THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – JOY
TERCERO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO – GOZO

DECEMBER 13, 2020
13 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2020

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Allentown, Pennsylvania | Roman Catholic Parish Community

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

SERVED BY
Rev. Richard Brensinger (Fr. Rich) – Administrator

Ed Hudak - Financial Secretary
Elaine Mitchell - Bulletin/Parish Secretary
Rosanne Venditto - Organist
Dina Boyer, Carolyn Johnson & Lorraine Lockawich - Cantors
Kathleen Godshall - Director of Religious Education
Luisa Bello - Youth Group Coordinator
Allen Zelno - Parish Nurse - 570-766-1622

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Fr. Rich Brensinger, Karen Adams, Jose Collazo, Vanessa Heimbach, Carla Ortiz, Richard Raffensperger, Dan Schmidt, Melissa Velazquez, Rosanne Venditto

PARISH FINANCIAL COUNCIL
Fr. Rich Brensinger, Ed Hudak, Jack Bolash, Sheila Britfield, Dan Schmidt, Rosanne Venditto

MASSES (IN THE CHURCH)
Monday - Friday: 8AM
Saturday - No Masses at this time.
Sunday – 9AM and 11AM

HOLY DAYS AND ADORATION
Evening Before: 7PM | Day of: 8AM
No Adoration at this time.

VICTIMS ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR
Wendy Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC
1-800-791-9209 (Direct Line)

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR
Pamela Russo, MSW, MS
prusso@allentowndiocese.org
610-871-5200, Ext 2204

There is a link to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People on the Diocese website at www.allentowndiocese.org under “Youth Protection.”

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OLHCALLENTOWN

Rectory: 444 N. Jasper Street, Allentown, PA 18109 | P: 610-432-9384 | ourladyhlp@aol.com | www.olhc.parish.net
PARISH MEMBERSHIP

In order to receive any Sacraments, you must be a REGISTERED PARISHIONER. Yellow census forms should be filled out as soon as possible to be considered an active member. Please contact us with any changes so our records can be kept current. If you are over 18 and not in college, you should register under your own name.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The process of preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony within the Church takes at least six months so we encourage you to begin this process as soon as you become engaged. No marriage dates will be taken over the phone. Parents of those to be married cannot reserve a date for their adult children.

SACRAMENT TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the Rectory for arrangements. Father makes First Friday Communion calls the first week of the month.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM/ BAPTISM SPONSORS

Parents and Godparents will need to attend a class before the child’s Baptism. An Information Form needs to be filled out by the parent and a Declaration Form filled out by the Godparents. Godparents must be at least 16 years of age, need to be an active, registered parishioners of OLHC or will need a letter of good standing from their current Parish. Anyone requesting a Baptism for their child must be actively attending Church for at least three (3) months.

SPONSORSHIP LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY

Only Catholics who are fully-initiated, regularly attending Mass and, if married, done so validly in the Roman Catholic Church will receive Letters of Eligibility.

LEGACY

Gifts provided through wills and personal trusts can make such a difference in the continued operation of our Parish. These gifts enable a donor to make contributions that may not have been possible during their lifetime. If you value the mission of OLHC, please consider this. Thank you!

**LAST DAY TO SUBMIT YOUR RESERVATION FOR CHRISTMAS MASS**

**EL ÚLTIMO DÍA PARA ENVIAR SU RESERVA PARA LA MISA DE NAVIDAD**

FAMILY LAST NAME (THIS WILL BE ON LIST): __________________________________________

FIRST NAME (HEAD):________________ PHONE AND EMAIL ______________________________

NO. ATTENDING UNDER THIS NAME: _____________________

RANK 1 THROUGH 5 YOUR ORDER OF PREFERENCE FOR MASS

IF YOU DO NOT HEAR FROM US, YOU RECEIVED YOUR FIRST CHOICE

12/24 2PM___________ 12/24 4:30PM_______ (Limited) 12/24 7PM_____________

12/25 9AM______________ 12/25 11AM___________
YOUR STEWARDSHIP HELPS SUSTAIN US  
December 6, 2020 – $6,896

Thank you for your continued support. The statement printed above the amount expresses the gratitude felt in response to your generosity towards our parish. It is your weekly contributions that help sustain us and keep us active. Thanks are extended to those who use envelopes and those who contribute through the Diocese online giving (allentowndiocese.org/parish-support) and E-offering. The number above reflects collections received from mailings, online giving, Sunday’s Masses and second offerings, including Diocesan collections.

CHRISTMAS MASSES  
LAST DAY TO RESERVE

Please note this year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will be having a reservation system with our Christmas Masses, in order to responsibly practice social distancing. We have a reservation form on page 1 of this bulletin. Today is the last day. It is important to fill out this insert and get it back to the Rectory as soon as possible.

IF YOU DON’T HEAR BACK FROM US, YOU HAVE YOUR NUMBER ONE MASS PICK. Please leave an email address if possible, that is our preferred order of contact.

This third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as “Gaudete” or “Rejoice” Sunday. The Mass celebrant’s vestment takes on that rare rose color, as the purple of penance gets mixed in with the white of joy because Christmas is near. One way to feel that joy is to imitate the moving humility of John the Baptist while surrounded by his adoring followers. He forthrightly tells them he is definitely not the expected Messiah. Instead he points to his cousin Jesus and says “There He is! The Lamb of God!”

The pandemic we hope will soon be a memory. But may your joy remain, because, according to Teilhard deChardin, the priest archaeologist: “Joy is the infallible sign of God’s presence.”

God love you and give you His peace this season.

DECEMBER 1-22 – ADVENT PENANCE:  
See dates to the right.

DECEMBER 24TH – VIGIL MASSES  
2PM, 4:30PM, 7PM  
**Reservations Required**

DECEMBER 25TH – CHRISTMAS MASSES  
9:00AM and 11:00AM  
**Reservations Required**

DECEMBER 31ST – NEW YEARS EVE  
7:00PM Vigil Mass

JANUARY 1, 2021 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY  
9:00AM and 11:00AM Mass

We want to alert you, our parishioners, of a scam that is going around the diocese especially at this time of the year. It is usually in the form of a text or email from your priest indicating that he needs funds in the form of gift cards. Father Rich wants you to know that if he requires any funds, he will always talk with you in person, never in such an impersonal way. It is shame that unscrupulous people wish to take advantage of the kindness of others. Please pray for their change of heart.
Reading I: Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11
The prophet signals that God’s work among the people has reached a new phase. Darkness will soon be overcome by God’s light, and true justice will be firmly established.

Reading II: I Thessalonians 5: 16-24
St. Paul offers exhortations for community living, including respect for authority, and the shunning of all evil. He also tells his community that it is God’s work among them promoting their peace and sanctification.

The Gospel: John 1: 6-8, 19-28
This poetic section introduces John the Baptist as a “man sent by God.” Meanwhile John carefully points out to his followers that he is definitely not the long-expected Christ. He is rather “a voice crying out in the desert” to announce the Christ.

GOD BLESS YOU ON YOUR BIRTHDAY!
12/13 Judith Gerber
12/14 Lillian Fernandez, Jose Galarza, Jr.
12/16 Jeanne Williams, Kaiven Perez Arzate
12/18 Leonie Nahas
12/19 Andrew Baladi

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED SOULS WHO PASSED AWAY IN DECEMBER
12/1 – Carol Kopishke ('01), Francis Falatek ('05), Margaret Boyer ('12)
12/2 – Joseph Ganguzza ('06), Theresa Roth ('17), Jack Booros ('18)
12/3 – Stephen Rengert ('07), Agnes Novak ('11), Daniel Klase ('17)
12/5 – Helen Worman ('06), Mary Young ('07)
12/6 – Ann John ('00), Janet Garger ('16)
12/7 – Rose Venditto ('09)
12/8 – Mary Wiener ('00), Richard Buchanin ('04), Jeffrey Hart ('15)
12/11 – Louis Spironello ('86)
12/13 – Louis Acosta ('10)
12/14 – William Corby ('10)
12/15 – Helen Oravec ('93), Catherine Shankweiler ('08), Jennie Keglovitz ('12)
12/16 – Lucille Simpson ('19)
12/17 – Carl Stroble
12/20 – Alois Kropf ('03), Dorothy Burick ('13)
12/21 – Virgil Biasiutto ('01), Gloria Anfuso ('09), Ann Snyder ('13), Joseph Long ('17)
12/22 – John Gaspar ('00), George Hart ('77), James Duffy ('05)
12/23 – Edward Bushner ('15)
12/27 – Gaetano Riccio ('07), John Sack ('12), Frances Fried ('13), Loretta Rohrbach ('18)
12/28 – Nancy Kline ('08)
12/29 – Albert Bigatel ('11)
12/30 – Anna Marie Smolick ('10), Maryellen Randolph ('11)
12/31 – Joseph Temmel, Sr. ('07)

DECEMBER
SUNDAY
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9AM – Rich Gable
R/B Susan Teaford
11AM – Richard Shott
R/B Louis & Ellen Shott

MONDAY
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
8AM – Theresa Scully (4th Anniversary)
R/B Guzley Family

TUESDAY
8AM – Louis Hershman
R/B Charles Jr. & Ann Yost

WEDNESDAY
8AM – Health & Safety of the Slanga Family
R/B Cecelia Bussell

THURSDAY
9AM – Mass for the People of the Parish

FRIDAY
8AM – Carl & Mary Ivankovits
R/B Dolores Oswald

SATURDAY
No Masses

SUNDAY
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9AM – Intentions of Matthew & Kelly Reagan
R/B Susan Teaford
11AM – Henry & Dorothy Burick
R/B Keith & Mariel Zellner

Birthday ♦ Support ♦ Anniversary ♥ Memorial ♦

DEADLINE TODAY FOR DAN SCHANTZ!
If you or anyone on your Christmas list love flowers and plants, we have the perfect Christmas gift for you! For $20 you can purchase a card from Dan Schantz Greenhouse which entitles you to get a free floral item or arrangement for each month of 2021. Make your Christmas shopping easy and help to support this fundraiser at the same time.
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**
My soul rejoices in my God.

**VERSE 1:** He will come in the Spirit of wisdom to bring the world justice and right. The poor and the lowly will know him, for the Lord will be their light.

**VERSE 2:** Soon God's creatures will all live together. The wolf will be guest of the lamb. The calf will walk next to the lion and be led by the Child's hand.

**OFFERTORY – O LORD OF LIGHT**
O Lord of light, who made the stars, O Dawn by whom we see the way,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, make haste to listen as we pray!

To pay the debt we owed for sin your painful cross was named the price;
From Mary's virgin shrine you came, a spotless Lamb for sacrifice.

But now you reign, the King of Kings, Adored in highest majesty;
Your very name commands respect from pole to pole and sea to sea!

**COMMUNION – I RECEIVED THE LIVING GOD**
Refrain: I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.
I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.

Verse 1: Jesus said: I am the Bread kneaded long to give you life;
You who will partake of me need not ever fear to die. (refrain)

Verse 2: Jesus said: I am the Vine, and my branches you shall be;
Come and drink the saving cup, till the Kingdom you shall see. (refrain)

**RECESSIONAL – O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh ven, oh ven, Emmanuel, Que das le ley y eres nuestro Rey.
Ven, Esperado, ven, Redentor, Ven a tu pueblo, Dios y Salvador.
Alegrate, oh Israel! Vendra, vendra Emmanuel!

O come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
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