

Don't forget to visit our parish website for information and schedules. The website is [www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org). We thank Dave Kost for maintaining this important missionary tool of our parish, informing the surrounding community of Holy Family Parish and Programs.

### Christmas Projects

This is the season of giving. Help support the many charitable organizations that the community sponsors; Salvation Army; American Red Cross; Local Food Banks; Toys for Tots; Department Store and Business Angel Trees. There are so many worthwhile projects to help make the season of Christmas better for those less fortunate in the community.



### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

(Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85; 2 Peter 3: 8-14); Mark 1:1-8

**KEY VERSE:** "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way" (v 2).

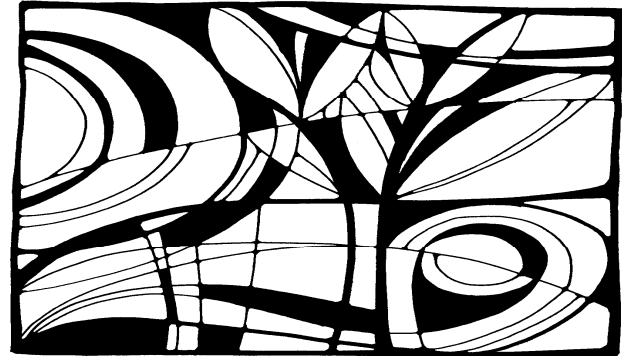
**READING:** John the Baptist announced the good news that the Messiah, the Christ (Greek, Christos, the "anointed one"), the Son of God, was coming to save his people. John was the "new Elijah" who prepared the people for the arrival of the "Day of the Lord" (Mal 3:1, 23). Like Elijah, John appeared in the desert proclaiming a message of repentance. John realized that his role was that of a lowly herald of the glad tidings; he himself was not the message. John was a humble servant unworthy to untie the sandals of his master. His baptism of water was for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus was "one more powerful" who would come after him to baptize with the purifying grace of the Holy Spirit.

**REFLECTING:** Am I a willing servant to God's people, or do I want others to serve me?

**PRAYING:** Lord Jesus, help me to proclaim the glad tidings of your coming.

Holy Family Parish  
National Catholic Church  
1921 Eden Park Boulevard  
McKeesport, Pa. 15132  
412.678.0566 Rectory; Auditorium 412.664.7009  
[www.hfpncc.org](http://www.hfpncc.org)

*We wait for new heavens*



*and a new earth where  
righteousness  
is at home.*

2 P E T E R 3 : 1 3

December 7, 2008

Second Sunday of Advent

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 12:00 P.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 Slezczkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562  
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 412.678.7347  
Dr. Donald Mushalko, Chopin Choir Director 412.678.4437  
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.673.4495  
Deborah Parknavy, SOCL Coordinator  
David Kost, Lector Coordinator  
Parish Custodian 412.678.7347



OPENING HYMN "On Jordan's Bank" Pew Hymnal, Song 8  
 ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING Sheets in Pews  
 INTRODUCTORY RITE Page 63  
 INTROIT John 1:6-8  
 P: A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.  
**R: He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.**  
 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.**  
 THE KYRIE Page 67  
 OPENING PRAYER  
 LITURGY OF THE WORD  
 First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
 Responsorial Psalm Psalm 85  
**L: Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation.**  
**R: Lord, let us see Your Kindness, and grant us Your salvation.**  
 Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14  
 Alleluia Verse  
 C: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**  
 C: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.  
**R: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**  
 Gospel Mark 1: 1-8  
 NICENE CREED Page 71  
 HOMILY  
 GENERAL INTERCESSION  
**R: Lord, Hear our Prayer**  
 PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS  
 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  
 SANCTUS Page 76  
 CANON Eucharistic Prayer 1 Page 77  
 THE LORD'S PRAYER All Sing Page 95  
 LAMB OF GOD Page 97  
 COMMUNION Page 98  
 POST COMMUNION PRAYER  
 BLESSING Page 100  
 CLOSING HYMN "There's A Voice in the Wilderness" Pew Hymnal Song 11

Christmas Oplatki is available in the rear of the Church

Advent Meditation Booklets are available in the Book Rack in the Narthex

### Wigilia Dinner Wine

For a \$10.00 donation to the Chopin & Annunciation Bell Choir, the choirs will give you a gift of sacramental wine of your choice for your Wigilia Dinners. Donations will be accepted during the coffee hour after Mass or through the parish office.

### Pierogi Sale This Week

This is our last pierogi sale before Christmas and we will be receiving many orders. We will be preparing and cooking Thursday and Friday beginning at 7: A.M. till late afternoon. All help is appreciated to making this a successful parish project and sale. Thank You for your past, present and future help.

### Hall & Church Decoration

*The SAMBS ladies will be decorating the hall Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. for the annual Wigilia. We will decorate the Church on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 A.M. Everyone is invited, young and old.*

### 2009 Special Intentions Reservations

If you would like to reserve special dates for Mass Intentions or special events during the 2009 year, please see Father Bruce and he will mark these dates in the parish Ordo.

### Eucharist Visit for Shut -Ins

Please call 412.276.5562 to make arrangements for Christmas Eucharist visitations for our home bound parish family members. The Christmas Schedule has been sent to all parishioners. If you have not received yours, then we may have a wrong address. Also, extra Christmas Schedules will be available in the book stand located in the Narthex.

The Children of our Nursery School under the direction of Kristen Korenoski will light the Advent wreath each week. Please use the Advent Liturgy Booklet in pews.

Be Christ's Disciple; Invite someone to Mass on Sunday.

## Christmas Trees

The parish will be purchasing several permanent Christmas Trees to be used in decorating the Church. Donations will be gladly accepted. Please make check payable to Holy Family Parish and give to Fr. Bruce.

### Tri County Choral "Advent Meditations"

An Advent concert will be performed on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 P.M. by the Tri County Choral Institute's "Village Singers" here in Holy Family Parish. This group is composed of 60 auditioned singers from the surrounding counties in western Pennsylvania and will present traditional and contemporary songs of the Advent/Christmas season. Come and be inspired as we wait for the coming of the Lord. A free will offering will be taken after the concert.

### Parish Wigilia Dinner

Sunday, December 21, 2008 5:30 P.M.

Adults \$15.00 Child (under 12) \$7.00

For Tickets and reservations call Barb Tadajski 412.953.7823  
or Karen Bongiorno 412.754.1411

Come & enjoy good traditional food, music and koledy.

### Youth Annual Poinsettia Sale

Orders are now being taken for the annual poinsettia sale. This year's donation is the same as last year's, \$10.00 a flower pot. Flowers can be purchased for blessings received or for memorials to loved ones. Angie Jobes will once again coordinate the sale this year.

2009 Parish Envelopes are in the Church Narthex. Envelopes this year will include the mandatory obligations: General Church Fund, Diocesan Development, 6% Fund. Our parish Stewardship program includes only the funds that remain in our parish and not the special envelopes that go to special programs of the Church. Please take yours home. If there is no envelope with your name, contact the parish office. For any questions, speak with Father. 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 — "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."



"The One who gives testimony say, Yes, I am coming soon." Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Revelations 3:11

### **THEME: What will I feel when the Lord comes?**

Waiting for good news or bad news can fill us with joy for dread. One day may seem like a thousand years. When we forget God's faithfulness, we need to be assured that God's promises can be fulfilled, perhaps not by our watches and calendars but with guaranteed fidelity. We need to comfort others when they fail to remember: "Here is your God; the Lord comes with might to save us!"

John announces the good news: "Make straight the way of the Lord!" John is God's mighty voice, yet Jesus' words are more powerful. John stresses judgment, whereas Jesus speaks of salvation: "Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss." The mountains in our lives will be overcome; the wastelands will flourish in the grace of the Holy Spirit. God is a loving shepherd who shows generous patience towards us when we wander. We need to patiently wait in hope as we pray: "Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation."

### Sunday Ministry Schedules

<u>This Week</u>	9:00 A.M.	11:30 A.M.
Lectors	Yellow Team	B. Zaucha
Greeter	M. Krusienski	B. Kijowski
Ushers	J. Chornak & E. Stubock.	D. Piesik
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers
<u>Next Week</u>	9:00 A.M.	11:30 A.M.
Lectors	Youth	B. Zaucha
Greeters	J. Gibala	S. Kish
Ushers	Youth	T. Zaucha
Acolytes	All Servers	All Servers



**This Week**

**Sunday, December 7, 2008**

**Advent 2**

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
+ <u>Charlene Staso</u> Int. M/M Dennis Crouch & + <u>Helen Istvanick</u> Int. M/M Ed Kustra	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
Coffee Hour sponsored by Chopin Choir	10:15 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:30 A.M.
+ <u>Mary Savol</u> Int of Family SAMBS Monthly Mission Collection after Mass	

**Monday, December 8, 2008**

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 P.M.

**Wednesday, December 10, 2008**

Frederic Chopin Choir Rehearsal 7:30 P.M.

**Saturday, December 13, 2008**

First Communion Class 10:00 A.M.

**Sunday, December 14, 2008**

**Advent 3**

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Holy Mass	9:00 A.M.
+ <u>Dorothy Gibala</u> Int. M/M Ted Gibala & + <u>Josephine Kijowski</u> Int. M/M Anthony Palko.	
Nursery School	9:00 A.M.
SOCL	10:15 A.M.
Coffee Hour sponsored by Chopin Choir	10:15 A.M.
SAMBS Monthly Meeting	10:30 A.M.
Holy Mass	11:30 A.M.

*Holy Family extends prayers and comfort to the family and friends of the passing of Henrietta "Nish" Kusher who was buried from the parish Saturday. "Eternal rest grant to her Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon her."*

*SOCL Sarris Christmas Candy Sale Order Forms can be found in the Church Narthex. Please support our SOCL Program with your purchase. Christmas Candy will be delivered Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and will be available for pick-up on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from Carol Popovic.*

**Enjoy Books**

The 2008-2009 Enjoy Books have been reduced to \$25.00. See Ted Gibala after Mass to purchase the Enjoy Book. Using just two/three coupons pays for the price of the book and offers you various restaurants and events at discount prices throughout the year to enjoy with someone you love. The Enjoy Book is a great Christmas gift

**Holiday Cooking**

The season's approaching when we will be spending time preparing festive meals in our homes. Need ideas or a special recipe? No problem, our SAMBS has "Feasting with Traditions II" cookbook available now reduced at \$5.00. See any SAMBS Member for a copy. These cookbooks make great gifts for family and friends

**God's Field**

A reminder that payments for subscriptions to the Church publication God's Field (Rola Boza) are now due. Rates have increased to \$20.00 due to postal rates. Every member should receive this bimonthly newspaper filled with religious articles, church doctrine and parish events. Don't forget to subscribe via the parish envelope system today.

**Parish Music Ministry**

Love to sing? Enjoy playing instruments? Our parish's Chopin Choir and Annunciation Bell Choir are looking for members to enhance the music ministry. See Dr. Mushalko or Mrs. Blotzer to offer your talent and time in singing to the Lord during the Eucharist and special holidays.

