

Hope Advent



Around the Parish DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

2024

Jesus is Near

Here we are on the First Sunday of Advent, where we anticipate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The first reading makes it clear that this was a major event. Think about the context for a second. For years and years the Jewish people had been promised a messiah. They had been waiting for the promises that were made to Israel and Judah to come to fruition. Finally, the time had come. This event will impact everything. The Church, in her wisdom, sets apart this holy season for us to anticipate the Messiah. For us to set aside what we are doing, the worries we have, the business of life, and really enter into this mystery.

No matter how much we enter into it though, at the end of the day, we all know that Jesus has already come. He has already been born and has become our Savior. This is why the Church also presents us with the Gospel today. You might find it weird that the Gospel at the start of Advent speaks of the end times. There is a reason for everything the Church does. Advent is not just a time for us to reflect on the birth of Christ, but also to anticipate the other important moment in history where Christ will come again. The question is, are we ready? Do we put just as much time and planning into making sure our relationship with God is where it should be as we put into decorating for Christmas or buying the perfect gift?

This is what the Advent season allows us to do. It allows us to pause our busy lives and meditate on the beauty of God becoming flesh, while at the same time anticipating His second coming as King of the Universe. During this season let's pray for the grace to always be ready and that we might fully be able to participate in everything the Church has to offer us during this time. Ultimately, if we are in a state of Grace, the second coming is not a scary event but simply the next chapter in our walk with Christ. Let's embrace both of these mysteries throughout this next month and allow God to enter into our hearts and change us so that when He does come again he recognizes us as his good and faithful servants.

By Tommy Shultz



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.

MAY THE SOULS OF OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Dolores M. Stafford 11/3/2024

David Michael Forester 11/7/2024

THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THEREFORE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST
HAS WELCOMED YOU, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.

Rom(15:7)

Claudy and Marie Edith Merisier, and niece Christy
Kensly Voltime

December 2024 LECTOR SCHEDULE

Nov. 30/1	1st Sunday of Advent	Dec. 7/8	2nd Sunday of Advent
5:00 PM	Karen Piraino	5:00 PM	Sandy Wrable
7:30 AM	Beth Tharp	7:30 AM	Vince Moffitt
9:30 AM	Mary Ann Kase	9:30 AM	Mike Gallagher
11:15 AM	Patricia Ann Kos	11:15 AM	Bill Wellock
Dec. 9	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Dec. 14/15	3rd Sunday of Advent
7:00AM	Regina Doyle	5:00 PM	Steve Bell
8:30 AM	School Mass	7:30 AM	JoAnn Schmura
12:10 PM	Denise Mogel	9:30 AM	Karen Piraino
7:00PM	Joe Tharp	11:15 AM	Mary Ann Kelly
Dec.21/22	4th Sunday of Advent	Dec. 24/25	Nativity of the Lord
5:00 PM	John Gleason	5:00 PM	Kathleen Nevel
7:30 AM	Dean Reber	10:00 PM	John Sylvester
9:30 AM	Lori Anewalt	7:30 AM	Mike Gallagher
11:15 AM	Patricia Ann Kos	9:30 AM	Lou Sutherland
Dec. 28/29	Holy Family of Jesus , Mary , and Joseph	Dec 31/1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
5:00 PM	Lou Sutherland	5:15 PM	Regina Doyle
7:30 AM	Karen Piraino	8:00 AM	Beth Tharp
9:30 AM	Mary Ann Kase	11:15 AM	Margaret Hueske
11:15 AM	Joe Tharp		



Why Incense at Mass? The first instance of incense appears over a thousand years before Jesus. It was the major event on Mount Sinai. In Ex 24, God came down as a large cloud over the mountain, with fire, and Moses was called up into the cloud. God did not come down casually with a human face. No one could see him. He was clouded in mystery. Exodus 24:15-18 to read more.

FROM THE HEART CONSIGNMENT

A fun shopping excursion awaits you!

Do some of your Christmas shopping and support the SVDP Society of Sacred Heart Church or donate items to the store and have the proceeds assigned to SVDP account.

Visit their website at:

<https://fromtheheartconsignment.com> For information of what they accept and when. Clothing and Accessories Store, with its many choices and bargains.

Please visit the shop at:

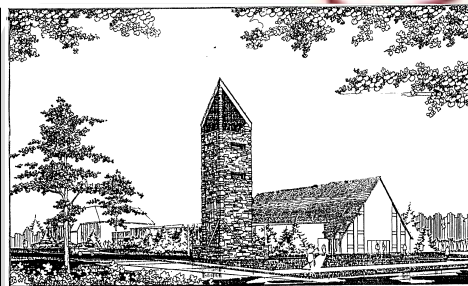
4600 Penn Ave

Sinking Spring, PA 19608



COFFEE & DONUTS

Please join us every
1st & 3rd Sunday
from September- May
December 1st and
15th in the Wachter
Room for fellowship,
coffee, juice, and
donuts: following the
9:30 & 11:15 AM
Masses.



Sacred Heart Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

~CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRACTICE~

Sunday, Dec. 1st 2:00-3:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 8th 2:00-3:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 15th 2:00-3:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 22nd 2:00-3:00 PM

Sacred Heart Church

(parents welcome)

~SHS BAZAAR PREVIEW~

ADULT ONLY

Sacred Heart School Gym

Thursday, December 12th,

6:00-9:00 p.m. \$10 @ Door

~Vigil Mass~

~Children's Christmas Choir~

Sacred Heart Church

Before Mass

Tuesday, December 24th, 4:30 p.m.

~Christmas During the Night Mass ~

Sacred Heart Church

December 24th, at 10:00 p.m.

~Christmas Day Mass~

Sacred Heart Church

December 25th, at 7:30 a.m.,

9:30 a.m., and 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

- **Giving Tuesday is an annual day of giving held on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving.**
- **Giving Tuesday stands in contrast to the traditional days of spending Black Friday and Cyber Monday.**

God loves a cheerful giver

www.osvhub.com/shrcparish/giving

Any support is greatly appreciated

Children's Christmas Choir

ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH ARE INVITED TO BE A PART OF
THE CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION. All practices will be on
Sunday 2-3pm beginning Sunday DEC. 1st. PARENT FRIENDLY

Questions email activity@shrcparish.org

Dear parishioners of Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary:

We want to thank you once again for your involvement with our Coats for Kids Initiative this year. The letter below was sent to our Council, and we wanted to share it with all of you who made this all possible.

November 11, 2024

Mr. Frank Urso, Community Chair

Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066

Dear Mr. Frank Urso,

I am writing this letter to thank you and your organization, The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council #16066, for providing us with the generous donation of the new children's coats you recently purchased from Boscov's. Your contributions help Catholic Charities fulfill its mission to provide compassionate human services with respect for the sanctity of all human life. I just can't believe how thoughtful you all have been year after year.

Because of your hard work and generosity, with your Coats for Kids program, Catholic Charities will be helping young children stay warm in this cold winter weather. We will certainly be handing the coats out to needy families in the coming weeks.

We are sincerely grateful to your organization for providing help and creating hope for the most vulnerable among us.

Sincerely,

Lori McGeehan





Christmas Bazaar Preview Party

**Thursday, December 12th
6:00-9:00pm**

2024



Bazaar Preview Party Highlights:

- Open Bar of Wine & Beer
- Hot & Cold Hors d'oeuvres
- Entertainment by Vuja De!
- Silent Auction items in all price ranges
- Children's Bazaar raffle open
- Live Auction
- BRACES from ROG 



2024 "GIVING TREE" PROJECT



The "Giving Tree" is underway. Our church family is asked to share in the "spirit of giving" that Christmas brings, to help Lifeline of Berks County replenish their pantry which serves mothers, babies, and their families throughout the coming year. Consider how you can share your joy in this holy season. Please choose a tag containing a needed baby item from the "Giving Tree". Bring the new, **UNWRAPPED**, item and place it around the tree. Your generous donation will be sent to Lifeline at the end of the Advent season.



THANK YOU



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

PAYMENT BY ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

Electronic Funds Transfer automatically deducts your pledge from your Checking/Savings/Money Market account. Information must be completed to give electronically to the campaign.

I authorize Sacred Heart Parish to automatically withdraw
my contributions from my: ☐ Checking ☐ Savings/Money Market.
Please withdraw \$ _____ on the _____ of each month.

This authority will begin _____ (month/year) and will end _____ (month/year).
I understand I can stop the electronic pledging by notifying my financial institution or Sacred Heart Parish.

Routing# _____ Checking Acct.# _____ Savings Acct.# _____
SIGNATURE for EFT Authorization _____ Date _____

PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

Credit Card (☐ one time ☐ monthly) ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Donor's name as appears on Credit Card _____

Your Daytime Phone No. (required) _____

Credit Card # _____ Security Code ____ Exp. Date _____

Please charge my credit card monthly for \$ _____ beginning _____ (month/year) and ending _____ (month/year).

SIGNATURE for Credit Card Authorization _____ Date _____

Credit Card Billing Address (if different) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAYMENT BY CHECK

Make checks payable to **Sacred Heart Catholic Education Endowment Fund.**

Send to: **Sacred Heart Parish, PO Box 6217, Reading, PA 19610-0217**

Check Number: _____ ☐ Enclosed



www.shrcparish.org • 610-372-4010 OR www.sacredheartreading.com • 610-373-3316

SACRED HEART PARISH WISH LIST

The parochial staff of Sacred Heart Church & School are grateful for the enormous amount of support we receive from the members of our parish. While our operations budget accounts for typical day-to-day expenses, there are some items that are not covered. We work hard to preserve our resources and often utilize them beyond their useful life span. Thank you for considering a monetary donation for one or more of the items listed.

• **Phase 1 of church lighting project** – upgrade light control panel in church to accommodate LED bulbs & purchase LED fixtures. Approximate cost: \$50,000-\$70,000

• **Wood/rubber mulch** needed in school tot lot Approximate cost: \$5,000

Other school wishes: new uniforms for those in need;

iPads for students in 6-8th grade;

donation for Student Council activities held through out the school year

• Additional donations needed for

church & school security Total estimated cost = \$17,765 Amount currently raised = \$3,000

Monetary donations to purchase items for parish use may be tax deductible. Please use this form to select the items you would like to be covered by your monetary contribution.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Children's Christmas Choir

"COME, LET US ADORE HIM"

CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

**ALL ARE WELCOME AND INVITED TO BE A
PART OF THE**

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION

Practice will be 2:00-3:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND