

# SAINT HIPPOLYTE CHURCH

26012 N. Frenchtown Rd., Guys Mills PA 16327  
(GPS only; send mail to the parish office)

## Liturgies:

Monday 8:30am Communion Service  
Sunday 11:00am

## Confessions:

Before and After Mass or By Appointment

# The Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

251 S. Franklin St., Cochranton, PA 16314  
(GPS only; send mail to the parish office)

## Liturgies:

Friday 8:30am Communion Service

IT IS THE MISSION OF SAINT HIPPOLYTE AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES TO FULLY, CONSCIOUSLY, AND ACTIVELY GROW AS A FAMILY CENTERED IN CHRIST MINISTERING TO THE ENTIRE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

## Pastor

Rev. Jeffrey J. Lucas

## Parochial Vicar

Rev. Kyle Seyler

## Faith Formation Coordinator

Joyce Tarr 814-671-1009

## Administrative Assistant

Desiree Wagner

## Director of Music Ministries

Darcie Schoenfeldt

## To schedule an appointment with

Father Lucas or Father Seyler, call 814-336-1112.

## Parish Office

25997 State Highway 27, Guys Mills, PA 16327  
Phone: (814) 789-2022 Fax: 814-789-2025  
Email: office@sainthippolytechurch.com  
www.sainthippolytechurch.com  
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

St. Hippolyte Social Hall: 814-789-4533  
Our Lady of Lourdes Social Hall: 814-425-7550

## Weekly Liturgy Schedule

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY  
8:30am SH Communion Service and Rosary

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, SAINT PETER CANISIUS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY  
8:30am OLL Communion Service and Rosary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, SAINT JOHN OF KANTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
11:00am SH Norma Burchard (Gene & Pat Saeger)

## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Sunday: 10:00pm SH Lee Ann Leech (Terry & Mariann Farlik)  
Monday: 11:00am SH For the Parishioners of Saint Hippolyte Parish  
and The Epiphany of the Lord Parish

Read the parish bulletin online at  
[www.sainthippolytechurch.com](http://www.sainthippolytechurch.com)

## HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

### Coordinators:

Fran Greathouse ..... 814-425-2549  
Carole Jones ..... 814-789-2881

### Prayer Requests:

Bob & Denise Schoenfeldt.... 814-333-8464  
Julia Hovis ..... 814-657-3265

### Visitation:

Carole Jones (cards) ..... 814-789-2881  
Pam Garofola (cards) ..... 814-720-8190  
Connie Molli (telephone)..... 814-967-3813  
Brenda Withers (telephone).. 814-425-1062

### Ministry of Welcome:

Garold Molli..... 814-967-3813  
Jen Mitchell (newborns)..... 412-965-2141

### Services to the Bereaved:

Kay Hotchkiss (Mass)..... 814-425-3933  
Mary Ann Francic (Mass)..... 724-452-4492  
Kitty Jehn (dinner) ..... 814-425-8282  
Cathy Kalinowski (dinner).... 814-425-2484  
Rita Bogardus (dinner)..... 814-789-2679  
Joyce Tarr (follow up)..... 814-671-1009

### Emergency Home Care:

Mary Beth Coyle (meals)..... 814-350-6218  
Amy Mercier (meals) ..... 814-795-0052  
Scott Wheelock (odd jobs).... 814-967-4319  
Mary Everitt (temporary relief to a caregiver)  
..... 814-853-0599

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** Membership includes active participation in the sacramental life of the Church, involvement in the activities of the faith community and financial support of the parish. New members are welcome to register by calling the parish office.

**BAPTISM:** Parents must attend the Pre-Baptism Program. Call the parish office for a copy of the program schedule and to schedule your child's baptism.

**MARRIAGE:** One party must be a registered parishioner and actively involved for one year before scheduling a wedding. Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the proposed date of marriage. No date can be set before the first interview with the priest has been completed.

**ANONTING OF THE SICK:** Please phone the parish office immediately if a loved one is sick or hospitalized.

## THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is offered in our parish 10 minutes prior to and immediately following Sunday Mass. Confession is also offered at The Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Saint Agatha Church (353 Pine Street, Meadville) on Saturday mornings following the 8:00am Mass and on Saturday afternoons at 3:30pm. To schedule an appointment with Father Lucas or Father Seyler, call 814-336-1112.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today	8:00am Faith Sharing Group at OLL
	9:15am Faith Formation Grades PS-8 at SH
	12:00pm Faith Formation Grades 9-10 at SH
	12:00pm Holiday Bake Sale at SH
Monday	9:30am Advent Retreat at SH
Tuesday	6:00pm Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC) at SH
Wednesday	Parish Office Closed
Thursday	6:00pm Adoration at OLL
Friday	9:30am Advent Retreat at OLL
Sunday	8:00am Faith Sharing Group at OLL
	No Faith Formation Classes

## COMING EVENTS

The Parish Office will be closed during the week of December 24 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 2.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

TODAY:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
MONDAY:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
TUESDAY:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
WEDNESDAY:	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
THURSDAY:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
FRIDAY:	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
SATURDAY:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
SUNDAY:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Dec. 18: Tom Mattis, Bill McCarthy, Stephen Schwartz, Amillie Young  
Dec. 19: Regina Foriska, Gerald Kutruff, Grace Sylves  
Dec. 20: Ruth Jackard, Avery Palotas  
Dec. 21: Ron Maloney, Rhonda Weagraff  
Dec. 22: Breanna Heme, Landon Pierce, Johanna Schneider  
Dec. 23: Chris Bornemann, Kristen Ferguson, Kitty Jehn

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dec. 18: Al & Cindy Nahay

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

*Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Second Reading*

**Adults** – If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?

**Youth** – John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus' coming?

**Children** – As we get closer to Christmas, name one thing you really want for your home or the world, such as peace, friendship, or food for the poor.

[lifelongcatechesis.osv.com](http://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com)

## SACRIFICIAL GIVING

*Our gifts given in thanksgiving for what we have already received.*

	SH	OLL
Offertory last week:	\$1,419	\$1,022
envelopes used:	39	29
Retired Religious	\$ 492	\$ 40
Building Fund last week:	\$ 295	\$ 88
envelopes used:	16	8

### Catholic Services Appeal 2023:

Diocesan Assessment: \$27,632

# of Gifts/Pledges: 93

Pledged: \$36,210 Received: \$32,315

#iGiveCatholic raised \$440 for the parish

*Thanks for your generosity and dedication.*

## Make straight the way of the Lord

**HELPING HANDS PRAYER** God of Peace, Whose Word is good news to the oppressed, healing for the brokenhearted and freedom for all who are held bound, gladden our hearts and fashion the earth into a garden of righteousness and praise! Sanctify us entirely, in spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the One Who even now is among us, Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who was, Who is and Who is to come, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

**INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A CURSILLO WEEKEND or NEED MORE INFO?** Pick up a brochure in the church vestibule or call Carl and Kay Hotchkiss at 814-425-3933.

## LOOKING FOR RESOURCES FOR YOUR FAMILY?

Discover why families always matter at:  
<http://www.eriecd.org/fam.htm>

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

Saint Hippolyte/Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church



Join the diocesan Facebook page at  
[www.ErieRCD.org](http://www.ErieRCD.org)

Contact the parish office for bulletin announcements. The deadline for submitting information to be included in the parish bulletin is Monday at noon. To avoid confusion, information should be submitted in writing.

If you would like the Sanctuary Candle to be lit for a week in memory of your loved one at either Saint Hippolyte or Our Lady of Lourdes, please call Desi at the parish office at 814-789-2022. Donation: \$10 per week.

**Adoration** is held every Thursday at Our Lady of Lourdes from 6:00-7:00pm. All are welcome!

**Our Lady of Lourdes Church is open for private prayer each Friday** until noon, following the Communion Service and Rosary.

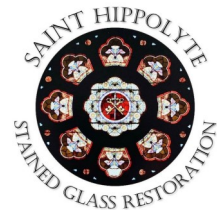
**Additional time for Confession at Saint Agatha Church:** Wednesday, Dec. 20 from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

**The Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC)** will meet on Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00pm at Saint Hippolyte. All members are asked to attend this important meeting.

**Faith Formation classes are on break.** Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2024.

**Looking for a last minute Christmas gift idea...** Scrip gift cards are available to purchase from Darin/Emma Sutton, which will benefit Seton Catholic School. They're good at several local businesses as well as big chain stores, hotels, restaurants, gas stations, etc. Most orders can be filled within a week or less. See Darin (a member of the choir) for details or call 814-789-3225.

**A number of people have asked about a pledge process to be able to contribute to the Stained Glass Window project over a period of time.** We have put that in place to accommodate that type of donation. Forms are available in the back of the church with the SGW display. You may see a



committee member with questions or email us at [restorationproject@sainthippolytechurch.com](mailto:restorationproject@sainthippolytechurch.com)

Thank you for your continued prayers. We appreciate each and every one of you!

**CHRIST-KINDEL CORNER...Did you know...**Some Pennsylvania Dutch farmers would throw a pile of hay in the barnyard on Christmas Eve so that the dew might fall on it? In the morning he would feed this hay, heavy with the Christmas dew, to his livestock convinced that they would prosper for the next twelve months. There is an old adage: "The hay is for the mule on which the *Christ-kinde* comes riding on Christmas Eve." **Don't forget...** Say a prayer! Find a small gift! Plan a surprise for your Advent Prayer Partner!

## WHOLE COMMUNITY CATECHESIS

### "O" Antiphons

Yes, you read the title right. That's "O" the letter of the alphabet that most reminds us of breakfast cereal, tires, doughnuts, hula-hoops, no-hitters, and Advent.

In many parishes, "O" is the first word said in the new Church year. Actually, we sing it in Advent's most popular song, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." It announces the season that anticipates the coming of Christ at Christmas.

This hymn, which tells us Advent is starting, used to announce that Advent was ending. The last eight days of Advent form a little "season" all by themselves. As the Church prepares for the birthday of Christ, the liturgy gets more intense. At daily Mass, the Gospels relate the events leading up to the first Christmas. At Evening Prayer, we have a special series of antiphons that beckon the Messiah to come. Each night gives him a new name, drawn from the Old Testament. "O Wisdom," "O Sacred Lord," "O Flower of Jesse's Stem," "O Key of David," "O Radiant Dawn," "O King of All Nations," and the greatest of them all, "O Emmanuel," a name that means "God is with us."

For reasons that will be immediately obvious, we call that group of refrains the *O Antiphons*, a hallmark of Advent, and a collection of music our church has treasured for many generations. The Mass now includes a version of them as the alleluia verses for the same eight days before Christmas.

By the Middle Ages, those seven antiphons got strung together into a popular hymn. The last one became verse one, and "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" was born. Thus, the antiphon originally established for the last evening before Christmas Eve is now often sung to begin Advent.

That "O," of course, simply tells us that we're talking to someone. It's like saying, "Hey, you." Only more politely. But "O" reminds us of much more. It makes us think of something having no beginning and no end. Like love or an Advent wreath. It resembles the shape of our mouth and the sound we make when we face a mystery we cannot fully comprehend.

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NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

"The priest then is not a 'substitute' or a stand-in for Christ like a proxy at a meeting. Or a substitute teacher in a grade school. The priest makes Christ the Shepherd present in a way similar to the way that the Eucharistic Bread is not just a 'sign' that Christ is present but rather the sacrament of the Eucharist makes Him present in a special way." "The ordained *is* priest in the person of Christ the High Priest. We are not substitutes. The ministerial priest *does not merely do* priestly things. We are ontologically 'men of the sacred,' as our Holy Father [John Paul II] says."

The Unchanging Heart of the Priesthood, Fr. Thomas Acklin, O.S.B.