

Therefore,  
go and make disciples

of *All*  
nations

*Matthew 28:19*



*Beloved Disciples*  
of *Christ the Lord*  
Roman Catholic Family of Parishes  
bdcfamily.org

*St. John the Baptist | St. Martha*  
*St. Mary of the Assumption Hill & Our Lady of Pompeii Campus*  
*St. Philip the Apostle*



MAKE STRAIGHT  
**HIS PATHS.**

MATTHEW 3:3

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*December*  
*7*  
*2025*

*In This Issue:*

- Family News
- Events at our Parishes
- This Week's Readings
- Kids Page




December 8, 2025

# Immaculate Conception of Mary

No Vigil Masses

8:15 am	St. Martha
8:30 am	St. John the Baptist St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus
9:00 am	St. Philip the Apostle
Noon	St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus, St. Philip the Apostle
7:00 pm	St. John the Baptist, Our Lady of Pompeii Campus of St. Mary's

A Holy Day of Obligation



*Beloved Disciples*  
of *Christ the Lord*  
Roman Catholic Family of Parishes  
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### Moderator

Msgr. Richard W. Siepka

### In Solidum

Rev. Bart Lipiec  
Rev. Lukasz Kopala

### In Residence

Rev. Paul Steller

### Deacons

John Hendricks  
Matt Hens  
John Owczarczak  
Jim Trzaska

### Business/Finance Director

Anne Pomaski

Bulletin Submissions due by  
Friday at Noon one week  
before the published Sunday.  
Please submit to your Rectory  
or scan below to submit:



## Weekday Mass Schedule

8:15 am St. Martha  
8:30 am *Tues. - Fri.*  
St. John the Baptist  
9:00 am *Mon. - Thurs.*  
St. Philip the Apostle  
12 Noon St. Mary of the Assumption, Hill Campus  
in the Chapel  
*Fri. Noon* St. Philip the Apostle  
7:00 pm *Mon.*  
St. John the Baptist

## Weekend Mass Schedule

### Saturday

*First Saturday* 8:30 am - St. John the Baptist  
4:00 pm St. John the Baptist,  
Our Lady of Pompeii Campus  
4:30 pm St. Philip the Apostle  
5:00 pm St. Martha  
7:00 pm St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

### Sunday

8:00 am St. Martha, St. John the Baptist  
9:00 am St. Philip the Apostle  
9:30 am Our Lady of Pompeii Campus  
10:00 am St. Martha,  
St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus  
11:00 am St. John the Baptist, St. Philip the Apostle  
11:30 am Our Lady of Pompeii Campus  
Noon St. Mary of the Assumption Campus



St. John the Baptist Sat 3 - 4:00 pm

St. Martha Sat before 5 pm Mass

St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

Sat 6 - 6:30 pm

*Confessions*

Our Lady of Pompeii Campus Sat 3 - 3:30 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Sat 3:30 - 4 pm

### St. John the Baptist

First Fridays 9 am - 5 pm  
Mondays 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

### St. Martha

Mon - Fri 9 am - 3 pm; Holy Days Subject to Change (Chapel)  
First Fridays 9 pm - 10 pm (Church)

### St. Mary of the Assumption Hill Campus

First Fridays 12:30 - 2:30 pm


Our Lady of Pompeii Campus First Fridays Noon - 6 pm

St. Philip the Apostle Last Tues (May - Oct) 6:30 - 7:30 pm



*Adoration*





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# ADVENT+ PENANCE SERVICES

**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 10**  
ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE  
950 LOSSON RD  
CHEEKTOWAGA

**MONDAY  
DECEMBER 15**  
OUR LADY OF POMPEII  
129 LAVERACK AVE  
LANCASTER

**3 PM & 7 PM**

## Growing Together

Join us every Sunday on our new Family of Parishes Social Media pages for our new video series covering the week's Gospel, a weekly challenge, and all the upcoming events at our Parishes!

**Follow us:**  
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8-18  
2026**



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## Our Parishes

**St. John the Baptist**  
2021 Sandridge Rd.  
Alden, NY 14004  
(716) 937-6959  
stjohnalden.com  
*Tue - Thurs : 8:30 am - 1:30 pm*

**St. Martha**  
10 French Rd.  
Depew, NY 14043  
(716) 684-6342  
stmarthadepew.org  
*Mon - Fri : 9 am - 4 pm  
Closed Noon - 1 pm  
Food Pantry: 716-206-0387*

**St. Mary of the Assumption**  
**Hill Campus**  
1 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 14086  
(716) 683-6445  
stmarysonthehill.org  
*Mon/Tues/Thurs : 9 am - 4 pm  
Wed/Fri : 9 am - 3 pm*

**Our Lady of Pompeii Campus**  
129 Laverack Ave.  
Lancaster, NY 14086  
(716) 683-6522

**St. Philip the Apostle**  
950 Losson Rd.  
Cheektowaga, NY 14227  
(716) 668-8370  
spaparish.org  
*Mon - Weds: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm  
or by appointment*





## Other Events

### SPA - Veterans Committee

12/11 at 6:30 pm  
Parish Center  
*St. Philip the Apostle*  
All veterans and patriots are invited to join our committee and attend this meeting.

### OLP - Women's Book Club

12/11 at 6:30 pm  
Parish Center  
*Our Lady of Pompeii Campus*

### SJB - School Christmas Concert

12/11 at 6:30 pm  
*St. John the Baptist*  
Come celebrate the season as our school children share their talents in their annual Christmas Concert. All are invited to come!

### SMA - Youth Bills Watch Party

12/14  
*St. Mary of the Assumption*  
There will be service projects to complete together and plenty of food and fun fellowship! Remember, your permission slips are due by 12/10.



## Children's Christmas OPPORTUNITIES



**St. John**  
*the Baptist*  
Roman Catholic Church

**Practices in Church:**  
Sat., Dec 20th 1-3 PM  
Mon., Dec. 22nd  
10:30 AM-12:00 PM

The St. John's Folk Group is once again hosting its annual Children's Mass at 4 PM on Christmas Eve. Any child (preferably aged 4-10) interested in participating in the Mass as a reader, gift bearer, singer, and/or special performer

*Questions? Contact - Tracy Martin  
via call/text at 716-860-4888.*



**ST. MARY  
OF THE  
ASSUMPTION**

### **Practice Schedule (in the Parish Center):**

- Thursdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18 – 5:00–7:00 PM
- Monday, Dec. 22 – 1:00–4:00 PM  
(Lunch provided)

### **Performance:**

Christmas Eve at 3:30 PM, ending just before Mass begins at 4:00 PM.

We're looking for children in Grades K–8 to help bring Christmas joy to our Christmas Eve Family Mass at the St. Mary's Parish Center. All children are welcome – come help make this Christmas celebration extra special!

*Questions? See Andrea, Our Music Director or  
email her at: [andrea@stmarysonthehill.org](mailto:andrea@stmarysonthehill.org)*



**OUR LADY OF POMPEII CAMPUS  
ST. MARY OF THE  
ASSUMPTION**

*Giving Tree*



**ST. MARY  
OF THE  
ASSUMPTION**

*Christmas Basket*

## **Donation deadline: December 14th**

*We invite you to participate in the OLP Giving Tree! Please take an ornament off the tree, purchase your donation, and return the unwrapped gift with the ornament attached. Gifts will be supporting the Mother Teresa Home, Response to Love Center, & Caring and Sharing Pantry.*



**Thank you and God bless you for your generosity!**

*Please be sure all Gift Tag gifts are unwrapped and have the tag attached, and are delivered via the instructions on the tag. Gift cards may be placed in the weekly collection.*





CHRISTMAS  
EVE



OUR LADY OF POMPEII CAMPUS  
ST. MARY OF THE  
ASSUMPTION

Don't forget the Rockstars for Jesus  
Christmas Eve Mass & Pageant  
starting at 4 pm with Christmas Carols.  
Let's all come together and celebrate  
the true meaning of Christmas!



ST. MARY  
OF THE  
ASSUMPTION

Be sure to join us for Christmas  
Carols starting at 11:30 before the  
Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve  
(12/24) in church!



St. Martha Parish

United in Spirit & Faith

*The flag currently flying on our parish flagpole is in honor  
and remembrance of all members of the United States  
military who gave their lives in service to our country and  
were killed in action. We offer our prayers in gratitude for  
their sacrifice and for the families they left behind.*

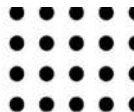


### Thank You!

The Ladies of St Philip would like to thank all who  
supported our annual Bake Good/Wreath sale.  
Hope you enjoyed your goodies!  
See you next year!!!



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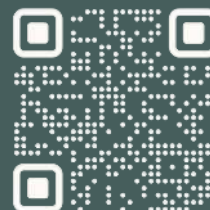
Pre-Registration Required by contacting  
our Rectory. You may either stop by the  
Rectory to sign up in person, or the  
registration may be done via letter dropped  
in our mail slot or mailed to us. Name,  
Phone Number, and payment are required  
to sign up. Spaces are limited and are on a  
first come, first served basis.  
There will be limited breaks, please bring a  
bagged snack/lunch. Please bring your  
drivers license and a pen to the class.

## *Join Our Family*

*Find out more about our  
Family of Parishes and  
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Letters of  
Recommendation,  
Funerals, Baptisms,  
Weddings, Collection  
Envelopes, and adding  
a name to our Sick List,  
please see your  
Rectory or scan the  
QR code below.*



## Weekly Readings

### Sunday:

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

### 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 & 10ac, 11-12, 13  
Mt 18:12-14

### Wednesday:

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

### Thursday:

Is 41:13-20  
Ps 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab  
Mt 11:11-15

### Friday:

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

### Saturday:

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

### Next Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10  
Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10  
(see Is 35:4)  
Jas 5:7-10  
Mt 11:2-11



## Think About the Readings?

### Is 11:1-10

Isaiah foresaw God's future when the world will be ruled by a new and ideal 'King David' ("a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse") and the earth will be filled with knowledge of the Lord. What do you hope for in your future?

### Rom 15:4-9

Paul encouraged the community of believers in Rome to be in harmony with each other in thought and mind. Are there relationships in your life you consider to be harmonious?

### Mt 3:1-12

John the Baptist taught the people to prepare for the kingdom of heaven by repenting of sins and producing "good fruit." What could you do this second week of Advent to make a positive impact?



## What is Advent?

Advent comes from the Latin *ad-venire*, meaning "to come." During this season, we prepare for Jesus' coming in three ways: at Christmas, into our hearts, and again at the end of time. By truly celebrating Advent, we ready ourselves to welcome Him.

The **Advent Wreath** reminds us that Christ's arrival is drawing near. Each week, we light a candle as a sign of this journey.

**First Candle** – Prophecy (Purple / Hope): We remember the prophets who foretold Christ's coming.

**Second Candle** – Bethlehem (Peace): We journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the "House of Bread."

**Third Candle** – Joy (Rose / Gaudete Sunday): We rejoice that our Savior draws near. Bring Baby Jesus from your nativity for a special blessing.

**Fourth Candle** – Angel (Purple / Love): We remember God's great love and promise of salvation.

Jesus is coming — are you ready to welcome Him?





Help the baby find his way to the priest for his baptism.



### *Sharing the Gospel*

John the Baptist taught people to get ready for Jesus. He told them to change their lives. John helped many people wash away all their mistakes and bad choices. He washed away all their cheating, lying, fighting, and stealing. Once they were clean, John wanted them to see that living God's way is so much better. John told the people not only to clean their bodies, but to show that they love God by the way that they live.

### *Prayer*

Dear God, help  
my words and my  
choices to show that  
I love you

### *My Weekly Mission*

I pray that people  
thinking of doing  
evil will choose  
God's way instead.



### *Our Schools*

#### *Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament*

PreK3 - 3rd  
20 French Rd.  
Depew, NY 14043  
716-685-2544  
olbsdepew.org

#### *St. John the Baptist*

PreK3 - 8th  
2028 Sandridge Rd.  
Alden, NY 14004  
716-937-9483  
stjohnsalden.com

#### *St. Mary of the Assumption*

PreK3 - 8th  
2 St. Mary's Hill  
Lancaster, NY 14086  
716-683-2112  
smeschool.com

### *Faith Formation*

#### *St. John the Baptist*

716-937-6959 x 103  
faith.formation@  
stjohnsalden.org

#### *St. Martha*

716-685-2546  
jszpylman@  
stmarthadepew.org

#### *St. Mary of the Assumption*

716-683-8564  
becky@stmarysonthehill.org

#### *St. Philip the Apostle*

716-668-8370 x 502  
spareled@spaparish.org

# Mass Intentions

*Would you like to request an intention at one of our Parishes?*

Stop by the Parish Rectory of where you wish to have your intention said at and they will be happy to assist you in making your request.

## Donation:

Mass Intentions  
\$15/Mass

Sanctuary Lamp  
\$10 to \$25/week  
Please check with  
your Rectory

## Listed As:

Location - Who it is for |  
Who it is from

## Sanctuary Lamp

*Week Of: Dec. 7-13*

### SJB

James Creighton  
from Wife, Ruth

### SPA

Theodore & Emily Walkowiak  
from Daughter, Helen

*SJB - St. John the Baptist*

*SMP - St. Martha*

*SMA - St. Mary of the Assumption  
Hill Campus*

*OLP - SMA Our Lady  
of Pompeii Campus*

*SPA - St. Philip the Apostle*

## Saturday, December 6

*St. Nicholas*

- 8:30 am SJB - Soul of Anthony G. Lazazzero | SJB Rectory Staff  
4:00 pm SJB - Norman Walter | Family  
OLP - Charles & Eleanor Ryszkiewicz | Carol Bednasz  
Marge Hens | Marilyn Wolf  
4:30 pm SPA - Mary Mentel | Daughter, Carol Cascio  
5:00 pm SMP - Wedding Anniv. of Debora & Frederick Steck, Jr.  
7:00 pm SMA - Dorothy Janik | Family

## Sunday, December 7

*Second Sunday of Advent*

- 8:00 am SJB - Joanne Ferguson | Linda & Susie  
SMP - David Klyczek | Natalie Klyczek  
9:00 am SPA - Andrew Kocieniewski | Greg & Lynne Miller  
9:30 am OLP - Michael Musliak- Wife, Mary Anne  
Deceased Members of Sierchula/Willard Families |  
Kathie Mazurkiewicz  
10:00 am SMP - Members of the Altar & Rosary Guild  
SMA - Robert Delzer | Zajac Family  
11:00 am SJB - Eric Bartram | Bartram Family  
SPA - Augusto Zavatti | Rose Ciotta  
11:30 am OLP - Marge Hens | Dick & Mary Walkow  
John & Marge Hens | Judy Mietlicki  
Noon SMA - Kenneth & Gladys Smith | Andrea Knab

## Monday, December 8

*Immaculate Conception*

- 8:15 am SMP - Fr. Alfonso, Fr. Marcial & Friends/Family of Nicaragua  
8:30 am SJB - David R. Scott | Mary Lou Scott  
SMA -  
9:00 am SPA - Anne Rosati | Kathy Kirk  
12 Noon SMA - Walter Ciszewski | Family  
SPA - James Przybyl | Gerry & Ron Przybyl  
7:00 pm SJB - For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
OLP -

## Tuesday, December 9

- 8:15 am SMP - Ed Loveless | Joanne Sicurella  
8:30 am SJB - For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
9:00 am SPA - Carol Monkelbaan | Family  
12 Noon SMA - Raymond Boreanaz | Love, Victoria

## Wednesday, December 10

*Our Lady of Loreto*

- 8:15 am SMP - Merwin & Jean Uebelhoer | Family  
8:30 am SJB - For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
9:00 am SPA - Norman Wojciechowski | Ruth Sobieraj  
12 Noon SMA - John Piatkowski | Daughters Donna & Diane

## Thursday, December 11

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*

- 8:15 am SMP - Ted Taberski | Fr. Bart & Kathleen Lipiec  
8:30 am SJB - For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
9:00 am SPA - Tom Hochulski | Jim & Caroline Calamita  
12 Noon SMA - Thanksgiving for Miracle | Newman Family

## Friday, December 12

- 8:15 am SMP - In Memory of Blanche Sorgi  
8:30 am SJB - For the Holy Souls in Purgatory  
12 Noon SMA - Angelo Mineo | From Donna  
SPA - All Mothers; Parishioners of the BDCL Family

## Saturday, December 13

*St. Lucy*

- 4:00 pm SJB - Billy Kiszewski | Lorraine Grzybek  
OLP - Mae Nestico | Ted & Anita Conway  
4:30 pm SPA - Paul Stevens | Arlene Stevens  
5:00 pm SMP - Anthony & Frances Piechocki | Brian Miller & Family  
7:00 pm SMA - James & Betty White | Susie & Richard Cole



**Sunday, December 14**      *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 am SJB - Deceased & Living members of the Holy Name Society | SJB HNS  
 SMP - Sam & Shirley Carocci | Kowalski Family  
 9:00 am SPA - Joyce Leone | Family  
 9:30 am OLP - Raymond & Esther Chudoba | Family  
 10:00 am SMP - Members of the Holy Name Society  
 SMA - James Gasiewicz | Ladies of Charity  
 11:00 am SJB -  
 SPA - Lucille Smith | Lorrie Kadatz  
 11:30 am OLP - Andrew C. Sciandra | Loving Family  
 Noon SMA - Velma & Jack Kaull | Narletta Kaull

***Weekly Giving - Sunday, November 23***

<u>St. John the Baptist</u>	<u>St. Mary of the Assumption</u>	<u>St. Philip the Apostle</u>
Regular: \$6,628.25	Regular: \$3,304	Regular: \$7,138
OSV: \$1,120	Loose: \$1,277	Loose: \$446
Building: \$45	CPL: \$1,385.56	Online: \$1,839
Fuel: \$2,508	Special Projects: \$10	Human Devel.: \$816
Cemetery: \$6	Christmas Flowers: \$115	US Military: \$15
Human Devel.: \$20	All Saints: \$15	Christmas Flowers: \$358
	Human Devel.: \$166	Religious Ret.: \$7
	<b><u>OLP Campus</u></b>	All Saints: \$15
<b><u>St. Martha</u></b>	Regular: \$4,172.79	Christmas: \$40
Not Reported	Split Club: \$10	Immac. Concept.: \$27
	Christmas Flowers: \$45	Solemn. Mary: \$17
	Poverty Line: \$329	



*New Parishioners*

***SJB - Mary & William Powell,  
 Mark & Sharon Zielonka,  
 Bonita Kendall***



*Newly Baptized*

***SMA - Cora Callahan  
 Welcome and May God Bless you  
 and your family!***



*Dearly Departed*

***SMP - Carl Schlicht  
 SMA - Mildred Zablotny,  
 Lorraine D'Arcy  
 SPA - Jennifer Winter***



*Keep in your Prayers*

*This list is for Parishioners of our Parishes that are in need of prayers.  
 Names will be on this list for two months and then removed.*

*To place someone on this list, please call 716-668-8370 x 330 and  
 follow the message of what information to leave or head onto our online  
 submission form at: [form.jotform.com/bdclfamilymarketing/sick-list](http://form.jotform.com/bdclfamilymarketing/sick-list)*

Sister Ann Helene, Connie Cieslinski, Dawn Duncan, Weston Faith,  
 Mitzi & Max Fuller, Ann Marie Gleber, Stephen Hill, Kathy Kirk,  
 Steven Kotlowski, John Lewandowski, Theresa Lisowski, Robert Loniewski,  
 Mary Ellen McNeill, Arelene Miodonski, Jodi Narloch, Shirley Salerno,  
 John & Karen Schaller, Laura Schmitt, Bruce Sheldon, Christian Vinci,  
 Andrew Vogt, Delphine Wachowiak, Ginny Zajac, Joseph Zaklikowski



*Upcoming*  
**Second Collections**

**December 13**  
**Religious Retirement**

*This second collection  
 supports the Retirement  
 Fund for Religious, which  
 helps provide care,  
 housing, and medical  
 assistance for elderly  
 sisters, brothers, and  
 religious order priests.  
 Many of these men and  
 women have spent their  
 lives in service to the  
 Church, and this collection  
 helps ensure they receive  
 the support they need in  
 their later years. Thank you  
 for your generosity.*

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