

December 17, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent



Third Sunday of Advent

Rose colored vestments and candle on the Advent wreath indicate we are celebrating the **Third Sunday of Advent**. We rejoice for we are drawing closer to the coming of Christ in mystery. The words of Isaiah the Prophet were addressed to Israel when they returned to their own land after being delivered from their exile in Babylon. They find their home, their Temple Jerusalem in ruins. They are discouraged, disappointed. But the Lord, through the prophet tells them to rejoice. He will bless them and be with them. These words of Isaiah were quoted by Jesus in His first sermon in the synagogue as He began His ministry. These words are still spoken to us to give us joy and hope that our beloved Savior is indeed coming to us.



Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 pm & 7:30 pm
NO Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS MORNING

7:00 am & 10:00 am

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT & CONCERT



Thursday, December 21st at 7:30 pm

Get your tickets to the St. Helena's Church annual Christmas Spectacular this Thursday, December 21st at <https://bit.ly/3Nbhzvs> or scan the QR code below. 50 Piece Choir/28 Children in Costume retelling the Nativity Story/String Orchestra. You don't want to miss this annual event.



WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS

a part of
our Flock!



Keep in touch with us via
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sthelena4.flocknote.com



Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.

Flocknote's mission is to build a more connected Church. Thank you all for your help in keeping our parish vibrant and unified.

WEEKLY INTENTION

Saturday, December 16th

5:00 pm (SR) John A. Krupa
20th Anniversary

Sunday, December 17th - 3rd SUNDAY/ADVENT

7:00 am (SR) People of the Parish

9:00 am (SR) Morris "Marty" LaRue

11:00 am (SR) Linda Fedena
& Gerald S. Fedena, Sr.

Monday, December 18th

9:00 am (SR) Bernadette Gallagher

Tuesday, December 19th

7:00 am Gus Lotsis

9:00 am (SR) Joseph Bilinski

Wednesday, December 20th

9:00 am (SR) Jane Steele

Thursday, December 21st

7:00 am Mary Louise Monaghan
Living Intention

9:00 am (SR) Edwin Blevins

Friday, December 22nd

7:00 am Frances & John Danchak

9:00 am (SR) Lucille Bader

Saturday, December 23rd

9:00 am (SR) Catherine Deeney

5:00 pm (SR) William & Eloise Hart

Sunday, December 24th - 4th SUNDAY/ADVENT

7:00 am People of the Parish

9:00 am (SR) Albert Minuti, Sr.

11:00 am (SP) Sharen Muldowney

Sunday, December 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 pm (SR) People of the Parish

7:30 pm (SR) People of the Parish

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 17th

**2nd Collection - Christmas Decorations
& Religious Retirement**

11:00 am Children's Liturgy (Church)

7:00 pm Youth Group

Monday, December 18th

6:00-6:30 pm Youth Choir Christmas Rehearsal
(Church)

6:30 pm Religious Ed. Mitten Tree (Masci Hall)

NO SCRIPTURE STUDY

Thursday, December 21st

5:30 pm Bingo (Masci Hall)

6:00-7:00 pm Rehearsal (Church)

7:30 pm Christmas Spectacular (Church)

Friday, December 22nd

9:00 am EDR Casserole Drop-off

10:00 am Christmas Decorations (Church)

Saturday, December 23rd

All Day Hall Rental (Masci Hall)

Sunday, December 24th - 4th SUNDAY/ADVENT

Sunday Mass: 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Sunday, December 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve Mass: 5:00 pm (4:30 pm Choir
Concert) & 7:30 pm (Traditional Christmas Music)

NO MIDNIGHT MASS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Youth Group members meet in the **RECTORY** tonight (Sunday) at 7:00 pm. Enter by way of the side porch.

Family Mitten Tree Celebration is tomorrow (Monday) at 6:30 pm in Masci Hall. Please bring a pair of gloves/mittens/etc. to decorate our tree. I'm begging for a plate of cookies to share. Thanking you ALL in advance for your cooperation.

Youth Group is having a **MOVIE NIGHT** on Saturday, December 30th at 6:30 pm in Masci Hall. This is FREE to all. Please email Ms. Hummy at hpennell@sainthelenas.org to sign up.

Please Pray *for Our Sick Parishioners*



Dolly Albanese, Ruth Bower, Geri Crockett, Julia Davis, Toni Di Lezio, Sr., Susan Denis, Carly Fedena, Jim Fedena Sr., Paul Farren, Sr., Mary Gabel, Regina Gemignani, Michael Giberson, Patti Grimes, Felicia Hallahan, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Charlie Lafferty, James Lafferty, Leila Lahan, Thomas Leo, Joseph Lichota, Aliyah Miller, Sara Murphy, Alex Newton, Dave Pacitti, Jane Parsons, Fr. Roy Pollard, Dorothy Rich, Bridget Robinson, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma & Wally Schock, Eva Smith, Frank Sullivan, Janet Szubieolski, Mary Tabler, Catherine Thomson, Rose Marie Turcol, Catalina Weddle, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Kathy Hope, Denise Lopes, Donna Dougherty, Gerri Fedena & our friends at the Kutz Home.

COATS FOR KIDS 2023

THANK YOU, fellow parishioners! With your financial and warm winter coat donations, your Christopher Council Knights were able to distribute over 325 coats to the less fortunate in our community. Coats were given to Holy Rosary's outreach program, Claymont Elementary, Maple Lane Elementary, Mary Mother of Hope House for homeless women with children, Latin American Community Center, Bayard House.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of November 26, 2023, was \$3,803.00 and the online collection was \$1,972.00 for a total of \$5,775.00.

Thank you!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 1:00 pm

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, wedding anniversary, or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass being held on World Marriage Sunday at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Reservations are required by February 2nd. Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm or plan to stay after Mass. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing OMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by using the following link: cdowcym.wufoo.com/forms/k1uxe9k20m649mn

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SOCIAL MINISTRY

Wishing a Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
from all of us at Social Ministry!



2023 FAITH AND CHARITY CATHOLIC APPEAL: SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

To date, **\$62,308.64** has been received representing 97.32% of our Parish's **\$66,276.00** goal. **THANK YOU!** If you would like more information about the Annual Catholic Appeal: www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA'S VIA CRUCIS

This special presentation is a liturgical drama called the *Via Crucis*. The Via Crucis was first presented in St. Anthony of Padua Church in 1933. It was revived in 1961 and has been presented continuously from 1961 to the present. Your participation can be credited towards community service or other scholastic requirements. All grade-school age to college-age boys and girls are welcome. Community services given upon request. Virtual Sign-up is Sunday, December 17th - stanthony.viacrucis@gmail.com (Include: Name, Age, Grade & Contact Info.) In person Sign-ups are Sunday, January 7th and January 14th at 1:30 pm with rehearsal immediately following. Located at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 9th and DuPont Streets. For further details: stanthony.viacrucis@gmail.com

NOVEMBER PARISH EXPENSES

In November our parish paid 66 bills totaling \$43,348.76; included was \$5,497.63 for repair of the rectory heating system. Other expenses were:

\$	3,318.47	Delmarva
\$	2,650.00	4 th and Final Payment for Repair of Church Doors
\$	4,003.84	2024 Church Hymn Books
\$	3,165.00	Payment on Insurance
\$	450.00	Trash Removal
\$	310.00	Monthly Water Bill

In addition, \$28,936.07 was paid in payroll expenses.



**Christopher Council KofC #3182 is
Celebrating our 75th Birthday !**



As you know we have been serving this parish and community since our humble beginnings in 1948. Just look around, we have been an integral part of all carnivals, parish picnics, pancake/ buffet breakfasts, Fish Fry's and food distributions. We also make large annual donations to Coats for Kids, our food closets, Parish general fund and much, much more.....

We hope that you will be a part of our celebration by becoming a benefactor in our Ad Book. The proceeds will help fund our special anniversary projects as well as help defray costs for our celebration on January 20th, 2024.

Please consider becoming a benefactor in our Ad Book for a donation of \$10 or more by December 31, 2023. Supporting us has never been easier.

You can visit our Cheddar Up secured Credit Card Account at:
<https://christophercouncil75thanniversaryadbook.cheddarup.com>

Use your phone to scan
the following QR Code.



If you prefer, we still accept donations via cash or check by sending your donation along with your name to the below address.

Christopher Council #3182
135 Princeton Ave. Claymont, DE. 19703

Questions? Contact Dominc DiChristopher @ ddichristopher@verizon.net