



Sacred Heart Church

A Roman Catholic Community

324 Ridge Road, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

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www.sacredheartlynd.org

SERVED BY:

Rev. Theemas Pankiraj
Pastor

Rev. Cesar Chen
Parochial Vicar

PARISH OFFICE 615 NEW JERSEY AVE

Charles Sofio
Parish Manager
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ryan Tobiason
Parish Catechetical Leader
201-935-3094

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Linda Durocher
Principal
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SMALL BLESSINGS DAY CARE 201-935-0506

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December 24, 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.” - Lk 1:31

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
Jan. 7, Feb. 11, Mar. 30 (8:30PM), Apr. 14, May 5, Jun. 9

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 last week's announcement by John the Baptist that "one among you.. is coming...." to today's message about shedding fear and rejoicing at the birth of the "Son of the Most High." 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.

Mary's presence in the Advent experience makes our fears and anguish comprehensible; the uncertainty of life is overcome by the sure hope of God's coming to those who are waiting. The angel makes the announcement, Mary accepts, and then, we are told, "the angel left her." **No guidance is given; questions are left unanswered and we can assume that Mary is more confused than ever. And yet Mary comes to symbolize God's coming into our hearts with his transforming presence.** Longing for the light eventually brings the light. Faith opens into trust, and trust is not disappointed because the love of God is poured forth in the hearts of the brokenhearted.

The work of Advent is for us to discover the Christ who is truly among us. If, in fact, we walk in sadness and not in joy...if we continue to be captivated by material things, and are imprisoned by our own selfishness and narrowness of vision...if we are still surrounded by the poor and the homeless...if every day the tabloids scream of violence and crime....then perhaps we have not yet discovered the Christ in our midst.

The human family needs, as never before, to hear the message of Advent, to free us from the confusion of 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.*

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 promise of Advent echo through our voices: *"Do not be afraid, - for you have found favor with God."*



*Christmas
News So Good. . .
It Takes A Whole Season
To Celebrate It!*

December 24th - January 8th

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. It is the feast of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only Transcendent, but also wholly Immanent, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining Transcendent (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time Immanent (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar. *The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (in 2024, January 8th).* During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him...including the fact that he was born to die for us. The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends as a way to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-resources/christmas/>

MASSES ON DECEMBER 24TH

The Masses on Sunday, December 24th at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12 Noon, and 1:30 PM are the Masses for the last day of Advent, they ARE NOT Christmas Masses and DO NOT fulfill the obligation to attend a Christmas Mass.

ONLINE GIVING

1. You can give to the parish through the Zelle online payment system offered through most major banks. When you create the Zelle payee for the parish, please use the parish email address: sacredheartchurch@comcast.net.

Please be careful when you type in the email address because once you "Zelle" the money from your account it can not be corrected.

2. You can visit www.sacredheartlynd.org, our parish website and click the Online Giving Options link. If you want to make a direct donation to the parish with your debit or credit card, you can click the direct donation link.

**SACRED HEART HOME SCHOOL
ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY - FRIDAY, Jan. 12, 2024**

Sacred Heart School, 620 Valley Brook Avenue

Doors Open 5:30 pm - No Tickets at Door.

Raffles scheduled to begin Approximately 8:00-8:15

No one under 18 will be Admitted,

NO ALCOHOLIC Beverages Allowed

Kitchen Will Be Open, \$15 per person (nonrefundable)

Deadline January 4th,

Ticket includes: 1 sheet for 1st level prizes,
coffee/tea/dessert

For tickets or more information call Patty 201-803-9580

YOUR HELP REQUESTED

In conjunction with the major fund raising event of our St. Patrick's Day Celebration on March 9, the parish is requesting gift baskets that will be auctioned off that night. If you are interested in donating a \$25, \$50, or \$75 basket, please drop it off at the parish center. Maybe you received items for the Christmas that you can't use, you can also drop off **NEW ITEMS ONLY** at the parish center to make up a basket. If you have any questions, feel free to call Sabina at 862-249-1186. Thank you for your generosity which will contribute to the success of this fund raising event which will benefit Sacred Heart Church!

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

In Memory of: _____ **Other:\$** _____

_____ \$50

_____ \$35

_____ \$25

_____ \$20

_____ \$15

_____ \$10



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., Christopher N. Coughlin, Vladimir Pudoff, Isabella Lugo, Tess, Franceso Giacchi, Mario Alongi, Sr., Grace Dacchille, John Scivetti, Ken Stone, Timothy Yushak, Jaxson Rivera, Marilyn Loughran, Luca Ataide, Donald Tetreault, Norma Altreche, Linda Vasquez, Joelle Montillo, Vincent Russo, Nenita A. Jacildone, Anthony Scorre, Fely Czeslowski, Ely Ongoco, Perpetua Aspille, Anne Montillo, Margot O'Hara, Patricia Coughlin, Andrea Globis, Laura MacDonald, Ava Romano, Fr. Anthony Di Stefano, Hector Cruz, John Du Bois, Ruben Arevalo Gacildone, Helen Dowling, P. Darmiento, Elyse & Lauren Branigan, Dr. Leticia Luna, Jeanette Knowlton, Colleen Branigan, Martina O'Connell, Michele Gilmore, Raymond Santelli, Sr., Milena Giacchi, Freddy Berrios, Maryann Sheridan, Joann Di Giovanna

DECEASED: Beatriz M. Bayas, William F. Smith

CHURCH BELLS CELEBRATE & COMMEMORATE

The Sacred Heart Church bell rings:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

In Honor of: Carol-Petrillo Lintz

Donated by: Her Loving Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

In Honor of: The Intentions of Laila Cheddard

Donated by: Jim & Isabel Cavalcante

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

In Honor of: The Intentions of Skye Marie Whittington

Donated by: Jim & Isabel Cavalcante

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

During the week of December 24th, 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, Beloved Daughter & Sister

Donated by: Her Loving Family



BREAD & WINE:

In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz, Beloved Daughter & Sister

Donated by: Her Loving Family



MASS CANDLES:

In Honor of: Carol Petrillo-Lintz, Beloved Daughter & Sister

Donated by: Her Loving Family



DECEMBER 24, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

FORTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Anticipated Sunday Mass

5:00pm Thomas Perwin

SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Anna Marie Faller &
Anthony Michael Silver

10:30 am Edward Downey

12:00pm Carol Petrillo Lintz

1:30 pm Pablo Rodriguez

CHRISTMAS MASSES

5:00pm Joseph John Pavlica, Jr.

Midnight Frank & Anna Navatta

MONDAY - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

7:30am Catherine & Pat Costello

9:00am Rosemary Dondero

10:30 am Evelyn Earl

12:00pm Scardino, Pereira &
Alongi Families

1:30 pm Unborn Children

TUESDAY - St. Stephen, The First Martyr

12:00pm Josephine Chiarella

WEDNESDAY - St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

12:00pm Lorenza & Julian Duran

THURSDAY - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

12:00pm Special Intention

FRIDAY - Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord/St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

12:00pm Richard Urtnowski

SATURDAY - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00am Frank De Serio

Anticipated Sunday Mass

5:00pm Celia & James M. Kearney

SUNDAY - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

7:30am People Of Sacred Heart

9:00am Michael & Loretta La Pollo

10:30 am Giovanni Antico

12:00pm John Z. Klim

1:30 pm Souls In Purgatory



COME AND LISTEN

CARES & WORRIES WEIGHING YOU DOWN?

COME & LISTEN

ONE WORD COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

Mondays & Thursdays

Starting Monday, January 8th

**8:00pm in the Sacred Heart Parish Center
(former Convent - 615 New Jersey Ave)**

Enter through the
parking lot entrance

CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS

AND YOUTH (ages 13 & older)

Free babysitting will be available



Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24th

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass

12:00 AM - Midnight Mass

(Masses during day on Sunday are NOT Christmas Masses and DO NOT fulfill the obligation to attend Mass on Christmas)

Monday, December 25th

7:30 AM, 9:00 AM

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

Food Pantry Update

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" Matthew 25:40

We are stocking up the pantry for the cold winter season. Can you help us assist our brothers and sisters struggling with food insecurity?

Items needed most, at this time, are: Cereal, Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Pasta (including Spaghetti), Potatoes (small packages or canned), Vegetables, Coffee (regular and instant), Peanut Butter, and Jelly. Food items can be left near the shrine of the Sacred Heart in the back of the church.

Thanks to all for the donations which help keep our food pantry stocked! **We would not be able to help local families without your generosity.** As a reminder, we are unable to package out-of-date food products for distribution to our families.



In observance of the Christmas holidays, the parish office will close on Friday, December 22nd at 2:00pm and reopen on Wednesday, December 27th at 9:00am.

In observance of the New Year's holiday, the parish office will close on Friday, December 29th at 2:00pm and reopen on Wednesday, 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!!!