

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25
1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2
Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

KEY VERSE: "But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand" (v 28).

READING: Jesus often used the phrase "Son of Man" (Aramaic, *bar nasha*) to refer to himself. The title called to mind Christ's human nature. He belongs to our race; he is one of us. Although he came as a human being, Jesus was also the divine Son of God who would come again in glory. Luke used apocalyptic language from the Hebrew scripture to describe the signs that would accompany Christ's return at the end of time. The universe would be rent in anticipation of God's redemptive power (Is 13:9-10; Joel 3:4). In the apocalyptic book of Daniel, one "like a Son of Man" ascended to the clouds of heaven to the throne of the "Ancient of Days" (Dn 7:13). This imagery depicted the exaltation of the oppressed Jewish people, and later described the fullness of God's saving power present in the Messiah. Jesus' disciples should not fear these events; they must have confidence that their redemption was near. Advent is an opportunity to prepare ourselves for Christ's daily comings in our lives.

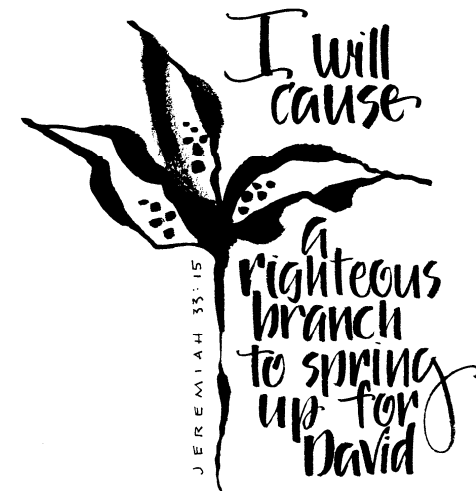
REFLECTING: As you light the First Candle of the Advent Wreath pray for someone in your family who needs Christ in their life.

PRAYING: Lord Jesus, help me to be alert to the signs of your presence in my life.

Food for thought during Advent:

Anger is often more harmful than the injury it has caused.

Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
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McKeesport, Pa. 15132
412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org



First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2009

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678.0566. **Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Father by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at BSleczkowski@aol.com

Parish Staff

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Advent Wreath Candle lighting Liturgy
The First Sunday of Advent

WAITING

Reader 1: This is the first Sunday of Advent when we read again of how God's people waiting for the coming of the Messiah. Advent is the season of waiting and preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Reader 2: This time of waiting is also a time for us to be working for peace among the nations, and peace with each other. It is a time for us to change our priorities as we walk in the light that God gives us.

Reader 1: As part of our Advent waiting we celebrate Christ's coming by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the hope Christ bring to the world. The round shape of the wreath reminds us of the unbroken love of God. The green branches speak of new life, and the candles proclaim the light that came into the world with Jesus Christ.

Reader 2: Today we light the first candle. The flickering of the flame reminds us that our waiting is a time of both contemplation and action. (The candle is lit)

All Pray Together

Dear God, through Your Spirit You spoke to prophets,
and the people prayed and waited for a Messiah to come.
Through Your Spirit You spoke to Mary and Joseph,
and they responded and waited for their child to be born.
Through Your Spirit, speak to each of us
that we may feel Your presence and know Your will
in our Advent waiting this year.
Amen.



Advent Meditation Concert and Parish Wigilia Dinner

The TriCounty Village Singers will perform an Advent Concert, December 20th at 3:00 P.M. followed by the Annual Holy Family Wigilia Dinner at 5:00 P.M. The Advent concert is free (a free will offering will be taken during the performance) and tickets for the Wigilia Dinner is \$15.00 Adult; \$7.00 Child (under 7) RSVP is requested. Our choirs and youth will perform during the dinner plus a visit from Santa Claus.

What is Advent?

The Liturgical Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent, a time of joyful anticipation of the Incarnation of Christ, God's love made visible. "Advent" is a Latin word (adventus) meaning "coming." During Advent, National Catholics prepare for the coming of the Lord into the world through the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ, and for his final coming at the end of time. The season of Advent reminds us of the three-fold comings of Christ:

1. The first advent, the birth of Jesus
2. The re-birth of Jesus in our own lives
3. The second advent, the final coming of Jesus Christ

The Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season that we celebrate as Christians is not just an observance of events that happened long ago. It is not a sentimental birthday of the "baby Jesus." Nor is the season exclusively future oriented, watching and waiting for the coming of the exalted Christ at the end of time. The season is a celebration of God's self-disclosure in Jesus Christ, the eternal Emmanuel -- God who was with the people in the past and who is with us now and for all time to come.

Cabbage Pierogi Making This Week

To supplement more cabbage pierogies for our next Pierogi Sale, we would like your help this Thursday and Friday to make more cabbage pierogi. If you are available, please contact Steffi Coddington @412.672.5403. Thank You.

Thank You

To our wonderful banner ladies who have been working on making seasonal liturgical banners for the sanctuary. They are beautiful. They women will resume after Christmas and anyone can help.

In Sympathy

Holy Family Parish gives its loving sympathy to the family of the late Marion Sanetsky who entered her eternal reward and was buried from our parish last Friday. Eternal Rest grant to her Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon her.

Also

Holy Family Parish extends to the family of Fr. Senior Kubik who will be buried from Holy Mother of the Rosary Cathedral on Monday our loving sympathy. Fr. Senior Kubik was the Administrative Senior of the Northern Seniorate for over 30 years until his retirement. Fr. Bruce will be attending the funeral.

Christmas Poinsettias



Memorial and Christmas Blessing Poinsettia Flower Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. Please place your order as soon as possible for the Christmas Season. This year the plants are still \$10.00 apiece and please print the names of the memorials and blessings. Thank You.

Fr. Senior John Rencewicz II Investiture

Best Wishes to Fr. Sen. John Rencewicz, Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, New Castle, Pa who will be installed as Administrative Senior of the Central Seniorate of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese this Friday, Dec. 4th at 7:00 P.M.

Please note: The YMSR Men's Club meeting has been changed from November 22 to December 13th after Mass.

Sacramental Altar Wine for your Wigilia Celebration is available in the parish kitchen during Coffee Hour. \$10 donations to our Music Ministry will give you the gift of wine.

Oplatki-Christmas Wafers are available in the back of the Church.

Advent Reading and Mediations are available in the book stand in the Church Narthex. Take One.

2010 Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. Please inform the parish office if you cannot find your envelopes. Thank You.

OPENING HYMN	“Advent Longing”	Hymn 2
INTRODUCTORY RITE		Page 63
INTROIT		Psalm 92:2-3
P:	It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, Most High.	
R:	To proclaim Your love in the morning, Your Faithfulness in the night.	
P:	Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.	
R:	As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.	
THE KYRIE		Page 67
OPENING PRAYER		
LITURGY OF THE WORD		
First Reading		Jeremiah 33:14-16
Responsorial Psalm		Psalm 25
L:	To You O Lord, I lift my soul.	
R:	To You O Lord, I lift my soul.	
Second Reading		1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Gospel Acclamations.		
C:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
C:	Lord, show us Your mercy and love and grant us Your salvation.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!	
Gospel		Luke 21:25-28, 34-36
HOMILY		
NICENE CREED		Page 71
GENERAL INTERCESSION		
R:	Lord, Hear our Prayer	
PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS		
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING		
SANCTUS		Page 76
CANON	Eucharistic Prayer 3	Page 84
THE LORD'S PRAYER		Page 95
LAMB OF GOD		Page 97
COMMUNION		Page 98
POST COMMUNION PRAYER		
BLESSING		Page 100
CLOSING HYMN	“O Come Divine Messiah”	Hymn 15

“May the Lord strengthen your hearts to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His holy ones.”

I Thessalonians 3:12a-13b



THEME-How can I exercise the virtues during Advent?

When God’s people were taken exile in Babylon, Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed; the king and kingdom existed no more. With their glorious past and identity lost, the people began to doubt that God would fulfill the promises that gave them hope. Here come the prophet Jeremiah. The prophet Jeremiah pleaded to them to be patient. Even though the family tree of David seemed nothing more than a dead stump, it would one day come back to life. A new king would emerge and the Jewish people would once again return to their promised home. To their cries and prayers, they prayed; “God my Savior, for You I wait all the day.”

Paul knew that before we can stand blameless and holy before our God, we need to learn how to live in a way that is pleasing to God. Our whole world may be shaken from the vile secular world which threatens to destroy the believer or we may be menaced by wars, natural disasters. Or we may become so full of ourselves, we find ourselves in peril because of our own self-indulgences, anxieties, additions or wrong priorities. What we must do is be patient, waiting prayerfully for the coming of salvation, for Jesus’ return. This Advent, let us strive to conduct ourselves in a way pleasing to God and take comfort knowing God will lead us on our way, if we truly give ourselves to Him. May this Advent lead us to a new spiritual rebirth for Christmas in our time, talent, and treasure to reach out to others and help bring them to salvation.

Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Blue Team	B. Zaucha
Greeters	J. Gibala	S. Kish
Ushers	B. Griffiths & G. Jobs	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Yellow Team	B. Zaucha
Greeter	J. Gibala	A. Fioravanti
Ushers	J. Trumpe & J. Lawrence	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers

This Week

Sunday, November 29, 2009 1st Sunday Advent

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Joseph Korch Int. wife Helen Korch & Family; +Stella Solvay Int. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pociask</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL Classes	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.

Monday, November 30, 2009

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.
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Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Bible & Apologetic Class	7:00 P.M.
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Wednesday, December 2, 2009

SAMB Meeting	6:00 P.M.
Chopin Choir Rehearsal	7:30 P.M.

Saturday, December 5, 2009

Monthly Confessions	11:00 A.M.
Acolyte Practice	11:30 A.M.

Sunday, December 6, 2009 2nd Sunday Advent

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Irene Belany Int. Frederic Chopin Choir +Alice Demski (6th Ann.) Int. son Gary Demski</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
SOCL Classes	10:15 A.M.
Special Parish Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.
<i>+Edward Ghetian Int. Mr. & Mrs. Warren Albeck</i>	

Next Sunday, we will conclude the unfinished business from our parish meeting with the election of 4 Synodical Delegates and two alternates for the 23rd General Synod between Masses. Elected delegates must fulfilled their spiritual and financial obligations to the Church as required by the PNCC Constitution and will require a U.S. Passport along with mandatory attendance to scheduled synodical meetings throughout the coming year.