

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



**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**December 22, 2019**

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:** Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at [BSleczkowski@aol.com](mailto:BSleczkowski@aol.com)

Parish Staff:

Fr. Bruce Sleczkowski, Pastor 412.276.5562  
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 412.678.7347  
Carol Davelli Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368  
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029  
David Kost, Lector Coordinator 412.519.7771  
Patricia Bagshaw, Youth Ministry 412.953.5123  
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033  
Parish Custodian 412.678.7347



## ADVENT 4 MASS LITURGY

OPENING HYMN

Bulletin

Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony

PENITENTIAL RITE

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ENTRANCE HYMN

John 11: 27; Psalm 90: 2

C: Yes Lord, I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world.

R: Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity, You are God.

C: 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.

KYRIE

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OPENING PRAYER

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 7: 10-14

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 24

R: Let the Lord enter; He is King of Glory.

Second Reading

Romans 1: 1-7

Gospel Acclamations.

Matthew 1: 23

L: Alleluia, Alleluia.

R: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 1: 18-24

### SACRAMENT OF THE WORD

### LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

NICENE CREED

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GENERAL INTERCESSION

R: Lord, Hear our Prayer

OFFERTORY

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

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LAMB OF GOD

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COMMUNION

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

### CONCLUDING RITE

DISMISSAL BLESSING

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CLOSING HYMN

Bulletin

**Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony**  
**Fourth Sunday-Hope for those who are wounded!**

L: Advent is a time to bind up the broken hearted.

**R: Come, Lord, and make all things new!**

L: For past wrongs that prevent us from moving forward.

**R: Come, Lord, and make all things new!**

L: For any bitterness that scratches our soul.

**R: Come, Lord, and make all things new!**

L: For relationships left in decay and neglect.

**R: Come, Lord, and make all things new!**

L: For any action that has wounded us or by which we have wounded others;

**R: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

**Christ, Be Our Light!**

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
BERNADETTE FARRELL

**Congregation:**

The musical score is written for a congregation and consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered to day." The music is a simple, melodic line with lyrics underneath. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, the third staff covers the third line, and the fourth staff covers the fourth line. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

**L:** This morning we light 4 candles. The **1<sup>st</sup> candle** is the light of hope for those in times of waiting. The **2<sup>nd</sup> candle** is the light of hope for those who are wearied by the circumstances of life. The **3<sup>rd</sup> candle** is the light of hope for those eagerly watching for God's promised glory. The **4<sup>th</sup> candle** is the light of hope for those who carry the wounds of life. Today we acknowledge our pain and the pain we have caused others. As the light shines, we turn to the Savior who came to rescue the lost, to help the hurting, and to bind up the broken.

## Light Candles

**Closing Prayer:** Merciful God, Advent reminds us that You left heaven's majesty to walk among wounded people in a broken world. We thank You that Your love knows no boundaries or limitations. No wounds of this earth is greater than the wounds You came to heal. For all who suffer this day, light the way, O Lord, towards the promise of healing and wholeness made known to You. Amen.

### Opening Hymn: "O Come, Divine Messiah"

PNCC Hymnal 28, verses 1 & 2

#### **Refrain:**

**Sweet Savior haste; Come, come to earth, Dispel the night and show Thy face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, divine Messiah! The world in silence waits the day.**

**When hope shall sing its triumph and sadness flee away.**

O come, divine Messiah! the world in silence waits the day  
When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away. **R:**

O Thou, whom nations sigh for, whom priests and prophets long  
foretold,  
Wilt break the captive fetters; Redeem the long-lost fold. **R:**

### Closing Hymn: "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"

PNCC Hymnal #24

There's a voice in the wilderness crying,  
A call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a highway,  
A highway for our God! the valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills  
brought low; Make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our  
God may go!

O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
The coming of their King. Like the flowers  
of the field they perish, the works of men decay,  
The power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

## **This Week**

**Sunday, December 22, 2019**

**Advent 4**

Confession

8:30 A.M.

Advent Wreath Lighting

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

SOCL Classes

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

**Tuesday, November 24, 2019**

**Christmas Eve**

Festival of Christmas Carols

10:00 P.M.

Mass of the Shepherds

10:30 P.M.

**Wednesday, December 25, 2019**

**Christmas Day**

Mass of the Nativity

10:00 A.M.

**Friday, December 27, 2019**

**St. John's Day**

Blessing of Wine & Mass

10:00 A.M.

+Nicholas Fioravanti, +John, +Mary, +Kenneth &  
Thomas Zaucha Int. Mrs. Antoinette Fioravanti.

**Sunday, December 29, 2019**

**Humble Shepherd**

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

SOCL Classes

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

Special Collection for Savonarola Seminary-Year End  
Prayers

### **Christmas Poinsettias**

Envelopes are still available to purchase  
your Memorial Christmas Poinsettias for  
the Church. Price still the same as last  
year, \$12.00.



**Thank you to all who helped decorate the Church**

## Today's Sunday Ministry

**9:00 A.M.**

Greeter: C. Trumpe

Lectors: Red Team

Ushers: R. DeLong & D. Newcamp

**11:00 A.M.**

A. Fioravanti

B. Zaucha

J. Wagner

## Next Sunday Ministries

**9:00 A.M.**

Greeter: M. Sleczkowski

Lectors: Yellow Team

Ushers: B. Griffiths & G. Jobs

**11:00 A.M.**

A. Fioravanti

B. Zaucha

J. Wagner

## Winter Clothes-less Clothes Drive

The United YMSR is conducting clothes drives throughout our national Church asking all parishes to help in this winter clothes drive ending January 20<sup>th</sup>. Holy Family YMSR Branch 70 is participating. Since our local organizations no longer accept bulk used clothing, it was decided to have a clothes-less clothes drive giving the proceeds to McKeesport charities, the Intersection and Salvation Army where they can use the money for what they need. Located in the back of the Church will be boxes designated for financial donations. All checks are to be made out to the Holy Family YMSR Branch 70.

*Polish Koledy CD Gwiazda sung by our Polish Bard is now available. Contact Wendy Blotzer. Price \$15.00*

**CHRISTMAS OPLATEK IS  
AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH  
NARTHAX  
Keep the Tradition Alive**



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Gospel Word Search

H	T	R	I	B	D	R	E	A	R
E	L	E	T	C	E	N	R	U	D
H	F	W	H	O	H		O	I	I
M	E	I	M	P	T	N	V	S	V
O	L	F	W	S	O	O	T	O	O
D	D	I	T	H	R	R	O	E	R
E	E	R	S	C	T	O	P	M	E
N	A	G	E	E	E	O	L	O	C
A	N	D	N	A	B	S	U	H	I
L	E	G	N	A	M	O	H	E	S

BETROTHED CHILD HUSBAND  
 HONOUR DIVORCE ANGEL  
 DREAM WIFE BIRTH  
 SON PROPHET HOME



### ***Winter Weather Alert***

*Winter is here and sometimes the weather conditions can be dangerous. The cancellations or time change of Church services or parish events will be posted on the three local TV Channels, our parish Facebook and Website when the wintry weather poses hazardous driving conditions. Always use your judgment with winter conditions*



### **Fair Share Envelopes**

The 2020 Fair Share Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. With your attendance at Mass and financial support, it will keep our parish doors open to serve God and His people. If you cannot find your envelope, please contact Fr. Bruce. Remember, adult parishioners are required to make the mandatory obligations: General Church Fund (\$100); Diocesan Development Fund (\$40) and 6% Fund (\$25). All other envelopes are your Fair Share donations which has been raised to \$300. To our college students, upon graduation, you are full adult members of the parish and must participate in the Mandatory and Fair Share donations and not rely on your parents Fair Share and to take an active role in the parish as well in worship.

## Fourth Sunday in Advent

**First Reading:** Isaiah 7: 10-14

**Responsorial Psalm:** 24

**Second Reading:** Romans 1: 1-7

**Gospel:** Matthew 1: 18-24



**KEY VERSE:** “The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel”  
Matthew 1: 23

**READING:** The first reading foretells the birth of a very special child—a child who will be called Emmanuel, God-with-us. The second reading to the Romans contains the opening lines from St. Paul’s letter to the Christians at Rome. In them he refers to the “human and divine roots” of Christ. Our Gospel tells of Joseph, the just man, is told that Mary’s child was conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit and the mission of this child is to save His people from their sins.

**REFLECTION:** Here we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord’s First Coming. Today we focus on the characters of Mary and Joseph and hear of the circumstances surrounding the conception of the child Jesus, and the reaction of Joseph. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the promise that the Messiah would come from that line. The link between the First Reading and the Gospel is quite explicit today, since Matthew actually quotes Isaiah. Joseph, descendant of King David, is invited to take his place in the great story of God’s relationship with the Chosen people. There is great sense of a timeless mystery reaching its focal point, as that which was “promised long ago” (Second Reading) now takes flesh in the womb of Mary.

**PRAYING:** God, Father of every family, against Whom no door can be shut, convert our hearts and our homes into fit dwelling places for Christ Your Son.