ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

VOL. 2

CLASS DATES

DECEMBER

K-8th
12/5, 12/12, & 12/19

Confirmation
12/5 and 12/19 Family Mass

NO CLASS
12/26- January 2, 2022, Winter Break NO CLASS
Classes resume on January 9

CHILDREN PARTICIPATORS OF THE MASS

Collection/Community Outreach: Power/Energy Snacks for Soldiers (all grades)
On Sunday, December 19, children and teens in our program will participate in our Family Mass @ St. Francis Church at 10:00 am. We encourage all students to serve as Lectors, Gift Bearers, Ushers, and others. We will also be bringing up items from our monthly collection to be blessed in addition to our Prayer Chalice prayers and petitions.

May God bless these angels as they happily serve His Church!

HAPPENINGS IN DECEMBER

ADVENT

Advent is a period of preparation extending over the four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin advenio, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ.

11/28 First Sunday of Advent (Hope)
A reminder that Jesus is coming and our hope is in Him.
Reading: Romans 15:12-13

12/5 Second Sunday of Advent (Love/Faith)
Our reminder to prepare the way of the Lord.
Reading: Luke 3:4-6

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

HAPPENINGS IN DECEMBER

12/8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception **(Holy Day of Obligation)**
12/7 Vigil: 5:30 St. Peter, 12/8 8:30 St. Francis, 12:10 St. Francis

12/12 Third Sunday of Advent (Joy)
The third week is dedicated to joy for the coming and the Birth of Jesus.
Reading: Luke 2:10

12/19 Fourth Sunday of Advent (Peace)
The King is born, Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to His people on earth.
Reading: Luke 2:14

Advent Penance Service
Tue, December 21 from 5:00-6:00 pm at St. Peter

Several priests will be available to hear confessions in English and Spanish.

Adoration will precede penance service at 9:00 am (right after the 8:30 am Mass concludes). Service will end with Benediction at 6:15 pm, followed by Mass in Spanish at 6:30 pm.

Other Opportunities for Confession
Sat, December 11 and Sat, December 18 from 1:30-3:30 pm at St. Francis.

December 25, 2021

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE
3:00 pm & 10:00 pm St. Francis
4:30 pm & 6:30 pm (Spanish) St. Francis
CHRISTMAS DAY
8:30 am St. Peter
10:00 am St. Francis

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
12/26/2021

Feast of the Holy Family, Roman Catholic religious festival falling on the first Sunday after Christmas. Although significant feast days dedicated to each member of the Holy Family— Jesus, Mary, and Joseph —also exist, the Feast of the Holy Family commemorates their life together, and the celebration focuses on the religious family life unit.

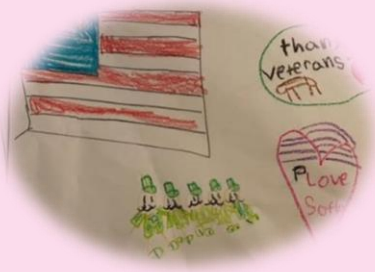
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
January 1, 2022

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Look at our website or bulleting for Mass schedule

PAST EVENTS FROM NOVEMBER

VETERANS DAY



ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

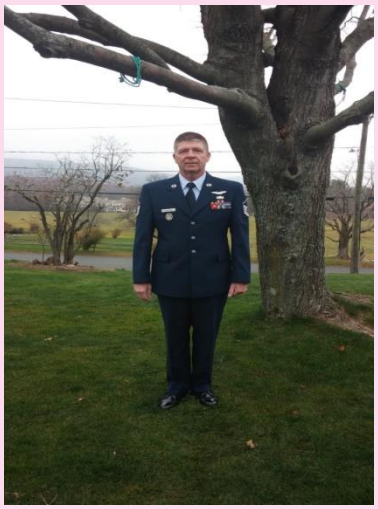
A Prayer for Veterans

God of dignity and strength, watch over the Veterans of the United States and worldwide. In recognition of their loyal service to our nation, bless them with wholeness and love. Shelter them. Heal their wounds, comfort their hearts. Grant them peace.

God of justice and truth, the rock of our lives, bless our Veterans. These men and women of courage, with a deep and abiding understanding of our profound gratitude. Protect them and their families from loneliness and want. Grant them lives of joy and bounty. May their dedication and honor be remembered as a blessing from generation to generation. Blessed are You, Protector and Redeemer, our shield and our Stronghold. Amen

ONE OF OUR OWN

Master Sergeant, Robert Sullivan
USAF 1981-2001



Bob has been teaching Religious Education 1st and 2nd-grade, adult RCIA, and THS teacher for many years. What Bob enjoys the most about teaching is the people. His pastimes are woodworking, fishing, and reading. In addition to teaching Sacramental Preparation, Bob currently serves on the Parish Council and at Vacation Bible Camp.

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

CHILDREN PARTICIPATORS OF THE MASS
SERVERS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Lectors: Jessy, Naomi, and Davian
Altar Servers: Stephanie, Cynthia, & Julia
Gift Bearers: Alexa, Bella, Emily, Jayden, Brody, Michael, Ali, Zachary, and Bryan
Ushers: Ben, Jasmine, Jacqueline, Bryan, and David.
Collection: Thanksgiving food items for the local food bank

Special Event: Dedication of the wooden crosses handcrafted by Mr. Sullivan and his grandson, Brody. The crosses were dedicated to Dennis Baca, Stephanie Sullivan, and St. JP the Great's K-5 program.

Does your child want to participate? Text 860-307-2291 or email johnpaulgreatreligioused@gmail.com

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

The Sullivan Family

Dedication of the Crosses

The three beautifully handcrafted wooden Crosses were built by Mr. Robert Sullivan and his grandson Brody Sullivan, in second-grade grammar school. Bob and Brody took on this humbling project after seeing that the Crosses used in our Religious Education program could use a makeover. These Crosses were carefully made, polished, stained with the utmost love and care, which is a reflection of Bob's love for Christ, his passion for passing on the faith to his children and grandchildren, and his unwavering passion for serving our parish and carrying out his duties as a disciple of Christ.

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

Our Youth

Serving as Ushers

Special Thanks

We thank Fr. Emmanuel, Fr. Carlos, and Deacons for their ongoing support. We thank Bob and Brody for donating the beautiful Crosses. We also thank our Catechists, our parents who volunteer their time to our program, and all those who helped make this a special celebration, the choir, the ushers, and last but not least, our families and children here today. We thank you for your generosity and commitment to our program!

We thank Francine G, our music director, for her years of service to St. John Paul the Great. Francine has done a beautiful job enhancing our liturgy with beautiful hymns alongside her choir. She will be deeply missed, and we wish her the best in her new chapter.

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

LIVING NATIVITY 2021

LIVING NATIVITY 2021

More photos can be found on our website
www.johnpaulgreatparish.com

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

A special thanks to our teens who volunteered during the Fish 2021 Coat Drive on Saturday, November 20th.

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

RESOURCES

ADULTS

Liturgical Calendar
https://youtu.be/SvVnqDsv07c

The Perfect Gift for Christmas
https://youtu.be/3dYWirtlkXU

The Advent Wreath
https://youtu.be/13hznfhb6yQ

CHILDREN

The Annunciation/Mary Visits Elizabeth: https://youtu.be/-tmkp1zPnfw

What is in the Church
https://youtu.be/VjvZRmDyJ2U

YOUTH/TEENS

Advent Wreath for Teens
https://youtu.be/6NqBBOQAMZI

Box City Project
https://youtu.be/HXHlKtq3AW0

Lady of Guadalupe
https://youtu.be/htBHTkpDxC8

UPCOMING

JANUARY HAPPENINGS

The month of Child's Lure Training

January 1: *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God* **(Holy Day of Obligation)**

1/2/2022: NO CLASS

Classes Resume
January 9: Class Grades K-8th & Confirmation

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION-FAITH FORMATION & CATECHESIS

On behalf of all of us at St. John Paul the Great Parish, Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!