



## Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2022

Wed. December 21 11:30am St. John site  
 Thur. December 22 7:00pm St. Columbkille site  
 Fri. December 23 9:00am St. John site  
 with Adoration following mass until 10:30am  
**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGILS**  
 Sat. December 24 4:00pm St. John site  
 Sat. December 24 6:00pm St. Columbkille site  
 Sat. December 24 8:00pm St. Joseph site  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
 Sun. December 25 8:30am St. Ignatius site

### Confessions for this Week

Wednesday: 11:00-11:25am St. John site  
 Thursday: After 7pm Mass St. Columbkille site  
 Saturday: -No Confessions - St John site

### Readings for the Week

**Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**  
 Judges 13: 2-7 Luke 1: 5-25  
**Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 Isaiah 7: 10-14 Luke 1: 26-38  
**Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**  
 Zephaniah 3: 14-18 Luke 1 39-45  
**Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
 1 Samuel 1: 24-28 Luke 1: 46-56  
**Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
 Malachi 3: 1-4, 23-24 Luke 1: 57-66  
**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8b-12 Luke 1: 67-79  
**Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 Isaiah 52: 7-10 Hebrews 1: 1-6  
 John 1: 1-18



We wish to express our deepest sympathies  
 and condolences to the family of  
**Audrey Mae Osentoski** who passed away.

## Let Us Give Thanks!

Weekend Collection – \$6001.00  
 Loose - \$191.00  
 Christmas Flowers – 1807.00  
 Religious Retirement – 1537.00  
 650 Parish Families  
 (297 Family envelope holders)  
 103 Envelopes used

### Donations:

In loving memory of my wife Beverly Ann Grifka  
 (4 months) and our son, Kevin (9 years)  
 By: Richard Grifka and Family

In loving Memory of Marshall Briolat,  
 by: Chris Peruski

### Mass Intentions for the Week of:

**December 12 – December 18, 2022**

Saturday: St John site: Good Shepherd  
 Parishioners

Sunday: St Joseph site: + Francis Keating

Sunday: St Columbkille site: + Dorothy Heleski

### Mass Intentions for the Week of:

**December 19 – December 25, 2022**

Saturday St John site: + Tony Grifka

Saturday St Joseph site: + Charlotte Romzek

Saturday St Columbkille site: Good Shepherd  
 Parishioners

### In This Sunday's Readings

**"And the Word became flesh and made his  
 dwelling among us..." -- John 1:14**

It is easy to get caught up in the gifts that we receive  
 and those that we give today and all through the  
 Christmas season, but we already have the ultimate  
 gift – the gift of love that God gave all of us –

**His Son Jesus!!**

That is the best gift we will ever receive.

### RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

**Religious give thanks.** A sister writes, "We remember  
 the many people who believe in the Retirement Fund for  
 Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great  
 generosity and compassion." God bless you for donating  
 to last week's second collection.

Please remember your parish when planning your estate



### Faith Formation

The Faith Formation education program of Good Shepherd Parish will be having their Christmas parties on Dec. 21. St. Columbkille will also be rehearsing that evening for the Christmas Eve Mass.

**Ubly site: 5:30-7pm (Dec. 21)**  
**Sheridan Corners site: 6-7:30pm (Dec. 21)**

### Youth Group

We will not be meeting again until January.

Youth group is for all 7-12<sup>th</sup> grades & there is no cost.

### St. Columbkille Christmas Decorating

We will be decorating Monday, Dec. 19 at 6:30pm.  
Please come and help if you're available

### THANK YOU

On behalf of Marie Lasceski and her family, we would like to thank Father Nate, the choir and the whole parish that has reached out to us in this time of need. Your words were so kind and very much appreciated in these rough times. We are so thankful that we have our faith family to support us and helped us celebrate our dad, Frank Lasceski. Thank you so much for leading the services with such grace and kindness. We are thankful for all that took the time to create a service that truly honored our father in his faith and now we understand that we can carry his memories with us always. Your caring and compassion are greatly appreciated by all.  
With much love and thanks,  
Marie Lasceski, daughters, grandchildren and family

### Knights of Columbus

Ubly/Sheridan Council #12850

Next Meeting: We will meet at 7:00pm at the Parish Center on Wednesday, January 11. We are always looking for New Members – call Jeff Maurer @ 989-553-4224. Our food pantry is available for anyone in need, located in Ubly. This is completely confidential and anonymous –

Call Jerry @989-550-9664.

Jeff Maurer Grand Knight-Ubly/Sheridan Council-12850

### HELP WANTED

Parish office help needed – part time.  
Please contact the office if interested.

### Christmas Season 2022 Mass Schedule

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – New Years Eve Mass**

**Mary Mother of God**

4pm – St. John Church, Ubly

**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – New Years Day Mass –**

**Mary Mother of God**

8:30am – St. Joseph

10:30am – St. Columbkille

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### Counters:

**December 19:** Rose Maikrzek, Shirley Piontkowski, Mary Jane Zurek

**December 27:** Barb Roggenbuck, Jeanene Schmidt, Ann Ypma

**January 3:** Diana Briolat, Luci Kubacki, Judy Messing



## CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

**4:00pm Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> St John site**

**Lector:** Carol Beaudin

**EMHC:** Debbie Osentoski, Bev Pawlosky

**Altar Server:** Maze Gusa

**Sacristan:** Luci Kubacki

**Ushers:** John Guigar, Dennis Smalley, Mike Briolat, Bob Brahmer

**6:00pm Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> St. Columbkille site**

**Lector:** Kevin & Sarah Romzek

**EMHC:** Jerry Sweeney, Dana Irion, Jerry Fischer

**Altar Servers:** Faith Formation Youth

**Greeters:** Faith Formation Youth

**Gift Bearers:** Faith Formation Youth

**Ushers:** Myah Peruski, Camden, Peruski, Dan Cregeur

**8:00pm Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> St. Joseph site**

**Lector:** Denise Kubacki

**EMHC:** Denise Kubacki

**Greeter:** Jo Izydorek

**Ushers:** Gordon Farrelly, Kevin Hessling, Chuck Izydorek

## CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

**8:30am Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> St. Ignatius site**

**Lector:** Justin Faber

**EMHC:** Rick Vogel

**Altar Server:** Volunteer

**Greeters:** Rod Walsh

**Ushers:** Volunteers

### BENEFIT FOR NATALIE

New Year's Eve Benefit for Natalie Morgan  
(19 month old from Harbor Beach battling cancer)

Ubly Heights

6:00 pm to 12:30 am

Smorgasbord with the following:

Prime Rib \$28.50

Perch \$16.00

Both \$41

Please RSVP for a guaranteed dinner spot to Melinda  
at 989-550-3955 or Jodie at 989-553-0899.

Raffle items and dancing to ring in the New Year

Please remember your parish when planning your estate





*of God Chaldean Church, Southfield*

## Jesus Cries, "I Thirst!"

*Will you quench His thirst for love?*

*- Fr. Nate's Update -*

**Dear Saint-in-the-Making, Happy Advent!  
"COME LORD JESUS!"**

*<--Youth Group and friends made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Little Flower, Royal Oak; then to the Solanus Casey Center, Detroit; and concluded with Mass at Mother*

**Some Holy Humor:** That was a great sermon today — on patience," one friend commented to another as they walked to their cars after church. "Yeah," the other agreed, "but it was 5 minutes too long."

\* \* \* \* \*

There was a knock on the door this past Saturday morning. I opened it to find a young, well-dressed man standing there who said: "Hello sir, I'm a Jehovah's Witness. So I said, "Come in and sit down."

I offered him a fresh cup of coffee and asked, "What do you want to talk about?" He said, "Beats me. Nobody ever let me in before!"

### **Thank God Ahead of Time: Blessed Solanus Casey**

Do you think of Jesus as your healer? Jesus is our Lord and Savior. Did you know the Greek word for Savior can also be translated, Healer? So Jesus is our Lord, Savior, and Healer.

In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah predicts that when the Savior comes, he will make the blind see, the deaf hear, the mute speak, and the lame walk and leap.

In the Gospel, we hear that because of the ministry Jesus, quote, "the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

I said, "the ministry of Jesus". This ministry wasn't just Jesus himself, but also his apostles. In the chapter right before this one, Jesus sends out his 12 apostles to heal, saying, "As you go, make this proclamation: 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons."

Jesus, through his disciples, is still healing people today, physically, spiritually, emotionally. Hearing stories of these healings reminds us that He is with us, and that he wants to heal each of us in some way, physically, spiritually, emotionally. All physical healings in this life are a sign pointing to the total healing of the body at the end of time, when Jesus will raise up our mortal bodies, and conform them to the pattern of His glorified, resurrected Body.

Saturday Dec. 10, our Youth group and friends made a pilgrimage to the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. We took a tour and learned about some of the ways God used Solanus to heal people. The tour began with the host telling us that the center was not a shrine to Solanus,

because Solanus made it clear all healing came from God, not from him.

Bernard Casey was born in Wisconsin in 1870. Inspired in part by seeing the evil in this world, he became convinced God wanted him to become a priest. Eventually, after much prayer, he heard Our Lady tell him three words, "go to Detroit." He went and knocked on the door of Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit, and became a postulant, and three years later was ordained a priest.

He was sent to serve in New York, and later transferred back to Detroit, where he was assigned to be their doorkeeper. He remained doorkeeper for 21 years, receiving visitors who came to him with all sorts of problems and sufferings.

Eventually, his reputation spread. Thousands began visiting the monastery to talk to Fr. Solanus, hoping to receive his kindness, wisdom, and maybe an answered prayer for a miracle! Over his lifetime, thousands of miracles were reported.

It wasn't simply his prayers that won favors from God. It was the infinite healing power of the Mass. He invented an organization called the Seraphic Mass Association, and enrolled people in it. This way, the Capuchins would offer Masses for these prayer intentions. So many favors and miracles were reported that Solanus' superiors asked him to keep a record. He eventually filled many journals with over 6000 answered prayers. You might consider having a Mass offered for the person you are praying for, by calling the office, or by calling the Solanus



Casey Center to have them enrolled in the Seraphic Mass Association!

Solanus asked people to participate in their own healing. He would listen to people's stories and then instruct them to, "thank God ahead of time" for future favors. Have you ever done that? Have you ever followed a request by thanking God ahead of time for whatever He will do, trusting that His way is the best for our eternal benefit?

Solanus would often first tell people, "Have faith! Trust in God!", and next, he would instruct them to SHOW their faith with some concrete action. For example, to give something to the poor, or do some spiritual reading.

But to mention a few of the physical healings: A woman with pneumonia was given three days to live, and was miraculously healed. A boy with stiffened limbs from polio was healed. There were reports of healings from blindness, gangrene, memory loss, cancer, deafness, heart disease, and other illnesses.

There were many other kinds of healings, not only physical. Some people were healed from addiction, depression, suicidal thoughts. There were "conversions". For example, once a Communist came in and told Solanus he hated priests and wanted to kill him. "That's something that should be discussed," Solanus replied. After a few minutes, the man was converted, and he asked God for forgiveness.

In one article, it says Solanus could often, quote, "read hearts and tell people what would happen to them or their loved ones. Almost casually, he would say things like "Yes, you will be a nun" or "You haven't been praying" or "Don't worry; he'll be better by morning." One woman, distraught that her father had left the Church, approached Solanus at a parish picnic. He listened while eating his hot dog with mustard and sauerkraut, and predicted — correctly — that her father would return to the faith. To a man whose wife was facing an operation, Solanus replied that she wouldn't need it and would be back home soon; then, always the baseball fan, he said, "Now, tell me how the Detroit Tigers are doing."<sup>1</sup>

He died at age eighty-six. His last words were, "I give my soul to Jesus Christ."

Solanus is still praying for healing today from heaven. Br. Richard Merling, director of the Solanus Casey Guild in Detroit, said that reports of prayers answered by Fr. Solanus continue to pour into the office "We have at least eight drawers filled with petitions or favors received. Many beautiful healings really do take place. He continues to touch people."

Jesus is our Lord, Savior, and Healer. Today, what kind of healing do you want from him, for yourself, and for someone else? Physical healing? Emotional healing from

past trauma? Spiritual healing from fear and anxiety? As we receive our Healer in Holy Communion, He invites each of us to ask for healing for ourselves in some way, or for someone else. And Fr. Solanus encourages us to "thank God ahead of time" for whatever He will do.

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#### **"Let Us Pray..." (Most important part of Update)**

\*\*\**(Pope's December Intention): "We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation."*

\*\*\**(Bishop Sheen's Spiritual Adoption Prayer): Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of [name], the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion.*

\*\*\**(Prayer for Vocations): Heavenly Father, we "beg for laborers for the harvest." Raise up vocations to holy matrimony, priesthood, diaconate, consecrated life, and lay ministry from Good Shepherd Parish. Help married couples to discern Your Will regarding openness to new life, including foster care and adoption.*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/faith-and-character/faith-and->



December 18, 2022

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14 | Rom 1:1-7 | Mt 1:18-24

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In our family's department-store Nativity set, Joseph blends into the background: Mary and the infant Jesus steal the scene, she in her blue robes and looking over the sweet, tiny and vulnerable Son of God. Even the Magi stand out more than humble Joseph. Yet today's Gospel focuses on Jesus' earthly father, whom many of us Catholics grew to know a little better during the Year of St. Joseph in 2021. Imagine Joseph's shock at learning Mary was pregnant! Rather than quietly divorcing her, he accepts the angel's words at face value: "For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Joseph takes Mary into his home and embraces her and the child Jesus she bears. As we celebrate this fourth Sunday of Advent, we can all do well to follow Joseph and Mary's example by saying "yes" to God, even though it may turn our lives upside down. We can dust off our Nativity scenes and ask the Lord to help us prepare our hearts and homes for Jesus.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I remember our first trip to the pediatrician with our newborn. Our job as parents, he said in so many words, was to raise him so that he'd be ready to leave us at 18. As our youngest approaches that milestone, I'm having a hard time letting go. In his apostolic letter *Patris Corde*, Pope Francis holds up St. Joseph as an example of what it means to be a father (and I think this applies to mothers, too): "Every child is the bearer of a unique mystery that can only be brought to light with the help of a father who respects that child's freedom. A father who realizes that he is most a father and educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied. When he becomes like Joseph, who always knew that his child was not his own but had merely been entrusted to his care." Joseph and Mary loved Jesus in this way, accepting that Jesus did not "belong" to them but to all of us. Whether or not we are parents, we can learn from their example, entrusting our lives and those of our loved ones to God. As St. Paul reminds us, we "belong to Jesus Christ."

**ACTION** "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" As you light the Advent candles or say evening prayers this week, reflect on the ways Jesus has made his presence known to you today and give thanks.



Sogno di Giuseppe, by Luca Giordano, 1684, CC BY 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons



# Prayer for Christmas Giving

*Come, Lord Jesus, come.*

*Fill our gift-giving with generosity,  
making us aware of the true gifts we  
have to share with loved ones.*

*Deepen our sense of joy,  
making us ever-grateful for the  
small gifts others bestow upon us.*

*Enlarge our capacity for compassion,  
making us mindful of how we might give to  
those in need of sustenance and consolation.*

*Come into our hearts and homes this Christmas, Lord Jesus,  
making us people of joyful generosity and gratitude.*

*Amen.*

