

Love Advent

December 18, 2022

St. Rose of Lima Church

5514 Roselawn Avenue • Altoona, PA 16602
(814) 944-8509 • www.stroselima.com

Rectory	814-944-8509
Social Hall	814-942-1323
Maria Parish Center	814-942-7844
St. John the Evangelist Church	814-942-5503

Pastoral Team

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Rev. Carl A. Spishak
Rev. Brian Norris
Deacon James Woomer
Yvonne Gibson
Susan Cossitor
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Becky Reed
Iris Tatar
Linda Wolf
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Director of Liturgical Ministries
Choir Director
Secretary breed@stroselima.com
Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd iristat38@gmail.com
Pastoral Council
Finance Council
Maria Parish Center Manager



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
5:00 PM
7:30 PM
Midnight
Christmas Day
9:00 AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

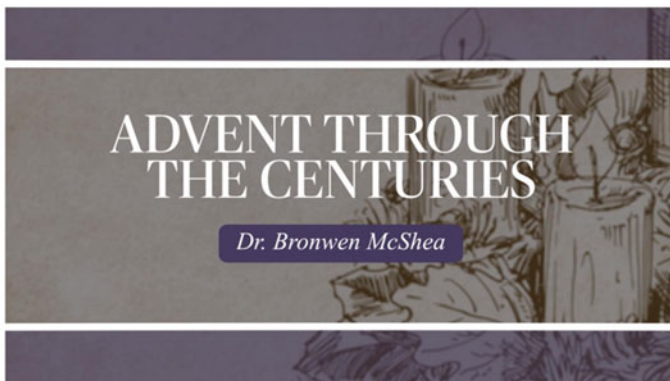
Christmas Mass Schedule - Masses at St. Rose for Christmas will be held at 5pm, 7:30pm and 12 Midnight on Christmas Eve, and at 9am on Christmas morning. Masses for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God on January 1 will be celebrated at the usual weekend times.

Additional Advent Penance Services In The Area – In addition to the Parish Penance Service this Sunday, December 18, at St. John the Evangelist Church at 4:00 PM, Sacred Heart Parish in Altoona will hold their Penance Service on Thursday, December 22, at 5:30 PM.

A Missing Collection - Because Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, we will have one less Sunday collection. We ask that you be especially generous in your support of our parish as we celebrate the birth of the Messiah!

Feast Of The Holy Family - Also because Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, which is usually celebrated on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day, will be celebrated on Friday, December 30th. We hope that you can join us that morning for Mass.

Advent Content on Formed.org – There are many Advent related videos on Formed.org. Advent is a great time to add some personal prayer or study to our days to prepare our hearts for Christ's birth. Check out the two formed videos below. Formed.org also has daily video reflections on the readings of the day. Sign up to have these daily reflections sent to your email at <https://daily.formed.org/>.

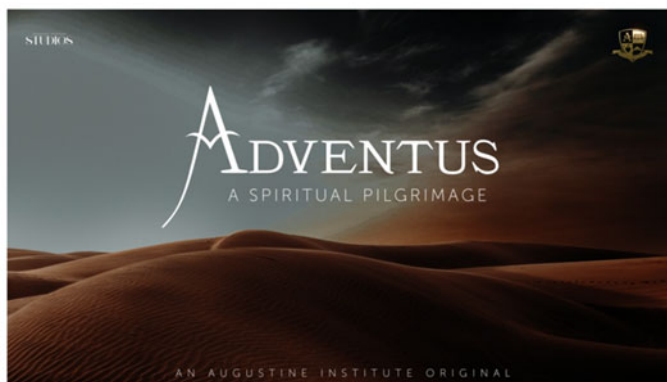


FORMED® | THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

Advent through the Centuries by Dr. Bronwen McShea

Dr. Bronwen McShea, an Associate Professor at the Augustine Institute, shares an exciting and thorough presentation on the celebration of Advent throughout the centuries.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



FORMED® | THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

Adventus: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

This Advent, make a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Uncover the beauty of the place where Christ was born, preparing your heart for Christ's coming so you can enter more deeply into this season.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



Alpha At St. John's - ALPHA will be coming to our parish in January. Alpha is a series of sessions which explore the Christian faith. Each talk looks at a different question and is designed to create conversation. No two Alpha's look the same, but generally it has three key experiences in common: food, a talk and conversation. More information on this program can be found on the third page of this bulletin. Registration information will be included in next week's bulletin.

ANGEL TREE: You are invited to take one of the angels on the table next to the tree in the foyer and write a petition on it. The angel can be placed on the tree so that we can pray for your intention during Advent.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Memorial donations for Christmas flowers should be received in the office by Monday, December 19, to be acknowledged in the December 25 bulletin.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
Wed. December 21 -5:00-6:00 p.m. Pro-Life Rosary



Monday, December 19

8:30 a.m.
†Kirk Kling (*Holy Trinity Middle School*)

Tuesday, December 20

8:30 a.m.
Members of the Altar Rosary Society

Wednesday, December 21 - Memorial of Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:30 a.m.
†Mary Jane & Ronnie Repko, (*Kathryn Seymore*)

Thursday, December 22

8:30 a.m.
†Irene & Ben DeBernardis (*Mike & Cindy Scharbaugh*)

Friday, December 23 - Memorial of Saint John of Kanty, Priest

8:30 a.m.
†Kirk Kling (*Marge Zeak*)

Saturday, December 24 - Vigil of The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

5:00 p.m.
†Lou Bettwy (*Steve, Jen, Matt & Andy Zupon*)
7:30 p.m.
†David & Patricia Schellenberger and Charles & Mildred Brady (*Family*)
12:00 a.m. Nick & Augusta Orsena (*Orsena Family*)

Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

9:00 a.m. †Julia Longo (*Bill Longo*)

St. Rose Liturgy Schedule

Weekends
Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
Weekdays Monday through Friday 8:30 AM
Holy Day Vigil 7:00 PM
Holy Day 8:30 AM and 7:00 PM
Adoration Thursday after 8:30 AM Mass to 10:00 AM
Confessions Saturday at Noon or by appointment

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING

The December 11, 2022 offertory collection totals were unavailable due to an early bulletin deadline and will be included in the December 25 bulletin.

2022 Catholic Ministries Drive

January 1st, 2022 to November 30th, 2022
Goal \$42,716
Gifts/Pledges \$18,847

Renew! Repair! Rejoice!

Payments/Donations \$58,401.94
Pledge Payments committed but not received \$51,248
Total Payments/Pledges/Donations \$109,649.94

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do but offer our lives as a gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph, his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection, and service. Let us imitate St. Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ. We will no doubt find that the more we give ourselves away, the more our generous Father will fill us with His grace and peace. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2022/11/15)



CHRISTMAS MASS

The Adult Choir will offer a music prelude beginning at 11:30 PM for the Christmas Midnight Mass. Selections will be accompanied by brass, woodwind, and percussion.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL: The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child is EMMANUEL, reminding us "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives. *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*



Sunday, Dec. 25: Christmas Vacation - NO CLASS
Sunday, January 1: Christmas Vacation - NO CLASS

Religious Education News Contact Yvonne Gibson for more information - 814-330-2518 - ygibson@dioceseaj.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Deacon Jim's "A Moment with Our Lady"

Saint John Paul II knew the power of the prayer to Mary that can change the course of history and thwart plans for warfare. Leaving Mary in charge was the theme of the Marian Year 1987. The prophetic and luminous gesture of praying for the gift of Pentecost for our world, confronted by the kingdom of Babel, is still important today.

Indeed, we have the responsibility to pass it on to the sentinels of our times—to this amazing generation of young saints that is arising. Let us tell them plainly, borrowing the words of Saint Louis de Montfort to the "apostles of the last times":

It is "by Mary, with her, and in her that Victory will come."

Let's just let go and let Mary be in charge. On our knees, Rosary in hand, let us implore her. Let us trust her. We will then experience the goodness of the Lord!

**December Prayer Intention of Pope Francis
For volunteer not-for-profit organizations**

We pray for volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development; may they find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



St. Rose of Lima Prayer List

It is a Spiritual Work of Mercy to pray for the sick. If you know of someone in the parish who is ill or has passed away and in need of prayers, please call the office (814-944-8509) or email Becky Reed at breed@dioceseaj.org to add their name to the prayer list.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:

- Erma Anthony • Tom Anthony**
Brenda & Nicole • Matilda Capouellez • Farr Family
Frank and Rosemarie Fochler • Ed Garland
Garman Family • Housum Family • Donna Ivory
Kelly Mullegan Kline • Patricia Kraft
Carmie Maniglia • Mike Murphy • Rose Nasralla
Mike Nazaruk & Family • Marie Prorok
Joe and Carole Reilly • Julia Scarfone •
Ann Schreiber • Mareo Washer • Carole Zonfrilli

HOME WITH THE LORD: *Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:*

Jeff Behe

May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

Please respect the person's right to privacy and secure permission before placing a name on the Prayer List.

Readings for the Week of December 18, 2022

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Monday Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday Memorial of Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thursday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Friday Memorial of Saint John of Kanty, Priest

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14; Lk 1:57-66

Saturday 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14 a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29; Lk1:67-79

Sunday The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Mass during the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Mass at Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Mass during the Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14



We are excited to be offering ALPHA at St. John the Evangelist Church on Thursday evenings at 6:00pm beginning January, 19th.

Alpha is an experience which, through a Video presentation and Small Faith Sharing Groups, becomes an engaging way of addressing the basic questions of life for the church and unchurched alike. It presents the Gospel message with clarity and with a power that empowers those who participate.

Alpha invites Christians to stand alongside of others who have a passion for leading people into a deepened relationship with Christ and connecting the unconnected to their faith once again. Alpha is an encounter which opens the heart to grasping the meaning anew of what it means to be loved by God and desire to be in a deep and intimate relationship with Him. Many people lives have been transformed through the Alpha Course, simply because it opens their hearts, eyes, and ears to the riches of the gift of our faith.

Registration forms and information will be inserted next week's bulletin along with the Alpha Schedule. Do take a moment to pray and discern if Alpha could be a way for you personally to become a stronger believer with renewed passion for God and for the Church.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEXT WEEK

Saturday, December 24 5:00 PM

John Donley *Lector*

Joseph Maschue *Lector*

Theresa Knob *Eucharistic Minister*

Karen McGraw *Eucharistic Minister*

Saturday, December 24 7:30 PM

Charles Wolf *Lector*

Linda Wolf *Lector*

Volunteers Needed *Eucharistic Minister*

Saturday, December 24 12 Midnight

Patrick Labriola *Lector*

Volunteer Needed *Lector*

Terrance Heiss *Eucharistic Minister*

Sunday, December 25 9:00 AM

Helen Mirinda *Lector*

Ross Talarigo *Lector*

Volunteers Needed *Eucharistic Minister*

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CONTINUES WITH ITS HOMELESS SUPPORT PROGRAM:

The St. Rose of Lima St Vincent de Paul Conference continued with its Homeless Support Program with a collection of hooded sweatshirts for use by Family Services in their homeless/needy programs. Through the month of November Parish members from St Rose and St John donated slightly worn and new hooded sweatshirts towards this worthy cause. St Pat's also participated in the Hoodies program, but their collection ran through the middle of December. A total of 216 sweatshirts, along with numerous hats/beanies, scarfs and gloves were delivered to Family Services by the Conference. You can visit our website at strosesvdp.org to see a picture of our Conference in action.

Dan Weaver, St. Rose Conference president, said, "The members of the St. Rose of Lima SVDP Conference would like to say thank you to all the parish members who donated to this noble cause. When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor. God Bless You All!"

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINE: Information for the January 1 bulletin is due Thursday, December 22.

PROCLAIM! CHRISTMAS TV SHOW & MAGAZINE:

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Proclaim! TV Christmas special Joy to the World – Christmas in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will air on Sunday, December 18 at 5:00 p.m. on WATM ABC 23 and on Christmas morning, December 25, at 9:00 a.m. on WATM ABC 23. The one-hour show will include stories that highlight the spirituality, traditions, beauty, and merriment of Christmas throughout the diocese. The show will also feature beautiful Christmas music from parish and Catholic school musicians, and – new this year – a Priest Choir.

St. Rose of Lima's St. Vincent de Paul Conference Weekly Reflection for December 18: Fourth Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like him: more humble, more holy, more happy and more full of God.

Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helped those who are poor and suffering to find Emmanuel and they also came to know that "God is with us."

If you know of someone in need, please visit our website (<http://strosesvdp.org>) to inform us of their situation. We will do our best to help out in any way we can. We encourage all parishioners to use our website to help us help those in need. Thank you!

ANGEL FUND OUTREACH: This year we are collecting \$13 per family or \$9 for an individual student in an envelope marked ANGEL FUND OUTREACH or Gift Cards. You may bring your envelope to Sunday's class, the rectory or place it in the Sunday Collection Basket marked Angel FUND Outreach. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. Please contact Yvonne Gibson with any questions or concerns, at 814-944-8509 rectory, 814-330-2518 cell.

God Bless You, Yvonne Gibson, DRE
Please be generous.

This is the only Christmas these children will have.

NATIVITY FESTIVAL: The first ever St. Mary & St. Michael Nativity Festival will be held in the St. Mary social hall (312 Clark St- Hollidaysburg) on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 3 PM to 7 PM and on Sunday, December 18 from 8:30 Am - 6 PM. This festival encourages attendees to reflect on the humble birth and life of Jesus Christ, our Savior, and is a two-day, self-guided, FREE public event. It will feature magnificently crafted nativity sets, including the historic nativity sets from both parishes. Loaned by parishioners and friends, these works reflect the culture and perspective of artists around the world. This amazing event for the whole family includes a free Christmas Concert by the Altoona Community Band which will be held in St. Mary Church at 3:00 PM on Sunday, Dec. 18.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BASILICA: Please join us on Tuesday, December 27 at 6 PM in Loretto, for a concert featuring the Saint Michael Children's Choir and the Basilica Choir, singing favorite Christmas Carols and the music of John Rutter! Enjoy the music and the beauty of our basilica during the Christmas Season!