

# Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



**Rev. Peter J. DiMaria**

*Pastor*

[frdimaria@shswedesburg.org](mailto:frdimaria@shswedesburg.org)

**Rev. Thomas A. Nasta**

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.**

*Weekend Ministry*

**Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM**

*Parish Services Director*

[srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org](mailto:srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org)

**Linda Moser**

*Coordinator of Religious Education*

[lmoser@shswedesburg.org](mailto:lmoser@shswedesburg.org)

**Leo Brady**

*Sacristan*

## Sacramental Schedule

### Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am

### Sacrament of Penance:

Each Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

or by request

**Valerie DiFilippo**

*Parish Bookkeeper/  
Cemetery Manager*

[vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org](mailto:vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org)

**Alexandra LaMastra, DMA**

*Director of*

*Liturgical Music*

[alamastra@shswedesburg.org](mailto:alamastra@shswedesburg.org)

**Joanne D'Alessandro**

*Parish Office Manager*

[jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org](mailto:jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org)

**Joe & Jeff Houseal**

*Directors of Parish  
& Cemetery Facilities*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023**  
**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**



*A Christmas Carol*

The Christ child lay on Mary's lap,  
 His hair was like a light.  
 (O weary, weary were the world,  
 But here is all aright.)

The Christ child lay on Mary's breast,  
 His hair was like a star.  
 (O stern and cunning are the kings,  
 But here the true hearts are.)

The Christ child lay on Mary's heart,  
 His hair was like a fire.  
 (O weary, weary is the world,  
 But here the world's desire.)

The Christ child stood at Mary's knee,  
 His hair was like a crown,  
 And all the flowers looked up at Him,  
 And all the stars looked down.

G.K. Chesterton

*May Almighty God bless you with happiness, health, success, and prosperity in the New Year. May He send his blessing upon you in 2023. I wish all of you a very happy and blessed New Year.*

*Father DiMaria*



**Thank You for Your Gifts**



Thanks are extended to Joyce Cantando and Laurie Shivick who helped organize

our Giving Tree program this year. We collected 224 gifts cards totaling \$5,705.00 in purchasing power which were given to the Missionaries of Charity and Martha's Choice Market for distribution to the needy.

May God bless all who helped make Christmas a bit brighter for the less fortunate.

**EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING KITS**

*Epiphany House Blessing Kits will be available in the back of church next weekend.*

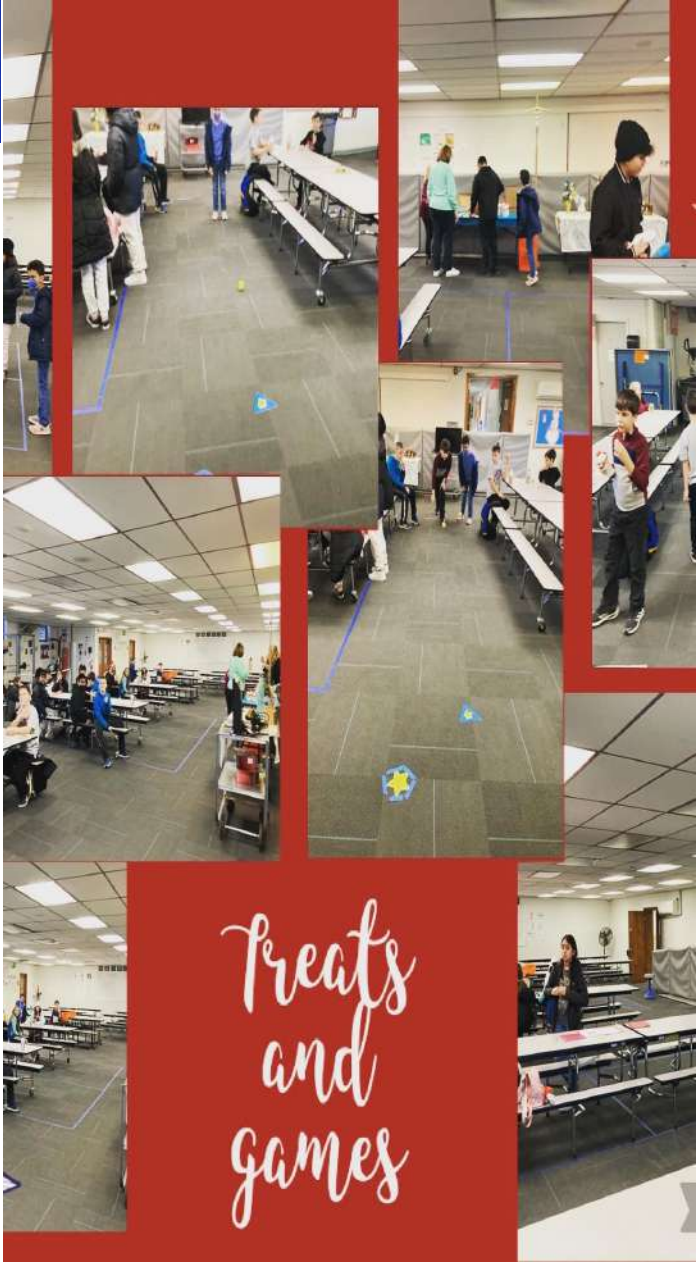




### PREP Nativity Escape Room and Party

The children started with a ten-minute animated story reading of the Christmas story, then had 45 minutes to solve the Nativity escape room (they did it with 9 minutes to go) and then treats and games.

Thank you to Linda Moser, Coordinator of Religious Education and the PREP Staff for making a fun-time for our PREP Students!



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 31

**4:00pm Adele & Ronald DelMauro**

*Requested by Daughter, Margaret & Ron Halas*

### Sunday, January 1

**8:00am Anna Kerick**

**(Anniversary Remembrance Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>)**

*Requested by Son, Tom & Fran*

**10:15am For the People of Our Parish**

### Monday, January 2

**8:00am Margaret O'Sullivan**

*Requested by Linda & Peter Korpel*

### Tuesday, January 3

**8:00am Carmen Vona**

*Requested by Jackie Granato & Family*

### Wednesday, January 4

**8:00am Monica Aquilante**

*Requested by Linda & Peter Korpel*

### Thursday, January 5

**8:00am Loretta Valerio**

*Requested by Her Family*

### Friday, January 6

**8:00am Health Blessings for Joan Coscia**

*Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Francis Coscia*

### Saturday, January 7

**8:00am Antoinette Hildebrand**

**(Anniversary Remembrance)**

*Requested by Phyllis & Anthony Tarantino  
and Friend, John*

**4:00pm For the People of the Parish**

### Sunday, January 8

**8:00am Living & Deceased Members of the  
Holy Name Society**

*Requested by Sacred Heart Holy Name Society*

**10:15am Daniel DiRado**

*Requested by Rosemary Giovinco & Family*



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



### *Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!*

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

**Saturday evening, January 7:**

**4:00pm**

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:**

Pat Moletzsky

**Lector:** Mike Brown

**Sunday morning, January 8:**

**8:00am**

**Lector:** Eileen Bralski

**10:15am**

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:**

Joan Koeck

**Lector:** Rich McVoy

### Celebrant's Mass Schedule

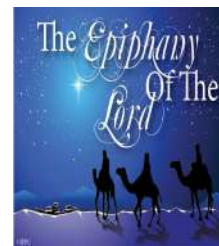
**Saturday evening, January 7:**

**4:00pm - Father DiMaria**

**Sunday morning, January 8:**

**8:00am - Father Shea**

**10:15am—Father DiMaria**



### *Weekly Report*

**December 17—18, 2022**

**\$5,392.50**

*Thank you for your support of Our Parish!*





*This week the bread and wine for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is in memory of*

**Mary Beth Coscia**

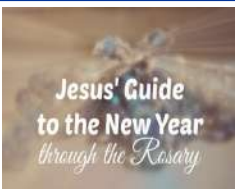
*at the Request of Mom & Dad and Sal & Casey*

*This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in Memory of*



**Elenore Ertel**

**Birthday Remembrance, January 4<sup>th</sup>**



**The Sacred Heart Pro Life Holy Hour**

As the new year begins, join the Pro Life Holy Hour this

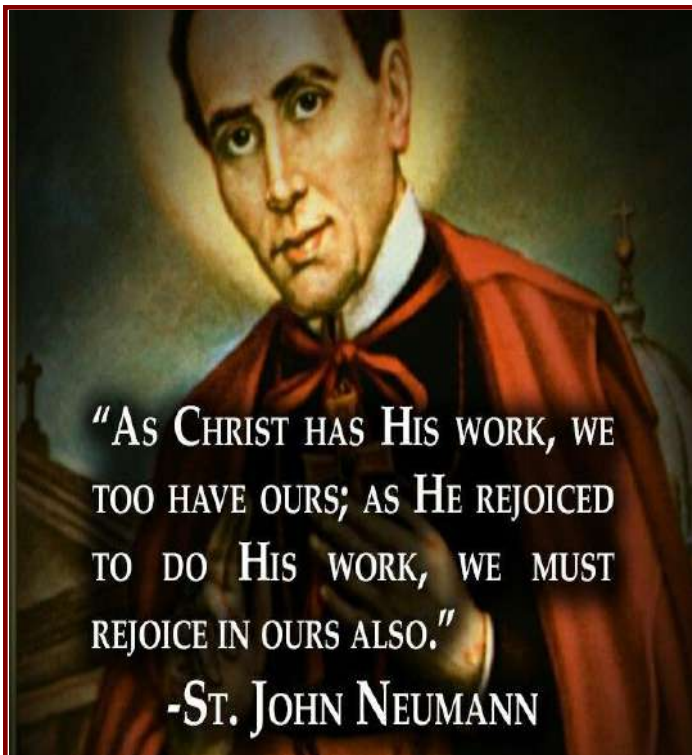
**Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon** in Sacred Heart Church to pray together for God's help. We meet each Wednesday at noon. Plan to join us!



**Pray For Our Military Personnel**

*Please Pray For All Who Protect Our Country, especially...*

**Matthew D. Baxter** (Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force), grandson of Peg Palmer; **John F. K. Benedict** (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **LCDR Matthew J. Capaldo** (U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Darius A. Garey** (E3, U.S. Navy), great-grandson of Peg Palmer; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Noel Irizarry** (Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant US Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Gregory Kantz** (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Stephen Kantz** (Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 3 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Michael McSweeney** (Commander, U.S. Navy); **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Jonathan D. Palmer** (Sergeant, U.S. National Guard), grandson of Peg Palmer; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton.



**"AS CHRIST HAS HIS WORK, WE TOO HAVE OURS; AS HE REJOICED TO DO HIS WORK, WE MUST REJOICE IN OURS ALSO."**

**-ST. JOHN NEUMANN**

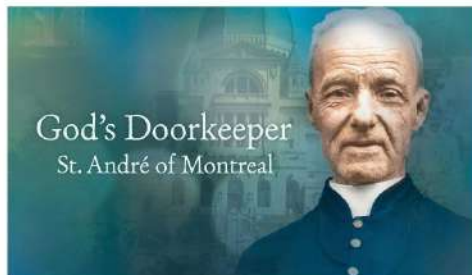
**In Your Charity, Please Pray For Our Sick**



Betty Lilick; Ronald S. Smith; Margaret Halas, Ronald Halas, Michael Martin (Friend of Ronald & Margaret Halas); Marge Leszczynski; Michael Dulaney (Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr.); Dolores Burton; Fran & Rob Worrall (Sister & Brother-in-law of Joe Murphy); Rose Coscia; Francis Coscia; Jeff Simmons (Son of John & Fran Simmons); Joan Coscia (Sister-in-law of Francis & Rose Coscia); Marion Raup; Joseph Saboe; Margie Martin (Friend of Lee Ann Kinckner); Irene Elliott; Stanley Leszczynski; Ayden Boone (Great Great-Grandson of Armando Delmoro); Butch Rodenbaugh; Nicholas Janicki; Catherine Bankowski; Michael Myers and Melissa (Myers) Sillah (Grandchildren of Dora & Armando Delmoro); George Estock; Helen Bednar; Barbara A. Burkert (Daughter of Dora & Armando Delmoro); Melonie Mitchell; John Smoczylo; Teddy Swede (Brother of Gloria Swede); Laurie Ronan (Niece of Gloria Swede); Edward Keszczyk.

# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

## Week of January 01, 2023



### God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



### How to Pray

Whether you are a veteran in the spiritual life or are just beginning, start this year off right by recommitting yourself to prayer! Join Drs. Tim Gray and Elizabeth Klein as they discuss ways to kickstart your prayer life this year!



### Mary of Nazareth

What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  ignatius press

## **JANUARY 1, 2023 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

Have you “pondered” anything lately? That means, have you thought really deeply and long over certain happenings in your life? That could refer to conversations, concepts presented to you, or any number of ideas that came to your mind. True pondering requires a prior attention, a certain “full bore” listening to someone else, and not any distracted half-hearing.

For example, a known dullard of your acquaintance might have been boring you to death describing his medical experiences so that your mind drifted and you started planning your lunch as he rattled on. You certainly were not pondering.

Another non-example of pondering might be your strong focus on the wrecks of a highway accident and the distraught faces of the victims by the road, so much so that you missed the warning about a dangerous physical problem your doctor just pronounced. You were not pondering over the doctor’s words.

But there was that announcement by your doctor amid what you thought was a routine examination when she said: “Such and such is a quite common occurrence for someone your age.” “Wow! What does that mean, and have I suddenly arrived at that age?” Later, driving home or sitting in your recliner, you start to ponder. You ponder over that and what it means for your immediate future and beyond.

Pondering admittedly takes up time and leads to an inner perspective of mind and heart about this adventure we call “life.” Well did St. Luke write about Our Blessed Lady’s reaction to news about her Son as reported by local shepherds.

Mary knew nine months prior that her Child was unique and special. After all, wasn’t that what the Archangel who called himself Gabriel had told her? Then there were the difficult moments when she had to break the news to St. Joseph. Now, after the Child’s birth, still more angels had “gone public,” as we might say, with their news about the Child for the unsuspecting shepherds. Mary did not cry or protest, much less contradicted the shepherd-reporters. She just pondered.

We are amid the fast-paced days of the Christmas season. Celebrating, visiting one another, strengthening family ties. This past week, the Liturgy put us on an emotional “roller coaster” attached to Christmas week. St. Stephen’s martyrdom gave us a jolt on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Two days later, the awful slaughter of the Holy Innocent babies by King Herod’s brutes. All that and more.

So I pondered a bit myself this past week. That led me to ask you to “steal” some moments in the weeks ahead and many more times in the New Year, to ponder what happens to you. It’s one healthy and spiritually profitable way to do what Our Mother Mary did all her earthbound days enroute to heaven.

God love you and give you His peace all through 2023!

