



November 27, 2022 | 1st Sunday of Advent

THE PARISH OF SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CLAYTON & FRANKLINVILLE

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 9a at Saint Catherine
Tuesday: 9a at Nativity
Wednesday: 9a at Nativity
Thursday: 9a at Saint Catherine

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4p at Nativity
Sunday: 8a at Saint Catherine
10a at Nativity

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 7p at Saint Catherine
Holy Day: 9a & 7p at Nativity

*(Please confirm with
Mass Intention Schedule.)*

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00-3:30p at Nativity
(or by appointment)

OFFICE MANAGER

Fran Carder
PSMA.FranC@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER

Cindy Simpson
PSMA.CSimpson@gmail.com

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS

PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com

PREP E-MAIL

religiouedsmap@gmail.com

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

REGIONAL SCHOOL

856-881-0067

REV. LAWRENCE E. POLANSKY, PASTOR

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

*“To bear witness to **God the Father**,
to follow the teachings of **Jesus Christ**,
and to be guided by the **Holy Spirit**.”*



NATIVITY: 2677 Delsea Dr, Franklinville **SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA:** 700 N Delsea Dr, Clayton

PARISH OFFICE: 49 W North St, Clayton, NJ 08312-1114 **PHONE:** 856-881-9155 **FAX:** 856-881-9166

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday: 10:00a-2:00p; **Thursday:** 10:00a-12:00 noon
(You may also call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment any time outside of these hours.)

FOR SACRAMENT PREPARATION OR FOR LETTERS OF ELIGIBILITY: Please contact the Parish Office.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! Please take a look at our website or call to register

**Please visit our website at <https://www.psmaj-nj.com>
or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PSMAinDoC>**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

4:00p Deceased Members of KoC Council #6890

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH – 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00a The People of the Parish

10:00a Josephine Hamilton by Woody & Susanne Hess

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

9:00a Health & Well-Being of John & Pat Luko

by Dan & Karen Seniff

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

9:00a Health & Well-Being of Don, Mary Ellen, & Matt Healy

by Dan & Karen Seniff

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH – ANDREW

9:00a Robert Biehler and Maria Biehler by The Biehler Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

9:00a Dave Magnar by Kevin & Irene Cassidy

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

9:00a No Parish Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3RD – FRANCIS XAVIER

4:00p Robert and Gary Hanna by Don & Mary Ellen Healy

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH – 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00a Lynda Bancroft by Pat Pannullo

10:00a The People of the Parish



Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

SANCTUARY CANDLE



If you've been thinking about having the Sanctuary Candles burn in the memory of your loved one, envelopes are available in the Gathering Spaces of both the Nativity and Saint Catherine of Siena for your intentions and offering of \$10. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions at 856-881-9155.

*The Sanctuary Candle in Nativity Church
burns for*

John Wesley Joseph Lewis

Requested by Mom and Dad

STEWARDS KNOW

“Therefore, stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.”

~ Matthew 24:42 ~

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. In **Stewardship**, you grow in gratitude each day, for all that we have been given.

PRAY for the SICK

Please pray for the sick & those that care for them

Harriet Bajewicz, George Bromwell, Brian Checkley, Nicholas & Rob Christian, Margaret Cloak, Henry Cottelli, Jim Cesanek, Janice Donahower, Judy Dutton, Anne Ellena, Mimi Hall, Don & Matt Healy, Lorraine Kreiner, Pat Luko, Rosemary McBride, Eileen Mulholland, Dot Myers, Bob & Barbara Stroh, Kathryn Tanner, and Karen J. Viola

If you have a family member who you would like added to the Prayer List, please ask their permission (due to the HIPAA Privacy Act) and contact the Rectory by calling 856-881-9155 or e-mailing PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com. Thank you!

OUR MILITARY HERO PRAYER LIST

If you have a family member serving in one of the branches of the military, please send their name, rank, and branch of service to the Parish Office (PSMA.Rectory@gmail.com or 856-881-9155).

**Please keep our brave service people in your prayers,
Especially those suffering from the effects of war.**

US Army

CPL Austin Arledge, Specialist Bryan Jenkins,
1st SGT Shane W. McLaughlin, MAJ Eric Miller, CPT Graham Miller,
& PFC Vincenzo Taormina

US Navy

AWR Daniel Carr, AG1 Jamie Engleman & EM2 William Little

US Air Force

AB Jacob R Custis

US Marine Corps

WO3 Brad Davis, SGT Nate McAllister, & CPT James V. Tumolo

LT JG Dominic J. Tumolo, US Navy; US Army Medic



Dear Parishioners,

Children fight sleep to stay awake when they want to be part of something, want to know what's going on, or want to see the end of a game or movie. Try as they might, though, soon their eyes flutter shut and heads nod. Sleeping is hard to fight. This is true not only for children, but for all of us when we don't take the time to get the rest we need. Our physical sleepiness can alert us to spiritual sleepiness. Jesus admonishes us in this weekend's Gospel to "**stay awake**." Try as we might, however, it is difficult to "**stay awake**" and keep our eyes constantly on Christ's comings. We get distracted by all of the everyday demands on our time.

Daily living is filled with planned events at set hours: eating ... drinking ... marrying ... working. In this way, we human beings measure time. For us, time is duration, relentless minutes ticking on. Once past, there is no recovery of lost hours. Wasted time is lost time. Wasted opportunity is lost growth. Wasted preparedness is lost encounter.

There is, however, another time that cannot be measured: God's time ... the fullness of time in which is the fullness of Life. God's time has no duration. All simply is. All is full of Life. This describes eternity, and even now in our measured time we experience eternity ... God's time. We have those moments when our attentiveness is so acute that the now is all that there is. When Jesus admonishes us to "**stay awake**," He is inviting attentiveness to His abiding Presence that is now even as its fullness is yet to come. "*As it was*" and as it is, "*so will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.*" How we live now has consequences beyond our eating ... drinking ... marrying ... working. How we live now is how we will be: taken into God's time or left in the never-ending succession of hours and days, weeks and years.

How we live in our time is a doorway into God's time. How we live in our time prepares us for Christ's Second Coming, while it also prepares us for living more fully even now. Advent calls us to immerse ourselves in God's time and to stay awake for the Life that is to come – and is already now.

The Prophet Isaiah admonishes the people of his time to "*climb the LORD's mountain ... that He may instruct us in His ways.*" We are thus not at a loss about how we walk in the light and live in God's time. We are to listen to God's instructions, one practical way to "**stay awake**" and prepare for Christ's coming.

Instructions in God's ways – in doing God's will – comes more formally through the Readings and the Homily at Sunday Mass or through catechetical instructions. But this is not the only way God teaches us right living. God's instructions also come through people who may ask for our help (giving us the choice to put another's good ahead of our own) or numerous everyday situations when we are faced with making moral choices (such as whether or not to put in an honest day's work). The issue is to listen and to see in these practical situations – in our own measured time – how God is drawing us into an eternity of time. Our listening means staying awake. Advent will bring us many choices. How we respond is practice in being prepared. Our everyday choices to follow God's ways immerse us in God's time where we already now experience the Life that only God can give.

May Saint Michael the Archangel defend, guide, protect, and intercede for us always!

Fr. Larry

Parish of Saint Michael the Archangel Food Pantry



“God loves a cheerful giver.”

~ 2 Corinthians 9:7 ~

Once again the holiday season is upon us. From Thanksgiving through Christmas, there is so much to do in so little time! As you are making that mad dash through your favorite grocery store, please consider buying an item or two for our Parish Food Pantry. At this time of year, we would like to add “holiday” type items such as **stuffing, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes /yams, gravy, applesauce/canned fruit, cake / fudge mixes, cookies, crackers**, etc. to our usual bags of groceries. Of course, we continue to need such items as **instant potatoes, ramen noodles, canned vegetables, canned potatoes, tuna, canned chicken, rice, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, soups and broths**. Also, we would appreciate new or clean, gently-used, reusable shopping bags. No time for shopping? Monetary donations are always welcome.

Your nonperishable food donations may be left in the Gathering Spaces of both Nativity Church and Saint Catherine of Siena Church, or they may be delivered directly to the pantry at the O’Meara Conference Center from 10:15 to 11:30a on Wednesday mornings.

***Thank you for your continuing generosity
and thank you for being a “cheerful giver.”***



Dramatic Presentation of the Book of Revelation on Stage at Vineland’s Landis Theater will present ***“The Writing of Revelation,”*** on stage on December 8th, 9th,

and 10th, with showtimes at 8p. A 10a showing will also be held on December 9th. The stage play, written by Warren Shaul and directed by Carol Polaha, is an interaction of the writing of the ***Book of Revelation*** in acting, music, dancing, and visual enhancements.

The role of Jesus will be played by Kristoffer Polaha, who is known for his roles in the *Hallmark* movies.

“The Writing of Revelation” features the visions of Saint John, the Apostle, his loyal friend, Polycarp, the corrupt acts of Jezebel, and a host of community members and musicians. The story reveals how the Book of Revelation was written and contains the seven blessings contained within the book. Tickets are on sale by visiting TheLandisTheater.com or by calling 856-691-3600.



***It’s the most
wonderful time
of the year ...***

Our Giving Tree Project tradition continues this year as we focus on specific groups of individuals and bring them some holiday cheer throughout the season of Advent.

Each Sunday, over the next couple of weeks, we will be gathering gifts for those in thought and prayer. No tags ... just bring an unwrapped gift for someone on our list.

Round One, we’re collecting for the **Seminarians of the Diocese of Camden**. At this time of the year, these eight (8) men are preparing for the Priesthood. They can use Wawa gift cards for gasoline or coffee and snacks ... bags of candy or snacks, or other bank gift cards for incidentals. Our Knit & Crochet Ministry is preparing lap blankets. We need your gifts by **November 27th** so that **Fr. Adam Cichoski**, our Vocation Director and son of the Parish, can deliver your gifts.

Round Two, we’re collecting for our local **Toys for Tots** campaign. Please bring an unwrapped toy for a child four-years-old and up. There will be boxes in the Gathering Spaces of both churches beginning **Saturday, November 26th** through **Sunday, December 11th** so that we can give them to our local retired Marines for distribution to children in the area.



SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL REGIONAL SCHOOL



The Saint Michael the Archangel Regional School Holiday Shop is open and is selling Douglas Fir Wreaths (22-24”) from Huffman Farms and Greenhouses in Vineland. Each live wreath will have a large red bow and cost \$27 each. Wreaths will be delivered the first full week of December.

The Holiday Shop will also be selling 28oz. containers of Johnson’s Carmel Popcorn. Johnson’s pops their own popcorn and uses the finest ingredients to create their top selling flavor. Each container is \$15. These will also be delivered during the first full week of December.



If you are interested in purchasing either a wreath or popcorn please contact the Advancement Director, Kelly Riordan at 856-881-0067, ext. 207, or e-mail her at advancement@smrsonline.com. You can also place your order online at <https://SMRSHolidayShop.givesmart.com>.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES, DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

Prison Ministry's
UNDERWEAR & SOCK DRIVE



Catholic Charities' Prison Ministry is collecting items for inmates in the Camden Diocese who are in need of clothing. Some correctional facilities only supply jumpsuits, and many inmates have no means to buy clothing to wear under the jumpsuits. The following is greatly needed in all sizes (new and unused only):

- MALES:** white tee-shirts and white boxers
- FEMALES:** white sports bras and white cotton briefs
- MALES & FEMALES:** white crew socks

DROP OFF/MAILING ADDRESS:

Catholic Charities' Camden office
1845 Haddon Avenue,
Camden NJ, 08103
Anytime Monday - Friday
between 8:30 AM & 4:00 PM.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

Sister Mary Cronin,
Prison Ministry Coordinator
Mary.Cronin@CamdenDiocese.org
856-342-4106

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40



**THE HOLY EUCHARIST:
CHRIST'S ETERNAL
SACRIFICE OFFERED
ON CALVARY ONCE
FOR ALL**

**NOV
29
7:00 PM**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Father Joseph Pham
Presented in English



Infant Jesus Parish:
Saint Margaret Church
845 Third Street
Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097

EUCHARISTICREVIVALSOUTHJERSEY.ORG

**JESUS IS STILL HERE:
THE FULFILLMENT OF
MATTHEW 28:20**

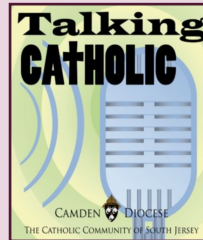
**DEC
7
7:00 PM**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Father Jon Thomas
Presented in English



Christ the King Parish
200 Windsor Ave.
Franklinfield, NJ 08033

EUCHARISTICREVIVALSOUTHJERSEY.ORG



Please know that you can easily find Diocesan audio podcasts and YouTube resources from local Catholic experts, produced by the Office of Communications with the Catholic Star Herald, to share with others at talking.catholicstarherald.org/

Subscribe to these YouTube channels to view all videos:

[Subscribe to the Catholic Star Herald YouTube channel:](#)

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www.youtube.com/channel/UCKPigUnilpN77DldUfyweow



November 27, 2022 | First Sunday of Advent

Is 2:1-5 | Rom 13:11-14 | Mt 24:37-44

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Don't get me wrong. I love vacations and weekends away. But the night and day before? It's always a whirlwind of laundry, packing, and shopping for groceries and essential car snacks. I knew we were going away. I could have gotten my act together earlier. Next trip, I tell myself. Then the cycle repeats itself. Advent can be that way. This year's going to be the year! No rushing around, no crazy last-minute shopping, no stress: I'm going to study the daily readings, read that Advent devotional, settle into the season of waiting. Today's readings speak not only to procrastinators like me but also to the planners: Wherever we are on that continuum, Advent gives us an opportunity to ready our souls for Jesus' coming. It's less about what we do when than about preparing our hearts. Through prayer, study and the liturgies of this season, we can ask God to help us clean house within and prepare for Jesus' coming.



ACTION Even with the best of intentions, the holiday season can become busy. As you go about errands or prepare your home, make an effort to listen to Advent hymns or reflections.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today is not only the first Sunday of Advent, but the first day of the liturgical year. Today's readings encourage us to prepare for Christ's coming. I love St. Paul's imagery: "Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us ... put on the Lord Jesus Christ." Just as we make resolutions for the new calendar year, Advent affords us an opportunity to start anew. However, the gift of our faith reminds us that we are not alone in this! We can seek the help of the Holy Spirit through prayer and turn to the accountability partners who sit in the pews next to us at Sunday Mass. We, in turn, can be a light to others through our words, attitudes, and actions. As we light our houses and light our Christmas trees this year, we can remember to put on the armor of light ourselves as we begin this holy season.

The History and Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

The lights of the candles on the Advent Wreath break through the darkness, reminding us of the Light of Christ that we anticipate during this holy season. Where did this tradition come from, of lighting four candles in an evergreen wreath to mark the weeks preceding Christmas? Like many of our Church traditions, the use of candles in the midst of late fall and winter was originally a pagan tradition. Rev. William Saunders, who wrote an article in the *"Arlington Catholic Herald"* on this topic, states that "pre-Germanic peoples used wreaths with lit candles during the dark and cold December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended sunlight days of spring." In a similar vein, Scandinavians "lighted candles [that] were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn the 'wheel of the earth' back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth."



In the middle ages, the Germanic peoples began incorporating a lighted wreath into the Christian season of Advent. It didn't gain widespread popularity until the 1800s and it wasn't until the 1900s that German immigrants brought the tradition to America.

The Advent Wreath is very symbolic. The evergreens used for the wreath itself are a reminder of continuous life. The shaping of them into a circle reinforces that meaning. The circle is also a sign of everlasting life as well as the eternity of God.

The four candles used, three purple and one pink, mark the Sundays of Advent before Christmas. The purple candles are reminders that this should be a time of prayer and sacrifice to prepare us for the second coming of Christ. On the third Sunday, the pink candle is lit to announce *Gaudete* Sunday, a Sunday of rejoicing for Christ is coming near. With the lighting of that candle, the light has won out over the darkness (three candles lit vs. the one that remains unlit).

Various meanings have been assigned to the four candles. One interpretation has each candle representing 4000 years, the Biblical time between Adam and Eve and the coming of Christ. In another interpretation, the first candle represents the patriarchs, the second the prophets, the third reminds us of John the Baptist, and the fourth of Mary, the mother of Jesus. They have also been described as the prophets' candle, the Bethlehem Candle, the shepherds' candle, and the angels' candle.

A fifth white candle in the center representing Christ can also be used. It is lit on Christmas Eve as a remembrance of Christ coming into the world. Sometimes, all the other candles of the wreath are removed and replaced with white candles on Christmas.

The Advent Wreath serves as a powerful visual reminder of the holiness of the season. The light of the candles invite us to quiet ourselves during this busy time and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. Whether at home or at church, it provides an invitation to wait and pray in hopeful anticipation for the coming of Christ. We are called to welcome the light of Christ into our lives.

Fagnant-MacArthur, Patrice. "History and Symbolism of the Advent Wreath" 29 November 2021. <https://www.catholicexchange.com>. Accessed 14 November 2022.

