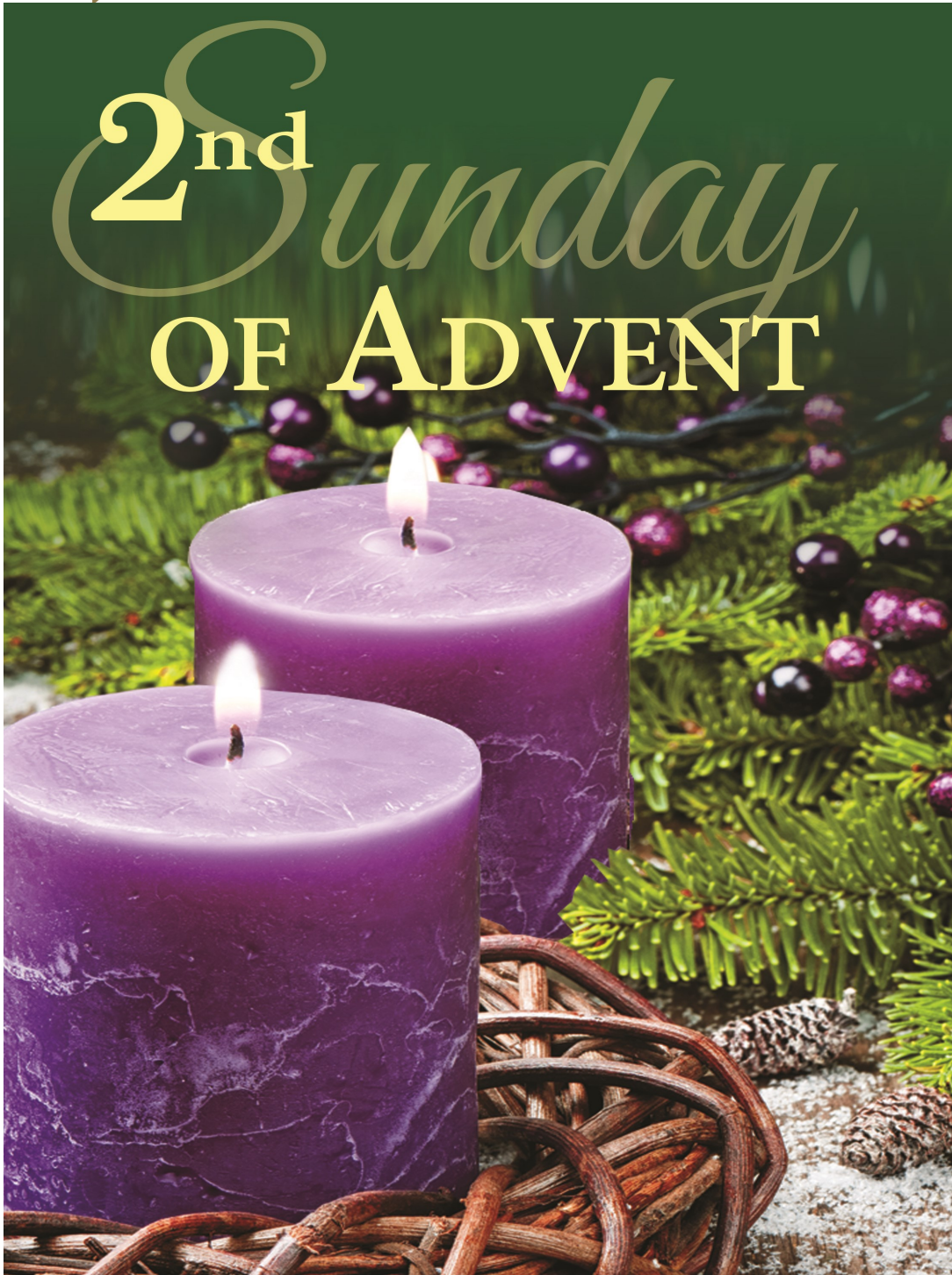


Our **Mother** Second Sunday of Advent  
of Sorrows December 8, 2024  
Catholic Parish

*St. Michael  
the Archangel  
Catholic Parish*



## **Mission Statement**

Compelled by the love of Christ,  
we love others,  
deepen our faith,  
and transform our world.



### **PARISH OFFICE**

415 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905  
Phone: 814-535-7646  
Fax: 814 536-7850  
Email: [omos@dioceseaj.org](mailto:omos@dioceseaj.org)  
Website: [omostoday.com](http://omostoday.com)

### **PRESBYTERY**

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

### **ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH**

180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906

### **BISHOP McCORT ELEMENTARY—WEST**

Phone: 814 961-3622, Ext. 2

## NOTE FROM FR. MARK

### SOME NEWS ABOUT OUR YOUTH MINISTRY

I want to share some changes our high school youth ministry with all of you. But, before I do, thank you for really caring about our Faith Formation Processes here at OMOS/St. Michael's. It's an understatement, but we can't do it without you!! As I mentioned before, we can do great things together, especially for our kids. And we are all trying. I hope these "further developments" in this process will continue what we have begun.

Of course, Confirmation Prep for Juniors will continue with the new one-year process that includes our parish mentors and the designated requirements. It's so good to see ALL the Confirmation candidates at Sunday Mass. It's huge!

Also, we will continue what we have begun with Young Life, and we are learning as we go. We are learning what it means to engage our high schoolers, to welcome and accept them and their unique journey of Faith. I am so grateful to our team for all their hard work and dedication. Young Life will continue on Sunday mornings, along with us EXPANDING to Thursday evenings. We want to bring Young Life into the homes of our students. So, along with Sunday morning, Young Life will be on Thursday evenings, either at students' homes or Holy Grounds. The kids are welcome to invite their friends to either time or location. Sunday Morning will still occur between the masses, and we will share the times and locations of the Thursday gatherings as they are made available to us.

Along with the Confirmation process and Young Life on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings, we will have the new Alpha Youth Series beginning on February 16. The Youth Alpha Series has recently been remade, and I'm really excited for the kids to experience it. We will be sharing the particulars as we go here. Again, the students are encouraged to invite their friends to join them.

I wanted to share some of the updates with all of you. I almost forgot; the adult Alpha Course will begin on January 14th. Parents and grandparents, by taking the Course, you too will know what Alpha is all about and how it can be a real game changer in your life.

I will be sharing more as things unfold. Thank you so much. Let's you and us continue to be a great team for our young people. If any of you have any questions about all of this, for anyone interested, I can meet you on Sunday, December 15, between the masses in the Church. Ask a question and let me share the vision we have for you and your children in a fuller manner.

### FYF (FOLLOW YOUR FAITH)

I am looking forward to being with you this week on FYF. This week, we return with Rolheiser's book "The Holy Longing." Chapter 4 is essential, and we must spend some time with that. It's titled "Christ as the Basis for Christian Spirituality." Here are some questions: What is the difference between a Christian and a Theist? (Many who claim to be Christian are really Theists.) Who is Jesus Christ? Why is it so critical to believe in the Incarnation – God becoming one of us? As Rolheiser states, "Giving skin to God!" So, join us. I really appreciate your comments and questions. I love doing the program!





**JOIN THE ADVENT PRAY25 CHALLENGE**

Prepare your heart for Jesus this Advent with daily prayer on Hallow, a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps us encounter Christ through daily prayer.



**Hallow**  
hallow.com/pray



**IT'S COOKIE TIME!**

It's that time of year when people start making all their favorite and incredible delicacies for family and friends over the holiday. We hope that you will share some of those wonderful cookies with the parish for our holiday gatherings. All donations are greatly appreciated and will be used for our special events over the holidays. Cookie donations may be dropped off at Holy Grounds Monday through Friday 9-3. We promise the staff will be kept away! Thanks for your help; it's always greatly appreciated.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

- ◆ Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—December 9 (Mass at OMOS @ 9 am & 6 pm.)
- ◆ Open House at Holy Grounds—December 11-6:45 p.m.
- ◆ Serve Others Saturday— December 14 @ 9 am
- ◆ Decorate OMOS Church—December 15 @ 12:30 pm
- ◆ Cookies with Santa—December 15 @ 12 pm
- ◆ Nights of Reconciliation—December 16/17 @ 6 pm
- ◆ Angel Tree—gifts due by December 15

**SMALL JOB HELP AVAILABLE**

The students from UPJ's Catholic Campus Ministries are looking to do God's will by giving back to those in our Johnstown community. If anyone is in need or has potential work that needs to be completed (yard work, painting, gutters cleaned, winterization, lights hung, etc.,) please get in touch with LaDonna McCary at (814)977-4277 or Lam220@pitt.edu.

**NIGHT OF HOPE WATCH PARTY**

LIVESTREAMED FROM STEUBENVILLE UNIVERSITY

**December 12th**  
7-9 PM | Holy Grounds

EXPERIENCE AN EVENING OF ENCOURAGEMENT, PRAYER, AND HOPE AS WE PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS! JOIN US FOR A LIVESTREAMED EVENT FEATURING A KEYNOTE BY CHRIS STEFANICK AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION WITH FR. DAVE PIVONKA, TOR. LET JESUS, OUR LIGHT, REFRESH AND RENEW YOU THIS ADVENT SEASON.

**OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS FOR SALE**

\$2/Pack (4 Wafers per pack)  
Contact OMOS Parish Office (535-7646) to place your order while supplies last.

**younglife**  
Johnstown

# COOKIES WITH SANTA

*Youth Christmas Party*

Embrace the holiday spirit as our high schoolers host our younger parishioners to an afternoon of cookie decorating, games, crafts, holiday praise and worship, and of course a visit with Santa Claus!

**OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN PK - 5TH**

**DECEMBER 15TH 2024**  
**12:00-2:00**  
**OMOS CHURCH HALL**

There is no cost to attend this event, but consider bringing a non-perishable food item to donate to our friends at the St. Clement Food Pantry.

Contact Marianna Gollis at 814.341.8236 to RSVP ahead of time, or if you would like to help at the event.

## ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

**OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS**, \$2/Pack (4 Wafers per pack). Contact Maureen Puchko (814) 322-2035 to place your order while supplies last.

**THE ANGEL TREE** is located in the back of the church. Please donate to help the community's needy and add your name to the tree.

### DECORATE ST. MICHAEL'S FOR CHRISTMAS!

St. Michael's will decorate the church on Sunday, December 22 at 10 am. Please come and help make the church beautiful for the Christmas Season.

## DECK THE HALLS

Deck the halls with beauty for our Lord. We will decorate Our Mother of Sorrows Church for the Christmas celebrations on Sunday, December 15, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Again, many volunteers are needed as there is much to do! It is a busy preparation time for everyone, but our Father will surely be smiling down on us as we mark the birth of His Son with our gifts of time and energy. I hope to see you there!



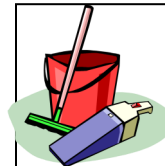
## ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree is set up in the back of the church. Please stop by our tree and choose "angels" to purchase gifts. Attach your "angel" to your **unwrapped**

present and drop it off in the Parish Office or the back of the church. Monetary donations will be accepted for grocery store scrip to give to the families.

If you want to donate money for grocery store scrip, please visit our parish website, [omostoday.com](http://omostoday.com). **All Angel Tree gifts are due back to the church or Parish Office by Sunday, December 15.** Thanks for your generosity!

If you have questions or would like to suggest a family in need, please contact Ellen @ (215) 880-8235.



## SERVE OTHERS SATURDAY

**December 14—beginning @ 9 am**

We are gathering a week early to make God's house beautiful for his birthday celebration! Please join us! We need many hands—men's and women's—to accomplish this enormous task. As we celebrate Jesus' coming to us in love, may we offer him a work of love in return.

- ◆ clean our church
- ◆ No-sew blankets



## MANY, MANY THANKS!

Many, many thanks to everyone who was involved in the turkey dinner project! Through your generosity, we provided 240 Thanksgiving dinners to people in our parish and local community who otherwise would not have had a Thanksgiving meal. A special thank you goes out to all those who braved the weather to pack and deliver boxes for this event as well. We are grateful for all your commitment to loving others and transforming our world. May God bless you with His peace, joy, and love!



**MINISTRY SCHEDULES****Monday, December 9-Immaculate Conception**

6 a.m. –Eucharistic Adoration  
 9 a.m. –Mass at OMOS with BMES-West  
**Servers:** Students  
**Lector:** Students

6 p.m.— Mass at OMOS

**Servers:** James Smedberg & Tim Smedberg  
**Lector:** Doug Puchko  
**Euch. Min:** Janet Bowser (2), Linda Geiser, Marilyn Billow, Vicki Wesner, Tom & Nancy Simmons, Carol Battaglia  
**Hosp:** Maria & Ralph Demarco, Marianne Krizner

**Tuesday, December 10**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
 7:30 a.m.—Confessions  
 8 a.m.- Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Bella Segear & James Smedberg  
**Lector:** Matt DiFrancesco

**Wednesday, December 11**

7 a. m. Praise & Worship  
 6:00 p.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Tim Burgess  
**Lector:** Kathy Ridella

**Thursday, December 12**

6 a.m.— Eucharistic Adoration  
 9 a.m.— Doug Puchko  
**Server:** Noah Feighner

**Friday, December 13**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
 8 a.m.- Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Annaliese Manalang & Derrick Holloman  
**Lector:** Michelle Petrell

**Saturday, December 14—Vigil**

3 p.m.—Confessions  
 4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Brendan Murphy & Brian Koch  
**Lector:** Rick Wess  
**Euch. Min:** Nancy (2) & Tom Simmons, Evie Wess, Michelle Dugan, Kathy & Jim Ridella, Mark Voelker  
**Hosp.:** Val & Bill Deater, Aurora Gilmour, Helen Hromulak, Gerri Isban, George & Mary Kogut, Ann Mattie

**Saturday, December 14-Third Sunday of Advent**

6 p.m. Mass at St. Michael's  
**Servers:** Tim Burgess  
**Lector:** Doug Puchko

**Sunday, December 15-Third Sunday of Advent**

8:30 am— Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Julianne McIlwain & Kylee Mateljan  
**Lector:** Marty Radovanic, Sr.  
**Euch. Min:** Michelle St. Clair (2), David & Estelle Milligan, Heather & Joseph Nibert, Keith Santee, Noah Hillegass  
**Hosp:** Michelle & Ken St. Clair, Michelle Kush, Marge Pipan, Tim & Chelsi McIlwain, Jackie Ayres, Kevin Evans

**Sunday, December 15-Third Sunday of Advent**

11 am—Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Millie Kohut & Emerson Manges  
**Lector:** Jan Koval  
**Euch. Min:** Richard & Barbara Luckner, Chrita Curtis, Matthew Carbonara, Donna Gillin, Taylor Beneke  
**Hosp:** Barb & Rich Luckner, Bill Ingram, Marianne Krizner, Mary Lynn Evans, Joyce Radovanic, Rick Phillips, Annette Kamzik



**A VERY GRATEFUL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED US EXCEED OUR ST. MICHAEL FLOOR GOAL! OUR CURRENT DONATION AMOUNT IS \$ 36,165! MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOUR GENEROSITY.**

**MASS INTENTIONS****Saturday, December 7-Vigil**

4 pm Albert Hromulak (wife, Helen & son, Albert, Jr.)

**Saturday, December 7— Second Sunday of Advent**

6 p.m. Donna Schiffhauer (Cynthia Wyar) & Hilary & Lucille Schrum & Karen Pinkas (Spack & Hicks Families)  
 (Sanctuary Candle in memory of Benny Popchak from wife, Linda—!2/8-12/14)

**Sunday, December 8— Second Sunday of Advent**

8:30 a.m. Carrie Berrich (Tony & Marianne Spada)  
 11:00 a.m. Judith Williams Jr. & William III Fornwalt (David Fornwalt) & Thomas Wolff (Family)

**Monday, December 9**

9 a.m. Jim Stager (Rick Weinzierl)  
 6 p.m. Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of OMOS & St. Michael's Parishioners

**Tuesday, December 10**

8 a.m. Evelyn Naughton-Henry (Pattie Poole)

**Wednesday, December 11**

6 p.m. Fr. Nicholas Christiana (Maria DeMarco)

**Thursday, December 12**

9 a.m. Norma Oliverio (Family)

**Friday, December 13**

8 a.m. Edward, Sr. & Marie Burkhard (Edward Jr. & Florence Burkhard)

**Saturday, December 14-Vigil**

4 pm Howard & Cecelia Sherman & Gladys Smajda (Family)

**Saturday, December 14— Third Sunday of Advent**

6 p.m. Anna Jean Sostek (Leonard & Connie Jerva), Robert, Dolores, & Kathryn Polak (Rena Weirbinski), & Paula Budash (Rita Mathes) (Sanctuary Candle in memory of Benny Popchak)

**Sunday, December 15— Third Sunday of Advent**

8:30 a.m. Charles F. Pfaller (Theresa & Jane Pfaller)

11:00 a.m. Roy Begly (Bill & Terrie Ray)

**WEEKLY READINGS**

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18