

<u>Parish Office Hours</u> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Thursday & Friday ~ Office Closed

<u>Mass Schedule</u> Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00 p.m. Sunday ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday ~ 9:00 a.m.

<u>Adoration</u> Monday ~ 6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

<u>Confessions</u> Monday ~ 6:10 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. (during Adoration) Friday after 9:00 a.m. Mass & 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

<u>Pastoral Care of the Sick</u> Notify the parish office whenever someone is ill, hospitalized, or homebound, who wishes to receive Communion.

<u>Parish Membership</u> New parishioners are always welcome. Please call the parish office to register.

> <u>Knights of Columbus</u> Council #14329

<u>OCIA (formerly RCIA)</u> Contact Susan Mann

Parish Pastoral Council

Lydia Baylor Colleen Brown Stacy Gerrity Alissa Jacopetti MaryEtta Legarski Anne Logue Keith Kuzio Kevin Mann Sharon O'Malley Jamie Wieder

Our Lady of Lourdes Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday December 15, 2024

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all, for the Lord is near at hand; have no anxiety about anything, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God . Philippians 4:4-6



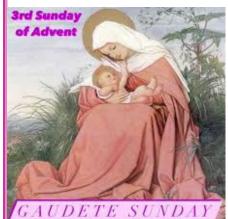
Father Michael S. McCormick Pastor

800 Mulberry Street, Montoursville, PA 17754 (570) 368-8598 Fax: (570) 368-2912 E-mail: parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org Website: www.ourladyoflourdesmontoursville.org

Mission Statement

We are a Christian Community rooted in Word and Sacrament striving to fulfill our Baptismal commitment by following the example and teaching of Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we endeavor to pass on our faith, through the Roman Catholic Tradition, to the next generation, for the greater glory of God through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Philippians 4:4



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy Gaudete Sunday! The day takes its common name from the Latin word *Gaudete* ("Rejoice"), the first word of the opening prayer of this day's Mass. Advent is not a gloomy season, whatever the weather! It does have a penitential aspect as we learn from John the Baptist's message of repentance in this week's Gospel. Despite the traditional use of the same liturgical color as for Lent, Advent is marked by a crescendo of joy.

As the Lord comes nearer and nearer, we become more and more excited.

The rhythm of Advent is well captured by the Advent wreath, which starts with one lighted candle and ends with four. We move from a simple beginning to the glorious fulfillment of God's plan for our lives. Each subsequent candle is a visual reminder of the progression of our faith from the humble manger to the majesty of the Kingdom of God. The Light of Christ begins in our hearts and extends to the four ends of the Earth. What began with a single spark of divinity now fills the hearts of all who come to the Lord.

Therefore, let us rejoice as the name of this 3rd Sunday instructs. Gaudete!

Joyful Blessings to All,

Fr. Michael



Second Collection Next Weekend

This year, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its first public Mass. Over the last century, the National Shrine has celebrated more than 800,000 Masses and more than 7000 Ordinations to the Priesthood, and welcomed the faithful and pilgrims from around the world, including Pope Francis, Pope Benedict XVI, Saint John Paul II, and Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

The National Shrine is neither a cathedral nor a parish church. For the National Shrine to continue to serve almost one million pilgrims each year, the task of updating its aged infrastructure has become a necessity. Your prayerful and financial support will leave a lasting legacy.

On December 22 & 23, our parish will take up a special one-time collection at all Masses to support the renewal project with is underway and essential to 365-day-a-year ministry. You can also give directly online by visiting nationalshrine.org/centennial

Thank you for your generous support to preserve Mary's Shrine for generations to come!

The Week At A Glance

Saturday, December 14

~Fr. Mike's Mother's Birthday (1933-2005) May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen ~Confessions 3:00-3:30 pm

Sunday, December 15

~Religious Education (Grades 1-8) 9:00 am Monday, December 16

~Holy Hour & Confessions 6:00-7:00 pm

Tuesday, December 17 ~<u>NO</u> Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday, December 19

~Christmas Play Rehearsal 6:00 pm



Save the Date:

January 25, 2025 Details to Follow

Faith In Action Giving Tree for the month of December.

Please place your Weis gift card in the envelope provided & place in the box under the Christmas tree by 12/22/24. Please place the activation notice with the gift card or write the amount on the card itself. Thank you for your donation.



Congratulations to the Lomax Family and the Long Family on the Baptisms last Sunday of their precious children:

Emmary Clizabeth Long

&

Abel Justin Lomax

Divine Restorations

If you have an heirloom, a religious statue that you would like restored to its original beauty, Divine Restorations can help you. Please contact Andy Gerrity at:

divinerestorationcontact@gmail.com. Andy and his family are parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes. Please reach out to him for additional information.

Collection Counter Schedule

- Dec 16: Group 1 D. Simms, B. Fry, W. Marshalek
- Dec 23: Group 2 G. Farrington, M. McNamara, C. Everett

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 14 4:00 p.m. Auditori Family (by Norma Stryker) **Sunday, December 15** Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday 8:00 a.m. John & Justine Catino (by Family) 10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish Monday, December 16 9:00 a.m. Isabel Kripp & Lorraine McCormick (By Fr. Mike) Tuesday, December 17 9:00 a.m. David Detamore (by David & JoAnne Mondell) 1:30 p.m. Holy Mother Church (By Romey Fagnano Famiy) at Valley View Wednesday, December 18 9:00 a.m. Frank Lundy (by Ruthanne Crotty) Thursday, December 19 No Mass Friday, December 20 9:00 a.m. Richard Wetzel (by Gloria Gomb & Daughters) Saturday, December 21 St. Peter Canisius 4:00 p.m. James & Helen O'Brien & James Nestlerode (by Jan & Karen Ransdorf) Sunday, December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. James Bender IV (by Aunt Deb) 10:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

"Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund For Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the Next." Sister Teresa Korycka SSMI

Offertory Collections: Weekend of December 8

(Includes on-line contributions)

Loose Offertory Maintenance Utilities & Fuel Christmas Christmas Flowers Religious Education Votives	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$	787.00 7229.00 223.00 22.00 50.00 710.00 1.00 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$	205.00
TOTAL	\$	9232.00
<u>Diocesan Collec</u> Religious Retirement Care and Education of Priests GRAND TOTAL	<u>tions</u> \$ \$ \$	994.00 171.00 10397.00

A Prayer for Life and Freedom

O dear St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery. Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. St. Josephine Bakhita, pray for us. Amen

Prayer List for the Month of November

Dave Bonus, Wendy Bonus, D. Jane Brown, Mark Brumbach, Gayne Campbell, Ann Dorin, Carisa Foulds, Margie Foulds, Cliff Hales, Michael Hook, Janet Jean, Lois O'Malley, Kathleen Maiolo,

Al and Karen Marlett, Jessie McDevitt, Jason Mifsud, Aaron Murray, Mary Shuhler, Jim Wilson, Debbie Winterer





We continue to make progress on this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal. As of December 9th we are at 63.12% with 121 parish families committing \$26,420.00 to support the appeal. We thank everyone who has responded to the appeal to date, and encourage everyone to consider supporting our efforts to have 100 percent participation this year.

Lessons & Carols @ St Joseph the Worker Dec. 15 at 7:00 pm Advent Festival of Music & Carols @ Resurrection in Muncy

Dec. 15th at 7:00pm Ryan Workman. Tenor & Friends Dec. 22nd at 7:00pm Williamsport Flute Choir

End of Year Retreat Sponsored by *Lycoming County Catholic Young Adult Group*, the retreat is on Dec. 21, 2024 at St. Joseph The Worker Parish starting at 8:00 a.m. The topic is "Intimacy with the Holy Spirit". The cost is \$12.00. RSVP by 12/6: HRAINEY65@GMAIL.Com



Advent Reconciliation Services

Immaculate Conception St. Joseph the Worker Holy Child December 15 at 2:00 pm December 18 at 6:30 pm December 22 at 4:00 pm

Pray for Vocations

"The Priesthood is a call, not a career; a redefinition of self, not just a new ministry; a way of life, not a job; a state of being, not just a function; a permanent, lifelong commitment, not a temporary style of service; an identity, not just a role. We are priests; yes, the doing, the ministry, is mighty important, but it flows from the being; we can act like priests, minister as priests, preach as priests, because first and foremost we are priests! Being before act!" Archbishop Timothy Dolan

