#### MINISTRIES SCHEDULE December 20th and 21st

LECTORS					
SA	5:00 PM	Ted Ligenza			
IC	8:00 AM	Peggy Powell-Dorey			
SA	9:30 AM	Christine Feerrar			
ALTAR SERVERS					
SA	5:00 PM	Marty Urbanic			
IC	8:00 AM	Xavier and Ben Shields			
SA	9:30 AM	Avery and Ryan Stimpson			

MASS INTENTIONS						
Monday	8:30 AM	<b>Edward Michura</b>				
12/15/25	<b>IC</b>	by The Fair Maiden				
Tuesday	8:30 AM	<b>Caroline Morrow</b>				
12/16/25	IC	by The Hanson Family				
Wednesday	8:30 AM	Edwina Sohmer Curtis				
12/17/25	<b>SA</b>	by Johnnie Cancelarich				
Thursday	8:30 AM	Msgr. Joseph Fleming				
12/18/25	<b>IC</b>	Month's Mind				
Friday	8:30 AM	<b>Ken Sohmer</b>				
12/19/25	<b>SA</b>	by Mary Ann Kies				
Saturday	5:00 PM	<b>Wava Karichner</b>				
12/20/25	<b>SA</b>	by Joe Karichner and Family				
Sunday	8:00 AM IC	<b>Yvonne Dumm</b> by Dave and Family				
12/21/25	9:30 AM <b>SA</b>	People of the Parish				

### **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH EVENTS** MONDAY, 12/15/25 CGS Level 1: 10:45 AM - PC LAMBS: 1 PM - PC - Sm Room SA Choir Practice: 4:30 PM – PC - Sm Room Christian Initiation: 6 PM – PC 2<sup>nd</sup> floor TUESDAY, 12/16/25 WEDNESDAY, 12/17/25 THURSDAY, 12/18/25 Adoration: 9-10 AM – IC FRIDAY, 12/19/25 **SATURDAY, 12/20/25** Confessional Confessions: 4 PM - SA SUNDAY, 12/21/25 IC Choir: 7:30 AM – IC Church Basement Eucharistic Adoration & Vespers: 6 PM - IC



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH STAFF							
Pastor	Rev. Fr. Joseph Orr	570-748-4594	jorr@dioceseaj.org				
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Philip Gibson		pgibson@dioceseaj.org				
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Calvin Young		cjyoung@dioceseaj.org				
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Charles Williams		cwilliams@dioceseaj.org				
Finance/Facilities Manager	Mazzie Hau	570-748-4594	mhau@dioceseaj.org				
Parish Council Chair	Jason Dershem		dershem523@comcast.net				
Finance Council Chair	Mike Rendos	570-748-8132	mrendos@kcsd.k12.pa.us				
Religious Ed. Director	Tammy Nesbitt	570-748-7303	tnesbitt@dioceseaj.org				
Acorn Preschool Director	Connor Miller	570-295-3131	cmiller@dioceseaj.org				
LHCS Principal	Sarah Hanson	570-748-7252	shanson@lhcs.org				
Campus Ministry	Chris Klopp	570-748-8592	newmanlockhaven@gmail.com				
Prayer Line	Cathy Rizzo	570-753-5938	cprizz.17745@gmail.com				



# Third Sunday of Advent - December 14, 2025 Month of the Immaculate Conception of Mary



**Immaculate Conception Church** 

310 West Water Street Lock Haven, PA 17745



Saint Agnes Church

3 East Walnut Street Lock Haven, PA 17745

## **Parish Office Hours**

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
By appointment after 12 Noon
Appointments with Father Orr – Call the Office
Main Office: 570-748-4594 Fax: 570-796-2642

Website: holyspiritlockhaven.org

#### **Weekday Mass Schedule:**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
8:30 AM – St. Agnes Church
Tuesday and Thursday
8:30 AM – Immaculate Conception Church
or as announced
(the Rosary is recited after every weekday Mass)

#### **Holy Days of Obligation**

Check back for updated Mass times

#### Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday, 5:00 PM – St. Agnes Church Sunday, 8:00 AM – Immaculate Conception Church Sunday, 9:30 AM – St. Agnes Church Sunday, 12:00 Noon – St. Joseph Church, Renovo

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

<u>Saturdays</u>

11:00 AM – Immaculate Conception Church 4:00 PM – St. Agnes Church or anytime upon request

# **Gaudete Sunday**



Gaudete Sunday is called that because "Gaudete" is the Latin word for "rejoice" and it is the name of the entrance antiphon on the Third Sunday of Advent. "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always. Again, I say rejoice. The Lord is near." Gaudete Sunday marks a shift in the Advent season from penitential preparation to joyful anticipation of Christmas.

## **Advent Thought**

Toward the end of Matthew's Gospel there is a parable about being watchful, and Jesus uses a story about a thief coming to rob a home. The parable is intended to get us ready, being prepared, staying awake, taking action, and not missing opportunities to live the life Iesus wants us to lead. People tend to picture the hourglass of their life as very large, with all the sand still at the top, like it's going to take years for the sand to drop down. But God uses a smaller hourglass, indicating that the time for change is now, whether it's simple like getting more exercise or something much more challenging like mending a rift with a family member or friend. What is the important thing you have been putting off in your life, the action you should be doing right now? That is a good question to ask yourself today.

From: The Little Blue Book



#### Christmas Mass Schedule

Wednesday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve

4:00 PM vigil at St. Joseph 7:00 PM vigil at St. Agnes 10:00 PM vigil at Immaculate Conception

Thursday, December 25th ~ Christmas Day

9:30 AM Mass at St. Agnes 12:00 Noon Mass at St. Joseph

There will be special music 30 minutes before all Masses. Come early to listen and sing.



Everyone is invited to help decorate our churches for Christmas after Mass on Sunday, December 21st. We will decorate after the 8 AM Mass at Immaculate Conception and after 9:30 AM Mass at St. Agnes. Please join your fellow parishioners in this wonderful way to get into the Christmas Spirit.

# Christmas Flower Intention Envelopes

Your Christmas Flower envelopes will be placed upon the altar and Christmas Masses will be offered for the

repose of your loved ones. The donations we receive are used to decorate our churches for the Solemnity of our Lord's birth. Last year, the parish donations

covered the cost of decorating our beautiful churches. We all appreciate how beautiful the churches have looked at Christmas and I'm sure you'd like to see the churches just as wonderfully prepared this year. The envelopes are available in your packets and in the vestibules of both churches.

## **Eucharistic Adoration**

Eucharistic Adoration is scheduled for one hour after morning Mass at IC Church on **Thursday, December 18**<sup>th</sup>. All are invited and encouraged to participate in this special Holy Hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

This event provides an opportunity to focus on the true reason for the season, Jesus, God's ultimate gift to us. This gift of love, salvation, and eternal life brings hope and peace to the world. The holiday's tradition of gift giving mirrors the central spiritual offering of God's Son to humanity and reminds us to be generous and share HIS love.



LHCS 3rd Grade Bulletin Board

## 

With winter making its swift arrival, we want to remind everyone that during inclement weather, IC Church will be the first to be cleared.

If the weather during a weekday or weekend Mass is too poor to have both buildings cleared, Masses will be moved to IC Church. Please use caution during this time of year! Small spots of ice and snow drifting onto walks can be hazardous. The Office will follow the same delayed-start schedule as LHCS to allow sufficient time for cleanup. If you are unsure, please call ahead! We will try our best to send a Flocknote message when changes occur.



### Point to Ponder

"If you have much, give of your wealth.

If you have little, give of your heart."

Ancient Middle East Proverb

## Nazareth Group for Young Women

The Nazareth Group is for young women, grades 9-12. who desire to learn more about our faith while making wholesome friendships and to grow in their love for Jesus Christ through prayer and the sharing of inspirational experiences at an occasional Saturday afternoon meeting 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM January 17th, March 21st, and June 6th. Call Sister Clare to find out more, 570-745-3334. To get a glimpse of your hostesses go to www.capuchinsisters.com.



A four year old boy was asked to give thanks before Christmas dinner. The family bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer by thanking God for all his family and friends, naming them one by one. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited and waited. After a long silence, he looked up at his mother with a concerned look and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know I'm lying?"

## **Stewardship** REFLECTION

Good news, Christian stewards - we are gaining ground on our Advent mountain climb, and it is time to take a moment to rejoice in the Good News that our Savior will come again in triumph one day. Today's readings on this Gaudete ('Rejoice') Sunday are filled with reminders of God's final victory over suffering and injustice, and encouragement to remain steadfast in our mission to live as faith-filled disciples. Our Gospel passage, from Matthew, connects the prophecy of Isaiah to the arrival of Jesus almost word for word. In this passage we find the imprisoned John the Baptist sending his disciples to ask Jesus if he is indeed the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus' reply is almost identical to Isaiah's prophetic words. He says, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..." The Savior really has arrived just as promised! Yet that arrival was 700 years after Isaiah's prediction. God always fulfills his promises, but patience and firmness of heart are required as we await his perfect timing. Let us rejoice in the knowledge that God has called us to enter this kingdom. Let us keep our hearts firmly fixed on this eternal goal and strive with all our might to give God and others the very best of ourselves in gratitude for such a privilege.



## 🔈 Prayers to Mary

The candle for the first two weeks of December at the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St. Agnes Church is burning in memory of Elmer and Rose Hill by their Daughters.

## Sanctuary Candles

The sanctuary candle for the first two weeks of December at St. Agnes Church is burning in memory of Larry Rine by his Loving Family.

The sanctuary candle for the first two weeks of December at Immaculate Conception Church is burning in memory of John and Mae Cebulka by their Loving Family.

> Now accepting Mass Intentions and Candle Memorials for 2026! Call the office or place your requests in the collection basket.