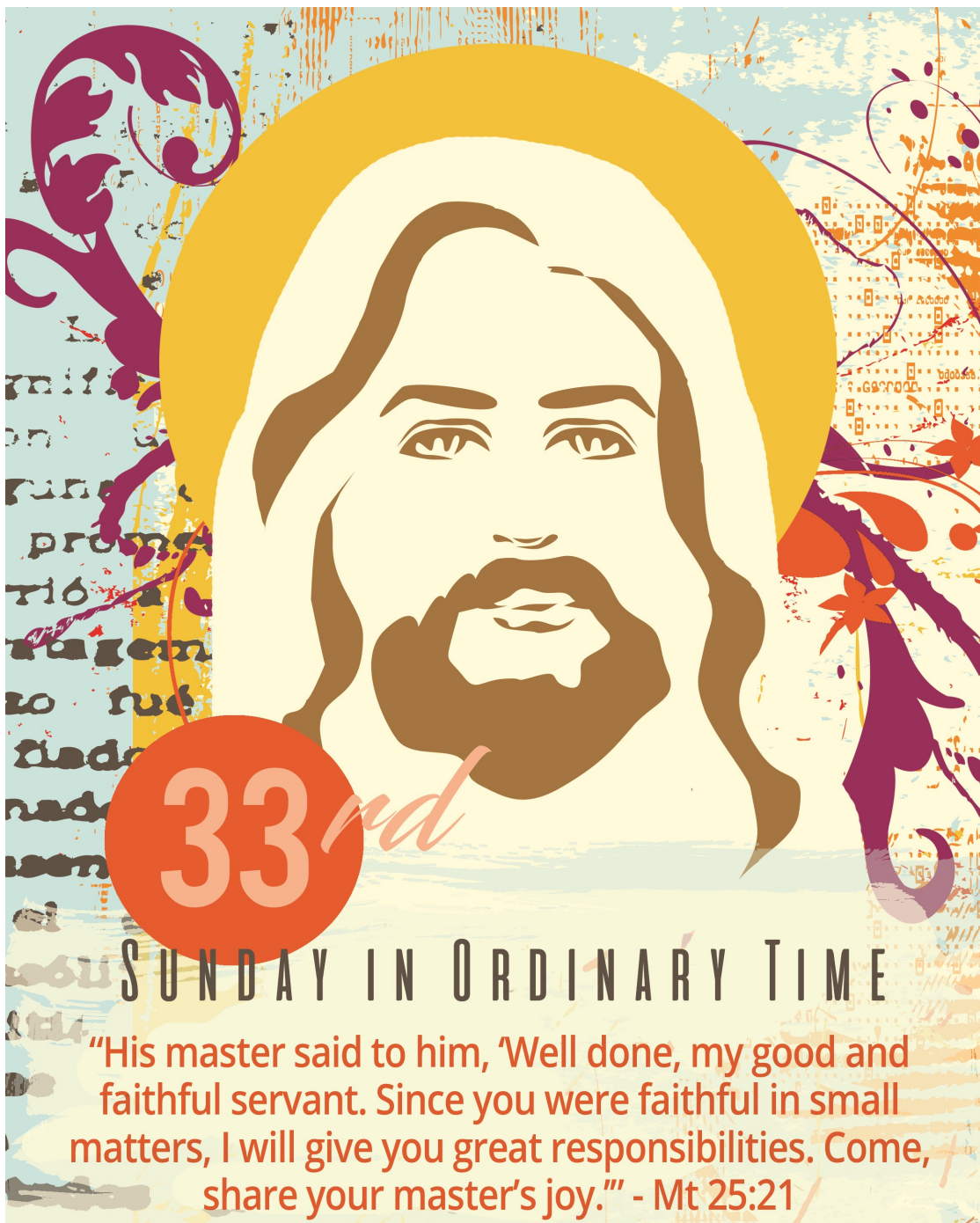


ST MICHAEL'S



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407 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905  
814-535-7646  
By appointment

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906  
DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL—WEST  
Phone: 814 539-5315

## FATHER MARK'S NOTES

*God has chosen  
to be with us,  
and He chose to  
come in a way  
of abject  
poverty.*

*...the thing that  
never changes  
is God has  
chosen to be  
one of us and  
with us.*

### **Christmas Mass**

We finally decided on the plan to have Christmas Masses that are both safe and include everyone who wishes to join us. We don't want to turn anyone away from Mass this Christmas! As I said at Mass, we are working to provide the necessary equipment for the sound and the video quality to make Christmas Mass in the hall a prayerful and memorable experience for all. We will begin experimenting with the new equipment on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent so that when Christmas arrives, we will be ready and have all the kinks worked out.

Also, we presently have no idea how long we will have to social distance at Mass. We are considering purchasing equipment so that people can once again get to Mass – or at least very close to Mass. So, at first, we will be renting the equipment. Our top priority is to keep all of you connected and alive in the faith.

We will provide updates as things unfold. The present situation is so fluid we sometimes don't know from one week to the next, but we will stay the course and inform you every step along the way.

As I said at Mass, this Christmas is going to be different in a lot of ways. But, it need not ever take us away from the truth and meaning of Christmas. God has chosen to be with us, and he chose to come in a way of abject poverty. Maybe we won't have the big family dinner, maybe we will. Maybe we won't get all kinds of stuff for Christmas, maybe we will. But, the thing that never changes is God has chosen to be one of us and with us. And, that is everything. Maybe, just maybe, this will be the greatest Christmas of them all. He is Emmanuel, "God with us."

### **Small Groups for Advent**

We have a bunch of suggestions listed for your Advent small groups. I hope one of them works for you. I hope you're making your plan for a great Advent, ready to welcome the Savior!

# OMOS OUTREACH

## ***Thanksgiving Dinner in A Box***

**Thank You!** There was an overwhelming response to feed your neighbors for Thanksgiving. We had over 175 boxes paid for within a week and volunteers offered to help distribute the boxes this week. We are very grateful for your generosity.



## ***Our Virtual Angel Tree***

After a great response to the Thanksgiving dinners in a box and for the safety factor for all, we will host a Virtual Angel Tree. This week you will be able to go on [omostoday.com](http://omostoday.com) and click on a gift you would like to purchase for a local child. You will have the option to offer a donation as well. There will be more information this week in the email and in the next bulletin.

## ***Stuff the Truck – November 21/22***

This month we are collecting the *Marine's Toys for Tots* Program that collects new unwrapped toys each year and distributes those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Toys for Tots accepts NEW unwrapped toys, books, and cash donations. This year the need is greater due to the loss of some collection events and increased requests. Every child deserves a little Christmas. The truck will be parked in front of the church on November 21 and 22.

## ***Coat Collection in December***

It will soon be cold and there is always a need for coats in our community. You can begin to look around your house for like new coats or purchase a coat for someone. We will have a box to collect them beginning Sunday, November 29. More details to come.

## ***Shopping?***

**Food Bins – Drive up and drop off –  
located on our back patio behind Holy Grounds.**

When you are shopping, pick up a couple extra items for the food banks. Canned items, peanut butter, pasta, etc. / Also, items for the St. Vincent de Paul Tuna Noodle dinner such as large cans of tuna, egg noodles, and large cans of mushroom soup. There is a great need currently.

*Thanks for being the hands and feet of Christ!*

## CARE MINISTRY

Are you or do you know someone going through a difficult situation? Or, do you know someone who just needs a sign that someone cares? We have care ministers available to talk to and care packages for someone who may need the extra support.

*Want to know more?* Contact the Care Ministry at [omoscareministry@gmail.com](mailto:omoscareministry@gmail.com) or 535-7646.

## Virtual Angel Tree Coming Soon!



## SMALL GROUP NEWS

Even though it's warm outside, Advent will be here in a few short weeks. Get your group together and find some time to set aside for everyone's personal preparation for the coming of the Messiah! What a beautiful season to evaluate our personal journey to Jesus just as Mary and Joseph wondered what the future held for them and their unborn son. Suggested options for study for Advent are below or find one your group would like to do. Let's all find a way to prepare for the coming of our Savior.

### Books:

- *Rejoice Advent Meditations with the Holy Family* by Fr. Mark Toups– Can be purchased through Ascension Press. The DVD is optional.
- *When God Comes Down* by James Harnish– Available through Abington Press, Christianbooks.com, Thriftbooks.com or Amazon

### Online Studies

- Advent – Available on the Formed.com
- Advent by Liturgical Folk. The link for this will be available on the omostoday.com website.

## EPIC

**Confirmation Candidates:** If you were unable to attend the 11th-grade retreat this weekend, please email Ali Koch ASAP so you can get signed up for the next Diocesan Virtual Retreat starting on Jan. 17, 2021.

Thank you to all the youth for bringing and wearing your masks for TOB and Alpha. You are helping to care for others.

## ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

Reservations for Christmas Mass at St. Michael's, Christmas Eve 4 p.m. & Christmas Day 9:45 am, may be made by calling Maureen Puchko at 539-6321. Please leave a message with the number of people attending.

St. Michael's is selling Giant Eagle, Sheetz, and Walmart Scrip. Scrip is available after Mass and at Riek's Country Store. The hours are Thurs. & Fri. 11 am—4 pm & Sat. 9 am to noon. Call Marisa 243-3674 with questions.

Christmas poinsettia order forms are by the doors. Orders due by November 28

## CENTENNIAL BOOK HELP NEEDED

**Do you like to write? Does History interest you?**

We are looking for help in putting together our Centennial Commemorative Book (ebook).

Email: [adifrancesco@dioceseaj.org](mailto:adifrancesco@dioceseaj.org)

## WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Monday, November 16  
6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration  
8 a.m. — Mass

Tuesday, November 17  
6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration  
7:30 a.m. — Confession  
8 a.m. — Mass

Wednesday, November 18  
7:00 a.m. — Praise and Worship  
4:30 p.m. — Eucharistic Adoration  
5:30 p.m. — Confessions  
6 p.m. — Mass

Thursday, November 19  
6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration  
9 a.m. — **School Mass**

Friday, November 20  
6 a.m. — Eucharistic Adoration  
8 a.m. — Mass

Saturday, November 21  
3 pm — Confessions  
4 p.m. — Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Vindy Kohan & Ayda Dorian  
**Lector:** Cathy Vigna  
**Euch. Min:** Marilyn Billow (2)  
Michelle Petrell, Mary Kay Clark  
Saturday, November 21  
6 p.m. — Mass at St. Michael's  
**Server:** Tim Burgess & Alexis Williams  
**Lector:** Linda Popchak

Sunday, November 22  
8:30 a.m. — Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Joseph Nibert & Ella Nibert

**Lector:** Darlene Marsh  
**Euch. Min:** Keith Santee (2), Dawn Zabala, Carol Battaglia

Sunday, November 22  
11:00 — Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Chase Neumann & Charlie Neumann  
**Lector:** Christa Curtis  
**Euch. Min:** Anne Schrey (2), Olivia Marabito, Mike Garver

**12:30 p.m.** — Communion outside Mass at OMOS

## REST IN PEACE

**John Cotchen**  
Father of Neysa Cotchen

**Rudy Keck**  
Father of Karen Keck

*Our sympathies and prayers go out to the families and friends of the deceased.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 14  
4:00 p.m. Frances Dorian (Family)  
6:00 p.m. Mark Stem (Marge Blough)

Sunday, November 15 — 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**8:30 a.m.** Rosemarie Weinzierl (Bill & Terrie Ray) & Knights of Columbus Council #4604  
**11:00 a.m.** Rudy & Gladys Keck (Family) & John Ungar (wife, Bernadette)

Monday, November 16  
8:00 a.m. Kelly Tourney (Irene Newhouse)

Tuesday, November 17  
8:00 a.m. William Felix (wife, Mary Catherine)

Wednesday, November 18  
6:00 p.m. Barbara Regula (Jim & Ann Mattie)

Thursday, November 19  
9:00 a.m. Tom Wolff (wife, Bernadette)

Friday, November 20  
8:00 a.m. James & Mildred Wallace (Barbara Hull)

Saturday, November 21  
4:00 p.m. Richard Hanechak (Carol Visnovsky)  
6:00 p.m. Sister Terence Stenger (Bernice Stem)

Sunday, November 22 — 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**8:30 a.m.** Helen Kohan ((Bob & Lori Wagner & Family)  
**11:00 a.m.** Bruce & Claire Williams (The Girls)

## WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2,3,4 & 6 [Rev 2:17]/Lk 18:35-43  
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6,14-22/Ps 15:2-3a,3bc-4ab,5 [Rev 3:21]/Lk 19:1-10  
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Lk 19:11-28  
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [Rev 5:10]/Lk 19:41-44  
Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Lk 19:45-48  
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 20:27-40  
Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 [1]/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46