ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

St. Francis Xavier, Gettysburg – Dec. 17th at 7 PM

Immaculate Heart of Mary
Dec. 18th at 7 PM

St. Joseph, Hanover
Dec. 19th at 7 PM

Sacred Heart, Conewago
Dec. 22nd at 10 AM
MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018
5:00 PM + Ann Wainwright

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
11:15 AM + Theron Menges

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018
NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018
9:00 AM + Chester Barrick

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018
9:00 AM + Lawrence Aumen

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018
9:00 AM + Maria Laczkoskie

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2018
9:00 AM + Shirley Miller

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2018
5:00 PM + Bernadette Miriello

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018
8:15 AM – People of the Parish
11:15 AM + Charles & Ruthanna Hensel

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS
Micah 5:1-4
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45


IN THE CHARITY OF YOUR PRAYERS, please pray for the repose of the soul of John Feiser of our parish who died last week.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS – Anyone who would like to memorialize a loved one during this Christmas season can do so with beautiful poinsettias. There are envelopes at the entrances to the Church. Please fill out and drop in the collection basket no later than Dec. 23rd.

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Dec. 16-22

Sunday, Dec. 16th – Religious Education from 9:30 – 11 AM
Sunday, Dec. 16th – Adult Enrichment Class in the Social hall, 9:30 – 11 AM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Cub Scouts, 6:30 PM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Legion of Mary in Rel Ed Bldg Room 4, 7 PM
Monday, Dec. 17th – Charismatic Prayer Group in social hall, 7 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18th – Bible Study in the Den 9:30-11:00 AM
Tuesday, Dec. 18th – Parish Penance Service, 7 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 19th – Boy Scouts Christmas dinner in social hall, 6-9 PM
Thursday, Dec. 20th – Faith Sharing Group in the Den after 9 AM Mass
Saturday, Dec. 22nd – Fusion Youth Night in the Den 6-9 PM

MISSION FOR LITURGY AND WORSHIP

ALTAR SERVERS for Sat/Sun Dec. 22-23
5:00 PM Mass: Ella Smith, Regina Walton, Ben Wicker
8:15 AM Mass: Hannah, Nathan & Emma Maysilles
11:15 AM Mass: Madi Kuhn, Edie Rumbaugh, Madison Small
Coordinator is Kelli Maysilles.

LECTORS for Sat/Sun Dec. 22-23
5 PM MASS – Alfred MacArthur
8:15 AM MASS – Nick Stoller
11:15 AM MASS – Tina Jacoby
Coordinator is Dianne Giampietro.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC) for Sat/Sun Dec. 22-23
5:00 PM: Jen Gentile, Bertie Kuhn, Pat & Randy Slonaker, Janet Todt
8:15 AM: Doug Barnhart, Liz Kohler, John & Kelli Maysilles, Beth Smith
11:15 AM: Niki Davis, Dianne Giampietro, Joyce Menges, Stella Thomas, Claire Wentz
Coordinator is Claire Wentz.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – “All were questioning in their hearts.” Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Marcoe or Fr. Brian Wayne, Director of Vocations, at 717-657-4804 frbwayne@hbgdiocese.org or check out www.diocesanpriest.com.

THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

3rd Sunday of Advent
1. Please mark your calendars for our parish Penance Service on Tuesday, December 18th. Starting at 7pm that evening, we will begin with a short prayer service, followed by the opportunity for Reconciliation. There will be many priests hearing Confessions that evening. I encourage each of you, especially if it’s been a while, to come to Reconciliation as a means of preparing yourself spiritually for Christmas. You’ll find guides to making a good Confession on the confessional (reconciliation room) door or on our parish website (www.ihmparadise.org) – listed under Sacraments – Reconciliation.

2. Also, please see today’s bulletin for more information on the final weekday Advent prayer services, which are sponsored by the Abbottstown-East Berlin churches (ministerium). This year’s theme is The Star, based on the recent movie. We will even be showing some clips of the movie during our weekly services!

3. Please see today’s bulletin as well for a list of all the area Penance Services during Advent. If you are not able to join us here on Dec. 19th, there are lots of opportunities for you to go to Confession in preparing for Christmas. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is truly an important way we can make of ourselves a beautiful Christmas present to the Lord Jesus.

4. The third Friday of every month following the 9am Mass, from 9:30 to 10:30 am, there is a period of Eucharistic Adoration in the church. Please join us on December 21st for a peaceful time of heart-to-heart conversation with our Eucharistic Lord Jesus.

God bless you and your week – Fr. Marcoe

GROCERY CERTIFICATES – Please know how very grateful we are to all of you who support our Grocery Certificate Program and ultimately our Religious Education Program. IHM receives a 5% profit from the sale of all the grocery cards purchased. Before going for groceries, please consider purchasing Weis or Giant cards after each Mass at the front entrance. Cards can also be purchased in the parish office during the work week. Thank you for your support of this wonderful program! During the week of Dec. 9, 2018 we sold $2030 for a profit of $101.50.

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES – Held from 12 Noon until 1 PM:
Dec. 19 – St. John’s Lutheran Church, Abbottstown
Please join us!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES – Listed below are the area Penance Services for Advent:
St. Francis Xavier, Gettysburg – Dec. 17th at 7 PM
Immaculate Heart of Mary – Dec. 18th at 7 PM
St. Joseph, Hanover – Dec. 19th at 7 PM
Sacred Heart, Conewago – Dec. 22nd at 10 AM

MISSIONARIES OF THE POOR – In November, Roy Wainwright traveled to Kingston, Jamaica to assist The Brothers in the care and the needs of the destitute and homeless they administer to. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Roy was able to take medical supplies and $1,400.00 for this ministry. The Missionaries of the Poor depend so much upon the kindness of people like you and are able to continue their work only through this selfless generosity. Thank you!

DEEPLY ROOTED – A WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church is holding a workshop on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 from 9 AM to 1 PM at their Church. The day begins with Mass followed by speakers from around our diocese who will share information pertinent to families and living our Catholic faith in today’s society. Child care is available for ages pre-k through 6th grade. Workshop sessions, children’s programming and lunch will be provided for a $30 registration fee. Visit www.steas.net/family to register or call the parish office for a registration form.

FUSION - Fusion is Immaculate Heart of Mary’s youth ministry; open to all teenagers in grades 8 to 12. Did You Know? The rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath is lit on the third Sunday of Advent. Traditionally, it’s known as Gaudete Sunday; a Sunday of rejoicing because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, where their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

Saturday, December 22nd, 6 – 9 PM: Youth Night with Adoration
Saturday, January 12th, 6 – 8:30 PM: Pro-Life Night
Friday, January 18th, 7 AM – 7:30 PM: March for Life
Saturday, January 26th, 6 – 8:30 PM: Youth Night
Sunday, January 27th, 2:30 – 4 PM: Living Stations of the Cross Practice at St. Joseph, Hanover
For more information, please call or email Paul Oakes: (717) 259-0611 ext.8 or poakes@hbgdiocese.org

MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS NEEDED – Windy Hill on the Campus Senior Center in Spring Grove is in need of drivers for Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Even once a month commitment would be helpful! Contact Nancy Walton at 717-225-0733.

ADAMS DEANERY PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL is in need of adorers for:
Sunday @ 4 pm
Tuesday @ 3 pm
Wednesday @ 1 am & 7 pm
Thursday @ 12 pm
Friday @ 5 am & 12 pm
Saturday @ 8 am
Contact Gloria Murren @ 717-479-1071.
THANKS TO

...
ABVM CHOIR’S CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Sunday, Dec. 23rd at 3 PM at Annunciation BVM Church, 26 North Third St., McSherrystown.


MARCH FOR LIFE 2019 – The Knights of Columbus Council #13692 will again sponsor a bus on January 18, 2019 for the March for Life. The bus will depart IHM parking lot at 7:30 AM and return approximately 7:30 PM. Cost is $10 per person and reservation deadline is Dec. 18th. More details to follow. Contact Steve Signorello at 717-253-5924 or John Schlaline at 717-699-4534.

RESOURCES FOR ADVENT – Prepare your heart and mind for Christ this Advent with resources available at www.HbgDiocese.org/advent. You will find daily suggestions for prayer, reflection, action and blessing that can be used during the Advent season. A list of
Advent Penance Services along with Penance and Reconciliation resources will be available. Also find a list of the top 20 Christmas movies from Catholic News Service. The material is courtesy of Diocesan offices, the US Catholic Bishops and other fine Catholic institutions.

USCCB – On Nov. 14, 2018, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved the formal statement, “Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, A Pastoral Letter Against Racism.” This letter is not the first time the U.S. Bishops have spoken as a collectively on race issues in the United States, but it is the first time in almost 40 years. Below I share with you the full letter and some pastoral resources provided by the USCCB:

-Pastoral Letter: “Opening Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, A Pastoral Letter Against Racism”
-Educational Resources for Grades K-8, High School, College and Adults
-A Prayer Service for Racial Healing in Our Land in English and Spanish

Additional resources will be posted on http://www.usccb.org/racism.

**ABOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD BANK** – The food pantry in East Berlin held on Nov. 7th served 71 families which included 206 individuals. The number of families served at the Abbottstown location on Nov. 8th was 22 for a total of 45 individuals. The link to the Time to Sign Up page for the food pantry on Wednesday, Dec. 5th at the East Berlin location is www.volunteersignup.org/9FDLT and Thursday, Dec. 6th at the Abbottstown location is www.volunteersignup.org/CAHME. Please remember to drop off health/beauty aid items, such as soaps, toothbrushes, diapers, as well LAUNDRY DETERGENT, etc. and place them in the food pantry barrels.

Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg Night with the Hershey Bears - Celebrate Catholic Schools' Week with the Hershey Bears Hockey Team vs. Laval Rockets at the Giant Center in Hershey on Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 7 p.m. This fun-filled action packed night at the Giant Center is open to all and is a great way to celebrate Catholic Schools! Discounted tickets are available for $16.00 each for all ages, from the regular admission price of $25. Deadline to order is Friday, January 18, 2019. For more information see order form or contact jdise@HersheyPA.com

**PCGG Symposium**: Prison Christian Growth Group (PCGG), a Catholic organization which brings the message of Christ to inmates in prisons all throughout Pennsylvania, will be holding a Symposium on Saturday, December 15, 2018. Internationally known motivational speaker, John Foppe will speak as well as our Bishop, Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer. Learn how you can be energized in your faith and hear how you can serve Jesus Christ by serving others. The registration fee of $25.00 includes coffee, donuts and lunch. See flyer in back of the church or parish office for details.

**OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT** –

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<th>Monthly Budget</th>
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<td>Oct. 28th</td>
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**TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME** | $ 36,952.26 |

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:**
- Capital Improvements | 1,916.22 |
- World Mission Collection | 1,417.00 |
- Disaster Relief Collection | 1,564.42 |

**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR HANOVER HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS** – The Hanover Hospital – UPMC

Pinnacle Health has issued the following changes to their policy effective December 2018.

1. Clergy will not be able to view denominational lists at the front desk.
2. Clergy will not be able to obtain patient information at the front desk unless they have the patient’s name.
3. If the patient indicates a congregational affiliation in the admissions interview, the Chaplain will call the congregation. If the patient indicates to the Chaplain on his or her rounds that he or she belongs to a particular congregation and gives permission the Chaplain will call the congregation.
4. In an emergency situation if the patient or family indicates a congregational affiliation to the Chaplain or other staff and gives permission to call the congregation, every effort will be made to notify the congregation.

Because of these changes, it is very important that a family member contacts the parish when someone is admitted.

**SHOE DRIVE** – Donate your gently worn shoes to St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School! Help us raise funds for our school by donating your gently worn, used or new shoes! Our school will earn money for every pound of shoes we collect. Plus, all collected shoes are used to

support micro-enterprise vendors in developing nations. (Micro-enterprises are small businesses operated by one person or a family.) All shoes can be dropped off during regular school hours in the collection bins located outside of the McSherrystown and Conewago school offices. There is also a plastic bin located at the entrance to our Church marked for this drive. Our shoe drive has begun and will run until Jan. 2, 2019. We can only collect shoes that are in good condition, meaning that the soles are intact, they have laces (if necessary), there are no holes, they are dry & clean, and they still have life in them. Thank you! Please contact JoAnn Garman at 717-637-3135 with any questions.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students at Delone Catholic High School for achieving honor roll status:
FIRST HONORS: Audrey & Abigail Sell
SECOND HONORS: Julia O’Brien & Harrison Smith
COMMENDABLE EFFORT: Christian Powell & Avery Kuntz

WEEKDAY MASS PARKING – Anyone attending the weekday Masses are asked to park in the lot beside and behind the Church whenever there is snow and ice. This parking area will be made ready first for anyone on the property.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – It has been noted that some people, who are dropped off or picked up for Mass, are doing so at the steps right along West Canal Road. Especially at night, and given the adjacent hill, it is deemed this is unsafe given the speed and flow of traffic. For accessible and safe access to the Church at all times, please use the side social hall doors. Thank you.

LADIES SAVE THE DATE! Women’s Conference next year will be Oct. 12, 2019. Helen Alvare will be the keynote speaker.

PARISH CARING COMMITTEE – Assists parishioners on an as needed basis, in times of need or stress and provides visitation, care giver relief, meals, errands, light household chores and local transportation. To request assistance or to become a Caring Committee Volunteer, contact Jen Gentile at 717-225-5059.

FLOWERS – Looking for a way to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion? A beautiful way would be to order flowers on the altar. Most weekends are available from now through the end of the year. Please call Anita in the parish office to make arrangements.

MASS INTENTIONS – Mass intentions are a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion, remember those who have died or are sick and in need of our prayers. Please consider this as a “gift” for someone. Call Anita in the Parish Office to arrange your Mass intentions.

PRAYER SHawl ministry – CAN YOU DONATE NEW YARN? During the last year, the Prayer Shawl Ministry has made over 50 items for our own parishioners, Rachel’s Vineyard retreatants, Cross Keys Village Skilled Nursing patients, Spiritrust Lutheran hospice and Hanover Hospital Maternity. We rely on your donations to help with our yarn expense. We can always use red, white and blue yarn for military veterans in hospice care. Please drop off your donations in the covered gray boxes at the entrances to the church. If you know of anyone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, please call the parish office at 717-259-0611. Thank you!

PARISH Pastoral Council - The Parish Pastoral Council would like to announce that we had two members of our parish community volunteer to serve on the council. Please join us in thanking and welcoming Rosemary Connelly and Lynn Murphy to the council. Given that there were only two vacancies, there will be no need to hold elections as in some years past. The Pastoral Council is here to serve our parish family. Please feel free to talk with any of the members when you have concerns, ideas or questions.

Check out our new website at www.ihmparadise.org.

AERO ENERGY HOUSE OF WORSHIP PROGRAM – This program was established to provide Aero Energy customers an opportunity to give to our church. To participate, Aero Energy customers sign up by phone or online and Aero Energy donates 4 cents for every gallon of fuel they use to us. Please call if you are not already part of this wonderful program. It’s an easy way to benefit Immaculate Heart of Mary. Call 888-827-17136.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

SUGGESTION CARDS are available on the back ledges and at the entrances of the church. If you have any
suggestions on how to make our parish better, please fill out and return it in the collection basket.

**SUMMER WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:**
Saturday 5 PM, Sunday 8:15 AM and 10:15 AM

**LOST AND FOUND** – Please check our Lost and Found bin in the sacristy for any items you may have left in Church. Any unclaimed items will be discarded.

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION** – Please keep collecting and sending in those BoxTops for Education for St. Teresa School. If you’d like to help out trimming those BoxTops, please contact kwenger@hotmail.com. All help is appreciated!

**EVENT NOTICE** – I have been a parishioner at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church for more than 40 years and employed in the newspaper business for more than 20 years. We have many wonderful events happening here at our parish and we’d like to get the word out to the public. Please feel free to send me any events that would be of interest to our local community – from Lenten dinners to youth events to Bible studies and everything in between! You can send information to: 6fletch@embarqmail.com. Don’t forget to tell me the following: WHAT is the event? WHO is invited? WHEN is the event? WHERE is the event? WHY should people attend? HOW can they get more information? If you have any questions, fee free to call me at 717-357-8051. Thank you!
Holly Fletcher

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES COUNSELING SERVICE** – Outpatient Behavioral Health Care is dedicated to providing access to high quality outpatient counseling for children, adolescents and adults in a small, friendly, confidential office. Services include individual and family therapy, marital counseling and parent-child counseling. Services are provided regardless of religious affiliation. Accepting Medical Assistance insurance (Medicaid) and County Mental Health funding (York and Dauphin Counties, for low income uninsured people who are determined to be eligible). Other clients can pay fee on a sliding scale. No one is turned away due to an inability to pay. Not accepting private/commercial insurances. Local offices are York Counseling, 253 E. Market St., York (717-845-2696) and Paradise Counseling, 6156 W. Canal Rd, Abbottstown (717-259-9537 – press 0 for secretary). Visit www.cchbg.org for more information.

**HEARING IMPAIRED** – Anyone who is hearing impaired may find it helpful to sit in Pew #9 on the Sacristy side. You will notice “hearing impaired” stickers on the side of the pew to indicate the best place to sit if you are hearing impaired.

**HANDICAP PARKING** – Please note that handicap parking spaces are available for parking near the social hall entrance to the Church. If you are attending the 11:15 AM Mass, in order to avoid the traffic associated with religious education letting out, the following two options are recommended: EITHER come in the EXIT lane BEFORE 11 AM, OR come in the usual entrance way AFTER approximately 11:07 AM.

**CHILDREN’S CHAPEL** – For everyone’s information, especially for those who may be new to our parish, there is a so-called Children’s Chapel or Cry Room here in the Church. It’s located in the front left corner of the church, where a restroom is also located. As a parish family, we want children and families to be welcome here at Mass, and so it’s important to have an appropriate place in the church for babies and young children when they get fussy and need extra attention. We really want to encourage parents to use this space to tend to their children as needed. Please, feel free to just get up when need be from the body of the church, and utilize this space. Then you can better tend to your children without feeling like you’re being watched. And this will also allow the other parishioners to be able to more fully focus on worshiping.

**PRAYER SHAWLS** – Are you in need of a prayer shawl? Do you know someone who is? Please call Jan Melhorn at 308-2532. The next prayer shawl meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 1 PM in Room #3 of the RE Building. All knitters and crocheters are welcome. If you want to learn to knit or crochet, we can teach you. Skeins of new yarn are always welcome and there are bins at the church entrances for these donations.

**CREMATION**
Since 1963, Catholics have been allowed to choose cremation over burial as a means of laying a loved one to rest. Cremation is a popular choice since it is less expensive and more manageable than a full burial. Cremation, like death, is final. But that doesn’t mean you won’t have second thoughts. Susan Skiles Luke, a marketing consultant in Columbia, Missouri, had her mother cremated and buried in a family plot. Now, she wishes it was her mother’s body and not just the cremated remains that was in the grave. “When I go there, which isn’t often, I want to feel like her body is under ground, right alongside my grandparents and
beloved great aunt, all dressed up in their Sunday best..."

Although creation is permitted, some Catholics have not been dealing properly with their loved ones remains. Common practices include scattering ashes, parting ashes out to friends and relatives, and keeping the ashes in a common area, such as a living room. While scattering ashes may seem romantic to some (but is also contrary to Catholic teaching), there’s something to be said about keeping your loved one in once place, and then marking that place with a name. We mark the graves of our loved ones with a headstone to memorialize them, so we don’t forget them”. When visiting that person’s grave, just seeing his or her name can give comfort.

To instruct the faithful in this regard, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has issued updated guidelines. According to these, burial is still preferred, but cremation is an option. When a loved one has been cremated, their ashes must be kept intact, the same as one would treat a body. The ashes may not be separated or scattered. Instead, they should remain in a proper vessel that is interred in a proper place, such as a cemetery or church. Finally, the document stresses that Catholics who choose cremation for reasons contrary to the faith, (e.g., to have their ashes scattered) must be denied a Christian funeral.

In the end, whether cremation or burial is chosen, we await from the grave the second coming of Jesus Christ and the blessed Resurrection of the Dead.

Tips for talking to children about difficult subjects/news reports

The topic of sex abuse, particularly child sex abuse, is a daunting one for parents. Every parent must consider many factors including the best age-appropriate way to discuss the topic. Below are some points to consider adapted from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, and First Things First.

1. Make sure you are composed before you talk with your child.
2. If you believe your child is aware of news concerning abuse in the diocese, start the conversation. Not talking about a difficult event can make the event even more threatening in your child’s mind.
3. Listen carefully to what your child is asking or talking about.
4. Clarify just what any concerns are before you answer. Sometimes we make assumptions and give far more information than what the child needs.
5. Keep your answers simple and brief. Don’t answer questions that have not been asked. Do not overload your child with information that is beyond his/her level of understanding.
6. Assure your child that you and other adults that are in charge are doing everything possible to make sure they will be safe. This will give them a sense that adults are actively taking steps to protect those who are currently suffering.
7. Don’t make guarantees that such a thing can never happen again. Words like “never” and “always” should be used very carefully because small children trust that this is a promise from you.
8. Explain that we do not know why people treat other people badly.
9. Try to limit your child’s exposure to media coverage. A child believes what he or she sees on television, or in the newspapers is always true.
10. Let your children know about successful community efforts. You may want to share positive media images, such as reports of individuals helping those in need.

Additional information is available at www.YouthProtectionHBG.com