

THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. William F. Glosser, V.F., M.A., M.Div.

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Saint Clair, PA 17970

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Assumption BVM School 570-622-0106

Nativity BVM High School 570-622-8110

Immaculate Conception Hall 570-429-0302

Saint Joseph Center for Special Learning <https://stjosephctr.com>



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
December 31, 2023

MASS TIMES

(Please check bulletin for changes)

Saturdays: 4:00 PM @ St. Clare
5:30 PM @ Holy Cross
Sundays: 8:30 AM @ St. Clare
10:45 AM @ Holy Cross
Tuesdays: 6:00 PM @ Holy Cross
Wednesdays: 8:30AM @ Holy Cross
Thursdays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare
Fridays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Prospective parents are expected to attend an instruction session. Please call the parish office to make arrangements and schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Preparations should be made one year in advance to schedule and plan your wedding.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

PREP/CCD classes are offered for our public grade school children. Classes are held Wednesday evenings 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Parish registration is recommended for all individual persons and families who worship regularly and who intend to participate actively in the life of our parish by sharing their time, talents and treasure. Registration is necessary for celebrating Marriage and Baptism, as well as for the issuing of Sponsor Certificates.

Director of Religious Education Dorothy Frie

Parish Religious Education Website stcstsprep.weebly.com

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Mrs. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, MCC, LPC Direct: 1-800-791-9209

Secretary for Youth Protection Pamela Russo, MSW, MS
1-610-871-5200 Ext 2204 prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 1-800-276-1562

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A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly ~ Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph ~ December 31, 2023

"The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child... And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."

As the year draws to a close, it is customary to review the events of the prior twelve months. Disasters like war, wild fires and political indictments jump from the headlines. The crowning of a king, the gathering of millions for World Youth Day, mark special positive celebrations.

May we return to this past week when we celebrated the Incarnation, the birth of Jesus as our Savior and Redeemer as we begin a new year.

Like Mary, we reflect prayerfully on the many sacred events of 2023, and take the gift of Jesus Christ into 2024. For many Christmas is over, but for believers the presence of God with us, Emmanuel, is so important.

As we greet others for the new year, may we be like the shepherds, and make known the message we have heard and experience, the love of the Holy Family in our own hearts and homes.

Our Parish as a School of Prayer

Monday, January 1, 2024

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 9:00 AM

People of the Parish

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 6:00 PM

Michael Baddick

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 8:30 AM

Joseph J. Tarconish

Thursday, January 4, 2024

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Clare of Assisi Church @ 8:00 AM

William Kalymun, Jr.

Friday, January 5, 2024

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

St. Clare of Assisi Church @ 8:00 AM

John Plachko

Saturday, January 6, 2024

Vigil for The Epiphany of the Lord

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 4:00 PM

Jeff Tohill

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 5:30 PM

Joe Tkach

Sunday, January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:30 AM

Michael & Helen Dudash

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 10:45 AM

Leo & Eva Stanus

New Year's MASS SCHEDULE

The Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary, January 1st is **NOT** a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be no vigil Masses on Sunday, December 31st.

New Year's Day 9:00 AM Holy Cross



St. Clare of Assisi does have a handicap lift accessible from Mill Street with an attendant for all weekend Masses.



Eucharistic Devotion

Second Monday in January at St. Clare from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM
(January 8th)

Tuesdays - Holy Cross following 6:00 PM Mass to 7 PM.

Fridays - St. Clare following 8:00 AM Mass until 10:30 AM.

From the Pastor's Desk

When Jesus was born into the world, he was born into a family. Today we celebrate the Holy Family, a model for us all to emulate. Do we love and respect our children as Joseph and Mary did their Son? Do we love and honor our parents as Jesus did His own? Do we nurture the bonds in our family as the Holy Family did? On this final day of the year, let us resolve to pray to the Holy Family for guidance and support, as we look to them for inspiration.

Thank You from Father Bill

Father Bill wishes to express his thanks to those who remembered him at Christmastime. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Second Collection

This week's second collection will be for the Building Fund. Next week's second collection will be for the Heat and Energy.

Winter has arrived

Please note that in the event of inclement weather, that delays or cancels schools and other public activities, the parishes will do the same. In the event of a school delay for the Pottsville or St. Clair School District, Mass will be delayed the same length of time. In the event of cancellation for the school districts, Mass will also be cancelled.

Please note one should be concerned about driving conditions and their safety. It is not a sin to miss

Mass because of snowy or icy weather. It is better to be safe. In the event of weather over the weekend, Father Bill will do his very best to make it for all Sunday Masses, however if he feels the roads are not safe for his driving there will be no Mass at New Philadelphia.

Mass Attendance and Collection Report for December 24 is not available due to the printing deadline.

Mass Attendance for December 17, 2023	
4:00 PM at SCA	171
5:30 PM at HC	83
8:30 AM at SCA	135
10:45 AM at HC	160

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	Week of 12/17/2023
Contributions - Sunday Envelope	\$ 4,793
Contributions - Other Sunday Giving	\$ 267
Total Plate	\$ 5,060
Needed to meet Church Budget	\$ 5,673
Total Contributions	\$ 132,413
YTD Budget to now	\$ 141,825
Total Over (Under) Budget	\$ (9,412)
OTHER COLLECTIONS	
Building Fund	\$ 107
Candles	\$ 34
Heat & Energy	\$ 485
Cemetery	\$ -0-



PIEROGI SCHOOL BEGINS

We will begin making pierogies for Lent
Monday, January 15th – Peelers
Wednesday, January 17th – Makers/Pinchers
9:00 AM

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH HOLY CROSS PARISH

February 17 Confirmation Retreat @ Nativity
10:00 AM – 2:30 PM

March 3 Breakfast at ICC Hall 8:00 AM –
11:30 AM

March 16 1st Penance SCA & HC @ St. Clare of
Assisi @ 10:00 AM

April 14 Meat Bingo to benefit SCA held at St.
Clair Lions Club

April 25 Confirmation @ 4:30

April 28 1st Communion at SCA 10:45 AM

May 5 1st Communion at HC 10:45 AM

June 10 – 13 1st week of Boot Camp
June 24 – 27 2nd week of Boot Camp

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED

Are you interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister? We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers to provide Communion to local nursing homes. Training will be provided. If interested please notify the rectory.



**Altar Server Mass - Saturday, April 13th
2024
11:00 AM - Cathedral Church of St.
Catharine of Siena, Allentown**

All altar servers throughout the diocese are invited to attend this special Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert. This Mass is to bless and thank all those

serving in this important ministry. Participants are invited to bring and vest in their parish's altar server robes. A reception for altar servers and their families will be held after the Mass.



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Calling all children (Age Groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14)

Put your artistic abilities to good work by participating in the St. John Neumann Regional Knight of Columbus Council ***“Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest.***

Here are the Rules

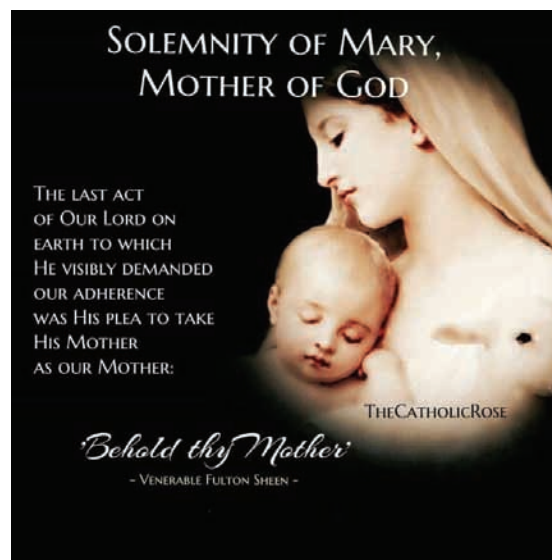
1. ***Children can find blank poster paper in the rear of both Parishes.***
2. ***The contest is open to ALL Children of St. Clare of Assisi and Holy Cross Parishes. “KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS” must be on the front of the poster.***
3. ***Don't forget to also place on the back of the poster – your NAME & AGE, your phone number, and what parish you belong to.***
4. ***Posters can be dropped off at either rectory no later than January 7th.***



82 years ago – 1941

Strange, isn't it, that in this year of 1941, a modern, wideawake borough like New Philadelphia should

be compelled to pass an ordinance to keep cows off the town streets? Remember way back 20 years ago when it was not at all uncommon to see cows on the main streets of Minersville, Saint Clair, Branchdale and most towns of the coal region?



What does the Solemnity of Mary celebrate?

It is fitting to honor Mary as Mother of Jesus, following the birth of Christ. When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, we are not only honoring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human.

NATIVITY HAPPENINGS

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jennifer Daubert in the Development Office with any enrollment questions.

Open House and Registration: Registration for the 2024-2025 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the school. Faculty, staff, administration and coaches will be available to answer questions. Tours of the school will be given and tuition assistance drawings will be available that afternoon for those who register. Please contact Jennifer Daubert at 570-622-8110 with any questions.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

St. Clair Ecumenical Food Pantry

Holy Apostles Church is assuming the responsibilities for the distribution of non-perishable food items once a month. There will be a collection box on the front porch of our rectory for any parishioner wishing to donate a canned good or non-perishable food item.

PLEASE NO EXPIRED FOOD ITEMS.

St Clair Community & Historical Society's
Entry in the Schuylkill County Historical
Society Christmas Tree contest.
(570) 622-7540



TREE'S THEME

Wednesday – Friday:
10 AM – 4 PM
Saturday: 10 AM – 2 PM

No Saturday Hours in
January or February

Each vote is \$1
donation
If you stop in to vote,
put your car flashers
on, this way you have
15 minutes of free
parking.

\$1 donation = 1 vote
Remember all monies come
back to SCCHS at the end of
the contest.

***We are currently
in the lead!***

St. Clair Historical Society's Christmas Tree Entry

Stop by the Schuylkill County Historical Society at 305 N. Centre St. Pottsville to **VOTE** for St. Clair's Historical Society's Christmas Tree Entry.

Cast your ballot for the themed tree ***Churches of St. Clair.*** Voting ends January 10th. Each vote is \$1.00 and multiple ballots can be entered on Wednesday thru Friday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM and Saturday from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.



Join Our Team as a Case Manager in Schuylkill County

Help make a difference in people's lives!

Scan for more information or
send a letter of interest to



catholiccharities@allentowndiocese.org

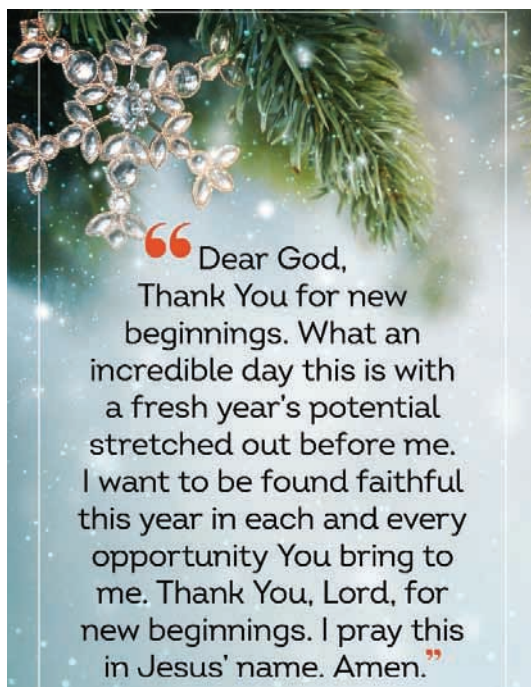


CATHOLIC CHARITIES
DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

COMPASSION | SERVICE | HOPE

Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Allentown is revitalizing its services to Schuylkill County. These services include assistance to our Veterans, the Soup Kitchen in Pottsville, the needs of the young and expectant mothers, the care of infants and toddlers, adoption and foster care services as well as counseling services. With the impetus of Bishop Schlert Schuylkill County has received a Van to provide services without walls and is in the process of outfitting a food truck to provide hot meals to people in need in parts of the County not serviced by the Pottsville Soup Kitchen.

The Schuylkill office of Catholic Charities is in need of a case manager and volunteers to drive and help distribute hot meals to County residents. They hope to have this service up and running by Easter. Now is the time to gather a cadre of volunteers. Contact Schuylkill Service Office at 570-628-0466.





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