

December 25, 2022 • Christmas

*And suddenly there was a multitude
of the heavenly host with the angel,
praising God and saying:*

**“GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST.”**

Luke 2:13-14



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LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass

Saturday: **5:00 p.m.** at St. Ann's in Marienville
Sunday: **8:30 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** at St. Mary's in Crown

Confessions

Saturday: 4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. at St. Ann's in Marienville
1st Sunday of the Month: 10:30am at St. Mary's in Crown

Weekday Mass

M, Tu, W, F: 8:30 a.m. at St. Mary's in Crown
Th: 7:00 p.m. at St. Ann's in Marienville

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

M, Tu, W, F: 7:30 a.m. - 8:20 a.m. at St. Mary's in Crown

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Please notify the parish if a family member or parishioner is hospitalized, recovering at home, or in a nursing home. Visitation, Communion, and/or the Anointing of the Sick will be made available to them.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

A joyful occasion for the whole parish. Parents must be registered and active members. Classes are required. Please call St. Mary's Church Office for arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Diocesan Common Policy requires at least six months advance notification before any plans are made to allow time for evaluation and sacramental preparation.

REMEMBER ST. MARY/ST. ANN IN YOUR WILL

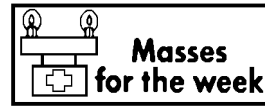
"I give and bequeath to St. Mary Parish and/or St. Ann Mission, 117 Lencer Dr, Leeper, PA 16233, the sum of _____ dollars, real estate, and/or stock for the purpose of assisting St. Mary Parish and/or St. Ann Mission in furthering the work of the Church."

We welcome all new parish families and visitors to Saint Mary Church and St. Ann Mission.
Please reach out to our Parish Office at (814) 744-9919 to register or go online at
www.stmarycrown.com

As a parish member of Saint Mary Church or St. Ann Mission,
you are actively supporting our Community with your time, talent, and resources.

**Christmas Day
December 25, 2022**

Let those who never loved before,
love now:
Let those who always loved,
love the more.
—Anonymous



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From the Desk of Father James

Dear Parishioners,

Merry Christmas! For the past four weeks we have been spiritually preparing ourselves for this great feast. Now it is upon us and we can celebrate. Despite the difficulties and challenges that may assail us in this life, we can rejoice that God so loved us that he chose to be born among us. And it was not a birth in a palace or a castle or a mansion. It was a birth in a stable in the insignificant town of Bethlehem. Come let us adore him!

While we celebrate this feast with cookies and carols, we frequently hear the story of his birth as presented in the Gospels of St. Luke and St. Matthew. But one of the most moving lines from scripture concerning the birth of the Christ is from the Gospel of St. John: "The world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him." (John 1:10-11). While the infant Jesus may have been loved by Mary and Joseph, honored by the shepherds, and adored by the magi, most of the people to whom he came did not give a welcome to this child.

This Christmas, may we have the courage to give him the welcome that he did not receive at his first coming. May we love him in our brothers and sisters who experience hatred, honor him in those who are treated with contempt, and adore him in those who are frequently cast aside.

May God bless you, and may you have a Merry Christmas.

Fr. James

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Ann Church — Saturday at 4:15 p.m.
St. Mary Church—First Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m.

Saturday, December 24, 2022

SCI—All Souls Remembrance

M:5:00 p.m. Peg Andring
By St. Ann Women's Club

C: 7:30 p.m. George Karg Sr.
By The Bogel Family

Sunday, December 25, 2022

Christmas Day

C:8:30 a.m. All Parishioners

Monday, December 26, 2022

C:8:30 a.m. Fred Zacherl
By Nancy Zacherl Family

Tuesday, December 27, 2022

C:8:30 a.m. John R. Grumbaugh
By Rene Grumbaugh

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

C:8:30 a.m. Howard & Regina Staub
By Michele Schrecengost-Kibbey

Thursday, December 29, 2022

M:7:00 p.m. Elizabeth Hart
By John & Bobbi Donnick

Friday, December 30, 2022

C:8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Grumbaugh &
Inesso Families
By Rene Grumbaugh

Saturday, December 31, 2022

M:5:00 p.m. Max & Bonnie Gill
By Elizabeth Gill

Sunday, January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

C:8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Christopher &
Julia Karg Family
By The Bogel Family

C:11:00 a.m. All Parishioners

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

New Year's Day

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULES

Lector: December 31, 2022 and January 1, 2023

M:5:00 p.m. Lissie

C: 8:30 a.m. Ed

C:11:00 a.m. Bill

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

December 31, 2022 and January 1, 2023

M:5:00 p.m. Jane

C:8:30 a.m. Dan & Linda

C:11:00 a.m. Pam

Collection Counters

January 1, 2023

Henry, Taty, Walt, Dode

Weekly Collections

December 11, 2022 \$3,300.00
Feast of Immaculate Conception \$ 524.00

JANUARY LOTTERY TICKETS

This is such an important fundraiser for our parish. At \$20 each, they make wonderful, easy-to-give Christmas presents for workmates, family and friends! If you need more tickets, they are in the back of the church and in the Parish Office. Please return sold tickets, complete with full address and telephone number, and money by **December 30** in an envelope marked "Lottery Tickets" and your name. Unused tickets should be turned in to the Parish Office. Please do not throw them away.

Know the Warning Signs of a Predator: Perpetrators are not waiting on the street to snatch kids; only 10% of sexually abused children are abused by strangers. 90% are abused by someone known and trusted by the child/child's family. Perpetrators integrate themselves into everyone's life, not just the child. They build relationships so that they are trusted to be alone with the child. One of the most important ways to ensure the safety of children in our environments is to know the warning signs of adults who present a risk of harm to children. Among these signs are when the person (1) always wants to be alone with a child in areas where no one can monitor the interactions, (2) allows a child to do things their parents would not permit, (3) is always more excited to be with children than with adults, and (4) discourages others from participating in activities involving kids. Visit www.eriecd.org/childprotection/ for more information and resources.

REPORTING EMAIL/PHONE SCAMS

Online criminals will often search church bulletins to look for email addresses and phone numbers of potential victims. They will then create an email account with which they will fraudulently impersonate the pastor of the church or some other church employee. If you get an email or text from someone claiming to be Fr. James or another representative of the parish, and that email or text asks for gift cards or personal information, please forward it to Fr. James's real email account so that he can report it to the authorities. His real email address is JPower@ErieRCD.org.

Bulletin Announcements: Any information for the bulletin **MUST** be written and in the church office by noon on Friday, a week before the date to be published due to printer schedules.

ROSARY

You are invited to pray the Rosary before 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Ann's Church. All are welcome to attend.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal 2022

To date 93 families have responded with pledges totaling \$39,870.00. Every dollar over our goal remains in our Parish. Our Parish goal is \$22,193.00 for 2022. Total paid to date is \$37,265.00, leaving a balance of \$2,605.00. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

REMINDER: The Parish Council will not meet in January.

St. Ann's Women's Club Meetings

December – no meeting
January – Christmas Party Jan 7th
February – no meeting
March – Thursday, March 9th – 5:30 p.m.

St. Ann's Christmas party will be held January 7, 2023 after Mass. Everyone is invited to attend. Chicken, bread, beverage and table service will be provided. Please bring a tureen or dessert to share and enjoy an evening of good food and socializing with family and friends. There is an optional \$15.00 gift exchange. If you choose to participate, please mark your gift for a "man" or "woman".

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GUN RAFFLE

1st Ruger 450 Bushmaster or \$400.00 Cash
2nd CZ 12 Gauge Mag. Turkey Gun with Camo or \$350.00 Cash
3rd Killer Instinct Fatal X Crossbow or \$300.00 Cash
Prizes must be picked up within 90 days or forfeited
Drawing occurs when 300 tickets are sold
\$10 each

Knights of Columbus will meet Monday, January 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Stutz Hall.

This Week's Sponsor

Ochs Building Supply
Lucinda, PA
814-226-7334

Please support our sponsors!!!

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

In celebration of our parish's 175th anniversary we will be compiling and publishing a "History of the Parish." This book is going to contain your memories of our parish. Please write down a story that you would like to share. We would like a big variety of stories, from funny ones, to interesting ones, to moving ones. They can be as short or long as you like (if they are edited before publication, we will ask your permission). Please email your story to JPower@ErieRCD.org or drop them off at the office. The deadline is January 31.

. Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 26.

CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

Prayer at the Manger: With the Shepherds
Your Good News was sung by angels
to these lowly ones in the night.
Look on us in our lowliness.
Let us rejoice in the glad tidings of Christ,
now and forever. Amen.



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Marienville/North Clarion Food Pantry:

Items needed are: cake mix, boxed stuffing, boxed dinners, boxed potatoes, jello, pudding, evaporated milk, dry pasta, muffin or quick bread mixes, canned pumpkin, spray spic and span, and dish soap.

Please remember monetary donations are always welcome. Checks are to be made payable to the Marienville Methodist Church – in the memo write: Marienville/North Clarion Food Bank. Mail checks to the Marienville Methodist Church, PO Box 281, Marienville, Pa. 16239. Your generosity helps families in our community. Please no expired food

The Marienville Food Pantry Needs You!

We are looking to increase our volunteer roster. If you can assist in this vital ministry, contact Rev. Heidi Helsel at (724) 420-4420 or hrevmom@gmail.com. Thank you for your prayers and support.

WINTER BOOK STUDY

The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth

Do you want to learn more about the Catholic Faith? Sign-up for our winter book study. We will be using *The Lamb's Supper: The Mass as Heaven on Earth*, by Scott Hahn, internationally recognized scripture scholar and a convert to the Catholic faith. His engaging writing style and insightful perspective makes this book on the Mass a very enjoyable read.

Meetings will be held every Sunday at 3pm from January 15 to February 26. Register by January 8 by emailing Fr. James at JPower@ErieRCD.org or by calling the parish office at (814) 744-9919. A \$15 donation is suggested to cover the cost of the book.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH

Christmas Time

The feasts that make up Christmas Time all illuminate in their own way the fundamental mystery of the Incarnation that stands at the heart of this sacred season. Each celebration sheds its own distinct light on our conviction that, in the birth of Jesus, earth and heaven have been wedded together for the sake of our salvation. The feasts of the Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God, Epiphany, and the Baptism of the Lord all have their own particular histories. But they have been joined together in a single seasonal flow that invites us to trace the unfolding meanings of the Incarnation from myriad perspectives. As we follow the successive meanings of Jesus' birth, his participation in family life, the meaning of Mary's motherhood, the significance of the Magi's visit, and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, we are invited to explore in deeper and deeper fashion the staggering truth that Jesus has shared completely in our human experience, has truly become one with us, fully human while remaining fully divine.

CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

If you, or someone you know, is considering becoming Catholic, please contact Fr. James. You can catch him after Mass or reach him by phone (814 744-9919) or by email (JPower@ErieRCD.org).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Monday: St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins
 Tuesday: St. John
 Wednesday: The Holy Innocents
 Thursday: St. Thomas Becket;
 Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity
 of the Lord
 Friday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
 Saturday: St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve
 Seventh Day within the Octave of the
 Nativity of the Lord

WHAT ALL THE WAITING HAS BEEN FOR
 Today's readings are as familiar to most of us as the carols we sing and the commercials that overwhelm this holiday season. Often Christmas finds us tired, struggling with preparations and expectations. What we really want to feel is joy and peace. The stress of preparation, of waiting, is reflected in both Isaiah and Paul's letter to Titus. Luke tells us of the exhaustion that Mary and Joseph felt: a young pregnant wife and her husband, forced to travel just as she is about to give birth, unable even to find a room to stay in. It must have been miserable. They must have been afraid. In the midst of this exhaustion, misery, and fear, a child is born, a Son is given. The world is then filled with light and hope, joy and peace. In that moment they, and we, know what all the waiting has been for.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



December	26	Charmaine Calfo Delores Lencer
December	28	Kay Seigworth
December	29	Carter McLaughlin
December	30	Donald Cyphert
January	1	Alex Lencer Brittany Parrett



December	29	Bob & Teresa Wolfgang
December	31	Rod & Rita Hartle Ken & Darlene Flick

*Suddenly there was a multitude
 of the heavenly host with the angel,
 praising God and saying:*

"Glory to

God

in the highest."

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