



## When Will We Be Satisfied?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In 1992, *Forbes* magazine published an issue titled “Why Do We Feel So Bad When We Have It So Good?” It featured articles by such luminaries as newsman Dan Rather, President George H. W. Bush, and author John Updike. Many of the writers reflected upon our passion for more and our hunger to live in affluence and how that fails to satisfy. In so many ways, we as a nation find ourselves seeking distractions from living with ourselves lest we be confronted by our ultimate loneliness. As a nation we are addicted to entertainment and smartphones, to drugs and pornography, to finding something new. We are confronted by rising suicide rates and a pervasive, deep-seated anger. Why are we not satisfied?

John the Baptist called the people of his day to repent, which is another way of asking them—and us—to look at life differently. Advent is really about getting in touch with our deep longing for more, a part of our human condition that ultimately is only satisfied by God. We have been created to long for more, a longing that feels like loneliness, a longing that seeks to be satisfied. In the end, we can only find a sense of peace in the midst of such longing by accepting that it can never be fully satisfied in this life. Like the spirituality of Alcoholics Anonymous, accepting rather than fleeing from our human reality becomes a path to new life. ●

### Reflect

*How do you deal with loneliness and a longing for more out of life?*

John [the] Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

MARK 1:4

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

1003 WYOMING ST, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

DECEMBER 9 & 10, 2023

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

**Saturday, December 9- 6:00 PM**

✠ Elizabeth & Tom Linkous by Family

**Sunday, December 10- 9:00 AM**

✠ Deceased Members of Sacred Heart

**Tuesday, December 12- Noon**

✠ Michael Rogers by Claude and Annette Morgan

**Wednesday, December 13- 9:00 AM**

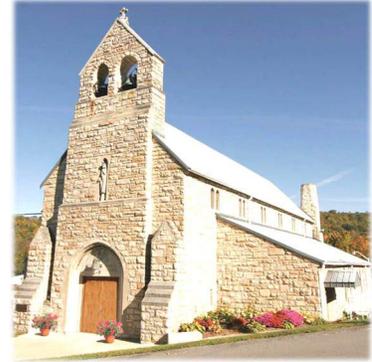
✠ Pete Bellini

**Saturday, December 16 - 6:00 PM**

✠ Deceased Members of Sacred Heart

**Sunday, December 17 - 9:00 AM**

✠ People of the Parish



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

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

Friday 9:00am-12:00pm

**Food Pantry Hours:**

Wednesday 10:00am -2:00 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 9-10:** 2nd Collection for Retired Religious

**December 10:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

**December 10:** Cocoa & Cookies with St. Nicholas 10 AM

**December 11:** Knights of Columbus Meeting 7 PM

**December 12:** St. Anne's Altar Society Meeting 11 AM

**December 17:** Third Sunday of Advent

**December 23:** Regular 6:00 PM Mass

**December 24:** Regular 9:00 AM Mass

**December 24:** Children's Christmas Mass 4:00 PM

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Mass 7:00 PM

**December 25:** Christmas Day Mass 9:00 AM

**December 26-29:** Office Closed for Holiday

**December 26-29:** No Daily Mass

**January 5:** First Friday Mass 6:00 PM

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

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

December 15 - Princeton      December 29 -Bluefield

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** Very Rev. Sebastian E. Devasya, Assoc. V.E., V.F.  
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:** Paul Krause  
pkrause@dwc.org      216-402-1450

# Second Sunday of Advent

As we enter the second week of Advent, we realize that often, all our good intentions get lost amid the bright lights and celebrations of the Christmas season it precedes.

The second week of Advent is particularly significant as we reflect on the meaning of faith, which is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. In ancient times, the people were foretold of a messiah who would be named “**Jesus**, for he will save his people from their sins” and be called “**Immanuel**, which means God with us.” They had faith that one day, the Savior would come, and He did! Maybe not as they expected, but as God intended – in the form of a poor, innocent child born in a manger.

Let us refocus our attention and recommit to our spiritual intentions. I urge you to take a moment to balance holiday busyness with spiritual reflection and preparation for Christmas. During Advent, we light candles and meditate on the story of Christ's birth, reminding ourselves of the humble beginnings of our Savior. We are encouraged to focus on the meaning of our faith and anticipate Christ's coming among us.

As we light the second purple candle, called the “Bethlehem Candle,” we contemplate Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem. We are reminded of the faith that comes with the knowledge that God keeps his promises. As we light this candle and meditate on the story of Christ's birth, may we be filled with hope and faith, worshipping infant Immanuel and believing in our hearts that God is always with us.

## Let us pray:

*Advent God,  
we journey with you,  
to Bethlehem’s stable  
and a new-born King,  
ears attuned  
to the song of angels,  
eyes alert  
for Bethlehem’s star.  
Forgive us  
if on our journey  
if we are distracted  
by the tempting offers  
of this world.  
Keep our hearts aflame  
with the hope  
of Christmas,  
and the promise  
of a Savior.*

In loving faith,

*Fr. Sebastian*

*Amen*

**FAITH FORMATION**



***Faith Formation 2023 - 2024***

***Theme for 2023***

*Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will refresh you.”*

*Matthew 11:28*

**The schedule through January 2024:**

December 10 ~ Faith Formation in the parish lounge – lesson on St. Nicholas

December 17 ~ Practice for Christmas Eve Children’s Mass in the Church

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

December 31 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 7 ~ **NO** Faith Formation for Holiday

January 14, 21, 28 ~ Faith Formation Regular Sessions

**RCIA**



*The next RCIA meeting will be December 13 at 5 pm in the school. To learn more, please contact Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934 or Julia at the parish office.*

**CRUSADERS YOUTH**

**Upcoming Events:**

**December 24th** - Christmas Eve mass will be a Youth Mass please let me know if you are able to participate.



**FOOD PANTRY**

**November 2023 Food Pantry Distributions**

Date	Adults over 18	Children under 18	Total Clients	New Families	Clothing	Hygiene Products	Total # of Distributions
1-Nov	93	30	123	2	96	88	61
8-Nov	236	100	336	8	402	125	132
15-Nov	311	122	433	7	98	86	171
29-Nov	106	49	155	3	335	152	60
Monthly Totals	746	301	1047	20	931	451	424
Y-T-D Distribution	6690	2658	9331	245	12524	9853	3822



Handbell Choir

*Handbell Choir Rehearsal is Monday, December 11 at 6:30 pm.*

Second Sunday of Advent

On this Second Sunday of Advent, light two violet candles on your advent wreath and ask God for the strength to be like John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord.



*Angel Season has officially begun! Thank you to all who have participated in angel tree by taking an angel off the tree. All of them have been distributed. Just a gentle reminder we need the wrapped gifts back by **December 9th** with the angel tree card attached to them. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office or Barbara Musolin at 304-922-1934.*



BLUEFIELD

*Christmas Mass Schedule*

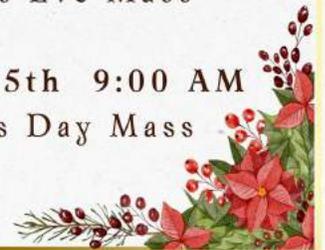
**December 23, Saturday**  
Regular 6:00 PM Mass

**December 24, Sunday**  
Regular 9:00 AM Mass

**December 24th 4:00 PM**  
Children's Christmas Mass

**December 24th 7:00 PM**  
Christmas Eve Mass

**December 25th 9:00 AM**  
Christmas Day Mass



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 Sanctuary Altar at Sacred Heart!

**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, Theresa Bales at (304) 920-8104, or the parish office to place your order.

**National Eucharistic Congress ~ Indianapolis ~ July 17-21, 2024**

Please consider joining Bishop Mark Brennan, the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Fr. Sebastian, and Mary Malamisura on this wonderful trip to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress! The Tour includes roundtrip transportation via a deluxe motorcoach to Indianapolis, a 5 day pass, 4 night accommodations, continental breakfasts and more! The payment schedule is \$250 deposit due upon registration, \$500 due by December 31st, and the remaining balance due by April 17, 2024. The deadline to register is December 15, 2023. For more information on this Catholic pilgrimage, please call Mary Malamisura at 304-922-2020.

# Christmas Flower Offerings



Thank you to all who donated:      In Memory/Honor of.....

Bob & Cathy Buzzo

Vearl & Betty Clayton

John & Debbie Crist

John J. Crist, Sr., Elizabeth Crist

Ann Crist Byrd, Mary Ann Franklin,  
Mary Williams

James & Valerie Hager

Julia Harrison

Frances Harrison

Tom Harrison

Frances & Robert Harrison

Katie Kidd

Daniel & Kathleen Kirk

Terry & Claire Lampert

J.W. and Joan Turner, Gene & Polly Lampert,

Jonathan Scott, Darrell Lawrence,

Beverly Gilmer Noakes

Natalie Lijoi

Mario A. Lijoi

Jimmie & Marilyn McCoy

Ray L. Shumate, Mary Shumate

Jay & Cathy Mullen

James & Barbara Musolin

Johnny & Gina Rasi

The Baldrige Family, The Rasi Family

Michael & Debra Rebuck

Mitch Rebuck

John & Cynthia Stacy

John & Pat Stacy

Stephen & Laura Ward





# Advent Wreath & Candles



## ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is a centuries-old Christian tradition. Potentially overlooked by the candles it holds to light the way for the birth of Jesus, the Advent wreath itself symbolizes many themes and beliefs central to the Christian faith. In parishes, Advent wreaths are placed anywhere on the altar, on a side table, or even hung from the ceiling. In the home, you might place your Advent wreath on an entry or dining table or another location where you, your family, and your guests can enjoy the wreath during the Advent season.

## HISTORY OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The origin of the Advent wreath has been traced back to Germany, though the exact dates are unknown. Historians have suggested that pre-Christian Germanic peoples would light candles around wreaths in the dark winter months in anticipation of the warmer, lighter months in springtime. This tradition likely evolved into an “Advent wreath” at some point during the Middle Ages, transforming the pagan tradition into a Christian one. Rev. William Saunders explained that “By 1600, both Catholics and Lutherans had more formal practices surrounding the Advent wreath.” Ultimately, the Advent wreath tradition spread beyond Germany and into other areas of the world, namely throughout the western Church.

## ADVENT WREATH MEANING

The circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes God’s infinite love for us – it is never-ending, just like the true Light of the World, Jesus, who leads us into eternal life with Him. The materials of the Advent wreath similarly lead us to reflect on the everlasting nature of God; traditionally, Advent wreaths have been made of evergreen leaves, such as pine or fir, which maintain their green color beyond the season in which they are collected. Nowadays, there are many modern interpretations of Advent wreaths that still help us celebrate the traditional meaning of the wreath: preparing the way for the Light of the World, Jesus. Battery-operated/LED wreaths are a good example of this as they simulate the four candles but don’t require lighting each week.

## ADVENT CANDLE

### WHAT DO THE FOUR CANDLES OF ADVENT SYMBOLIZE?

The four candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they respectively symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. In some homes and parishes, people will also light a fifth candle on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to represent the birth of Jesus; this candle, when added to the Advent wreath, is typically white and larger than the other candles and is placed in the center of the wreath.

### ADVENT CANDLE WEEKS, NAMES & COLORS

- Advent week 1 – Hope: Prophecy Candle (purple)
- Advent week 2 – Peace: Bethlehem Candle (purple)
- Advent week 3 – Joy: Shepherd’s Candle (pink)
- Advent week 4 – Love: Angel’s Candle (purple)

### PRAYER FOR LIGHTING ADVENT CANDLES – HENRI NOUWEN

Each person or family might approach lighting Advent candles in a different way, which is totally okay! Some families will let different members light a candle each week and say a prayer. What matters most is that the candles remind you of the overflowing hope, peace, joy, and love that the birth of Jesus means for each of us. If you’re struggling to find the words for prayer, this Advent prayer from Fr. Henri J.M. Nouwen encapsulates what many of us feel and hope for during the Advent season:

Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparation for Christmas.  
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice each day.  
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.  
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your Kingdom.  
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of Your presence.  
We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You, we say,  
“Come, Lord Jesus!”

December Ministry Schedule

Mass Date & Time	Sacristan	Rosary Leader	Altar Servers	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	Hospitality	Collection Counters
12/9 Sat. 6 pm		Maria Zalduondo	David Kelley	M. Zalduondo	1.P. Peretti 2. V. Hager 3. T. Hager	J. Monaco	David Duritza
12/10 Sun 9 am	Greg & Callie Winfree	Anthony Torrez	K. Oaks R. West	R. Albert G. Abromitis	1.A. Robinson 2.M. Romeo 3.S. Romeo	B. Buzzo	Rocky Malamisura
12/16 Sat. 6 pm	Theresia Lowery	Theresia Lowery	Feleesha Moran	D. Garton	1.C. Stacy 2.J. Stacy 3.A. Peretti	The Pascaio's	Ann Robinson
12/17 Sun. 9 am	Terry Lampert	Cherie Mulkey	S. Copolo M. Copolo	T. Lampert C. Ott	1.A. Robinson 2.C. Havens 3. K. Kirk	S. Copolo	David Duritza
12/23 Sat. 6 pm		Maria Zalduondo		M. Zalduondo F. Moran	1.V. Hager 2.T. Hager 3.L. Mariotti	J. Monaco	The Aiello's
12/24 Sun Regular 9 am	Mary Malamisura	Cherie Mulkey	Mary Malamisura	A. Torrez	1.K. Kirk 2.M. Romeo 3.S. Romeo	R. Malamisura	
12/24 4 pm Children's	Patty Peretti	No Rosary	Christine Tran TBA	Madison Rebuck Sophia Tran	1.A. Robinson 2.W. Aiello 3.G. Aiello	J. Monaco	Counted after Christmas
12/24 7 pm Christmas Eve	Jean McCloud	??		F. Moran	1.J. McCloud 2.D. Garton 3.TBA		Counted After Christmas
12/25 9am Christmas Day	Mary Malamisura	??	S. Copolo M. Copolo	R. Ciccolini E. Abromitis	1.T. Lampert 2.M. Malamisura 3.S. Copolo	R. Malamisura	Ron Ciccolini Rocky Malamisura



*Our Deepest Condolences to Paul (Tonia) Malamisura, Deborah Gustin, and Darrel Malamisura on the loss of their Father Patsy Malamisura who passed away December 1, 2023. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

## Please Pray For:

**Parishioners:** George Aiello Sr, Jeanne Ameli, Peggy Austin, John Babbitt, Mary Jo Babbitt, Stephanie Blevins, Richard Canterbury, Loretta Carrigan, Sherry Ciccolini, Ron Ciccolini, Tony Colobro, Donella Crigger, Victoria Crofcheck, Teresa Derenge, Alex and Joanne Ercoline, Debbie Ameli Froy, Angie Genovesi, Katie & Ron Goodwin, James (Tom) Hager, Mary Claire Keenan, Susan Kerr, Daniel Kirk, Claire Lampert, Tracy Lyon, Harold Mabardy, Sue Mazol, Mary McGonagle, Aalannah McPeak, Feleesha & Patrick Moran, Shane Neal, Jacob Nester, Patricia Nester, Ernesto Pascasio, Barbara Pickett, Nancy Pochick, Nancy & Dr. Anthony Rasi, Jerry Rasi, Kathy Richards, Rosalie Rocchetti, Sharon Rothausen, Rodney & Jami Rust, Mariam Salaita, Virginia Shumate, Wayne Shumate, Ann Switch, Laura Zande Taylor, Stella Mae Taylor, Joe Thomas, Jason and Clay Thomason, Theresa Thomason, Larry Zande Jr., Patricia & Larry Zande Sr., Kara Zande and Analeigh Dawn, Joan Zingale

**Homebound Parishioners:** Linda Angelelli, Joy Formica, Dolores Pritchett, Mitzi Romeo, Theresa Soulis

**Friends & Family:** Betty Akers, Andrew Arczynski, Sandy Arczynski, Jim Archer, Jeffery Arkland, Tim Arnold, Jack Asbury, Jonathon Bays, Robert Below, Maggie Blankenship, Cara Blankenship, Amanda Bolton, Vanessa Boyer, Teddy Bradshaw, Melissa Carnett, Sandy Cassidy, Michelle Coker, Chuck Comer, Harold Cutlip, Lisa Dalton, Barry Dinger, Kim Duesing, Christina Easton, Mike Farmer, Cathy Feather, Tina Fitzgerald, Phil Gesotti, Larry Gilliam, Mary and Colin Gillespie, Vincent Godfrey, Dr. James Godwin, DDS, Skip Harless, Becky Harris, Gary Haynes, Owen Hime, Claire Holt, Alpha Jean Holly, Shannon Honaker, Madilyn Humphreys, Josh Husband, Trish Johnson, Cyndi Jones, Joseph Justin, Sherry Khatib, Sandy Kegley, Melonie Koch, Charlotte Kohlmeier, Zoe Kotsko, Eddie Lanter, Dawn Lawless, Stan Lawson, Elaine Lilly, James & Pam Linkous, John Paul Lovell, Jaysen Marshall, Jacob and Tara Matney, Andy McKoy, Brandon McKoy, Linda Meadows, Chase Miller, Kim & Doug Miller, Scott Morris, Jacob Morton, Helen Mullins, Jane Murphy, Ane Montarroyos, Bobby Neal, Shane Neal, Steven Nelcher, Jonny Phillips, Annette Pike, Barbara Polatz, Thomas Presley Sr., William Ray, Brian Richard, Roy Rogers, Keving Roland, Mayra Rolon, Charles Rose, Barbara Sadler, Rick Saunders, Brittany Scott, Courtney Shade, Devin Shamro, Raymond Shumate, Leanna Smith, Bryan Staten, Adam Stuart, Laurie Stuart, Robert Shade, Ellie Spencer, Teresa Taylor, Jim Thompson, Evelyn Turnbough, Sarah Turner, Cathleen Underwood, Debby VanBlaricom, Jane Walthall, Charlotte Woolwine

### 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 parish office.

### Catholic Sharing Appeal

Goal: \$25,340

# of Donations: 51

Amount Raised: \$68,484

[Donate – Catholic Sharing Appeal](#)

[dwcministries.org](http://dwcministries.org)



WEEKLY DONATIONS	weekend Dec 2-3	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	5,991.00	209,528.90	228,500.00
Maintenance	35.00	2,475.00	8,000.00
Loose Offertory	541.00	20,450.60	18,125.00
Christmas Memorial Flowers	400.00	1,545.00	2,000.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$6,967.00</b>	<b>\$ 233,999.50</b>	<b>\$256,625.00</b>
Food Pantry	1,855.00	38,943.35	0.00
Attendance:	6pm: 36	9am: 94	

# Dear Padre,

***Do Catholics have to marry in the Church? If a couple decides to marry outside of the Church, are they still allowed to receive Communion and other sacraments?***

Catholics are obligated to follow the laws of the Church, including those laws regarding marriage. If a Catholic marries outside the Church, meaning that they did not follow Church law, then they may not receive the other sacraments until their marriage has been witnessed by the Church.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony for the couple, but it is also a ceremony for the Church. The Christian community is called upon to witness the ceremony, with the bishop, priest, or deacon called upon to bless the union in the name of the Church. The Church can dispense from the form, that is, the place of the wedding, for good cause, and does so when necessary. When a dispensation from the law is granted, then the person has followed the marriage laws of the Church and is free to receive the sacraments.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony in which a sacrament is conferred. While the park may be pretty or the church down the street may be bigger, neither is a sufficient reason to ignore marriage law and marry outside the Church. ●

***The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org***



MIY EDWARDS / SHUTTERSTOCK

## **Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?**

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	December 15 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	December 16 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	December 17 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***In the Bible [conversion] means, first and foremost, to change direction and orientation; and thus also to change one's way of thinking. In the moral and spiritual life, to convert means to turn oneself from evil to good, from sin to love of God. And this is what the Baptist was teaching.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 6, 2020**