

# ST • JOHN THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

"What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you, so that you may share life with us." 1 John 1:3

# **DECEMBER 22, 2024**

### PARISH CLERGY

Reverend William J. Monahan Pastor fatherwill@stjohnpa.org

Reverend Patrick Brady Weekend Assistance

Reverend Alexander Gibbs Weekend Assistance

**Deacon Thomas Cusick** 

Deacon James E. Hartmann (Retired)

# PARISH STAFF

Cathleen M. Lynskey Office Manager clynskey@stjohnpa.org

Matthew Smith Business Manager businessmanager@stjohnpa.org

Christa Stefanchik, *Director,* Parish Religious Education Program prepdirector@stjohnpa.org

> Maureen Traynor Parish Office Support bulletineditor@stjohnpa.org

David Tapp Parish Music Ministry musicdirector@stjohnpa.org

Meghan Horn Parish Communications and Social Media web@stjohnpa.org

Maria Shadle *Youth Ministry* youthministries@stjohnpa.org

# **PLEASE NOTE:**

If any parishioner, a family member, or a loved one are in need of a priest, please call the EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER at 215-375-0460 and leave a detailed message.

WWW.STJOHNPA.ORG



OUR MASS SCHEDULE Sunday Vigil Mass: Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 AM Weekdays Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM

### THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Saturdays: 2:45 PM - 3:45 PM Tuesdays: 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Other times by appointment

#### THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made with the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. Attendance at Pre-Marital Classes required.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sunday through Friday–after daily Mass, until 8:00 PM. Saturday -until Vigil Mass.

## **LECTIO DIVINA**

Wednesdays: 8:30 AM in the Chapel

## MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Saturdays, following 8:00 AM Mass

# **VISITING THE SICK**

If a family member is sick in the hospital, at home, or in a nursing home and they would like to have a short visit by a member of our Pastoral staff, please call the Parish Office at 215-295-4102.

## **PASTORAL LIFE CENTER**

752 Big Oak Road, Morrisville, PA 19067 215.295.4102, 4103 sjeoffices@stjohnpa.org

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Friday 9 AM - 5 PM No office hours on Saturday or Sunday, except by appointment

## P.R.E.P. OFFICE

728 Big Oak Road 215.295.9239

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Preparations for Baptism should begin before your child is born. All expectant parents or parents of newborn children are asked to enroll themselves in our Parish Baptism Preparation class. Information will be shared when parents call to register for Baptism. Our small classes are held in our Pastoral Life Center. Baptisms are ordinarily celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month at 1PM.

### ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The OCIA is a process of welcoming new members into our Catholic faith. It also welcomes baptized Catholics who have not yet received the Sacraments of Confession, First Communion or Confirmation. Please contact Lori Miller at 856-905-2624 for more information.

#### Page 1 - December 22, 2024



#### Sunday, December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM All the members of our Parish 9:30 AM John T. Lynch, requested by the Kenworthy Family 11:30 AM Jim McCarthy, requested by the McCarthy Family

# Monday, December 23: Saint John of Kanty 8:00 AM Frederick Spitz, requested by his children

#### Tuesday, December 24: Tuesday in Advent

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Hartmann and Lawlor Families, requested by Deacon Jim and Kathy Hartmann 4:00 PM All the members of our Parish 8:00 PM All the members of our Parish

#### Wednesday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord

7:30 AM All the members of our Parish 9:30 AM All the members of our Parish 11:30 AM All the members of our Parish

*Thursday, December 26: Saint Stephen* 8:00 AM Bill and Grace Morris, requested by the Ross Family

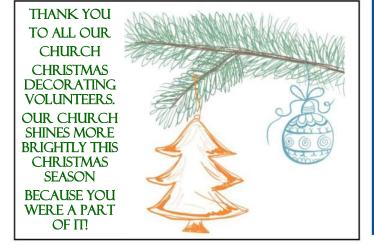
Friday, December 27: Saint John 8:00 AM Bill Ross, Sr., requested by the Ross Family

**Saturday, December 28: The Holy Innocents** 8:00 AM Seamus Meenagh, requested by the Lynskey Family 4:00 PM Robert Webster, requested by the Webster Family

<u>Sunday, December 29</u> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 7:30 AM Marie Galloni, requested by the Coffee Ladies 9:30 AM George Monahan, requested by Father Will

11:30 AM Ann Marie Lozano, requested by Julia Wood







Our

# Church Ministries

Adoration Society: Maria DiDonato, Cynthia Mariotti Altar Servers: Lucy Fronheiser, lucydonnellan@gmail.com

Bakery Basket: Joan Graves, 267.760.3950, and Sinota Fakolujo, 215-378-7666

Bereavement Group: Kathy Ross, 267.230.1224 Bible Study: Jane McGinniss, 267.981.3739 Blessed Counters: Fr. William Monahan. 215.295.4102 Caring for Friends: Mary Africa, 215.378.9438 Community Food Drive: Cathy McLean, 267.833.3177 CYO Athletic Director: Joe Hartigan, cyodirector@stjohnpa.org Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Cathleen Lynskey, clynskey@stjohnpa.org Funeral Liturgy Assistance: Rosemary Goode, 215.493.7424 Jesse Tree: Joe and Pat Mursch, jessetree.stjohn@gmail.com Knights of Columbus #7515: Grand Knight, Walter Burek, walterburek@icloud.com Lectors: Mary Ryan, peanut65@comcast.net Mass Greeters: Pat Mursch, cpmursch@comcast.net Men's Faith Sharing Group: Tom Burke, tomburkeyour willbedone@gmail.com **Music Ministry:** *David Tapp, musicdirector@stjohnpa.org* **OCIA**: *Lori Miller* 856.905.2624 Prayer Network: Lisa Petrino, 267.994.4513 Shared Meals: Nancy Doyle, shared meals@stjohnpa.org SJE Faith Formation: Tom Burke, tomburkeyourwillbe done@gmail.com Social Concerns Committee: Monica Forst, socialconcerns @stjohnpa.org; 215.378.6781

Ushers: *Walter Burek, walterburek@icloud.com* Women of the Word Prayer Group: Connie Drummond, 215.493.5857 Youth Ministry: Maria Shadle, youthministries@stjohnpa.org



# ADULT CATHOLIC INITIATION (OCIA)

# A Journey of Faith

As Advent ends this weekend, our adult candidates for Confirmation or for Full Reception into the Catholic Church, have prepared to welcome anew the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ in our daily lives, by

attending Mass alongside us, reflecting on the biblical stories of God's promise and the history of God's people, and deepening their relationship with Jesus through the Gospel message.

For our candidates and all of us, may Christ be at the center of our festivities throughout the days of the upcoming Christmas season, bringing love into our world, light into dark nights, joy into music of the season, and peace in feeling close to the Lord.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COMPLETING YOUR SACRAMENTS AS AN ADULT, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: stjohnpa.org OR PICK UP AN OCIA BROCHURE IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE.

YOU MAY ALSO CONTACT THE OCIA TEAM DIRECTLY THROUGH LORI MILLER AT 856-905-2624



# Saint John the Evangelist Christmas Schedule 2024

Christmas Mass Schedule

*Tuesday, December 24th* 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day Masses 7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (A Holy Day of Obligation) Tuesday, December 31st 8:00 A.M. Mass 5:30 P.M. Vigil Mass for the Holy Day

> Wednesday, January 1st 9:00 A.M. Mass only

# Christ the Savior is Born!

Christmas 2024

To the Parish Family of Saint John the Evangelist,

What can you do with Christmas? It's certainly possible one could market it and make some money. Or, we could use it to schedule get-togethers with family and friends. Maybe we could use it to try out new recipes or to buy clothes we need for the winter. There are all sorts of things we can do with Christmas!

But maybe the idea of doing something with Christmas is what keeps us from understanding what Christmas is all about. After all, Christmas is not something we do. Christmas is something done to us, for us, and in us.

Consider Mary. What did she say in response to Gabriel's announcement that she would be the mother of God? She said, "Be it done unto me according to Your word." She didn't do anything with Christmas. Christmas was given to her. God showed her His favor. God gave her a Baby. God dwelled inside of her and became her Child. We honor Mary, not for what Mary did, but for Who Mary received.

That is faith, my dear sisters and brothers! Faith is receiving. It doesn't do. It is done to. It doesn't use this or that this way or that way. It doesn't give. It gets. Christmas is all about faith. It is all about Jesus.

Oh, but we're so busy! We have so much to do! We don't have the time to get it done. Our busyness leaves no time to receive. Christmas becomes our work instead of God's work. But the whole point of Christmas is that it is God's doing! "With God nothing is impossible," said the Angel Gabriel to Mary. Then the Virgin conceived and bore a son and called His name Emmanuel, that is, God with us.

Emmanuel is still Emmanuel. The God who joined the human race within Mary's womb remains with us!

But where is He? At the shopping center? At the game? On the road? At work? He is everywhere! But how do we receive Him? Where does our faith receive what He has to give? Where His holy word is proclaimed and His holy sacraments are administered! In church! That's where we receive grace upon grace, gift after gift, and the Child of Christmas deigns to come to where we are and make His home with us. He who labored under the heavy burden of our sin comes to us to take our burden away and give us peace.

On behalf of myself, Father Brady, Father Gibbs, the Parish Deacons and the Parish Office Staff—we wish you and your loved ones a Christmas Season filled with the wonder of our Lord's birth, and the peace and joy that comes from the knowledge of Emmanuel, God-with-us! May the family traditions, the moments we share, and the memories we create, remind us all of God's everabiding Presence in the gift of His Son, the Christ-child.

As we celebrate the birth of the Christ-child, may we experience a rebirth within both our hearts and our parish family and may your New Year be filled with hope, promise and the everlasting joy and peace of the Lord!

May God's abundant graces and blessings continue to be yours!

Ton. Will

Reverend William J. Monahan Pastor

#### Page 3 – December 22, 2024



the Religious Education Center. See Sign-up Genius for ways that you can help.

# Knights of Columbus Chuck Meyrick-Dick Wilson Memorial Men's Coat Drive



The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone for their great contributions in making the coat drive for the homeless a huge success. I wish you could have seen the smiles and heard the thanks we received at St. John's Hospice. I keep coming back to *Matthew 25:40* that says, "What you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me."

#### YOU answered.

Thank you! Lou Penge

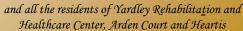


Don Garner, Sr.

Alyssa Adubato Olivia Andrews Ronald Ardenti Alyssa Belardo-Troy Baby Dylan Karl Bahmiller Maureen Barrett Edward Bowden, Sr. Charles Buiocchi Joan Cope Ed Cook Dennis DelGrosso Claudia DiBraccio Christopher Dixon Michael Donahue Jerry Donnell Grant and Noah Elliot Joni Elliot Shanna Fan Daniel Fedejko Roselyn Foulke Fidencio Francis Cathy Fuller

Roger Garceau John Guinter Samantha Rose Haggerty Ed Harkanson Paul Hartmann David Hayes Frank Henniger Zane Helsel Alan Hill Mary Hirsch Mary Ann Holt Ethel Humienny Carly Jacobs Jim Jones Elliott Jacqueline Kay Joseph P. Kirlin, III Theresa Land Beth Lynch Carmen Marchesano John Marcucci

Michael Martin **Butch McCain** Ryan McVan Walter Mitchell **Connie Moredich** Philip Murtaugh Lena O'Brien **Eleanor** Queppet Magda Rueda Baby Grayson Rustay Albert Spicer Louis Stevens Joseph Stracci Abbie Stross Fryderyk Szkutnik John Toler Alfred J. Tomaselli, III Austin Trainor (child) Bridgette Traynor Ignatius Turchi Shelby Wagner Martina Warren David Wood





# Saint John the Evangelist Church

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#### Forty-Ninth Sunday in 2024 Regular Sunday Collection

Regular Sunday Conection	⊅ /,020	U
Parish Giving	5,25	6
Total	\$ 13,08	52

Forty-Ninth Sunday in 2023	
Regular Sunday Collection	\$ 10,282
Parish Giving	<u>4,566</u>
Total	\$ 14,848
YTD Sunday Collection	
(July 1, 2024—Dec. 8, 2024)	\$294,885
Thank you for your	continued

generosity!



### Week of December 22, 2024

Moses Band



#### The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.





#### Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangement

O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie

crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.

# Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?

Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.



Through the generosity of one of our Parishioners, copies of Matthew Kelly's book, 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory, will be available in the vestibule of Church beginning Christmas weekend. Please pick up your free copy and enjoy this extraordinary spiritual guide that will forever change the way you spend time with Jesus in the Eucharist.



Many thanks to our amazing Choir and Praise Band who entertained us with their joyful sounds of the Season under the direction of our Music Director, David Tapp on Sunday, December 8th. A wonderful time was had by all!





# Saint John the Evangelist Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

December is the "O Mary, Conceíved Month of Without Sin, Pray for Us Who Have the Immaculate Recourse to Thee." Conception Virtue of the Month Family Faith Activity of the Month Purity: Keeping your soul free of sin Go to Confession as a family Make a lífe-To God be the Glory This Week's Fact of our Faith Q. On what day was the Son of God saving difference conceived and made man? "Behold, a Vírgín shall this Advent A. The Son of God was conceived and made conceive and bear a son man on Annunciation Day-the day on and shall call his name which the angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she was to be Emmanuel." the Mother of God. We celebrate this day on March 25th 9 Months before Christmas. Is 7:14 **Attention Children** of the Parish Just **3** days until Jesus' Birthday! Color the candles: purple, purple, pink, purple. Be sure to color the flames too. Write down four things you'll do to get ready for His birthday.



193 St. John the Evangelist, Lower Makefield, PA (I)

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