



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Psalm: Isaiah 12
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18

KEY VERSE: "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire" (v 16).

READING: John the Baptist preached a message of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Those who desired to reform their lives asked, "What then should we do?" (v 10). John told each group to do more than the law required. He told them that he baptized with water to symbolize a conversion to the will of God, but that "one mightier" (v.16) was coming whose baptism would be definitive. John used the image of a winnowing fan, a shovel used to separate the wheat from the chaff, to describe God's coming judgment that would divide the good from the bad. Jesus would bring salvation through his baptism with the purifying fire of God's judgment through the Holy Spirit. In Baptism, a Christian dies to their former lives of sin, and rises to a new life with Christ.

REFLECTING: As you light the Third Candle of Advent pray for someone in need of joy in their life.

PRAYING: Lord Jesus, enkindle in me the fire of your love so that I might do your works.

NOTE: The Third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" (Rejoice) Sunday from the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice" [Phil 4:4]. Rose Colored Vestments are worn and a rose colored candle is lit on the Advent Wreath.



Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport, Pa. 15132
412.678.0566 Office; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org



Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 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

Fr. Bruce Slezkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562
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Advent Wreath Candle lighting Liturgy
The Third Sunday of Advent

HEALING

Reader 1: On this third Sunday of Advent we join with the writers of Scripture to sing of hope and healing. With our hearts we praise the Lord, and we are glad because of God our Savior.

Reader 2: Healing takes many forms. People are healed from diseases, social and political injustices are corrected, and even the earth itself can be restored to support new life.

Reader 1: Elizabeth recognized that Mary would give birth to a child who would save his people, and Mary sang a song of praise to God. But her song is not a lullaby to soothe people to sleep. Her song is a strong declaration of God's greatness.

Reader 2: God's greatness was shown in Christ and is still active in the world. The child of Mary brought a message of healing that continues as we follow Christ's words and actions.

Reader 1: Today we relight the first and second candles on our Advent wreath. The light of these burning candles reminds us that our waiting and dreaming can make a positive difference in our world.

Readers 2: God's desire is for healing and reconciliation. The flame of this third candle reminds that God calls us to be part of the healing of the world (light third candle)

All Pray

Dear God,
so many people need your healing and hope.
In this season of giving, and on every day of the
year, help us to say and to do those things
that continue Christ's ministry of compassion and caring.
Amen.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Thursday, December 24, 2009-Christmas Eve

10:15 P.M. Festival of Christmas Carols presented by the Frederic Chopin Choir & Annunciation Bell Choir
10:40 P.M. SOCL Youth are asked to meet in the Church Hall for the procession with the Nativity Scene Figurines to the stable.
11:00 P.M. Mass of the Shepherd

Friday, December 25, 2009- Christmas Day

10:00 A.M. Mass of the Nativity

Saturday, December 26, 2009-Feast of St. Stephen

10:00 A.M. Mass commemorating the First Christian Martyr

Sunday, December 27, 2009- Humble Shepherds-St John Day

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Mass and the Blessing & Distribution of Wine and a special collection for Savonarola Seminary

Monday, December 28, 2009-Holy Innocents

10:00 A.M. Holy Mass commemorating the children murdered by King Herod

Thursday, December 31, 2009-New Year Eve

7:00 P.M. Mass of Thanksgiving and Year End

Friday, January 1, 2010-New Year Day

10:00 A.M. Solemnity of the Circumcision of the Lord

Sunday, January 3, 2010

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Solemnity of Holy Family
The Feast Day of our Parish Community

Wednesday, January 6, 2010-Feast of the Epiphany

10:00 A.M. Mass with the Blessing of Incense & Chalk





Christmas Poinsettias

Memorial and Christmas Blessing Poinsettia Flower Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. Today is the last day to place your order. This year, the plants are still \$10.00 apiece and please print the names of the memorials and blessings. Thank You.

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.

Advent Meditation Concert and Parish Wigilia Dinner

The TriCounty Village Singers will perform an Advent Concert, next Sunday, 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) featuring sacred music for the Advent Season and tickets for the Wigilia Dinner is \$15.00 Adult; \$7.00 Child (under 7) RSVP is requested. Our choir and youth will perform during the dinner plus a visit from Santa Claus. See Barb Tadajski or Karen Bongiorno after Mass.

Eucharist Visit for Shut -Ins

Please call the parish office to make arrangements for Christmas Eucharist visitations for our home bound parish family members and nursing home patients.



Looking to give the perfect charitable gift?

Are you wondering what would be the perfect charitable gift to give this Christmas Season? Think National Church Center. Our National Church is still raising monies to purchase the Center. Special Envelopes can be found in the book rack narthex.

OPENING HYMN	“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”	Hymn 20
INTRODUCTORY RITE		Page 63
INTROIT		Psalm 85:6-7; 90-14
P:	Will You be angry with us forever, drag out Your anger for all generations? Please give us life again, that Your people may rejoice in You.	
R:	Fill us at daybreak with Your love, that all our days we may sing for joy.	
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		Zephaniah 3:14-18
Responsorial Psalm		Isaiah 12
L:	Cry out with joy and gladness; for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.	
R:	Cry out with joy and gladness; for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.	
Second Reading		Philippians 4:4-7
Gospel Acclamations.		
C:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.	
C:	The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He sent me to bring Good News to the poor.	
R:	Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!	
Gospel		Luke 3:10-18
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	“Advent Longing”	Hymn 2

“Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

THEME-The true virtue of joy.

“Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion!” the prophet Zephaniah declared. Like Mary, we should be glad and exalt, for the Lord is in our midsts. Discouragement and defeat are overcome as God renews us with love. “Cry out with joy and gladness,” the prophet Isaiah sings. We can be confident and unafraid because God, the Holy One, is a “mighty savior.” When we are weak, God gives us courage. When we are drained by sadness, God fills us with joy from the fountain of salvation.

Paul repeats the glad refrain; “Rejoice!” So that we will not forget it, he says it again: “Rejoice!” Even though in prison, the peace of Christ protects his heart and mind. Paul urges us to dismiss anxiety and present our needs before God in prayerful petition. Then, like Paul, we will be released from the prison of worry and fear.

John the Baptist proclaims the coming of salvation, speaking to each life situation: be honest, don’t abuse one another, don’t blame others for our misdeeds, and be satisfied with what we have. As we await the coming of Jesus to cleanse us from sin, we are filled with anticipation of this wonderful event. Or are we? Can we rejoice if we are not prepared? Can we rejoice if we ignore His Ten Commandments? Can we rejoice if we let others do our work in His Holy Church and just sit back and watch? Now is the time to correct our faults. Jesus is calling through His prophets. Hear their words and do what they say.

Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Youth Team	B. Zaucha
Greeters	B Kijowski	A Fioravanti
Ushers	Youth	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	<u>9:00 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Lectors	Youth Team	B. Zaucha
Greeter	C. Trumpe	S. Kish
Ushers	Youth	F. Szatkowski
Acolytes	All Servers	All Server

This Week

Sunday, December 13, 2009 **3rd Sunday Advent**

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Dorothy Gibala Int. Mr. & Mrs. Ted Gibala; +Sophie Szalankiewicz Int. Mr. & Mrs. Anthon Turcan & Jozef</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.
<i>+Nick Fioravanti Int of Family</i>	
Youth Club Meeting	11:00 A.M.

Monday, December 14, 2009

Hall Christmas Decorating	5:00 P.M.
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Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.
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Thursday December 17, 2009

Chopin Choir Rehearsal	7:00 P.M.
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Parish Council Meeting	7:30 P.M.
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Saturday, December 19, 2009

Church Christmas Decorating	9:00 A.M.
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Sunday, December 20, 2009 **4th Sunday Advent**

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
<i>+Tom Tondera Int. wife Kay Tondera; +Anthony Davelli Int. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Zurovcik</i>	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
Fellowship Hour	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:00 A.M.
<i>+Marion Sanetsky Int of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kish</i>	
Tri County Advent Meditation Concert	3:00 P.M.
Parish Wigilia Dinner	5:00 P.M.

Homebound and Nursing Home Parishioners

We have several members of our parish who cannot worship because of age and illness. You can cheer them up by sending a Christmas Card this year letting them know they are remembered. A list of addresses can be found in the Church Narthex.

