

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 3, 2023

Sacred Heart Parish

Partnering Parishes Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo (Drexel Hill) and St. Hedwig's Chapel (Chester)

Rev. Msgr. George A. Majoros,
M.Div., M.S., Pastor

Rev. Paul Stenson,
Retired Priest in Residence

Deacon John H. Farrell
Permanent Deacon

Sacred Heart Church
316 East Broadway Avenue
Clifton Heights, PA 19018

Rectory
Phone 610-623-0409
Fax 610-623-2926
E-mail sacredheartchurch@rcn.com
Parish Website:
www.sacredheart-cliftonheights.net

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8:30AM to 3:30PM
Remotely Monday, Wednesday, Friday
In parish office Tuesday and Thursday

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To live and grow as a church in the Roman Catholic tradition by devotion to God in worship, doctrine, ministry, and loving service to each other and to the people entrusted to us.



Sunday Schedule Of Masses

Sacred Heart (Vigil) 4:00PM, 7:30AM
St. Hedwig Chapel 9:15AM (Rosary before Mass)
St. Charles (Vigil) 5:30PM, 10:00AM, 4:00PM

Weekdays Masses 8:30AM

Sacred Heart Mon, Tues, Wed
St. Charles Thurs, Fri, Sat

First Friday at St. Charles Borromeo

3:00PM- Chaplet of Divine Mercy
7:00P.M. – Holy Hour

First Saturday at St. Charles Borromeo

8:30AM Morning Mass
Exposition, Devotions, Confession, Benediction

Flame of Love Holy Hour
St. Charles Borromeo 6:30PM Thursday

Holy Day Masses
St. Charles (Vigils) 4:00PM & 7:00PM, 8:30AM
Sacred Heart 12:00 Noon, 7:00PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation Confession Schedule

Sacred Heart 3:00-3:45PM Saturday

St. Hedwig Chapel 9:00AM Sunday

St. Charles Borromeo 4:30-5:15PM before Vigil,
6:30-7:30PM on the Thursday before 1st Friday

St. Charles Borromeo 9:15-10:00AM on the First
Saturday of the month

Masses For The Week

Sacred Heart Church

4:00PM Matthew Wufsus Of brother, Mark

Sunday, December 3

7:30AM Frances Kaminska Of Family

Monday, December 4

8:30AM Living & Deceased of Sacred Heart

Tuesday, December 5

8:30AM Phillip & Sarah Payne Of Family

Wednesday, December 6

8:30AM John Hart Of Family

Friday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

12:00 Noon Stanislaw Koczot Of sister,

Alexandra Danicki

7:00PM Joseph Kelly, Jr. Of Karl & Ellen Eckman

Saturday, December 9

4:00PM Frank Rizzo, Jr. Of Betty McGehrin & Family

Sunday, December 10

7:30AM Grassa Family Of Grassa Family

St. Hedwig's Chapel

Sunday, December 3

9:15AM Phyllis Of Family

Sunday, December 10

9:15AM Natalie Zoltak Of Zoltak Family



Candles for the Month of December Sacred Heart

Ernesto Lelii & Tina Mori

Thomas McGehrin

Michael Richard Grassa

St. Hedwig

Joseph Bush & Stephen Ruggieri

The Brzezicki Family

Benjamin & Sophie & Henry & Blanche Dychala

Flame of Love Holy Hour



Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30PM at
Saint Charles Borromeo Church All
are welcome to join as we pray for the
intentions of the Immaculate Heart of
Mary.

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Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 2-3

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Stenson

7:30AM Fr. Stenson

St. Hedwig's Chapel

9:15AM Fr. Stenson

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Fr. McGowan

10:00AM Msgr. Majoros

4:00PM Msgr. Majoros



Mass Celebrants Weekend of December 9-10

Sacred Heart

4:00PM Fr. Anderson

7:30AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Hedwig's Chapel

9:15AM Msgr. Majoros

St. Charles Borromeo

5:30PM Msgr. Majoros

10:00AM Fr. Stenson

4:00PM Fr. Stenson



Celebrants Are Subject To Change

Come and See Dates 2023-2024

Come & See events offer men considering a vocation the opportunity to visit the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary to see what seminary life is like and explore a possible call to the priesthood. To register for one or more of these events, and see dates contact Fr. Friel, Vocation Director (fr.dfriel@archphila.org): **High School Men** January 20, 2024, January 21, February 10, February 11, March 9, March 10 **Post High School Men** December 1, December 3, January 26, January 28, February 23, February 25.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary A Holy Day of Obligation



Thursday, December 7, 2023

Vigil Masses

St. Charles Borromeo Church: 4:00P.M. and 7:00P.M.

Friday, December 8, 2023

St. Charles Borromeo Church: 8:30A.M.

Sacred Heart Church: 12:00Noon and 7:00P.M

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Prayerfully consider your Offertory Gift as your act of praise to God for all HE has given you.

Sacred Heart– November 19, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	49	\$2,025.00
Loose		191.00
Total		2,216.00
Loose		152.00
Maintenance		25.00
Thanksgiving		125.00

St. Hedwig - November 19, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	19	\$531.00
Loose		174.00
Total		705.00
Maintenance		2.00
Thanksgiving		100.00

Sacred Heart– November 26, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	36	\$1,041.00
Loose		174.00
Total		1,215.00
Loose		79.00
Thanksgiving		165.00
Christmas Flowers		228.00

St. Hedwig - November 26, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	18	\$630.00
Loose		323.00
Total		953.00
Maintenance		10.00
Christmas Flowers		285.00

Thank you to all who have given so generously
as we struggle to make ends meet .

Annual Stewardship Appeal (Block Collection)

Thank you to all those who have already responded to our Stewardship/Block mailing This Appeal is **most** important for our Parish. Thank you for all the good works you do and for the financial support of your parish

Please prayerfully consider your donation

Winter Lotto ~ January 1, 2024 to Ash Wednesday

Sacred Heart chances are \$25.00 each. You choose a 3-digit number of your liking and watch the evening PA Lottery Drawing to see if you are a winner. These make a great Christmas or Birthday gift! **Thank you for supporting all the fundraisers at Sacred Heart, St. Charles Borromeo and St. Hedwig's Chapel. It is a great help!**

Extra forms in the church vestibule!

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Christian Initiative Preparation "Becoming Catholic" Baptism, Confirmation, First Holy Communion

For more information contact Sr. Theresa Marie
srtheresam@scbdh.org 215-983-9462

Advent Day of Recollection at Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul Saturday, December 10, 2022 9 AM-3:30 PM

Speaker:

Father Matthew Biedrzycki

Theme The Incarnation and the Eucharist

Holy Mass, Lunch, Conference and Holy Hour

215-587-3795 or RSVP to sr.gbraccio@archphila.org

EILEEN GEORGE PRAYER GROUP

Sunday December 10, 2-3PM

at Annunciation BVM Church, 401 Brookline Blvd.,
Havertown, PA. Join us on for a Prayer Group in the spirit of
Eileen George and her "Meet the Father Ministry". We meet
on a monthly basis to pray for specific intentions through
Eileen's intercession, to study and reflect on her teachings,
and to pray for her beatification & canonization.

For more info, visit www.EileenGeorge.org
(<http://www.eileengeorge.org/>).

Questions please call Jeanmarie 610-547-7308

Keep Christ in Christmas

Please join **St. Andrew parishioners** and others for our
3rd Rosary and Christmas carol singing for "Keep Christ
in Christmas" on Saturday, **December 9, 2023**, from
11:00am to 12:00pm on the sidewalk outside the McDon-
ald's at the corner of State Road and Lansdowne Avenue in
Drexel Hill. There is plenty of free parking. We have all
enjoyed this event in the past and have had many positive
remarks from motorists and pedestrians! Come and bring a
friend or two. Rain or shine. Please prepare for the weather.
Questions can be directed to Catherine Makem Stock 610-
299-5107.

Christmas Wafer

Oplatki will be available in the Church Only

\$2.00 per pack

Please see Mark, our sexton, following Mass.

Decorating The Church For Christmas Wednesday, December 13

At 9:30AM

(If there is a funeral we will decorate after the service.)
"Many hands make light work" Thank you!



First Sunday of Advent

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

“Watch” is the key word in the Scriptures for this First Sunday of Advent. Liturgically speaking, this is the equivalent of New Year’s Day for the Church. You and I begin a whole new look at the Life, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord. We will meditate on it against the background of a new calendar year as well, complete with the milieu of the secular world’s story as the background.

We know there are many kinds of watchfulness. We will hear again next summer, for example, the steady recorded voice coming from a wheeled stroller saying over and over again: “Watch the cart please!” Slow vacationers must step aside to allow for passage.

Add to the list the watchfulness and the alert scanning of the night watchman, hired to stay aware of any sound that could come from a break in on the property. Add in the seasonal ditty that tells of the children’s need to “better watch out, better not pout” because someone special is “coming to town.”

But then there is Jesus, here in a deadly serious command to His disciples to “Be watchful! Be alert!” exclamation points given. Why? Because “you do not know when the time will come.”

“What time?” you ask. The end time. The finale of the complicated symphony that has been going on since creation. The crashing stops all the sound and fury of our little lives that is necessary for the renewal of our hearts and minds to live in the promised kingdom Jesus spoke about.

In its own way, Advent marks the beginning of an end and the end of a beginning. How so? By its plea for us to pay more attention than we have been to the fact that this life is not the only one, and that we have a destiny to live elsewhere and forever where “eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the mind of men what God has intended for those who love Him.” That last is the description from one of the Lord’s premier disciples: St. Paul.

But Advent is happily the end of the beginning of our walk with Jesus. We’ve been baptized into His family and we are all His children. So we are not just starting out on the path. We know how to be prepared.

Our Advent watchfulness, then, includes a subtle warning against any complacency settling into our lives. That’s where the purple vestments, symbolic of penance, come into play. To remind us that the best preparation for celebrating Christmas is to do some fasting, some alms giving and plenty of prayer. To “clean up the stable of our souls” to be more ready to receive our Redeemer “wrapped in swaddling clothes.”

Of course, there will always be people who completely misunderstand what it means to be prepared for God’s coming. A certain Mrs. Vandemeer decided to have her portrait painted. She told the artist, “Paint me with diamond earrings, a diamond necklace, an emerald bracelet, and a ruby pendant.” “But,” the artist protested, “you’re not wearing any of those things.” “I know,” said Mrs. Vandemeer. “It’s in case I should die before my husband. I’m sure he’d remarry right away, and I want her to go nuts looking for the jewelry.”

God love you, and give you His peace.

Say the Word

“Who is Jesus?” I asked the little girl. “He died on the cross,” she said. “Do you know why?” I asked, thinking she would say, “because He loves us” or “for our sins.” Instead, she said, “He died because some bad men killed Him, and Mama Mary prayed for Him.” Usually when children talk about praying FOR Jesus, I gently correct them and say that we pray TO Jesus, but in this case, she was right. Mama Mary certainly prayed for Jesus when He was on the cross, and she continues to pray for us, the Mystical Body of Christ, as we suffer today.

As Advent begins, we journey with Mary, rejoicing with her as she was given the wonderful gift of being able to be Jesus’ mother – and ours. She experienced a lot of suffering as she journeyed with Jesus, and as we suffer or see others suffering, we can invite Mary to bring Jesus into that suffering, trusting that there is joy and peace to look forward to, as well.

Prayers for PREP

Mary, Our Mother, one of your titles is “Our Lady of Perpetual Help.” This Advent, I bring all my little (and big) troubles to Jesus living in you. I trust that I will experience your perpetual help, and the joy and peace of knowing Jesus, your Son. Amen.

Dear Parishioners:

On this first Sunday of December, the Church begins a new liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Advent begins this year with Evening Prayer on Saturday, December 2 and ends after Mid-afternoon Prayer on Christmas Eve, December 24.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn (GIRM, no. 346). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Please find the Advent calendar inserted in this bulletin to help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Advent devotions including the **Advent wreath**, reminding us of the meaning of the season. Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple, and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over, and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Pope Francis, at the Angelus, 2018, said, "Advent invites us to a commitment to vigilance, looking beyond ourselves, expanding our mind and heart in order to open ourselves up to the needs of people, of brothers and sisters, and to the desire for a new world." December is a very busy time of preparing, shopping, and visiting. Perhaps, making a conscious effort to carve out time to pray and reflect on the Word of God, will help make the reason for this season shines more clearly through your heart.

Happy Advent!

Monsignor George A. Majoros

Advent Series with Father Paul Stenson



To help your spiritual journey this Advent, Father Stenson will explore the writings of Lisa Piccarreta on Living the Divine Will.

When: Fridays, December 8th-15th-22

Time: 1:30—2:30pm

Where: St. Charles Borromeo Rectory

All are welcome!

Holiday Food Drive at St. Hedwig's

A Special Thank You

To all that donated to the St. Hedwig's Thanksgiving Food Drive. May God continue to bless you and your families for your donations of others in need.

We will count on your generosity once again as we continue accepting donations of non-perishable items for our food drive for **CHRISTMAS**.

Please see Phil or Gina for more details

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