



## The Waiting Time

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**A**dvent is a time of hope but also a time of waiting. Different than wishing, hope is the belief that, one day, all will be well. Teenagers eagerly wait to be out on their own, believing then all will be well. Students are eager to graduate and get away from papers to write, books to read, and exams to take—then all will be well. Some singles long to find a partner, marry, and settle down, believing—then—all will be well. Always there is the faith that, although life may not now be what we wish, the future will bring a time when all will be well. We are inveterate people of hope.

Yet life is a process that cannot be rushed. Author Annie Dillard once watched a butterfly hatch from a cocoon. A bit impatient, she decided to gently warm

the cocoon and so hasten the process. It worked, except by rushing the process the butterfly's wings were undeveloped, too weak to fly. All that we hope and long for in life must happen at its own pace, faithful to the process.

How, then, do we negotiate the waiting? The Gospel's encouragement is to pray, but not for what we want. Rather, we are to pray for the strength to stand with hope before the Son of Man, trusting that God will bring forth the goodness we need. Though it may be different than what we seek, it will be what we need. ●

### Reflect

*How can you better enjoy times of waiting?*

May the Lord make you  
increase and abound in love  
for one another and for all...  
to be blameless in holiness  
before our God and Father at  
the coming of our Lord Jesus  
with all his holy ones.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:12–13



# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1, 2024

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

**Saturday, November 30 - 6:00 PM**

✠ People of the Parish (Pro Populo)

**Sunday, December 1 - 4:00 PM**

✠ Kathy Richards by John Gibson

**Tuesday, December 3 - Noon**

✠ People of the Parish

**Wednesday, December 4 - 9:00 AM**

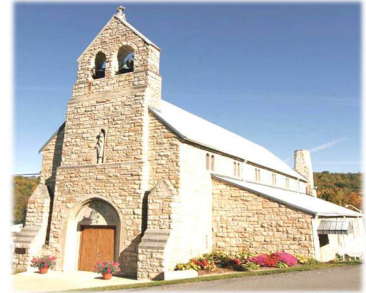
✠ Elizabeth Linkous by Family

**Saturday, December 7 - 6:00 PM**

✠ Fr. Leo Lyden by Fred Butler & Deborah Garton

**Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 AM**

✠ Frank McClendon by Louie & Vickie Bolyard



**Office Hours:** 304-327-5623

Monday- Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

**Confession:**

Before Weekend Masses

During Eucharistic Adoration

First Saturday's of Month

By Appointment

**Food Pantry Hours:**

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 1:** First Sunday of Advent

**December 2:** Youth Ministry Angel Tree Shopping

**December 4:** Advent Penance Service 6pm

**December 6:** First Friday Mass 6 pm

**December 7:** First Saturday Reconciliation 10-11 am

**December 8:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

**December 8:** Cocoa & Cookies with St. Nick 10 am

**December 9:** Immaculate Conception Mass

Noon/Princeton, 6pm/Bluefield

**December 9:** Knights of Columbus Mtg after 6pm Mass

**December 24:** Children's Christmas Eve Mass 4 pm

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Mass 7 pm

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Friday's from 6:00-7:00 PM

December 13: Princeton      December 27: Princeton

December 20: Bluefield      January 10: Bluefield

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, V.E.  
sdevasya@dwc.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:** Julia Harrison, M.A.A.T.  
julia@sacredheartblfd.org

**YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR:** Wendi Aiello  
w.aiello@yahoo.com      304-320-2150

**PARISH SECRETARY:** Lucy Brinegar  
lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org

**PARISH BOOKKEEPER:** Kim Hickman  
Khickman@sacredheartblfd.org

**NEWMAN CENTER:** 304-534-8093

*To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion. Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest, so we will know that you wish to receive a Blessing. We are grateful for your presence.*

# First Sunday of Advent

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we embark on this holy season of Advent, we enter a time of anticipation and preparation. This journey invites us to deepen our faith and reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation. The readings for the First Sunday of Advent resonate with a message of hope and vigilance as we eagerly await the birth of our Savior.

In the Gospel from Luke **21:25-28**, the Lord calls us to be alert and watchful. Jesus speaks of signs in the heavens and the tumultuous events that will precede His coming. His words urge us to stand firm, raising our heads because our redemption is drawing near. This call to attentiveness is essential as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, not only in the celebration of His birth but also in our daily lives as we await His glorious return.

Advent, derived from the Latin "adventus," meaning "coming," is a sacred opportunity to awaken our spirits and prepare for the transformative gift of Jesus Christ. It is a time to cultivate a spirit of hope as we reflect on our lives and the world around us. The Advent wreath, with its four candles, symbolizes the four weeks of Advent. Each week, as we light another candle, we symbolize the growing light of Christ in a world that often feels overshadowed by darkness.

As we light the first candle of Advent, the Candle of Hope, we acknowledge the yearning in our hearts for peace, love, and joy. This simple act reminds us that even amid uncertainty, the flicker of a single flame can illuminate the path ahead. It encourages us to carry the hope of Christ into our homes, communities, and beyond. We can do this by sharing encouraging messages, reaching out to those in need, and being a source of comfort and support, reminding us that our faith is a light meant to shine brightly in moments of despair.

This season is also a time for prayer, reflection, and acts of charity. As we embrace the call to prepare, let us consider how we might support one another, share our blessings, and embody Christ's love in tangible ways. Remember, we are a community, and our collective strength and love can make a significant difference in the lives of those around us.

I invite you to join me in a prayer as we begin this blessed season of Advent:

Heavenly Father,  
As we journey into this sacred season of Advent,  
open our hearts to the hope that Christ brings.  
Help us to be watchful and ready, living in faith and love.  
May the first candle's light inspire us to be  
beacons of hope in our families and communities.  
Strengthen our resolve to prepare our hearts for Your coming  
so that we may celebrate the joy of Christ's birth with renewed fervor.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

May this Advent bring you peace and an ever-deepening awareness of God's love as we await the coming of our Savior.

In joyful hope,

Father Sebastian

## FAITH FORMATION



### *Faith Formation 2024-2025*

*Theme – “Lord, When Did We See You Hungry”  
Matthew 25:37b*

#### **The schedule through January 2025:**

December 1 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Thanksgiving Holiday

December 8 ~ Faith Formation in the parish lounge - lesson on St. Nicholas

December 15 and 22 ~ Practice for Christmas Eve Children’s Mass in the Church

December 24 ~ Children to participate at 4pm Christmas Eve Mass

December 29 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 5, 12 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

## OCIA

### Formerly known as RCIA



*If you are interested in the OCIA process please contact, Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office. The next meetings will be Wednesday, December 4th at 4:30pm in the School Building.*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Youth Shopping for Angel Tree Gifts.

**Monday, December 2nd**

Meet at Walmart in Bluefield, VA at 6pm for shopping. We will walk over to Bellacino's after shopping to wrap our gifts and have dinner.



### **MOUNT 2000 HIGH SCHOOL EUCHARISTIC RETREAT**

**Who:** Beckley Vicariate High School Youth

**What:** Mount2000 Eucharistic Retreat

**When:** February 7-9, 2025

**Where:** Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland

For More Info: Lorin Albin, Youth Ministry Coordinator at Sacred Heart, Princeton

540.529.6495 or [lorinjalbin@gmail.com](mailto:lorinjalbin@gmail.com)



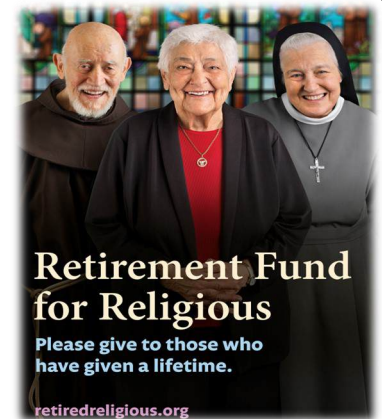
Janice Barber	1				Katherine Hahn	21	
Kathryn Bourne	1				Ted Marchal	21	
Frances Cutlip	3				Kara Zande	21	
Jimmy Froy	4	Angela Meade	11	Krystin Austin	17	Natalie Lijoi	25
Shane Neal	4	Jacob Smith	11	Kristan Bhazsar	17	Frank Ball	26
Anthony Peretti	4	John Keczan	12	Susan Maupin	17	Aalannah McPeak	29
Charles Blaydes	5	Mary Ann Bourne	13	Theresa Soulis	18	Chris Overbaugh	29
Steven Peebles	5	Ashley Brown	13	Patricia Zande	18	Patty Peretti	29
Scott Meade	6	Jazzlee Molineaux	13	Charles Lynch	19	Patty Bolen	31
Joseph Seigafuse	6	Michele Smith	13	Michaele Pellillo	19	Ainsley Miller	31
Thomas Buzzo	7	Sophia Tran	13	Matthew Peretti	19	Bella Rust	31
Carole Mamone	7	Michael Patton	14	Declan Ott	20		
Bob McGraw	10	Mary McGonagle	15	Maria Pochick	20		
Ida Pascasio	10	Katie Goodwin	16	Cairre Powe	20		



Michael & Kim Patton	December 11
Ernesto & Ida Pascasio	December 17
Dennis & Marietta Tumbokon	December 17
Monty & Deborah Ramella	December 18
Ray & Susan Maupin	December 27
George & Wendi Aiello	December 30
Fred & Deborah Butler	December 31

**2nd Collection**  
**Retirement Fund for Religious**  
**December 7-8**

*This collection is especially important because it goes towards providing financial help towards our retired religious who need extra assistance with medical needs, groceries, rent etc.*





Angel Tree season has officially begun! If you would like to participate in Angel Tree this year, you may pick an Angel off the Tree in the back of the church. On the back of the angel will be an index card for you to fill out. Please drop the card in the basket on the table next to the tree.

Please take the angel home with you. It should be placed on your gift-wrapped present.

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office or Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934

A big Thank You to all those who helped serve Thanksgiving Dinner at the WO Manor. We are very grateful for all the ministries that made this event a success: the Knights of Columbus, the Youth Ministry, and the Food Pantry Volunteers. We are so proud of our Church for coming together on Thanksgiving to help those less fortunate.



**Advent Penance Service**

**Tuesday, December 3:**

6 pm ~ Princeton

**Wednesday, December 4:**

6pm ~ Bluefield



**Immaculate Conception of Mary  
Mass Schedule**



**Monday, December 9:**

12 Noon ~ Princeton

6pm ~ Bluefield

**First Sunday of Advent**

Begin your Advent journey by blessing your Advent wreath. Light the first violet candle and sing "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



*O come, desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind; bid ev'ry sad division cease and be thyself our Prince of peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

***Ding, Dong, the Bells Have Rung!***

*We are proud to announce that the church bells have been restored and been placed in the church tower. They will ring before every mass.*



***Bringing People to Christ by Bishop Mark E. Brennan***

*"Dear brothers and sisters of my beloved Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, I have written quite a few pastoral letters in my five years as your Shepherd. This may be the most important one, because it touches on the very reason we are a Church; so I ask you to take the time to read it and reflect on its message."*



*Bishop Brennan's Special Pastoral Letter Booklet will be available before and after each mass in the back of the church. Please feel free to take one.*



## SACRED HEART ORNAMENTS

Perfect for Christmas to hang on the tree! Buy one for yourself or as a gift to family members and friends! These beautiful ornaments are an exact replica of our Sacred Heart Church Building!

The ornaments will  
be selling  
for \$20.00 each.



We will be selling them at Mass or you may call Ann Robinson at (304) 887-2421 or the parish office to place your order.

## Ask yourself this Question?

**Did you, your children, or your grandchildren get Baptised, have First Communion, Confirmation or get Married in the Church?**

If you answered yes to any part of this question, we need your help. We are looking for pictures of any event that took place in the Church.

We also need family pictures for our directory. If you have digital please send them to [shcc\\_bluefieldmedia@yahoo.com](mailto:shcc_bluefieldmedia@yahoo.com). We will be taking family pictures at weekend Masses.

If you have hard copy pictures, please bring them to Mass on the weekends. Please fill out the form in the basket and they will be returned to you as soon as possible.

*Father Sebastian Devasya*  
**Holy Year Italy Pilgrimage**  
*September 2 – 11, 2025*  
*(10 days)*  
**\$5,999 from Charlotte**

View a video with helpful information about traveling with Unitours at [www.Unitours.com/traveler](http://www.Unitours.com/traveler)

**THIS PILGRIMAGE INCLUDES:**  
Round trip airfare on United Airlines  
Breakfast and dinner per itinerary  
Specially selected hotel accommodations  
Air-conditioned motor coach  
Full-time tour manager  
Departure tax and current fuel charge

## Cocoa & Cookies with St. Nicholas December 8th following Mass



Sacred Heart Catholic Church's very own Saint Nicholas is inviting ALL of our children and their parents for Cocoa and Cookies in the church lounge on Sunday, December 8, 2024 following 9am Mass.

Saint Nicholas will share his story and watch the children complete a Christmas Craft. Saint Nicholas would also like for the children to bring their Christmas letter for him.

November Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
11/30 Sat 6 PM	P. Peretti	C. Mulkey	A. Peretti	V. Hager	1.F. Moran 2.T. Hager 3. P. Peretti	J. Monaco	R. Ciccolini
			E. Peretti	D. Garton			
12/1 Sun 9 AM	M. Malamisura	L. Ajulo	T. Brown	R. Ciccolini	1.M. Romeo 2.T. Lampert 3.	S. Copolo	
			C. Tran	T. Bales			

December Ministry Schedule							
Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
12/7 Sat. 6 pm	J. McCloud	T. Lowery	Dave	Maria	1.J. McCloud 2.D. Garton 3.F. Moran	Pascasio's	R. Albert C. Albert
			Kelley	Zalduondo			
12/8 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	L. Ajulo	H. Wills	B. Buzzo	1.C. Havens 2.K. Kirk 3.K. Kidd	R. Albert	
			K. Wills	C. Ott			
12/9 6pm Immaculate Mary	TBA	No Rosary	TBA	TBA	1.TBA 2. 3.	TBA	TBA
12/14 Sat. 6 pm	P. Peretti	D. Garton	A. Peretti	Tom	1.L. Mariotti 2.P. Peretti 3.F. Moran	John Monaco	D. Duritza R. Malamisura
			E. Peretti	Behrmann			
12/15 Sun. 9 am	M. Malamisura	B. Musolin	A. Froy	C. Lampert	1.T. Lampert 2.M. Romeo 3.A. Robinson	R. Malamisura	
			E. Husband	T. Bales			
12/21 Sat. 6 pm	T. Lowery	T. Lowery	Dave	Valerie	1.T. Behrmann 2.T. Hager 3.A. Peretti	Pascasio's	D. Shumate M. Mccoy
			Kelley	Hager			
12/22 Sun. 9 am	The Winfree's	T. Lampert	R. West	R. Albert	1.S. Copolo 2.C. Havens 3.K. Kirk	B. Buzzo	
			K. Oakes	R. Cicoliini			



## Sacred Heart Prayer List

**Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Stephanie Blevins, George Bowling, Mary Bruch, Loretta Carrigan, Ron Ciccolini, Carl Cook, Benny Disibbio, Angie Genovesi, Valerie Hager, Daniel Kirk, Claire & Terry Lampert, Tommie Jo Longworth, Mary Malamisura, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha Moran & Family, Claude Morgan, Sharon Rothausen, Carolina Ferrare

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Richard Canterbury, Alex Ercoline, Joanne Ercoline, Lou Ercoline, Mary Claire Keenan, Sue Mazol, Joan Monaco, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Rosalie Rochetti, Mitzi Romeo, Miriam Salaita, Anna H. Switch, Joan Zingale

**Friends & Family:** Cherie Beck, Yvonne Blevins, Donald Bowles, Shelby Bowles, Teddy Bradshaw, Mark Burnette, Patrick Clark, Chuck Comer, Carolyn Crigger, Christina Easton, Fr. Chapin Engler, Jason Fortney, Beth George, Dolly Hager, Steve Hamm, Skip Harless, Larry Hicks, Yael Issacs, Natalie Jackson, Sandy Kegley, Sherry Khatib, Stan Lawson, Bill Lester, Bob Mahood, Robert Martin, Connor McKenzie, Ken Mulkey, Angelo Perri, Walt "Buddy" Pierce, Dr. Amanda Hale Reese, Brian Richards, Leanna Smith, Larry Sarever, Abby Taylor, Judy Tolbert, Kay Trimble, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Steve Vaught, Alma Wheeler

If there is anyone you would like to add to our prayer list, please call the parish office at 304-327-5623 or you may email Lucy at [lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org](mailto:lbrinegar@sacredheartblfd.org)



Weekly Collection	weekend Nov 23 & 24	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	5,770.00	236,800.20	215,000.00
Maintenance	210.00	4,004.00	4,400.00
Loose collection	389.00	21,583.20	22,000.00
Holiday Flowers	190.00	1,286.00	1,300.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 6,559.00</b>	<b>\$ 263,673.40</b>	<b>\$ 242,700.00</b>
Food Pantry	711.00	24,146.00	0.00
<b>attendance:</b>	<b>6pm: 60</b>	<b>9am: 113</b>	

### Order Your Sacred Heart T-Shirt Today

**Order forms will be located in the back of the church**

**Don't wait, order NOW!!!  
Last day to place orders will be  
Sunday, December 1**

White t-shirt with this logo on the front



**Sacred Heart  
Catholic Church**  
Bluefield, West Virginia



We have raised **\$36,486** for the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Which has surpassed our goal of \$24,620!

Thank you everyone for your generous donations. Please continue to donate if you can!

#### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AND A PRIEST IS NEEDED, PLEASE CALL:

Parish Office (304) 327-5623

Princeton Office (304) 425-3664

**In case of serious or life-threatening sickness or the actively dying:** {Please consider, with Fr. Sebastian out of town, it will take longer to contact a priest. Please call the church office as soon as you can} The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

**In case of illness:** Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

**Nursing homes & Hospitals:** are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

# Dear Padre,

*I've been Catholic all my life, but I don't understand Advent. It's too much like Lent and seems an odd way to prepare for the birth of a baby.*

In a society that is primarily secular, one skill of the believing Christian is the ability to balance competing realities. From a secular perspective, Christmas is part of the period identified as the "holidays," beginning with Thanksgiving until New Year's Day, when it abruptly ends and stores begin advertising Valentine's Day.

For Christians, Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the great promise fulfilled after centuries of waiting and expectation. The creative energy of the Father is displayed in wonder and awe as the angels sing and people of good faith gather to celebrate. We join our ancestors in anticipation of this event through the liturgical season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation.

The Christian holy day is a singular day, the feast of the Nativity of the Lord—Christmas—but the Church continues the celebration of God's life and love through the days that follow, culminating in the Baptism of the Lord, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus.

We are invited to hold the secular and the liturgical experiences in an integrated balance. We can celebrate the secular holidays and we can enter the liturgical season that helps us contemplate something much grander and more spectacular. ●



KIPSOO / SHUTTERSTOCK

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7	December 8
<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>St. Francis</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>St. Ambrose,</i>	<i>Second Sunday</i>
Is 2:1-5	<i>Xavier, Priest</i>	Is 25:6-10a	Is 26:1-6	Is 29:17-24	<i>Bishop and</i>	<i>of Advent</i>
Mt 8:5-11	Is 11:1-10	Mt 15:29-37	Mt 7:21, 24-27	Mt 9:27-31	<i>Doctor of the</i>	Bar 5:1-9
	Lk 10:21-24				<i>Church</i>	Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
					Is 30:19-21,	Lk 3:1-6
					23-26	
					Mt 9:35-10:1,	
					5a, 6-8	



STEFANO DAL POLOZZO / CNS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Vigilance means this: not to allow our hearts to become lazy or our spiritual life to soften into mediocrity. Be careful because we can become "sleepy Christians"—and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness....*

*This is a sad life going forward this way since there is no happiness.*

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 28, 2021