna Muscara, Al & Joan Viscuso, Lea Pappas, Anita Barcia, Denise Swanteck, Maureen F. Coughlin, John Smith, Julius Single, Dave Tzrepla, Frank Bucu, Sr., John Stemkowski, Christopher N. Coughlin, Vladimir Pudoff, Isabella Lugo, Tess, Francesco Giacchi, Mario Alongi, Sr., Grace Dacchille, John Scivetti, Joseph Caramanico, Ken Stone, Rosie Perez, Timothy Yushak, Simplicia Ramirez, Corazon Santos, Jaxson Rivera, Marilyn Loughran, Dorothy Mayerchak, Beth Branigan, Luca Ataide, Donald Tetreault, Mario Diaz, Jeanne Dziencio, Norma Altreche, Joseph M. Diaz, Patrick H. Diaz, Kim Stefani, Linda Vasquez, Joelle Montillo

DECEASED: James Owens, Ronald Bianchi

CHURCH BELLS CELEBRATE & COMMEMORATE

The Sacred Heart Church bell rings:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

In Honor of: The Intentions of the Cavalcante Family

Donated by: Jim & Isabel Cavalcante

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz
Happy Birthday in Heaven

Donated by: Her Loving Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

In Honor of: The Coughlin Family

Donated by: Maureen & Chris Coughlin

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

During the week of December 19th, the following items used for worship in our sanctuary were donated in the memory of a relative or friend or a special intention.

SANCTUARY LAMP:



In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz
Happy Birthday in Heaven

Donated by: Her Loving Family

BREAD & WINE:



In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz
Happy Birthday in Heaven

Donated by: Her Loving Family

MASS CANDLES:



In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz
Happy Birthday in Heaven

Donated by: Her Loving Family

DECEMBER 19, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Anticipated Sunday Mass

5:00 pm Frank & Anna Navatta

SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Anthony Di Lascio

10:30 am Frank & Pauline Engrassia

12:00pm Anthony Zarcone

1:30 pm Pablo Rodruguez

MONDAY - Late Advent Weekday

12:00pm Meagan Valente

TUESDAY - Late Advent Weekday/St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12:00pm John Valente

WEDNESDAY - Late Advent Weekday

12:00pm Special Intention

THURSDAY - Late Advent Weekday/St. John of Kanty, Priest

12:00pm John Mc Garry

FRIDAY - Late Advent Weekday

9:00am Coviello & Di Laurenzio Family

CHRISTMAS MASSES

FRIDAY - VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

5:00 pm Joseph J. Pavlica, Jr.

Midnight Pepe Family

SATURDAY - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

7:30 am Anna Marie Fallar &
Anthony Michael Silver

9:00 am Melba & Thomas Coughlin

10:30 am Catherine & Pat Costello

12:00pm Anthony & Mary Scardino and
Anthony & Armando Pereira

1:30 pm Souls In Purgatory

SUNDAY - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Madeline & Gennaro Ferrara

10:30 am Lorenza & Julian Duran

12:00pm Carol Petrillo-Lintz

1:30 pm Souls in Purgatory





Christmas Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass

12:00 AM - Midnight Mass

Saturday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM

10:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM (Spanish)

PLEASE NOTE that since Christmas Day is a Saturday this year, there will be NO Anticipated Mass at 5:00 PM on Christmas Day. The obligation to attend Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 26th is NOT fulfilled by attending Mass on Christmas Day.



Christmas Office Hours

In observance of the Christmas holidays, the parish office will close on Thursday, December 23rd at 2:00pm and reopen on Tuesday, December 28th at 9:00am.

In observance of the New Year's holiday, the parish office will close on Thursday, December 30th at 2:00pm and reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd at 9:00am.

The priests and staff wish our parish family a holy and joy-filled Christmas & New Year!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!!



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to give a little support to our parish every time you shop, at **NO COST TO YOU**. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a half of one percent of the purchase price to our parish.

Just follow these simple steps:

- 1.) Visit smile.amazon.com. It's just like shopping on amazon.com.
- 2.) Sign in. Simply use your existing Amazon credentials. If you don't have an account, you can create a new one.
- 3.) Start shopping! In the box that says Pick Your Own Charitable Organization type in 324 Ridge Rd. This the address for the church. There are many, many Sacred Heart Churches on AmazonSmile, by using the address it will bring you directly to our parish. Click the yellow select button.
- 4.) If you are already an AmazonSmile user and want to switch your selected charity to be our parish, on the top of the screen you will see your current charity listed. Click the down arrow next to the charity name and follow the directions in step 3.
- 5.) Please remember to shop our smile.amazon.com link every time. Purchases made on the main Amazon.com site do not support our parish.



Food Pantry Update

We are stocking up our parish family food pantry to help our brothers and sisters in need during the cold winter months. Can you help us make winter a little warmer for those struggling with food insecurity?

If you can donate any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated: Vegetables, Fruit, Spaghetti, Potatoes (small packages or canned), Peanut Butter, Jelly, Macaroni and Cheese, and Tea. *Note that great vegetable and fruit prices can be found at Lidl's and Aldi's.* Thank you for all of the generous donations. It's only with your help that we are able to keep our food pantry stocked. *As a reminder, we are unable to package out-of-date food products for distribution to our families.*