

DECEMBER 14, 2025

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, December 14, 2025
3rd Sunday of Advent,
Year A

A NOTE OF JOYFUL EXPECTATION MARKS TODAY'S WORSHIP. ISAIAH ANNOUNCES THAT THE DESERT SHALL REJOICE AND BLOSSOM, AND JESUS POINTS TO THE UNEXPECTED AND TRANSFORMING SIGNS OF GOD'S REIGN.

WE WAIT WITH PATIENCE FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD, EVEN AS WE REJOICE AT HIS PRESENCE AMONG US THIS DAY: IN WORD AND HOLY SUPPER, IN CHURCH AND IN OUR HOMES, IN SILENT REFLECTION AND IN WORKS OF JUSTICE AND LOVE. WE PRAY THAT GOD WOULD OPEN OUR EYES AND EARS TO THE WONDERS OF CHRIST'S ADVENT AMONG US.



From the Pastor's Desk

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY:

1.

ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY
ANNOUNCES THAT THE LORD IS NIGH;
AWAKE AND HEARKEN, FOR HE BRINGS
GLAD TIDINGS OF THE KING OF KINGS.

2.

THEN CLEANSED BE EV'RY SOUL FROM SIN;
MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF GOD WITHIN,
PREPARE WE IN OUR HEARTS A HOME,
WHERE SUCH A MIGHTY GUEST MAY COME.

3.

FOR THOU ART OUR SALVATION, LORD,
OUR REFUGE AND OUR SURE REWARD;
SHINE FORTH, AND LET THY LIGHT RESTORE
OUR SOULS TO HEAV'NLY GRACE ONCE MORE.

4.

ALL PRAISE, ETERNAL SON, TO THEE
WHOSE ADVENT SET THY PEOPLE FREE,
WHOM WITH THE FATHER WE ADORE
AND HOLY SPIRIT EVERMORE.

SOMETHING TO PONDER TODAY.
PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.
PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9 A.M. SERVICE W/SCS
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**BIBLE STUDY
DECEMBER 18TH @ 6PM**

**DECEMBER 14TH, 21ST @10:30AM-1PM
YOUTH GIFT WRAPPING**

**DECEMBER 14TH @ 9AM
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
SOUP SALE**

**DECEMBER 21ST
CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE**

**JANUARY 14TH @ 6PM
PRAYER LABYRINTH**

**DECEMBER 28TH @ 10AM
LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**UPCOMING AGAPE MEAL DATES:
JANUARY 4**



Assisting Ministers

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13 @ 5P.M.
VICKY WIENKE- ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 @ 9 A.M.
TOM AND DEB FOX-ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 @ 10:30 A.M.
NANCY KESSLER- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 @ 9 A.M.
LEE DELANEY- USHER

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 @ 10:30 A.M.
SANDY STANGO- USHER

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14 @ 10:30 A.M.
HUGH VOSSELLR- ACOLYTE

ALTAR GUILD FOR DECEMBER:
CONNIE ARNOLD
CHARLIE ARNOLD



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

\$8.00 PER PLANT

NUMBER ORDERED _____

OR VIRTUAL _____

PLEASE PRINT

IN LOVING MEMORY

OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

ORDERS DUE BY DECEMBER 14, 2025
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO ST. JOHN'S ALTAR GUILD.
THANK YOU!!!!

OPTION 1:

YOU CAN ORDER RED POINSETTIAS USING THE ORDER FORMS THAT ARE ON THE COUNTER IN THE FOYER. PLEASE PUT IN THE BOX ONCE COMPLETED.

OPTION 2:

WE ARE AGAIN OFFEREING A "VIRTUAL OPTION"

WE INVITE YOU TO SEND IN NAMES OF THOSE YOU WISH TO REMEMBER OR HONOR. PLEASE NUSE THE CONTACT INFORMATION BY FILLING OUT VIRTUAL ON THE FORM. DONATIONS FOR OPTION 2 ARE OPTIONAL AND WELCOMED. YOU WILL NOT NBE RECIEVING A PLANT, BUT YOUR MEMORY OR HONOR WILL BE PRINTED.

ALL ORDERS AND INFORMATION ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 14TH.

ALL OPTIONS NAMES WILL BE PRINTED IN THE CHRISTMAS EVE BULLETIN AS WELL AS THE ONLINE VERSION. FORMS ARE AVILABLE IN THE NARTHEX BY THE POINSETTIA BOX OR ONLINE. NOTE THAT ORDERED PLANTS CAN BE PICKED UP AFTER THE 10PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP IN BEAUTIFYING YOUR CHURCH.

COLLECTION FOR BOOK AND JIGSAW PUZZLE SALE

THE PLANNING IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY FOR THE NEXT SALE.

START COLLECTING BOOKS AND PUZZLES TO DONATE. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH WHEN YOU CAN START BRINGING ITEMS IN. THANK YOU!

CARING CHRISTMAS CARD

THERE IS A SIGN UP ON THE COUNTER FOR ANYONE THAT WANTS TO SEND HOLIDAY WISHES TO YOUR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY. PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AND THIS WILL GO OUT IN THE NEWS AND BULLETIN FOR ALL TO SHARE.

THIS WEEK 12/14 - 12/20

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/ PAGEANT
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP
YOUTH GIFT WRAPPING
SOUP SALE
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

10 A.M. SPROUTS
1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6 P.M. SPROUTS
6 P.M. KNITTING GROUP
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
6 P.M. PARKINSON'S GROUP
7 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY:

12 P.M. NA
5 P.M. ZUMBA
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. BASKET MAKING
5 P.M. WORSHIP

COOKIE SALE

THE YOUTH WILL BE MAKING CHRISTMAS COOKIES ON DECEMBER 7TH. THEY WILL BE ON SALE DECEMBER 21ST, THERE IS NO ORDER SHEET. BE HERE ON THE 21ST TO PURCHASE A VARIETY OF COOKIES AND SUPPORT THE YOUTH.

COUPONS

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2026 I WILL NO LONGER BE COLLECTING COUPONS AND SENDING THEM TO FORT BRAG. SINCE THE NEWSPAPERS ARE HARDLY PRINTING THEM ANYMORE IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE FOR ME TO COLLECT THEM FOR THEM TO USE BEFORE THEY EXPIRE.

I GREATLY APPRECIATE ALL MY COUPON DONATORS AS I'M SURE FORT BRAG DID TOO.

THANK YOU,
SANDY STANGO



IN MEMORY OF ALICE, ETTA, GLADYS AND FLORENCE

BY ARLENE LICKFIELD

IN HONOR OF DIANA SLOMA'S BIRTHDAY

FROM HER FAMILY

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

BURRITO PROJECT

THE BURRITO PROJECT TEAM WILL BE VENTURING OUT TO FEED AND OFFER SOME PERSONAL HYGIENE AND WARMTH TO THE HOMELESS IN DOWNTOWN BUFFALO ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH. WHATEVER YOU CAN DO TO HELP IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE HOMELESS PEOPLE WE SERVE. THE SUPPLIES THAT WOULD BE MOST VALUABLE TO THEM AT THIS TIME ARE:

LADIES UNDERWARE

SWEATPANTS (SMALL OR MEDIUM)

SWEATSHIRTS

MENS UNDERWARE

HAND AND TOE WARMERS

SHAVING CREAM

BLANKETS

GLOVES

WIPES

SOCKS

DEODORANT

YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE COLLECTION BOX LOCATED IN THE FOYER.

COLLECTION FOR JAMAICA

WE ARE TAKING UP A COLLECTION TO SEND TO JAMAICA.

ITEMS NEEDED TO SEND THEM ARE:

OATMEAL, RICE, EVAPORATED MILK, TUNA, SARDINES, MACKEREL, CORNED BEEF, FLOUR, CORN MEAL, CANNED CORN, CANNED PEAS, COOKING OIL, SOAP FOR BATHING, SOUP PACKETS, CREAM OF WHEAT.

COLLECTIONS DUE 12/14

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WE ARE LOOKING FOR ANY AND ALL VOLUNTEERS ON 12/20 FROM 12-5PM FOR OUR EVENT AT CHURCH FOR THE SPECIAL NEEDS TOY AND FOOD BASKET MAKING!

WE ALSO WILL BE MAKING HYGIENE BAGS AND CHRISTMAS CARD BLESSINGS FOR EACH OF THE CHRISTMAS FOOD BAGS.

THE DONATIONS GO ALL OVER WNY, CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, ROSWELL PEDIATRIC HEMATOLOGY, UBMD AND OISHEI CLINICS, NON PROFIT HEALTH HOME FOR SICK CHILDREN, AND WNY SCHOOLS WITH 6-1-1, 8-1-1, 12-1-1, CLASSES.

SOME ITEMS LIKE A PORTION OF THE HYGIENE BAGS GO TO THE BURRITO PROJECT, LITTLE PANTRIES IN WEST SENECA AND SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS, AND NON PROFIT HEALTH HOME.

IF ANYONE WANTS TO HELP LOAD UP THEIR VEHICLES FROM MY HOUSE TO CHURCH WE ARE LOOKING FOR THAT AS WELL.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE,
KRISTEN DELANEY
716 353-2681