



FIRST SUNDAY of LENT
~February 21, 2021~

Length of Days... When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Ps 91 (90): 15-16

Sunday (21)

8:00 AM Egon Dezubay by Al and Laura Dezubay

10:00 AM Geza Vegh by Sylvia and Mark Hahn

Monday (22)

7:30 AM Maria Santos by Zulmira Guerreiro

Tuesday (23)

7:30 AM Florence Romanell by Dorothy Schultz

Wednesday (24)

7:30 AM Gary Beaulieu by Brian and Maria O'Donnell

Thursday (25)

7:30 AM Allen Hammersly

Friday (26)

7:30 AM Istvan Huray

Saturday (27)

7:30 AM Martin Comer by John and Charlotte Rzeipela

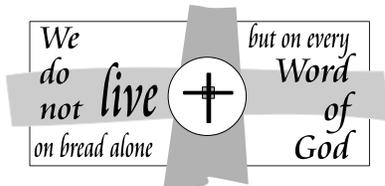
5:00 PM Margaret Stangl by Barry Stangl

Sunday (28)

8:00 AM Sylvia Spirk by Carlos and Juanita Negrete

10:00 AM John and Mary Coss by Al and Laura Dezubay

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Sunday, February 21, Readings:

➤ **First Reading:** Gn 9: 8-15... (Sign of the Covenant)

God promises Noah that the world will never again be destroyed by a flood. God gives a sign of his covenant—his rainbow among the clouds.

➤ **Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 25... (Keeping God's Covenant)

"Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant."

➤ **Second Reading:** 1 Pt 3: 18-22... (Power of the Resurrection)

Christ died once for sin. Because of sin, God destroyed the earth by water. Now Christians are saved by the water of baptism. It becomes the pledge of resurrection.

➤ **Gospel:** Mk 1: 12-15... (Time of Fulfillment)

Jesus prayed in the desert for forty days. After John's arrest, Jesus came forth, announcing the time of fulfillment. It is the time to believe and reform.

- ▶ (22) Monday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
 - 1 Pt 5: 1-4... As a fellow presbyter and witness to the suffering of Christ
 - Ps 23: 1-6... The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
 - Mt 16: 13-19... You are Peter. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.
- ▶ (23) Tuesday: Lenten Weekday; St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr
 - Is 55: 10-11... My word will do whatever I will.
 - Ps 34: 4-7, 16-19... From all their distress God rescues the just.
 - Mt 6: 7-15... This is how you are to pray.
- ▶ (24) Wednesday: Lenten Weekday
 - Jon 3: 1-10... The Ninevites turned from their evil way.
 - Ps 51: 3-4, 12-13, 18-19... A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.
 - Lk 11: 29-32... No sign will be given to this generation except the sign of Jonah.
- ▶ (25) Thursday: Lenten Thursday
 - Est C: 12, 14-16, 23-25... I have no protector other than you, Lord.
 - Ps 138: 1-3, 7c-8... Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.
 - Mt 7: 7-12... Everyone who asks, receives.
- ▶ (26) Friday: Lenten Weekday
 - Ez 18: 21-28... Do I derive any pleasure from the death of the wicked and not rejoice when he turns from his evil way he may live?
 - Ps 130: 1-8... If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?
 - Mt 5: 20-26... Go first and be reconciled with your brother.
- ▶ (27) Saturday: Lenten Weekday
 - Dt 26: 16-19... You will be a people sacred to the Lord God.
 - Ps 119: 1-2, 4-5, 7-8... Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord.
 - Mt 5: 43-48... Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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Lenten Schedule:

● **Daily Mass**

Monday through Saturday at 7:30 AM

● **Tuesday Holy Hour**

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Exposition

Stations of the Cross

Benediction

● **Friday Holy Hour**

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Exposition

Stations of the Cross

Benediction

● **Confessions**

Tuesday: 12:15 PM

Friday: 5:15 PM

Saturday: 1:00 PM

● **Rosary**

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 4:30 PM

Diocesan Victim Assistance Co-ordinator:

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak M.A., NCC, LPC;

Direct Telephone: 1-800-791-9209

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Office of Safe Environment: Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS;

Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services;

P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538;

610-871-5200, Ext. 2204; (Fax): 610-871-5211;

Email: prusso@allentowndiocese.org

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Diocese of Allentown Protection of Youth Policy:

www.allentowndiocese.org

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Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service:

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 1-800-276-1562.



When you can't make it to Mass and are stuck at home, send your guardian angel to Church to intercede for you!

O HOLY ANGEL at my side, go to Church for me. Kneel in my place, at Holy

Mass, where I desire to be. At Offertory, in my stead, take all I am and own, and place it as a sacrifice upon the Altar Throne. At Holy Consecration's Bell, adore with Seraph's love, my Jesus hidden in the Host, come down from Heaven above. Then pray for those I dearly love, and those who cause me grief, that Jesus' Blood may cleanse all hearts, and suffering souls relieve. When the priest Communion takes, bring my Lord to me, that His sweet Heart may rest on mine, and I His temple be. Pray that this Sacrifice Divine, may mankind's sins efface; then bring me Jesus' blessing home, the pledge of every grace. Amen.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
to his wisdom there is no limit.
The Lord sustains the lowly;
the wicked he casts to the ground.

Ps 147

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May God bless us with patience and peace as we seek to live in harmony with one another and with all creation, through Jesus, our brother. Amen.

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Please pray for our sick, for all those homebound, in the hospital or nursing homes and especially those who care for them. We also ask prayers for those not listed and those we are not aware of that are ill.

Prayer Requests

Donna Miller, Joan Szemenyei, Joseph Ludrof, Susan G. Tinschmidt, David Cap, Lisa Dreher, A.J.

Shuck, M. and D. Shuck, J.A. Rutkowski, Anthony Viera, Bev Russell, Hank Straub, Albina DaSilva, Andrew Filbert, Christopher Brennan, Bill White, Jessica Hewitt, Joan Raymond, John and Charlotte Rzepiela, Lori Watts, Jacob Jarvis, James and Janet DeVaney, Beth Coleman, Mary Saraceno-Wright, Dorothea Saraceno-Atherholt, Mary Lou Schuler, Joe Field, Louis A. Gray, Gail Schneider, Molly Weidemoyer, James Lankford, Karen Hegedus, Patrick McBride, Jane Schreiber, Ron Rutkowski, Jamie Heston, Terry Macripo, Patrice Schwartzman, Leona Oberholtzer, Colleen Pinzon, Sanford Kravett, Jack Herczeg, Grandson, Sheri Radzelovage, Janet Zambo, Loretta Scurato, Theresa Mitchell, Emerson Davenport, Gina Teel, Nonna Frances, Charlotte Gazzana, Russell Gazzana, Rebecca Wasniewski, Larry Muzyka, Teresa Yanko, Pat Warminsky, Carmela Azzolina, JoAnn Connors, Frank Donchez, Carol Jacob, Manny Martinez, Ann Lester, Dorothy Fekula, Irene Nagy, Jackie Swartley, Bobby Ricks, George Treisner, Paul Micci, Janice Mitchell, John Witmer, Neal McNulty, Marion Gombocz, William Balliet, Lorraine Parton, Michael Stern, III, Eileen J. Kokosky, T. & E. Moskella, Julius Balogh, Kevin Jung, Al Nuckols, Gloria Negrete, Anna Mae Stern, Josephine Snow

IMPORTANT:

2021 SACRAMENT UPDATES:

- Confirmation: Thursday, March 11th, 4:30 PM
- First Penance: Saturday, May 1st, 10:00 AM
(First Communion Practice: Thursday, June 3rd, 6:30 PM)
- First Communion: Saturday, June 5th, 10:00 AM

Our Lenten Obligation:

Church law considers every Friday and the season of Lent as penitential days and times. The practice of penance is a part of our faith and Christian life. When we do penance, we imitate Jesus, who himself recommended it as necessary to his followers, and gave them the example of his prayer and fasting. The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that *fasting* be observed on Good Friday. The law of *abstinence* is to be observed on all the Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast?

All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60th year on his/her 59th birthday.

Who must abstain?

All Catholics who are 14 years and older.

What does fasting mean?

The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of fast. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) may be taken to maintain strength according to one's needs.

What does abstinence mean?

The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat, including poultry. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance.

Can anyone be dispensed or excused from

Fast and/or abstinence?

Individuals for a just cause may be dispensed by their pastor or by a priest with the faculty to do so. In our diocese all priests may dispense individuals who are committed to their pastoral care. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation.

Are there other obligations we should fulfill?

Catholics are obliged to fulfill what has been called their "Easter Duty." They are required to receive Holy Communion during the Easter time. In the United States this obligation can be fulfilled from the First Sunday of Lent until Trinity Sunday (February 21 until May 30, 2021). Those conscious of serious sin are reminded of the obligation to confess their sins at least once a year during this time. Catholics also are encouraged to make Lent a time of more intense prayer and to practice almsgiving and other works of charity.

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"Chance of A Lifetime" (C.O.A.L.)

Sweepstakes Tickets, donation: \$5 per ticket, sponsored by Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus. There is 16 Great CASH PRIZES totaling \$65,000. Drawing: Friday, April 30, 2021 – 8:00 PM at Mater Dei Hall, 327 Newton Street Road (Route 252); Newton Square PA



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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 st Prize: \$15,000 | 2 nd Prize: \$10,000 | 3 rd Prize: \$7,500 | 4 th Prize: \$5,000 |
| 5 th Prize: \$5,000 | 6 th Prize: \$5,000 | 7 th Prize: \$2,500 | |
| 8 th Prize: \$2,500 | 9 th Prize: \$2,500 | 10 th Prize: \$2,000 | |
| 11 th Prize: \$2,000 | 12 th Prize: \$2,000 | 13 th Prize: \$1,000 | |
| 14 th Prize: \$1,000 | 15 th Prize: \$1,000 | 16 th Prize: \$1,000 | |

For any questions, contact Bob Boyer 610-428-8314. If paying by check, please make it payable to: Sacred Heart K of C Council 15682.



"A time of war, and a time of peace": We pray for those that serve in our military: Michael O'Donnell; Jarrett Buchanan; Blair Holva; Nick Massari; John Flannigan; Joe Owens; Rob McGuire; Joseph Salmento; David Principato; David Colarusso, Jr.; Paul K. Browne, II; Anthony T. Browne; LCpl Timothy F. Cassidy; Mark McNulty, Jr.; Master Sgt. Scotty W. Hasenecz; Josh Brueningesen; Sgt. Jared Steirer; Senior Chief Ian Hudak

For All Men and Women in the Armed Services

Thank you with deepest gratitude, for your unselfish love and service to our country! With dedication and courage, you have put yourself in harms way in order to protect the freedom we hold so dear. For this, you have our admiration and heartfelt gratitude.

Home of the Free because of the Brave... Thank you!!

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► **Natural Family Planning Event...** The Office of Adult Catechesis & Evangelization (ACE) will offer a presentation by Fr. Daniel McCaffrey of Natural Family Planning Outreach. The presentation is open to the public and will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 7:00PM.

This presentation comes in response to requests from the lay faithful to provide more content, training, and resources on the topic of Natural Family Planning. The goal of offering this presentation is to increase openness to Natural Family Planning among married couples in the Diocese of Allentown, to educate couples properly on the effectiveness of NFP as well as the theological reasons for choosing it, and to provide adequate resources for couples interested in learning more. Fr. McCaffrey's bio, as well as information on Natural Family Planning Outreach, can be found at this link: <https://www.nfpoutreach.org/3>.

Time: February 24, 2021 at 7:00 PM. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82777353570pwd=N2hqbWlOWTl5NTExcDV FZ0xpOFNmdz09> Meeting ID: 827 7735 3570; Passcode: NFP All are welcome!

Prayer for Our Priests

Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent you on this earth. Make them more greatly aware of the grace that you pour out through them when they minister the sacraments and help them to fall more deeply in love with you after each and every Mass that they celebrate. Please strengthen our priests, who shepherd your flock, when they are in doubt of their faith, that they may be examples of your Truth and guide us always on the path to you. We ask these things of you our Eternal Priest. Amen.

► **Why is purple used for Lent?** Purple is used for two reasons: firstly because it is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and secondly because purple is the colour associated with royalty, and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty.

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Would like to re-introduce Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers at Mass. If you have done either in the past or would like to begin doing either, please email Fr. Bob at:



sacredheartbethlehem@gmail.com



The Year of St. Joseph Prayer...

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus

Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness. As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

Memorare to St. Joseph... Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

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Sacred Heart Church Rectory Office... Due to COVID-19, access to the rectory office will be extremely limited!

►►► As much as possible, all necessary secretarial business will be conducted by:

► phone ► email ► US mail

► For all necessary secretarial business available via phone, email, US mail:

- Mass Intentions
- Sanctuary Candles
- Sacramental Records
- Memorials
- Sponsor Forms
- Contribution Information
- Bulletin Information to Add/Delete

- 1) Phone: 610-865-5042 ext. 2 **or**
- 2) Email: sacredheartrectory1936@gmail.com **or**
- 3) US mail: Sacred Heart Church Rectory
1817 First St.
Bethlehem PA, 18020

Joanne will be in the office Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM, to answer the phone, return phone calls and respond to emails.

• Please **DO NOT** come to the rectory unless you first call and speak to someone. Most business transactions will not require anyone to enter the rectory!

► Drop-off and pick-up of items will be done with non-contact at the rectory front door.

► **Sunday Bulletins** are available in the Church vestibules before/after Saturday/Sunday Mass and also on the parish webpage: www.sacredheartbethlehem.com; Father Bob can be reached at: sacredheartbethlehem@gmail.com



Sanctuary Lights... Candles can be lit for 7 days (Saturday to Saturday) on the High Altar of the Tabernacle, Blessed Mother Altar, St. Joseph Altar, St. Anthony, St. Jude, and Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sanctuary Candles can be lit for any intention, death remembrance or anniversary, birthday, wedding anniversary, thanksgiving for blessings from God, for those who are ill or having surgery, or any special intentions which someone would like

special prayers for. To have one of these Sanctuary Lights lit, drop a little note in the collection basket marked "Sanctuary Lights". A donation of \$12.00 is asked. The intention will appear in the bulletin, unless directed not to.

Blessed Mother Altar:

✠ In Loving Memory of Anne Ardinger
By: husband John

Sacred Heart:

➤ Special Intention

Prayer for More Vocations

O Holy Spirit, Spirit of wisdom and divine love, impart your knowledge, understanding, and counsel to youth that they may know the vocation wherein they can best serve God. Give them courage and strength to follow God's holy will. Guide their uncertain steps, strengthen their resolutions, shield their chastity, fashion their minds, conquer their hearts, and lead them to the vineyards where they will labor in God's holy service. Amen.

► St. Francis Retreat House; 3918 Chipman Road, Easton, PA 18045; 610-258-3053 ext. 10... **Monday Night Mini-Retreats:**

➤ **March 29: Patricia Kane, M.Ed: "From Control to Freedom in God" ...** This mini-retreat will take a fresh look at how we as individuals and as a faith community can breathe the healing of Christ into our wounded Church. As the Body of Christ, each of us carries a special key to unlock the bondage of fear, anger and grief that is the fallout of the pain of scandal, disillusionment, and even despair. Some practical tools will be presented to identify our unique charisms to help renew our Church. The goal of this mini-retreat is to be Good News.

➤ **April 26: Sr. Kathy Duffy, SSJ, PhD: "Teilhard's Mystical Path" ...** In his essay, "The Mystical Milieu," Jesuit paleontologist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin provides a road map into the intensely mystical environment in which he lived and moved. He describes the stages of his mystical growth in terms of five concentric circles. These circles provided him with a sacred path into an ever-deepening reality, a reality that is informed as much by the science of his time as by his religious tradition. They help us trace Teilhard's growth and development as he plunged ever more deeply into the heart of matter and into the heart of God, where he found a loving, cosmic 2 Person – the God for evolution. During this presentation, we will walk with Teilhard along these circles, allowing experience to open our contemplative hearts to the wonders of our universe and to the Divine Presence that dwells there.

Our Monday night mini-retreats are three-hour sessions that include a full meal (6:00 p.m.), presentation, prayer, and discussion (7:00 p.m.) and night prayer and blessing (9:00 p.m.)

If you choose to join us virtually, you will be sent a follow-up letter with the Zoom link, passcode, and instructions. (See below)

The donation for these mini-retreats is \$30.00 per person (includes supper) / Virtual participation: \$15. Please register for these mini-retreats at least one week before the event so that we can arrange the needed space, produce the necessary hand-outs, and prepare the special meals for all who come. All are welcome! Zoom instructions: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

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Sacred Heart "Little Lot"

January 2021 Winner:

Anna Kraus: \$50 - #4836



Winning Number is the Evening Draw of "Pick 4 PA Lottery" exact match ONLY!



Flowers on the Altar of Our Blessed Mother are In Loving Memory of Helen and Bill Bakos from daughter Debra.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot.

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance." Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

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Bless the Space Between Us... Bless the Space Between Us is a group for Contemplative Prayer and Listening. St. Francis Center for Renewal, 395 Bridle Path Rd., Bethlehem PA 18017

Online Retreat: February 23, 2021: 10:00AM
Freewill Offering

Do you long to grow in your relationship with God? Do you desire to hear God's still small voice? Join us as we explore ways to deepen our relationship with God, learning to listen to God. Hosted by MaryAnn Kearns, MS

To register for this meeting, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212121>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For information or to book a stay, please call our main office at 610.867.8890 or email stfranciscenter@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: All retreatants coming into the Center are required to follow best practice for public gatherings during Covid-19 season. Please visit our [website](#) for further details.

Additionally, we also offer Online spiritual direction with Sr. Marguerite Stewart, OSF. If you are interested in meeting with Sister Marguerite, please email her at smargueriteosf@yahoo.com.

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Commission for Men Monthly Rosary... As we enter into this new year, the Commission for Men will be hosting a monthly rosary for men and their families every 3rd Wednesday at 7:00pm. Join us to pray for peace in our nation and in our world, for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, and for an increase in vocations to religious life and priesthood in our Diocese and throughout the Church. Men and their families are welcome! For more information check out the website:

<https://www.menaliveinchrist.org/mens-rosary/>

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Sacred Heart Memorial Society... Those who are enrolled in the Memorial Society will have their names written in a special book. The Memorial Book will be on display by the St. Joseph Altar. An intention will also be included in the Sunday petitions for those enrolled in the Memorial Society. All donations from the Sacred Heart Memorial Society will be used for the purchasing of items needed to celebrate the Sacraments. Suggested offering: \$20.

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Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel. Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.