



Holy Family Parish National Catholic Church

1921 Eden Park Boulevard
McKeesport, PA 15132



Office 412.678.0566; Auditorium 412.664.7009
www.hfpncc.org info@hfpncc.org pastor@hfpncc.org
Facebook: Holy Family National Catholic Church

2 Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023



Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements (six months in advance), please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.678.0566. Office Hours: by appointment.

Bulletin announcements should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication.

Parish Staff:

Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk, Pastor 412.330.8286
Ted Gibala, Committee Chairman 724.765.4269
Carol Davelli, Chopin Choir Director 412.678.2368
Wendy Blotzer, Organist, Bell Choir 412.926.6029
David Kost, Lector Coordinator 412.519.7771
Tom Popovic, Cemetery Coordinator 724.243.3033
Parish Custodian 724.765.4269



OPENING HYMN

On Jordan's Bank (verses 1 and 3) – PNCC #21

ENTRANCE HYMN (John 1:6-8)

C. 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.

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.

Reading 1

IS 40:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims;

the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people.

Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Kindness and truth shall meet;

justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring out of the earth,

and justice shall look down from heaven.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and prepare the way of his steps.

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Reading 2

2 PT 3:8-14

A Reading from the Second Letter of Saint Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

The Word of the Lord.

Alleluia

LK 3:4, 6

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Gospel

MK 1:1-8

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND RELATIVES

Hudson Tutko, Chelsea Manetta, Athena Becker, Stephen Pociask, Marian Sleczkowski, Al & Betty Ann Perhas, Ed Babish, Barbara Cook, Darren Geyer, Paul Koper, Ted Flora, Dave Guillot, Emily Guy, Marcy Raiford, Johanna Pardoe, Allan Soltez, Antoinette Drake, Marianna Pelka, Bronisław Korus, Ewa Nowak, Justin Riddle, Ford Bartle, Rosalie Clark, Lucille Davelli, Joan Kotulsky.

Please keep us informed that we might minister to those who are ill at home, in the hospital or nursing home. Father Mariusz will visit them with the Holy Communion.

CLOSING HYMN

There's A Voice In The Wilderness Crying – PNCC #24

FAITH SHARING

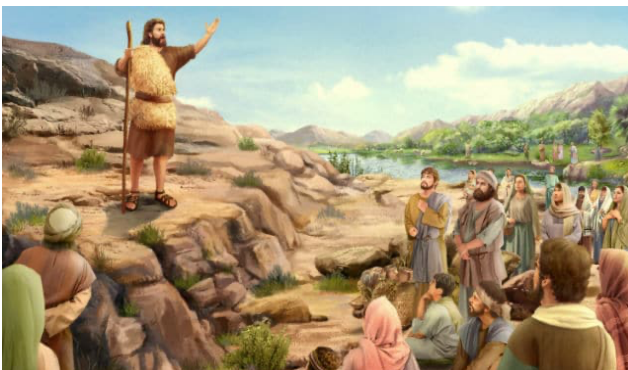
Homecoming is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Second Sunday of Advent. All three readings focus on the absolute necessity of our getting ready for Christ's "Homecoming" into our hearts and lives by true repentance, reparation, prayer and the renewal of our lives. They also remind us that the past coming of Jesus, some 2000 years ago, the present daily coming of Jesus into our lives through the Eucharistic celebration, through the Scriptures and through the praying community, and his future coming (the *Second Coming*) are actually the fulfillment of God's saving plan for us all, from all eternity.

The first reading, taken from the prophet Isaiah, tells us about the Babylonian exiles coming home to their native country, Judah, and their holy city, Jerusalem. Isaiah assures his people that the Lord will lead them in a grand procession to their homeland and take care of them as a shepherd cares for his sheep.

The second reading, taken from the second letter of St. Peter, invites us to get ready to go home to Heaven with Jesus at his *Second Coming*. Peter tells those who doubt the Second Coming of Jesus that God's way of counting time is

different from ours and that God has His own reasons for delaying the Second Coming of Christ.

The Gospel tells us through John the Baptist how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Savior's "coming home" into our lives



during the Advent season by repentance and the renewal of life. John preached that the appropriate behavior for those preparing “the way of the Lord” was to be baptized “as they confessed their sins.” He wanted the Jews to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, leveling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings. The most amazing thing about John’s baptism was that, as a Jew, he was asking fellow-Jews to submit to the baptism of repentance which only a Gentile was obliged to undergo.

LIFE MESSAGE

We need to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus. We are invited by the Church to prepare for Christmas by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives so that Jesus may be reborn in us.

We need to allow Jesus to be reborn in our lives. People around us should recognize Jesus’ rebirth in our lives by our sharing love, unconditional forgiveness, compassionate and merciful heart, and spirit of humble and committed service.

*Prepare
the way
of the
LORD.*

Let us accept the challenge of John the Baptist to turn this Advent season into a real spiritual “homecoming” by making the necessary preparations for the fresh arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus into our hearts and lives arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus into our hearts and lives.

SAMBS MEETINGS AND MISSION COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Dec 3, 2023; Jan 14, 2024; Feb 11, 2024; Mar 10, 2024; Apr 7, 2024; May 12, 2024

OPLATKI (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) AVAILABLE

Oplatki are available. Your free will offerings for Oplatki will support our choir and music in our church.



SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday Offering envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please take yours and help us to deliver them to your relatives and others who live in your neighborhood.

BULLETIN BY EMAIL

If you wish to receive our weekly bulletin by email, please simply send an empty email with the title BULLETIN to pastor@hfpncc.org.

COOKIES FOR THE HOMELESS

The Light of Life Rescue Mission is asking for cookies for the homeless. They would like those willing to donate cookies; place 4-5 cookies in each baggie. If you are willing to bake cookies, please bring them to church on Sunday, December 10, and Wendy Blotzer will take them after mass and deliver them to the Light of Life Mission in Pittsburgh. Please make sure that they are in baggies. Thank you.... *When I was hungry, you fed me. (Matthew 25:35)*



CHRISTMAS LETTER

Christmas letter was mailed to all Parishioners. The Masses on Christmas Eve (Pasterka) and Christmas Day will be offered for our Deceased Relatives and Parishioners. A special form for those Masses will be mailed to you as well and it will be attached to each week bulletin during Advent.



POINSETTIAS DONATION

Donate poinsettia in memory of your beloved ones.
The form is in the Vestibule.

PNA – POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

Polish National Alliance is now here to help protect you and your family's future. Many great plans available: whole life insurance, term insurance, annuities (2yr – 5yr @ 3.00 - 5.00%). Check the PNA board in the auditorium. Contact Henrietta Kleckner for more information (724-863-6715).



CHURCH DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

We will be decorating the Church on Saturday, December 16th beginning at 9:00 AM.
Come and join us.

✠ C ✠ M ✠ B ✠

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSINGS

Contact Father Mariusz (cell 412-330-8286, office 412-678-0566) or email pastor@hfpncc.org if you would like your home blessed during the 2024 Epiphany Season where time and date arrangements can be made.

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 10, 2023 – 2 Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM – Holy Mass

† Mildred Kotulsky – requested by Andrew (Butch) Stolinski

Monday, December 11, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Thursday, December 14, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Friday, December 15, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Saturday, December 16, 2023 – Advent Weekday

Sunday, December 17, 2023 – 3 Sunday of Advent

10:00 AM – Holy Mass

† Richard Contrella – requested by Adamek, Muse & Foster Family

12/24/23 Su 10:00 AM 4 Sunday of Advent

† Kenneth Kost – requested by David & Sandy Kost

12/24/23 Su 10:00 PM Shepherd Mass (Pasterka)

For All Our Beloved Departed (special Mass form will be available)

12/25/23 Mo 10:00 AM Solemnity – Christmas

For All Our Beloved Departed (special Mass form will be available)

12/26/23 Tu 10:00 AM Feast – St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr

OPEN

12/27/23 We 10:00 AM Feast – St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

Mass with the blessing of wine (BYO Bottle for blessing)

12/30/23 St 10:00 AM Solemnity – Holy Family

For All Parishioners of the Holy Family Parish

12/31/23 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Humble Shepherds

OPEN

1/1/24 Mo 10:00 AM Solemnity – Circumcision of our Lord

OPEN

1/2/24 Tu 10:00 AM Solemnity – Holy Name of Jesus

OPEN

1/6/24 St 10:00 AM Solemnity – Epiphany of our Lord

OPEN

1/7/24 Su 10:00 AM Solemnity – Baptism of our Lord

OPEN

1/14/24 Su 10:00 AM 2 Ordinary Sunday

OPEN

1/21/24 Su 10:00 AM 3 Ordinary Sunday

OPEN

1/28/24 Su 10:00 AM 4 Ordinary Sunday

OPEN

!! Please return this form before Thursday, Dec 21, 2023 !!

**Holy Mass at the Holy Family PNCC, McKeesport
Sunday, Dec 24, 2023 – Vigil of the Nativity, 10:00 PM
Monday, Dec 25, 2023 – Christmas Day, 10:00 AM**

Father, please include my loved ones who passed away in those Masses:

* Please list the departed below. Please print their names. These names will be read during all Masses.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Please use the other side if needed.

Mass requested by _____

My donation for Mass stipend \$ _____

* The check for the **Mass** please issue to **Fr. Mariusz Mularczyk**.

Other checks with your Christmas donations for the Parish go to **Holy Family PNCC**. Thank you!