

**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**



**First Sunday in Advent**  
**December 1, 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 Wreath Lighting Ceremony First Sunday-Hope for those who wait!

L: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

**R: How long, O Lord, how long?**

L: For those waiting for answered prayer.

**R: Grant Your steadfast patience.**

L: for those waiting in the face of uncertainty.

**R: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.**

L: For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign

**R: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.**

L: For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come.

**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 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final cadence on the last staff.

L: This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering, and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illumine the area of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:14

### Light Candle

**Closing Prayer:** God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One. We confess to you, O Lord, that we easily grow impatient, when you word to us is to wait. Ignite within us a new and everlasting hope. We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ADVENT 1 MASS LITURGY

OPENING HYMN	Bulletin
PENITENTIAL RITE	Page 66
ENTRANCE HYMN	Psalm 25: 1-3

C: I wait for You, O Lord; I lift my soul to my God. In You I trust; do not let me be disgraced; do not let my enemies gloat over me.

R: No one is disgraced who waits for You, but only those who lightly break faith.

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	Page 67
-------	---------

### OPENING PRAYER

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 2: 1-5

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 122

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading Romans 13: 11-14

Gospel Acclamations. Psalm 85: 8

L: Alleluia, Alleluia.

R: Show us Lord Your love, grant us Your salvation.

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 24: 37-44

### SACRAMENT OF THE WORD

### LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

NICENE CREED Page 71

GENERAL INTERCESSION

R: Lord, Hear our Prayer

OFFERTORY Page 73

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3 Page 84

LAMB OF GOD Page 97

COMMUNION Page 98

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

### CONCLUDING RITE

DISMISSAL BLESSING Page 100

CLOSING HYMN Bulletin

**Opening Hymn: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”**

PNCC Hymnal #29

Come Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
Be Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone,  
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious Throne.  
Amen.



**Closing Hymn: “Watchmen, tell us of the Night”**

PNCC Hymnal #31

Watchman tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.  
Traveler, o’er yon mountain’s height, see that glory beaming star.  
Watchman, doth its beauteous ray Aught of joy or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes—it brings the day, Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night; Higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light, Peace and truth its course portends.  
Watchman, will its beams alone Gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Traveler, ages are its own; See, it bursts o’er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night, For the morning seems to dawn.  
Traveler, darkness takes its flight, Doubt and terror are withdrawn.  
Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; Hie thee to thy quiet home.  
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace, Lo! the Son of God is come!

## This Week

### Sunday, December 1, 2019

Confession

**Advent 1**

8:30 A.M.

Advent Wreath Lighting

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+**Joseph Korch** Int. Janet Korch; +**Alice Demski** (16<sup>th</sup> Ann.) Int. Gary Demski; +**Lepha Davis** (25<sup>th</sup> Ann.) Int Shawn & Valerie Davis

SOCL Classes

10:15 A.M.

Fellowship Hour

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

### Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Bible Class

6:00 P.M.

Frederic Chopin Choir Rehearsal

7:00 P.M.

### Thursday, December 5, 2019

Annunciation Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 P.M.

### Saturday, December 7, 2019

Parish Wigilia Dinner

4:00 P.M.

### Sunday, December 8, 2019

Confession

**Advent 2**

8:30 A.M.

Advent Wreath Lighting

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

+**Irene Jugan** Int. David & Sandy Kost; +**Mildred Budzilowski** Int. Terry Allen

SOCL Classes

10:15 A.M.

Fellowship Hour

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

*Church Christmas Decorating Saturday Morning  
December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. Help needed.*

## Today's Sunday Ministry

**11:00 A.M.**

Greeter: M. Sleczkowski

A. Fioravanti

Lectors: Yellow Team

B. & L. Zaucha

Ushers: L. Ruozzi & T. Gibala

J. Wagner

## Next Sunday Ministries

**9:00 A.M.**

**11:00 A.M.**

Greeter: C. Trumpe

A. Fioravanti

Lectors: Youth Team

B. Zaucha

Ushers: S. Tadajski & D. Crouch

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.

## Christmas Poinsettias



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

## Angel Tree

**We ask that all the gifts to be under the tree by Dec. 8th.** This will ensure Christmas deliveries. Take an Angel and make a needy child happy this year Christmas Day. Do not wrap your gift please.

## ***Parish Wigilia-Vigil Dinner***

*Sponsored by the Society of the Most Blessed Sacrament  
Saturday, December 7, 2019  
4:00 P.M.*

*Parish Hall 1921 Eden Park Boulevard  
Adults \$20.00; Children under 12- \$10.00  
Call Kathy Trumpe @ 412.664.4591 to make  
reservations. Santa will make a scheduled visit for the  
children. **Tickets must be purchased Today***

### **SOCL Sarris Christmas Candy Sale**

**Today** all orders should be in for the Candy Sale to assure delivery before Christmas. Checks can be made out to Holy Family Parish. Order sheets are in the vestibule and give to Fr. Bruce.

**At Home with the Word for 2020 Books are available. Price \$10. See Dave Kost or Fr. Bruce to pick up yours.**

### **“Is Your Heart Prepared for a King”**

Our Annunciation Bell Choir along with the Bethesda Chancel Choir will be performing a special Cantata Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM in the Bethesda U.P. Church 314 S Third Avenue, Elizabeth, PA. The community is invited and a Social Hour to follow.

### **Breakfast with Santa**

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Holy Family Parish Hall

8:30 AM -12:30 PM

Adults \$8.00 (14 and older) - Children \$5.00

(3 to 13) Under 2 Free



Sponsored by McKeesport High School

Tiger Band, Orchestra and Guard Boosters

Call Jen Wos@ 412.377.8929 or Jen Martino@412.280.6119 for registrations.

**CHRISTMAS OPLATEK IS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH  
NARTHAX**

# First Sunday in Advent

**First Reading:** Isaiah 2: 1-5

**Responsorial Psalm:** 122

**Second Reading:** Romans 13: 11-14

**Gospel:** Matthew 24: 37-44



**KEY VERSE:** “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.”  
Matthew 24: 42

**READING:** In the first reading, the vision of universal peace, is surely one of the most inspiring in the Bible. But it also challenges Christians to work for this new world which was inaugurated by Christ. Paul urges the Romans (and us) to wake up; to turn away from the darkness of evil, and to walk in the light of Christ. This message was inspired by today’s Gospel urging us to stay awake because we do not know the day or the hour when Christ will return.

**REFLECTION:** Advent opens with a great promise: “In the days to come...” the hope of a people who need God. “...The master is coming” is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So, Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless, we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord’s coming, we must remember that it might be today!

**PRAYING:** Lord, as we begin this new year, help us to see You more clearly, to love you more dearly, and following You more nearly. We ask this through Jesus who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.