

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, FARRELL, PA.

Week of December 7, 2025, Calendar of Events

Monday Dec 8: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

MASS AT 12:1 pm

Tuesday, Dec 9: 9:00AM Making Fatima Cavatelli

In the Good Shepherd Social Hall

Wednesday Dec 10: 6:00PM PRAYER BOOK CLUB

Downstairs in our Social Hall

Thursday Dec 11: 9:00Am Making Fatima Cavatelli

In the Good Shepherd Social Hall

ALL DAY ADORATION 6:30AM TO 6:00PM

HOLY HOUR 6:00PM TO 7:00PM

Friday Dec 12:

Saturday, Dec 13: 4:00PM MASS

11/29/2025	
# of Registered Families	380
# of Envelopes Used	106
Christmas Flowers	\$235.00
Offertory Collection	\$2571.00
Loose Offertory	\$121.00

Thank you for your generosity to
OUR PARISH



Intentions		Requested By			
SATURDAY, Dec 6 at 4:00 pm MASS		Deceased Horner Family Dorothy Mancino		JoAnn Horner Her Children	
MASS Monday, Dec 8 at 12:15PM		Mary Conti		Cavatelli Crew	
Tuesday, Dec 9 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service			
Wednesday, Dec 10 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service			
Thursday, Dec 11 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service			
Friday Dec 12 at 6:30 am		Prayer Service			
Saturday, Dec 13 at 4:00 pm MASS		Russell “Rusty” Davis Joseph Aiello		His Family Frank Aiello	
MINISTRY SCHEDULE	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS		ALTAR SERVERS	GREETERS
SATURDAY 4:00 PM	Marsha Petrillo	MaryRose Marks Jean Burke		Joe Perrico	VOLUNTEER Jean Burke
DEC 13					

**Altar Candles the Week of
DEC 7 thru DEC 13, 2025**

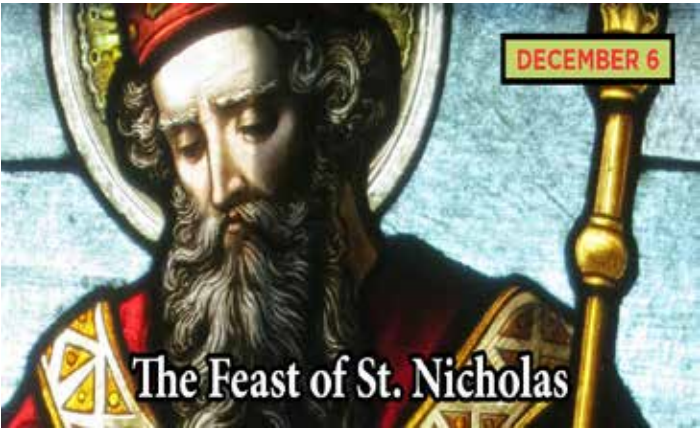
SANCTUARY LIGHT
MARY CHERVINKO
From Fran Chervinko

BLESSED MOTHER ALTAR
VERA PICCIOTTO
From Wally, Judy Carpenter & Family
BILL CAMPBELL
From Shirley & Family

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR
RUSTY DAVIS
From Patty Whorton
GRACE & CARMEN PASTORE
From MaryRose Marks

Blessed Virgin Mary Altar Flowers
For this week were donated in memory of
CARL & PAULINE MARKS
From MaryRose Marks

THE FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS



WHO IS SAINT NICHOLAS?

Saint Nicholas was an early Christian bishop of the ancient Greek city of Myra (modern-day Demre, Turkey). During his life he gained the reputation of uncommon concern for the needs of his people, and after his death he became renowned as a great miracle worker.

Nicholas had a profound understanding of the method Jesus used throughout his ministry. When you read the four Gospels, you discover that Jesus almost never preached before he attended to some human need. He would heal someone—make the lame walk or the blind see. He would feed the hungry, often thousands of people at a time.

Jesus’ concern for people’s physical and material needs is one of the things that set him apart from the spiritual leaders of his time. He wasn’t just interested in the spiritual well-being of people; he was interested in the whole person. Nicholas understood that. He understood that it is hard to listen to the Word of God if you are hungry and thirsty. He realized that it is even difficult to believe in God if your children are dying of hunger.

Poverty has been an obstacle to flourishing for billions of people throughout history—and it is still an obstacle today. The saints realized that we each have the power to help some people overcome this obstacle. The haunting truth comes by reflecting on

two simple questions: (1) Is there really any good reason why a billion people alive today are starving to death? (2) How is it possible or acceptable that we allow one in five children in America to go to bed hungry each night? As Christians we are called to serve the hungry, the lonely, the poor, the uneducated. They are our brothers and sisters. They are Jesus in disguise; they are Jesus in our midst. There are many stories about Saint Nicholas. They are stories of love and compassion. They are stories of self-sacrifice and great generosity. It’s impossible to know if they are true, but if they are not, we should make them true with our own lives.

One of these stories tells about a widowed man with three daughters. He was old and poor. Having no money for dowries, upon his death, his daughters would most likely be sold into slavery or prostitution. One night while everybody was sleeping, Nicholas rode past the family’s home and flung a red velvet bag filled with gold coins in through the window of the old man’s home. The father heard the noise and saw Nicholas riding off, and he spent the rest of his life praising God for sending Nicholas to them.

This is just one of many ways he generously interceded for his people, providing for their needs or giving special gifts on significant occasions in their lives. Intercede is a beautiful word. I love seeing someone intercede to solve a problem or improve a situation. Religious leaders throughout history have a reputation for being disconnected from the daily realities of the people they claim to serve. This is why Jesus and the prophets were repulsed by so many so-called spiritual leaders. But Nicholas had the heart of a servant and was deeply in touch with the needs of his people.

Santa Claus comes once a year to our shopping centers; Saint Nicholas did something every day to demonstrate the generosity of God to the people of his time. Fifteen hundred years before Dickens wrote his play, Nicholas of Myra was already living out the central lesson of *A Christmas Carol*.



BRIGHTEN UP THE CORNER

I was telling my three boys the story of the Nativity and how the Wise Men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the infant Jesus.

Clearly giving it a lot of thought, my six-year-old observed, “Mom, a Wise Woman would have brought diapers.”



READINGS FOR THE

WEEK OF

Dec 7 to Dec 13

- Sunday** Is 11: 1-10
Rom 15: 4-9
Mt 3: 1-12 (4)
- Monday** Gn 3: 9-15, 20
Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12
Lk 1: 26-38 (689)
- Tuesday** Is 40: 1-11
Mt 18: 12-14 (182)
- Wednesday** Is 40: 25-31
Mt 11: 28-30 (183)
- Thursday** Is 41:13-20
Mt 11: 11-15 (184))
- Friday** Zec 2: 14-17
Lk 1: 26-38 (690A)
- Saturday** Sir 48: 1-4, 9-11
Mt 17:9a, 10-13(186)

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

“SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT”, DECEMBER 7, 2025

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

“A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE DESERT: PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM.”

Between autumn of the year 27 and spring of 28 there appeared on the religious horizon of Palestine an original and independent prophet who had a strong impact on the people. His name was John. The first generation of Christians always saw him as the man who prepared the way for Jesus. There is something new and surprising in this prophet. He does not preach in Jerusalem like Isaiah and the other prophets; he lived apart from the elite of the Temple. Nor is he a prophet of the court; he moves far away from the palace of Herod Antipas. About him it was said that he was “a voice crying in the desert,” a place that cannot be easily controlled by any power. The decrees of Rome do not reach as far as the desert; neither do the orders of Herod. The din and bustle of the Temple is not heard there; neither do they hear the discussions of the Pharisees and teachers of the Law. Instead, one can listen to God in silence and solitude. It is the best place to begin turning to God, to begin preparing the way for Jesus.

This is precisely the message of John: “Repent; prepare the way for the Lord, make straight his paths.” This way of the Lord is not the Roman roads through which the legions of Tiberius march. These paths are no avenues leading to the Temple. We need to open new paths to God that come with Jesus.

The first thing we need again today is to convert ourselves to God, to return to Jesus, to open paths to him in the world and in the church. It isn’t a question of updating or of adaptation to the present time. It is much probably take a long time to put compassion at the heart of Christianity. It won’t be easy to move from a “religion of authority” to a “religion of vocation.” It will be years before Christian communities learn to live for God’s kingdom and his righteousness. Profound changes will be needed in order to place the poor at the center of our religion. One can only follow Jesus while in a state of conversion. What is necessary is a sustained conversion, an attitude of conversion that we transmit to future generations. Only such a church is worthy of Jesus.

“Make straight his paths.”

Fr. Glenn & Fr. Frank

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025, IS THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. It is the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America and as such, always a holy day of obligation, no matter what day of the week it falls on. Masses in our churches tomorrow are at 8:30 am at Good Shepherd, **12:15 pm at Our Lady of Fatima** and 7:00 pm at Good Shepherd.



PARENTING POINTERS

Advent is the season of waiting. Don't hurry Christmas. Help your children practice patience this week. Use tools such as the Advent wreath or an Advent calendar to mark the time. Help your children wait by not celebrating before Dec. 25 – at least at home. (We can't control the rest of the world.) Decorate slowly and in stages. Wait to do the tree. Minimizing time in stores and TV commercials helps. (See *Christmas is Dec. 25.*)

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Advent is a time of holy waiting. Practice waiting on your spouse today. Calmly wait for your spouse to arrive (instead of stewing if he or she is late). Or "wait on" your spouse in the sense of doing a favor for him or her.

ENGAGED COUPLES

Planning your wedding in 2026? An Engagement Encounter is scheduled for February 6-8 at St. Mark Catholic Center in Erie. Call the Family Life Office at 814-824-1261 or email familylife@erieRCD.org. Visit <https://www.erieRCD.org/familylifeoffice/> for more information and registration. EE satisfies diocesan requirements for marriage preparation. Catholic and Interfaith couples are encouraged to attend. Remember, "A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OUR LADY OF FATIMA HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2025

DEC 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

12 :15pm

DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00pm

DEC 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00AM

DEC 31 NEW YEARS EVE 4:00PM

CHRISTMAS TREES

We will be purchasing our 3 LIVE Christmas Trees for the Altar this year.

It has been suggested by our Parish Council that we do something special this year to honor our loved ones.

So, with that thought in mind, if you would like to donate directly to our trees in memory of your loved one, we will have decorative tags or floor signs that can be purchased.

\$50.00 to \$100.00—Floor Sign

OR

For every \$5.00 you get one Decorative tag that will be put on the tree.

Please call the office for more information 724-346-3359



Blue Army Feast of Our Lady of Gaudalupe

Please join the Blue Army in celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday, December 12th with an hour of prayer following the 9:00AM mass at Notre Dame Parish.

HELP NEEDED!!!!

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED: Fr. John Hindman and Fr. Frank DiCristina are in need of a housekeeper one day every two weeks. Work would entail dusting and cleaning.

If you are interested, please contact Fr. John at 951-236-8024.