

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The good news is brought to us today by St John the Baptist. To all people who are passionate for God, there is always a tenderness covered in “violence”. (“brood of vipers”, he says). To put it differently, there is always an “apparent violence” in people who live completely in and with God. John the Baptist knows what is inside a human heart (Jeremiah the prophet knows it too, didn’t he say: “The heart of a human being is complicated”? 17,9). It is in regard to this knowledge of a human heart that John the Baptist insists that, instead of him going to the people, they have to come to him. It’s completely the opposite of what is expected of a prophet, that means he goes to the people. No. They have to come to him in the desert. Don’t say to John the Baptist, “I believe in God, but I don’t go to church NOR I was an Altar Server NOR any other excuse”. John the Baptist is a man of here and now. What fruit do you produce? He is saying to us “REPENT”. He knows that every single human being needs repentance. John the Baptist preaches in the desert, the desert of Genesis 1,2, the desert of Exodus, the desert of Hosea (the one where God talks to us in our heart). Yes, desert is the place of conversion, of re-creation. We are created anew when we go through true conversion, metanoia.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

If you haven’t made your reservation or signed up for the party on December 14 at 12pm, please call the church office (570)-563-1622 by Monday December 8th. Volunteers needed for the party clean up at the end of the party. We are grateful for who ever can stay to help clean up.

OLA ADVENT GIVING TREE

Thank you to all who took cards from the Advent Giving Trees in OLA hall. Wrapped gifts may be returned to the OLA Hall. Some gifts must be delivered to local agencies by December 8. Others will be delivered on December 15. Check your cards carefully and call Nikki Weisenfluh (570)335-8135 with any questions.

SP ANGEL TREE

Thank you to all who took angels from the tree. Please return wrapped gifts with angel attached to the church by December 14th. If you haven’t picked one yet there are still some on the tree. Any donations for the food baskets of turkey or hams will be greatly appreciated. Call Rita at 570-575-9874 with any questions.

SML ADOPT A FAMILY

SML through the Social Concerns Ministry has been given the opportunity to help provide Christmas for an area family who is facing some difficulties this year...if you are interested in being a shopper, you will be reimbursed, or if you can make a monetary contribution, which can be placed in the weekly collection basket and label the envelope “Adopt a Family”, your help will be much appreciated...Thank you for your consideration! God Bless! Mary Lou 570-586-4811

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be taking their winter break and will not be meeting until March 12, 2026.

DEANERY ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE SCHEDULE

St. Mary Nativity BVM – Sunday December 14 at 6:30pm
St Gregory’s Church – Tuesday December 16 at 7pm
The Deanery decided that there will only be 2 penance services during Advent.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The Pastoral Council met to discuss progress toward the Pastoral Plan goals and the needs of our parishes. The PPC will meet with the Coordinating Teams on December 9 at 6:30pm in the OLA hall.

ADVENT PREPARATIONS

The parish Christmas’ gift to ALL Parishioners is the book from Matthew Kelly, THE SEVEN PILLARS OF CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY. This is an excellent book for Advent. Please, make sure you take a copy. (Please, please do not bring it back after reading. It’s yours to keep or to dispose as you want). We would like to make a suggestion on how to read it as a good preparation for Christmas. The suggestion is as follow: Let’s read chapter 1 during the second week of Advent. Of course, you can read straight as it’s written, even in one day.

Happy Advent, Happy New Liturgical Year A
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POINSETTIA SALE
Thank you to all who ordered Poinsettias from the Knights. The flowers will be delivered after the Masses on December 13 & 14.

CALENDARS & OPLATKI

The 2026 calendars are available at each church. The calendars are compliments of: Young Funeral Home, Clarks Summit, Litwin Funeral Home, Nicholson, and Kukuchka funeral home, Tunkhannock. The Oplatki will be available at all churches for a donation of \$3.00 next weekend on December 13 & 14.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

December 13 & 14

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Danny Williams Jr.
9:00am (SML) Pat Wall
11 am (SP) Cynthia Singer

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams
11 am (SP) Maria Fay

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Mary Jo Danoski
9:00am (SML) Len Nash
11 am (SP) Barry Singer

Altar Servers

4 pm (OLA) Kevin Jones, Margaret Jones
11am (SP) Corinne Flynn
Shadow – Wyatt Phillips, Nolan Phillips

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Dec 8 – **Immaculate Conception Holy Day of obligation**
OLA Mass-8am, SML Mass-9:30am SP Mass-11am
Dec 9 – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at OLA, 6:30pm
Dec 13 & 14 – Delivery of Poinsettias ordered from KoC
Dec. 14 – Christmas Party at St. Pat's Hall, 12pm

SP/OLA FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Julie Harvatine - jwharv03@gmail.com.
December 14 - Class - Christmas Program Practice -
Christmas Party 12pm
12/20/2025 - OLA Christmas Program 3:45 and 7th
grade Mass at OLA
12/21/2025 - Class - Christmas Program Practice
12/24/2025 - Christmas Program at St. Patrick's 3:30
12/28/2025 - Christmas Break - No Class

SML FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Kerry Pieretti - redlightgreen343@gmail.com
Dec. 14 Rehearse for play and Christmas party St. Pat's
Nicholson 12pm
Dec. 21 Christmas play following Mass 10:30am
All are welcome!
Refreshments afterwards

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 24

4 pm Mass: OLA, Dalton
4 pm Mass: SML, Lake Winola.
4 pm Mass: St Patrick church, Nicholson.

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 25

8 am Mass: OLA, Dalton
9:30 am Mass: SML, Lake Winola
11 am Mass: St Patrick church, Nicholson

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday (December 8) The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am (OLA) Clarence Evans
By Maureen & Pat Mahoney
9:30am (SML) Fran Mollusky
By Pat Stead
11:00am (SP) Dan Spencer
By The Curia of the Legion of Mary

Tuesday (December 9) St. Juan Diego

Cuahtlatotzin

8:00 am (OLA) John Hoch
By Janet Motyka

Wednesday (December 10) Our Lady of Loreto

8:00 am (SP) Deceased Members of the Marrazzo &
Riccardo Families
By John & Pat Marrazzo

Thursday (December 11) Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:00 am (SML) Brandon Gardner
By Social Concerns

Saturday (December 13) The Vigil of The Third

Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday

4:00 pm (OLA) Teresa Bede
By Mary McGuigan & Daughter

Sunday (December 14) The Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday

9:00 am (SML) Cindy Houlihan
By Bill Bradican Family
11:00 am (SP) Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mulhern & Joseph
Mulhern Jr.
By Michael & Leslie Mulhern

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (2 WEEK COLLECTIONS)

SP Weekly \$ 2,798.00 Loose \$ 207.00
OLA Weekly \$ 2,755.00 Loose \$ 70.00
SML Weekly \$ 2,487.00 Loose \$ 191.00

May the Lord reward your generosity. .

SEVEN LOAVES SOUP KITCHEN

51 WARREN ST. TUNKHANNOCK

Volunteers are needed on the 4th Tuesday of every month,
beginning in December. We will need 5-7 people to assist
with prepping, serving, and cleaning up for the evening
meal. Approximately from 3 PM to 6 PM. Sign-up sheets
are at each of our churches. Please contact Bill or Shannon
Bradican with any questions at 570-840-8663.

OUR SAINTS AND THE EUCHARIST

Blessed James of Montieri: Jesus Himself brought
him Communion on a number of occasions.