

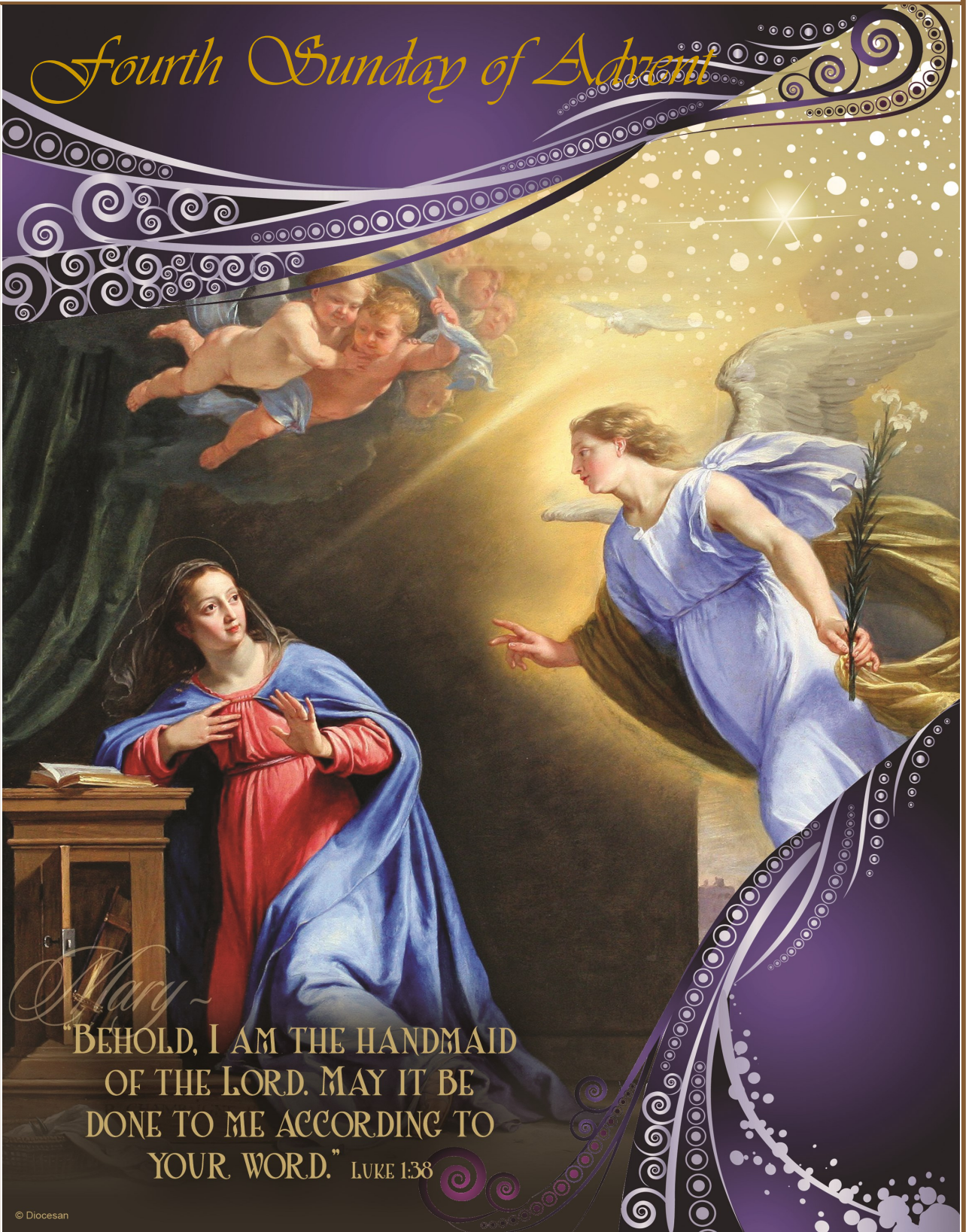
Saint Peter Church

4 South 5th Street • Coplay, Pennsylvania 18037



Fourth Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024



Mary

"BEHOLD, I AM THE HANDMAID
OF THE LORD. MAY IT BE
DONE TO ME ACCORDING TO
YOUR WORD." LUKE 1:38



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. David L. James J.C.L.

PASTORS EMERITI: Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin

Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges

PERMANENT DEACONS: Mr. Michael Kudla

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Mrs. Lina Abi-Samra

FINANCE MANAGER: Mrs. Michelle Ahern

DIRECTOR OF REL. ED.: Mrs. Linda Johnson

MASS SCHEDULE: DAILY: 8 A.M. (*Wednesday and Friday*)

Saturday Evening: 4:30 P.M. Sunday: 10:30 A.M.

Holy Days: 8:00 A.M.

PENANCE: Saturday: 3:45 to 4:15 P.M. and by appointment

During Advent and Lent, Communal Penance Services are celebrated.

BAPTISM: Contact the rectory for an appointment.

Baptism is scheduled on Sunday following the 10:30 A.M. Mass

Parents may be required to attend a preparatory instruction in the rectory.

MARRIAGE: Couples should contact the parish priest at least 1 year but no later than 6 months prior to the intended wedding date. Weddings are on Saturday between 10A.M. and 1P.M.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Notify the rectory when someone becomes seriously ill, or weak due to old age, so that the person might receive this Sacrament.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: The priest & Deacons perform this service monthly. Notify us when someone wishes to be visited.

HOSPITALIZED: Alert us whenever someone has to be hospitalized, especially when their admission is an emergency. The parish identification number is #171.

PARISH REGISTRATION: New members should make an appointment with the pastor.

HIGH SCHOOL: Allentown Central Catholic, 4th & Chew St., Allentown 18102; Phone 610-437-4601

ELEMENTARY: Good Shepherd Catholic School, 1300 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067
phone: 610-262-9171 Mrs. Susan Parker, M.Ed. Principal

CCD PROGRAM: Classes conducted at the Holy Apostles Catholic Education Center,
3008 Ruch St., Whitehall, PA 18052

The program is from September to the end of April. These classes are necessary for eligibility to receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Contact Mrs. Linda Johnson at 610-261-0144

BEQUESTS: Please remember St. Peter Church in your Last Will & Testament.

IN MEMORIAM FUND: After the death of a family member you are invited to have that person's name commemorated on the Church Plaque by suggesting that memorial offerings be donated to the Church in memory of the deceased person.

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE Wendy Krisak, Direct Telephone 1-800-791-9209 Email: victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 Email: pruso@allentowndiocese.org

CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING SERVICE If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.



www.stpeterchurchcoplay.com



info@stpetersccoplay.com



610.262.2417



610.262.2652

Mission Statement

We, as a Catholic parish under the patronage of Saint Peter, are a Eucharistic family, centered in prayer and worship, dedicated to self-sacrificing stewardship, and journeying together, Spirit-inspired, to the heavenly Kingdom.

MASS INTENTIONS
December 22 - December 28, 2024

Sunday December 22nd Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

8:00 AM Frank Bodisch (St. Peter)
Frank Kroboth (St. John)

10:30 AM Holy Name Society (St. Peter)
Margaret Unitis (St. John)

Monday December 23rd Advent Weekday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

No Morning Mass

Tuesday December 24th Advent Weekday at

St JOHN

2Sm 7:1-15, 8b-12, 14a,16; Lk 1:67-79

8:00 AM John Wechsler (St. Peter)
John E. Muik and Son John (St. John)

4:00PM Robert & Michael Cesanek
9:00PM Christmas Envelope Remembrances

Wednesday December 25th Late Advent Weekday at St PETER

Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

9:30AM Celebrant's Intentions

Thursday December 26th Late Advent Weekday at St JOHN

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

8:00 AM Edward Koren (St. Peter)
Joseph G. Sommer (St. John)

Friday December 27th Late Advent Weekday at St PETER

Is 48: 17-19; Mt 11:16-19

8:00AM Parishioners of St. Peter and St. John

Saturday December 28th St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church at St JOHN

Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

8:00 AM Mary Baltsar (St. John)

Vigil Mass at St PETER

Confessions: 3:45-4:15PM

4:30 PM Anna Deiter (St. Peter)
Joseph and Stella Legath (St. John)

Sunday December 29th Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 AM at **SAINT JOHN**
Parishioners of St. Peter and St. John
Sylvia Marth (St. John)

10:30 AM at **SAINT PETER**
Margaret Beers (St. Peter) & Joseph Sagmeister (St. John)

Stewardship Corner

Sunday Collection \$5667.00 plus online \$778.00

Please continue your weekly or monthly giving to our parish. Your contributions are vital in order for us to meet our obligations. If unable to attend Mass, kindly send your envelopes through the mail or drop them in the rectory mail slot.

Your **support** to your parish is critical. I thank you for your kind and generous response. Please be assured that you and your family are always in my prayers
Monsignor James

COPLAY FOOD PANTRY



During the season of Advent, we will be collecting food items for the Coplay Food Pantry.

Please make sure the items that you are donating are not outdated. They are in need of microwavable food... spaghetti sauce, rice pouches, fruit cups, tuna, Hormel meals, canned pasta, apple sauce, paper products, soaps, spam, instant potatoes, noodles, crackers, Jell-O, oatmeal, cooking oil, canned vegetables, etc. No big items please. Please drop off your donations in the containers in the vestibules.

PRAYER GROUP



If you would like your name or the name of a family member to be added to the list please call the office at 610.262.2417

FLAME OF LOVE

No Flame of Love Devotion until
January 7, 2025



HOLY HOUR

No Holy Hour on
Wednesday, December 25th, 2024



STOCKING STUFFERS

Are you in need of Stocking Stuffers or a special gift for the special people in your family? Please consider purchasing a yearly Lucky Calendar for the price of \$25.00 for a 365 chances to win.



MASSES SAID BY RETIRED PRIESTS:
Health: Greg Schmidt, Richard Goch



**DEVOTIONAL LAMPS
SANCTUARY LAMP**

*Will burn this week in memory of
Michael Yaroma
Offered by Joann Yaroma*

BLESSED MOTHER VIGIL LIGHTS

*Will burn this week in memory of
John and Emma Csencsits
Offered by Sharon Csencsits*

SAINT JOSEPH VIGIL LIGHTS

*Will burn in memory of
The deceased members of the Mondschein Families
Offered by Sharon Csencsits*



**TIS THE SEASON FOR THE
GIVING TREE**

*The Program this year is accepting gift
cards to Target, Walmart, or any gro-
cery store.*

*Please donate to brighten someone's
Christmas!*

*You may drop them off in the collection
baskets in an envelope labeled Gift Card or
in the mail slot at the rectory.*

*Your donations will be sent to
Catholic Charities*

***"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord
and he will repay him for his deed"***



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1300 Newport Ave, Northampton, 18067
610-262-9171

e-mail: altngs@ptd.net

<https://www.goodshepherd-catholic.com>

School Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-3pm.

Good Shepherd Catholic School has limited space available for students entering grades K-8, Pre-K (4 years old) and Preschool (3-year-old). We are now accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year for all grades. Classrooms are filling up fast! For more info regarding enrollment, please call Erica Nochtton, Advancement Director or email her at msnochtongscs@goodshepherd-catholic.com. Visit our website: goodshepherd-Catholic.com

HOLY APOSTLES RELIGIOUS CENTER

610.261.0144 or

holyapostlesre@holyapostlesre.org

3008 S. Ruch St. Whitehall, PA 18052

Fall Office Hours : Monday-Thursday 3-8pm

Friday: Closed

Christmas Break: 12/23-1/5

WINE SALE

We have a nice selection for sale left from the Wine Fest. We will be selling wine after the 4:30 and the 10:30 Masses the weekends in the Church Hall. For additional information, please contact Al at 484.515.6204

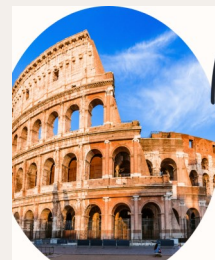


Second Stop:

BASILICA of ST MARY MAJOR

The Papal Basilica of St Mary Major (Santa Maria Maggiore) is the oldest and most important Marian sanctuary in Western Christendom. According to the traditional story of its foundation, the Virgin Mary appeared in a dream to the Roman patrician, John, and Pope

Liberius, exhorting them to build a church dedicated to her on the exact spot where she would cause snow to fall. On the morning of 5 August in the year 358, snow was seen on the Esquiline Hill, the highest of Rome's hills, outlining the perimeter of what was to become the new church. This tradition gives a special nobility to St Mary Major's – marking it out as a kind of Marian relic, a place that was desired and planned by the Mother of God herself. The Basilica is home to the most important of all Marian icons, the *Salus Populi Romani* (Our Lady Saviour of the Roman People). Tradition attributes the artwork to St Luke the Evangelist and patron of painters. The relic of the holy crib, the bedding on which the baby Jesus was laid, which is under the Papal altar, recalls the importance of the Basilica as the 'Bethlehem of the West'. Among the other important relics contained within the basilica are the mortal remains of St Matthew, St Jerome, and Saint Pope Pius V, the Rosary Pope. It was in St Mary Major's that Pope Adrian II welcomed, in the year 867, Saints Cyril and Methodius and approved the use of the Slavic texts in the liturgy.



pilgrimage
13 days to Italy & Austria

TRAVEL WITH MSGR. DAVID L. JAMES

We will be visiting Rome, the Vatican, Assisi, Orvieto, Loretto, Florence, Siena, Padua, Salzburg, Burgenland, Eisenstadt, Vienna.

1 Trip includes: transportation from/to Copley, Airfare, Taxes and fees, 4 or 5 star hotels, Transportation with luxury bus. All breakfasts and dinners, Guided tours, Luggage handling (1 carry-on and 1 suitcase)

2 DATE: October 12-24, 2025

3 COST: \$6,599.00 per person
make checks payable to:
Proximo Travel, Inc.

4 NOT INCLUDED: Lunch, Travel Insurance.

BOOK NOW

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ALBURN, MA 01051

(855) 842.8001 or (508) 540-9370

www.proximotravel.com



questions
please call
610.262.2417



*The Parish Office will be closed
Tuesday, December 24 through Thursday, December 26*

*Warmest greetings and best wishes for a very Merry and
Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year
from Msgr. David L. James,
Deacon Mike Kudla and the office Staff.*



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND DAY

DECEMBER 24

DECEMBER 25

DECEMBER 31
4:00PM ST JOHN

JANUARY 1
9:30AM ST. PETER

4:00PM SAINT PETER
4:00 PM SAINT JOHN
9:00PM SAINT JOHN

9:30AM SAINT PETER



From the Desk of Msgr. James: Friday, December 27th, is the Feast Day of Saint John the Evangelist. There is a custom of blessing wine on this feast day because Saint John was preserved from death after having been given a cup of poison wine to drink. A serpent miraculously appeared in the cup as a warning. Any parishioner who would like to have wine blessed may place it on a table provided in the sanctuary before 8:00am Mass that morning. Mass will be at St. Peter Church that morning.

Sunday, December 29th is the Feast of the Holy Family. The Blessing of Families will take place at the conclusion of the weekend Masses. We will be happy to bless individuals whose family members may be in nursing homes or living away from home, extending the blessing to them also.

Sunday, January 5th, is the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Water, salt, chalk, and incense will be solemnly blessed before the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday and before the 8:00am Mass on Sunday. Because these blessings are very complex and take a long time, confessions will not be heard on Saturday afternoon or on Sunday morning before Mass. We will begin the blessing at 4:00pm on Saturday and at 7:30am on Sunday. You are most welcome to attend these blessings. The blessed chalk and holy water will be available to take home after Mass, along with instructions on how to mark your homes with the Blessing of the Three Kings. Small bottles will be available for the water, but you may also bring your own container if you would like to take a larger quantity. If you would like to have salt blessed for home use please bring it in a container, marked with your name and place it on the table provided in the sanctuary. The blessed salt may be used for cooking and a small quantity may be placed in the four corners of your home to protect your home from evil and danger.

You may have noticed that four reliquaries have been placed on the main altar between the candle sticks. It is an ancient custom to have the relics of the saints on the altar, as well as in the altar. The relics of the saints remind us of the Communion of the Saints, to which we belong by right of our baptism, and the presence of the saints at the heavenly liturgy. The four saints whose relics are on the altar are, from left to right, Saint Pius X, pope; Saint Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr; Saint Catherine Laboure, virgin; and Saint Ann, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All are first-class relics, meaning that they are a small piece of the body of the saint. Second-class relics are something that was owned by or used by the saint. Third-class relics are small pieces of cloth that have been touched to a first-class relic.

The reliquary that holds the relic of Saint Pius X was purchased in memory of Mr. George Pavelko by the pierogi workers. The reliquary containing the relic of Saint Ann, was purchased in memory of my Grandmother, Mrs. Anna Etter, and my Mother, Mrs. Nancy James. The reliquary containing the relic of St. Catherine Laboure, was purchased in memory of Matilda Haddad. The Saint Maria reliquary may still be memorialized for a donation of \$70.00. If you would like to memorialize a reliquary, please contact Lina at the rectory.