



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Reverend Michael S. McCormick, Pastor

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

800 Mulberry Street, Montoursville, PA 17754

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E-mail: parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org

Website: www.ourladyoflourdesmontoursville.org

Facebook—Our Lady of Lourdes Montoursville

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00 p.m.

Sunday ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-

Friday ~ 9:00 a.m.

Thursday ~ no daily Mass

Adoration

Monday ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptismal instruction offered at

7:00 p.m. on the

third Tuesday of every month.

Call the office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday ~ 5:00 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Saturday ~ 3:00 ~ 3:30 p.m.

Anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arranged at least six months
in advance

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Notify the parish office

whenever someone ill,

hospitalized, or homebound

wishes to receive Communion.

RCIA

Mondays ~ 7:00 p.m.

Parish Membership

New parishioners are

always welcome

Please call the parish office

to register.

Knights of Columbus

Council 14329

Parish Council

Wendy Bonus

Bob Nolan

Russell Gombosi, M.D.

Rita Clayton

Deb Steinbacher

Paul Moerschbacher

Jamie Wieder

Mary Etta Legarski

Sharon O'Malley

Keith Kuzio



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Love

Mission Statement

We are a Christian Community rooted in Word and Sacrament

striving to fulfill our Baptismal commitment

by following the example and teaching of Christ.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we endeavor to pass on our faith,

through the Roman Catholic Tradition, to the next generation

for the greater glory of God.

From the Pastor's Desk



The 4th Sunday of Advent – Joseph's own personal Annunciation

This is the last Sunday of Advent. Our time of preparation is almost over. Despite what the media, the shops and all the adverts tell us, it is still *not* Christmas! Let us hear the words from last Sunday's second readings again, *'be patient, until the Lord's coming. Think of farmers, how patiently they wait for precious fruit from the ground until the autumn and spring rains come. You too must be patient!'*

Traditionally during the season of Advent and Christmas, it is Mary the Mother of Jesus that our attention is drawn to as well as Jesus himself. This Sunday, however, it is Joseph who is the focus of our attention and prayer. Perhaps we can well imagine the physical and faith journey that Mary herself was asked to embark on. She was a young unmarried mother in a small village. Then she took a long and dangerous journey from her home back to Bethlehem. When her child was born, she was forced to leave her own country as an exile and refugee. Let us not forget that on every step of this dangerous journey that her husband Joseph was by her side supporting and encouraging her. This journey was as difficult for Joseph as it was for Mary. He too was as faithful and courageous as she was. But he didn't do this on his own.

Just as Mary heard a word and message from God, so too Joseph heard his own message from God. The God who called, encouraged and strengthened Mary would do the same to and for Joseph. Just as Mary heard those tender words, *do not be afraid*, so too Joseph hears them for himself, *"Joseph, Son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit."*

Both Mary and Joseph were called by God and asked to take on something that seemed humanly impossible. But nothing is impossible to God. The God who called Mary and Joseph continues to call each of us today. We too are called to give birth to Jesus in our daily lives through what we say, what we do and how we treat other people. At times this will be challenging and difficult. But we are not on our own. God says to each of us, *'do not be afraid, for I will be with you.'*

We do not have to be afraid. Why? Because of Emmanuel; **God – is – with – us**, now and always. Let us pray and live these last days of Advent in prayerful and joyful hope.

Michael Moore OMI
Oblates of Mary Immaculate



December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception



Gifts to the 2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal impact the lives of our brothers and sisters in need. As Christmas draws near, ask God what gift you can offer Him in support of the poor, lonely and vulnerable in our community.

GIFTS OF ALL SIZES ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish has reached 63% of our Appeal goal of \$41,000 by pledging \$26,117 as of November 14, 2022. *Thank you, all who pledged so far, for your generosity!*



Donate now at: annualappeal.org
or click the QR code below:



Sung Vespers (Evening Prayer)

Please join us for Sung Vespers, or Evening Prayer, **tonight at 7:00 p.m.** Consider taking thirty minutes of quiet time for prayer at this holy (but busy) time of year.

The Giving Tree

The Annual Giving Tree will be up until **Monday, December 19**. By request, we will be switching to Weis gift cards only, in amounts of \$5, \$10, \$15, and \$20. Thank you for your generosity.

Children's Christmas Play Rehearsal

Practices for the Posada, which will be performed at 3:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve, before 4:00 p.m. Mass, will be held on:

Thursday, December 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Adult Faith Formation

The current series of Adult Faith Formation, based on Fr. Mitch Pacwa's book, *Mary: Virgin, Mother, and Queen—A Bible Study for Catholics*, meets Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. The meeting schedule is:

Wednesday, December 21

Wednesday, January 4

Wednesday, January 11

Please come for an evening of study and prayer with Deacon Steve Frye.

Parish Office Closure

The Parish Office will be closed for the week between Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary. The office will reopen on Monday, January 2, 2023.

Advent Penance Service

The Church of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Church of the Resurrection will hold their Advent Penance Service this **Wednesday, December 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of the Resurrection** at 75 Musser Lane in Muncy.

Oplatki

Christmas oplatki is a beautiful tradition that you can share with your loved ones. The oplatki are now available near the altar. Donation requested is \$3.

Christmas Flower Envelopes



Christmas flowers may be purchased in memory of loved ones. Envelopes can be found in your offertory packet or at the entrances to the Church.

Christmas Octave Schedule

Saturday, December 24

3:30 p.m. Children's Play

4:00 p.m. Children's Mass

10:00 p.m. Prelude

10:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 25

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Mass

Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, December 31

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 1

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses



Community

This Week at Our Lady of Lourdes

- ~**Sunday, December 18**
Religious Ed Classes ~ Grades 1-8
Vespers ~ 7:00 p.m.
- ~**Monday, December 19**
Holy Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.
Confessions ~ 6:00 p.m.
- ~**Tuesday, December 20**
Mass at Valley View ~ 1:30 p.m.
- ~**Wednesday, December 21**
Embassy Christmas Mass ~ 2:00 p.m.
Advent Penance Service ~ 7:00 p.m. at
Church of the Resurrection, Muncy
Adult Faith Formation ~ 7:00 p.m.
- ~**Thursday, December 22**
Children's Christmas Play Practice ~ 5:30 p.m.
Choir practice ~ 6:30 p.m.
- ~**Friday, December 23**
Confessions ~ 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
- ~**Saturday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve**
Children's Christmas Play ~ 3:30 p.m.
Children's Mass ~ 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass Prelude ~ 10:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass ~ 10:30 p.m.
- ~**Sunday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day**
Christmas Masses ~ 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
No Religious Education Classes or Vespers

Ministry Corner

Hurry

By Deb Steinbacher

Well, here we are at the last week before Christmas Day! Many of us are bustling about with last minute plans, shopping, baking, gift wrapping - you name it! But, I would like to share with you this quote from the late Mother Angelica, foundress of EWTN: *"Don't get hurried. There may be something that I have to leave undone, then let it be undone. Just don't lose the essence of this season so that you really are alive with Jesus in the Womb of His Mother. Hidden, growing, patient, waiting; waiting for that birth in our lives - that birth of Jesus that makes Him radiate through us, that makes our wills one."*

Our Lord actually deigned to live in the Womb of Our Blessed Mother for nine months! How can we deny the sanctity of life and the need to follow His example of lowering oneself for the sake of others? All of the hustle and bustle in the world cannot compare to the enormity of what Jesus and His Mother did for us on that first Christmas! As we await the day of His birth, may our ministry continue in the form of service to those in need, and in prayer for the sanctity of life, for religious freedom, and for the conversion of all to our Lord - our Lord who gave His all for all of us! May you have a blessed week - one that finds you able to slow down a bit and reflect on Mother Angelica's wise and profound words!

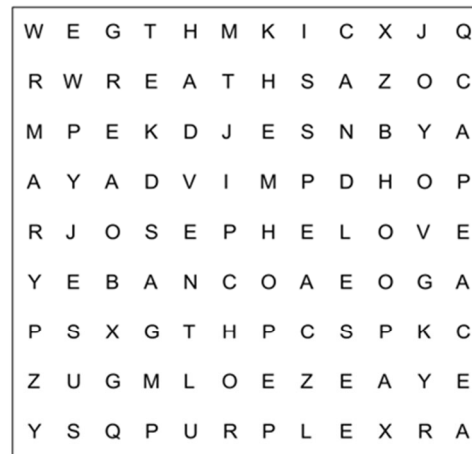
Books by Father Cummings

Father Charles Cummings' books, *Love, Laughter and Living Saints* and *Love, Laughter and Living Saints Again—Volume 2*, are available for purchase at the following locations:

It's My Party Store, 1231 Sheridan Street, Williamsport
St. Ann's Rectory, 1220 Northway Road, Williamsport
St. Joseph the Worker Rectory, 711 West Edwin Street
Williamsport
Otto's Bookstore, 107 West Fourth Street, Williamsport



Advent Word Search



Words to Find

Words can be found left to right and up and down.

- Advent
- Wreath
- Candles
- Purple
- Hope
- Peace
- Joy
- Love
- Mary
- Joseph
- Jesus



Worship and Service

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17

Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. James & Helen O'Brien, James Nestlerode

(Jan & Karen Ransdorf)

Gen 49:2-10; Ps 72:1-17; Mt 1:1-17

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Cathy Finnerty (*Ed & Deb Steinbacher*)

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Monday, December 19

9:00 a.m. John Burfeindt (*His Family*)

Judges 13:2-25; Ps 71:3-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday, December 20

Miraculous Medal Novena

9:00 a.m. Capuchin Sisters & their intentions

(*Romey Fagnano Family*)

1:30 p.m. Joseph & Patricia Hendrick

(*Dave & Joanne Mondell*)

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 21

St. Peter Canisius

Priest and Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. Robert Kranz (*Jim Pagana*)

2:00 p.m. Phil Gasowski (*Peggy & Gasowski & family*)
Song of Songs 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thursday, December 22

NO MASS

1 Sam 1:24-28; Ps 1 Sam 2:1-8; Lk 1:46-56

Friday, December 23

9:00 a.m. Helen Schamberg (*Ronald & Patricia Walko*)
Mal 3:1-24; Ps 25:4-14; Lk 1:57-66

Saturday, December 24

Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00 p.m. Christmas Intentions

10:30 p.m. Christmas Intentions

Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-29; Acts 13:16-25; Mt 1:1-25

Sunday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Christmas Intentions

10:30 a.m. Christmas Intentions

DUE TO THE EARLY PUBLICATION DATE, FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER 10-11 WAS NOT AVAILABLE. FINANCIAL FIGURES WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR THOSE DATES IN THE CHRISTMAS BULLETIN.

Collection Counters Schedule

December 19—Group 3—Judy DeGregorio, Barbara Gallagher, Jan Ransdorf

December 27—Group 1—Darl Simms, Mary Ann Hollenbach, Wendy Marshalek

Faith in Action



We will be collecting hats and mittens of *all sizes* through the month of December. Please place any donations in the bins at the church entrances.

We continue to collect **16 ounce jars of peanut butter** to help support the Montoursville Area School District Backpack Program. Please help us feed the hungry. Drop off donations inside the church.



Sponsor of the Week Johnson's Cafe

We want to highlight our sponsor of the week, **Johnson's Cafe**. We appreciate their support, and that of all our advertisers. Please support them as they do Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.



Prayer List for the Month of December

If you or a loved one would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

James Bender, Theresa Brown, Dave Bonus, Joanie Campbell, Jerry Dincher, Ann Marie Dorin, Grant Falls, Margie Foulds, Carisa Foulds, Geraldine Hamm, Mary Heffner, Michael Hook, Charles Gries, Cliff Hales, Mary Kranz, Chuck Ligosh, Kathleen Maiolo, Karen Marlett, Lois O'Malley, Denise Miller, Linda Phillips, Carol Rogers, Dan Rogers, Nicole Selleck, Denise Sharar, Robert Steinbacher, Sofia Steinbacher, Carl Ulsamer, Debbie Winterer, Christine Watts Wright

Please note: With the First Sunday of Advent, the start of the liturgical year, we also re-start our prayer list. If you have a loved one you would like to remove, or one you would like to remain on the prayer list, please notify the Parish Office by December 19.

*O Mary conceived without sin,
Pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

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