



DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

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M E M O

TO: Clergy

FROM: Monsignor Robert Mazur

DATE: November 7, 2017

CONCERNING: Enclosures: Advent and Christmas Season Mailing

- (1) Advent and The New Liturgical Year 2018
- (2) Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- (3) Blessing of Advent Wreath: **Attachment**
- (4) Communal Advent Penance Service: **Attachment with Reading from Zephaniah**
- (5) Special Dates Within the Christmas Season: **Attachment for Blessing Families**
- (6) Blessing of Nativity Scene: **Attachment**
- (7) Holy Days of Obligation in the Year of Grace 2018
- (8) Special Days of Prayer in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
- (9) Seasonal Proclamations
 - (A) Christmas: **Attachment**
 - (B) Epiphany - Date of Easter: **Attachment**
- (10) Dates and Times of Diocesan Lenten Penance Services
- (11) Time of the Easter Vigil 2018
- (12) Bulletin Inserts

(1) **ADVENT and THE NEW LITURGICAL YEAR 2018:
Lectionary Cycles**

Sunday Cycle B (Gospel of Mark)

Weekday Cycle II (Lectionary Volume III)

(2) **THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:**

December 8, 2017, falls on a Friday this year. In accord with the USCCB decision of November 1991, confirmed by the Holy See in July 1992, the precept to attend Mass on this Solemnity is maintained. Friday, December 8, 2017, is a Holy Day of Obligation for the faithful in the United States.

(3) **THE ADVENT WREATH:**

The order for the blessing of the advent wreath within Mass is attached. The official text for the blessing of the advent wreath may be found in the Book of Blessings, Numbers 1509-1520.

The blessing of the wreath occurs only on the First Sunday of Advent as part of the Universal Prayer. On the subsequent Sundays of Advent there are no further blessings or prayers. The candles are lighted before Mass or before the Opening Prayer.

The advent wreath is a popular symbol in churches. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. The candles make a combination of 3 violet candles and 1 rose candle or 4 violet candles or 4 white candles. The evergreen speaks of life and freshness that is Christ. The wreath may be placed in the entrance of the church or near the ambo; it should not obscure the altar, ambo or chair.

A copy of this blessing has been provided. Please place the blessing within an appropriate folder for liturgical use.

(4) **COMMUNAL ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:**

Attached is a Penance Service for Advent that is copy ready (will only need folded) for your parish community this Advent. While not required, a light violet color of paper would be appropriate. The theme this year is *We Joyfully Celebrate the Forgiveness of God*. Also included is a copy of the reading from Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13. This reading is taken from the Lectionary Volume III, Number 188, page 81.

(5) SPECIAL DATES WITHIN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON:

Christmas (December 25) and Mary, Holy Mother of God (January 1) both occur on a Monday in 2017/2018. This year the Church commemorates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph on the **Sunday (December 31)**. At the conclusion of the Universal Prayer, the **Prayer of Blessing for Families**, from the *Book of Blessings*, would be appropriate. The presider would bless the families gathered with the imposition of hands. See attachment.

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (January 7) is followed by the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on **Monday, January 8, 2018**, officially ending the Christmas Season.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR—CHRISTMAS SEASON:

Sunday, December 24, is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The Vigil Mass for Christmas will be December 24 after 4:00 P.M.

Sunday, December 31, is the Solemnity of the Holy Family. The Vigil Mass for Mary, The Holy Mother of God, will be December 31 after 4:00 P.M.

(6) THE NATIVITY SCENE:

The order for the blessing of the nativity scene within Mass is attached. The official text for the blessing of the traditional Christmas crèche within Mass may be found in the Book of Blessings, Numbers 1541-1546, 1562-1564.

The blessing of the nativity scene occurs as part of the Universal Prayer with the presider's concluding prayer containing the blessing.

A copy of this blessing has been provided so it may be placed within an appropriate folder for liturgical use.

(7) HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION IN THE YEAR OF GRACE 2018:

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....Friday, December 8, 2017

The Nativity of the Lord.....Monday, December 25, 2017

Mary, the Holy Mother of God.....NO OBLIGATION IN 2018.....Monday, January 1, 2018

The Ascension of the Lord.....Thursday, May 10, 2018

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....Wednesday, August 15, 2018

All Saints.....Thursday, November 1, 2018

(8) SPECIAL DAYS OF PRAYER IN THE DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN:

(1)**Day of Prayer for *World Peace and Justice*
Monday, January 1, 2018 - NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION IN 2018.

**NOTE: While the Mass *For the Preservation of Peace and Justice* may not be used on the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, the Local Church will still observe this as a Day of Prayer for world peace. Please make the following prayer available to all on this day:

O God, who have revealed that peacemakers are to be called your children, grant, we pray, that we may work without ceasing to establish that justice which alone ensures true and lasting peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(2) Day of Prayer for the *Legal Protection of Unborn Children*
Monday, January 22, 2018

(3) Mary, Mother of the Church, *Principal Patroness of Diocese*
Sunday, May 27, 2018 - possible petition for Universal Prayer:

In thanksgiving for God's many gifts as the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown celebrates its establishment one hundred seventeen years ago today, we pray...

(4) Diocesan Day of Prayer for *Human Rights and Equality*
Monday, September 3, 2018

(5) Diocesan Day of Prayer for the *Harvest and Fruits of the Earth*
Thursday, November 22, 2018

(9) SEASONAL PROCLAMATIONS:

(A) The Christmas Proclamation:
Attached is the musical selection of *The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ from The Roman Martyrology*. This text may be chanted or recited on December 24 before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night.
It is found in Appendix I of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*—pages 1293-1294.

(B) The Epiphany Proclamation:
Attached is the musical selection of *Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts*. The proclamation of the date of Easter and the various dates that depend on Easter (April 1st) is chanted by the deacon or cantor after the Gospel on the Solemnity of Epiphany (Sunday, January 7th).
It is found in Appendix I of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*—pages 1291-1292.

(10) DIOCESAN LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES:

Bishop will gather with his priests on the following dates in Lent 2018:

Tuesday, March 20, Good Shepherd Parish, Port Matilda
Penance Service at 7:00 PM.

Wednesday, March 21, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona
Penance Service at 6:30 PM.

Thursday, March 22, Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown
Penance Service at 6:30 PM.

(11) TIME OF THE EASTER VIGIL:

The Easter Vigil will be celebrated Saturday, March 31, 2018, no earlier than **8:30 PM**, **Daylight Saving Time**. Sunset is to occur at 7:37 PM that evening. This will allow for the Easter Vigil to begin in darkness.

(12) BULLETIN INSERTS:

This Year of Grace 2018 the Liturgy Office will review the funeral rites and, also, spend time on the Church's call for the proper disposition of cremated remains. Your placing these inserts in the weekly bulletin will offer proper catechesis to our faithful on the funeral rites (Vigil for the Deceased, Funeral Mass, and Committal), and the practice of cremation along with the proper burial of the cremains.

ADVENT—CHRISTMAS, 2017

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**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
FUNERALS**

Liturgical Reflection...

Throughout this Year of Grace 2018 the weekly liturgical inserts will look at the Church's rites at death and review the Church's teachings on the proper placement of the cremated remains of the deceased. Hopefully, these reflections will give us a clear understanding of the Church's practice at the time of death. Christians celebrate the funeral rites to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God for the gift of life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just.

Order of Christian Funerals, 1998/1989, General Introduction, Number 5.

2017, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648

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**HOLY
DAY OF
OBLIGATION**

Liturgical Reflection...

This Friday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation as we celebrate with the Patroness of the United States. This feast commemorates that she who was to bear the Incarnate Word of God was immaculate herself from the first moment of her conception. America turns to Our Lady under the title of the Immaculate Conception asking her intercession to watch over us and guide us along the path of justice and peace. Check the times for Mass this Friday.

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**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
FUNERALS**

Liturgical Reflection...

Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation as we prepare to celebrate the remembrance of the Lord's first coming and, also, recalling his final coming in glory at the end of time. As we celebrate our funeral rites, the goal is to bring hope to the living. We turn to the Lord of life at the time of death to find assurance in our faith. We turn to the God of mercy in time of crisis and pain. To those who mourn and grieve, there is reason to have hope. In God is our hope and our salvation.

Order of Christian Funerals, 1998/1989, General Introduction, Number 7.

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ADVENT—CHRISTMAS, 2017

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**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
FUNERALS**

Liturgical Reflection...

We await the coming of the eternal Word of God. When a believer dies we find comfort and consolation in the word of God, the Holy Scriptures. Death may fill the Christian with fears and questions. Scripture firmly grounds us in the faith that death is not the end, that the promise made at baptism assures us that we who have died with Christ in the waters of baptism remain with the Lord into eternal life. The word of God assures us that death, a result of sin, does not have power over one claimed for Christ.

Order of Christian Funerals, 1998/1989, General Introduction, Numbers 2 and 4.

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**ORDER OF
CHRISTIAN
FUNERALS**

Liturgical Reflection...

The word of God at the time of death reminds believers of the promise of life. The biblical readings proclaim to those gathered the paschal mystery, teach remembrance of the dead, convey the hope of being gathered together again in God's kingdom, and encourage the living to give witness to the Christian life. The living word of God provides those mourning the opportunity to hear God speak to them in their needs, sorrows, fears, and hopes.

Order of Christian Funerals, 1998/1989, General Introduction, Number 22.

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Liturgical Reflection...

The Eternal Word of God becomes flesh and makes his dwelling among us. This is Christmas Day and the Christian world celebrates the mystery of God becoming one like us in all things but sin. In the course of time and when all was ready, God sent us his only begotten Son. The God who has no beginning or end has arrived as an infant in a manger. We are filled with holy awe; we gather with the angels and shepherds to sing our Christmas praises. Glory to God in the highest and peace to people of good will!

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**HOLY
DAY**

ADVENT—CHRISTMAS, 2017

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Liturgical Reflection...

We gaze at the Holy Family this Christmas time. We gather with our families these days of Christmas. Our attention is focused on the infant who is surrounded by love. We pray that our families be grounded in the love of the newborn Child. When faced with challenges and crises, turn to the Holy Family and seek guidance and protection. When the challenges of life seem overbearing, turn to Jesus, Mary, and Joseph to find comfort. Pray for right judgement and the faith to live in harmony.

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Liturgical Reflection...

Today is the Epiphany of the Lord and the last Sunday of Christmas time. Tomorrow, Monday, January 8, is the feast of the Baptism of the Lord and the formal ending of the Christmas season. Today the Church celebrates with the wise visitors from the east that the Word Made Flesh has arrived for all peoples and all nations. Jesus, born in Bethlehem, raised in Nazareth, and crucified in Jerusalem, is Lord of all races and nations. May the Christian Gospel be proclaimed throughout the world to all inhabitants.

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ORDER FOR THE BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

1516 The Advent Wreath may be blessed by a priest, deacon, or a lay minister.

I. ORDER OF BLESSING WITHIN MASS

1517 After the gospel reading, the celebrant in the homily, based on the sacred text and pertinent to the particular place and the people involved, explains the meaning of the celebration.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

1518 The general intercessions follow, either in the form usual at Mass or in the form provided here. The celebrant concludes the intercessions with the prayer of blessing. From the following intentions those best for the occasion may be used or adapted, or other intentions that apply to the particular circumstances may be composed.

The celebrant says:

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may be always ready to welcome him.

R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

Or:

R/. Come, Lord Jesus.

Assisting minister:

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

1519 With hands outstretched, the celebrant says the prayer of blessing:

Lord God,
your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior,
who enlightens our hearts
and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.

Pour forth your blessings upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath;
may their light reflect the splendor of Christ,
who is Lord, for ever and ever.

R/. Amen.

1520 Or:

Lord our God,
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

The first candle is then lighted.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE:

(Stand)

Presider: Advent is our time to prepare for the coming of the Lord.
All: Christ is near. Come, Lord Jesus, into our lives.

Presider: We long for the presence of the Eternal Word in our lives.
All: Christ is near. Come, Lord Jesus, into our lives.

Presider: The great feast of Christmas approaches. We are once again reconciled.

All: Christ is near. Come, Lord Jesus, into our lives.

Presider: As God has shown mercy to us, we now show mercy to others.

All: Christ is near. Come, Lord Jesus, into our lives.

Presider:

Let us pray.

Having received the gift of sacramental mercy and forgiveness, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Presider: May almighty God bless you, + the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Deacon/Presider:

Go in peace and may our Advent preparation continue until the great day of Christmas.

All: Thanks be God.

CLOSING SONG: *We Are the Light of the World*

or

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(or any appropriate Advent Song)

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ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE 2017

We Joyfully Celebrate the Forgiveness of God



(Stand)

OPENING SONG: *Proclaim the Joyful Message*

or

The King of Glory
(or any appropriate Advent Song)

Presider: In the + name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Presider: Advent is a time of preparing. We gather at this Penance Service to prepare for the great Christmas feast. We are sinners and we stand in need of God's mercy. We are silent in the presence of God.

(*period of quiet reflection*)

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, who through your Only Begotten Son have made us a new creation, look kindly, we pray, on the handiwork of your mercy, and at your Son's coming cleanse us from every stain of the old way of life. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

(Sit)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING: **Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13**

(*Lectionary for Weekday Mass, Volume III, Tuesday Third Week of Advent, Number 188, page 81*)

HOMILY:

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE:

(Kneel)

Presider: We gather this Advent day to prepare for the great feast of Christmas. Let us name those sins that keep us from the love of God and from loving our sisters and brothers. Let us now examine our conscience.



Deacon/Commentator:

- I. "I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before me." Is God the center and focus of my daily life? Have concerns over money, security, and stress dominated my days? Does my pride stand in the way?
- II. "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain." Do I have the habit of swearing or cursing and cheapening the holy name of God?
- III. "Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day." Do I make Sunday a special day for family, for those in need, and for Mass?
- IV. "Honor your father and your mother." Am I respectful of all those in authority in my life? Do I truly honor my spouse, my parents and family, my teachers, and my fellow workers?
- V. "You shall not kill." Do I possess a respect for the sanctity and dignity of all human life?
- VI. "You shall not commit adultery." Have I properly used God's gift of sexuality in my life, whether married or single?
- VII. "You shall not steal." Have I taken anything that does not belong to me?
- VIII. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor." Have I lied. In gossiping, have I harmed the good name of another?

IX. "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife." Am I satisfied and thankful in my life—for my spouse, my family, my friends?

X. "You shall not covet your neighbor's goods." Do I seem to always want more? Am I jealous of what others have and I do not?

ACT OF REPENTANCE:

Presider: We are sorry for the sins to be confessed; we resolve to do better in our lives. Together we make our public prayer of contrition.

All: O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you. I detest all my sins because of your just punishment, but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasions of sin. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Presider: As we gather this Advent day to confess our sins, together we pray the prayer Our Lord has taught us.

All: Our Father.....

DIRECTIONS: Priests take their place within Church for individual confession and absolution. The penitent will say when was his/her last confession and confess sins. The priest will give a penance. No ACT OF CONTRITION is said. Penitent returns to the body of church joining in the singing of community. All remain to join in prayer of thanksgiving.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

DURING INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION:

You Are Near

Sing A New Song

The Cry of the Poor

Though the Mountains May Fall

(Sit or Kneel)

On Jordan's Bank

On Eagle's Wings

We Are the Light of the World

Be With Me, Lord



Messianic salvation is promised to all of the poor.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah

3:1-2, 9-13

Thus says the LORD:
Woe to the city, rebellious and polluted,
to the tyrannical city!
She hears no voice,
accepts no correction;
In the LORD she has not trusted,
to her God she has not drawn near.
For then I will change and purify
the lips of the peoples,
That they all may call upon the name of the LORD,
to serve him with one accord;
From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia
and as far as the recesses of the North,
they shall bring me offerings.
On that day
You need not be ashamed
of all your deeds,
your rebellious actions against me;
For then will I remove from your midst
the proud braggarts,
And you shall no longer exalt yourself
on my holy mountain.
But I will leave as a remnant in your midst
a people humble and lowly,
Who shall take refuge in the name of the LORD:
the remnant of Israel.
They shall do no wrong
and speak no lies;
Nor shall there be found in their mouths
a deceitful tongue;
They shall pasture and couch their flocks
with none to disturb them.

The word of the Lord.

At the conclusion of the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) on Sunday, December 31, 2017.

PRAYER OF BLESSING—FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

O God,
you have created us in love and saved us in mercy,
and through the bond of marriage
you have established the family
and willed that it should become a sign of
Christ's love for his Church.
Shower your blessings on these families
gathered here in your name.
Enable those who are joined by one love
to support one another
by their fervor of spirit and devotion to prayer.
Make them responsive to the needs of others
and witnesses to the faith in all they say and do.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ORDER FOR THE BLESSING OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

1562 After the gospel reading, the celebrant in the homily, based on the sacred text and pertinent to the particular place and the people involved, explains the meaning of the celebration.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

1563 The general intercessions follow, either in the form usual at Mass or in the form provided here. The celebrant concludes the intercessions with the prayer of blessing. From the following intentions those best for the occasion may be used or adapted, or other intentions that apply to the particular circumstances may be composed.

The celebrant may introduce the intercessions with these or similar words:

Let us ask for God's blessing on this Christmas manger and upon ourselves, that we who reflect on the birth of Jesus may share in the salvation he accomplished.

R/. Lord, hear our prayer.

Or:

R/. Come, Lord, dwell with us.

Assisting minister:

For the Church of God, as we recall the circumstances surrounding the birth of Christ, that we may always proclaim with joy his gift of new life for all people, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

For the world in which we live, that it may come to recognize Christ who was greeted by the angels and shepherds, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

For our families and our homes, that Christ who was laid in the manger may dwell with us always, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

Assisting minister:

For parents, that their love for their children may be modeled on that of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, we pray to the Lord. *R/*.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

1564 With hands outstretched, the celebrant says the prayer of blessing:

God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have made manifest your love:
when our need for a Savior was great
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives he brings joy and peace,
justice, mercy, and love.

God,
bless all who look upon this manger;
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,
and raise up our thoughts to him,
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,
and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R/. Amen.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

from the *Roman Martyrology*

The announcement of the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord from the *Roman Martyrology* draws upon Sacred Scripture to declare in a formal way the birth of Christ. It begins with creation and relates the birth of the Lord to the major events and personages of sacred and secular history. The particular events contained in the announcement help pastorally to situate the birth of Jesus in the context of salvation history.

This text, *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ*, may be chanted or recited, most appropriately on December 24, during the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours. It may also be chanted or recited before the beginning of Christmas Mass during the Night. It may not replace any part of the Mass.

The twenty-fifth day of De - cem - ber, when ages beyond number
 had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the
 beginning created hea - ven and earth, and formed man in his own
 like - ness; when century upon century had passed since the Al -
 -mighty set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of
 covenant and peace; in the twenty-first century since Abraham,
 our father in faith, came out of the Ur of the Chal - dees; in the
 thirteenth century since the People of Israel were led by Moses in the
 Exodus from E - gypt; around the thousandth year since David was
 anoint - ed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Dan - iel:

in the one hundred and ninety-fourth O - lym - pi - ad, in the year

seven hundred and fifty-two since the foundation of the City of

Rome, in the forty-second year in the reign of Caesar Octavi-

-an Au - gus - tus, the whole world be - ing at peace, JESUS CHRIST,

eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the

world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born

of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man:

The Nativity of Our Lord Je - sus Christ according to the flesh.

The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts

On the Epiphany of the Lord, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with an ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to this formula:

Know, dear brethren, (broth-ers and sis-ters,) that, as we have re-
 -joiced at the Nativity of our Lord Je-sus Christ, so by leave of
 God's mer-cy we announce to you al-so the joy of his Resur-
 -rection, who is our Sav - ior. On the ... day of [February] will
 14th
 fall Ash Wednes-day, and the beginning of the fast of the most
 sacred Lent-en sea-son. On the ... day of [April]
 1st
 you will celebrate with joy East-er Day, the Paschal feast of our
 Lord Je - sus Christ. On the ... day of [May] will be the
 10th
 As-cen-sion of our Lord Je - sus Christ. On the ... day of [May]
 20th

the feast of Pen - te - cost. On the ... day of the feast of the
3rd June

Most Holy Bod - y and Blood of Christ. On the ... day of
2nd

December the First Sunday of the Ad - vent of our Lord Je - sus

Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff contains the text 'the feast of Pen - te - cost. On the ... day of the feast of the' with '3rd' and 'June' positioned below the second measure. The second staff contains 'Most Holy Bod - y and Blood of Christ. On the ... day of' with '2nd' positioned below the second measure. The third staff contains 'December the First Sunday of the Ad - vent of our Lord Je - sus'. The fourth staff contains 'Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

**PROCLAIM! 10:30 am; Live Mass Telecast 11:00 am - Noon
Every Sunday on WATM-TV ABC 23**

Live Mass Also Airs on Cornerstone Faith and Family Channel

The Minute-a-Month Electronic Ministry

Proclaim! TV Newsletter

PO Box 807, Johnstown, PA 15907-0807 Diocesan Website: www.ajdiocese.org

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Vol. 16 No.11 Official Publication of Saint John Gualbert Cathedral Parish TV Ministry November 2017

Chad King: Living the Hollywood Dream in Shondaland

Counting Our Many Blessings As We Prepare for Thanksgiving

We have much to be thankful for as we prepare for Thanksgiving 2017.

The continued support of our Minute-a-Month Ministry members provides the major source of funding for our live Mass telecast, helping us to bring the Mass to thousands every Sunday morning at 11 am.

Our volunteer technical crew members take great pride in presenting the telecast in a professional manner, donating their time and talents to the effort.

We thank **Jason Harris**, Johnstown Store Manager at Dale Oxygen, Inc., and his employer for presenting us with an important upgrade for our Satellite signal transmission system.

Jason and his employer furnished us with a new system that will maintain pressured nitrogen gas in our signal transmission line to our satellite dish, replacing an antiquated setup that was developing problems. The system includes a new regulator and the cylinders supplying nitrogen, to prevent moisture from entering the line.

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Former TV teen **Chad King** has much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving season.

With impressive credentials under his belt coupled with a burning desire to use his talents on the professional level, Chad is on board with one of the fastest growing production companies in the industry. In his new role as Assistant to the Director of Development, he is in the center of the action.

Chad sent an e-mail to bring us up to date:

"It's hard to believe that I have been working at Shondaland for ten months! I joined the company at an exciting time as the team continues to grow. The announcement of Shonda's new deal with Netflix was a huge industry shakeup.

While Shondaland still has several projects with ABC---both on the air and in development---any new endeavours will find a home at Netflix."

Ted Sarandos, the Chief Content Officer at Netflix, termed Shonda Rhimes "one of the greatest storytellers in the history of television."

That assesment is shared by Chad, who explained that shortly after the Netflix announcement Shonda and her producing partner Betsy Beers held a retreat, during which they emphasized that every member of Shondaland has a valuable voice. Chad had this reaction: "I am truly lucky!"

Chad, a 2011 graduate of Bishop McCort Catholic High in Johnstown, is a 2015 Cum Laude graduate of Chapman University in Orange, CA. A listing of his accomplishments fills several pages.

In Chad's own words "There is never a dull moment! I can't wait to see what we take on next!" He added "My favorite experience thus far has been working at Shondaland during staffing season for TV in the spring." *(continued on page 3)*

**Very Rev. Daniel J. O'Neill, VF,
Pastor, Saint Peter, Somerset,
And Dean of Southern Deanery,
Our Guest Celebrant for Nov. 12**

Our Guest Celebrant and homilist for Sunday, November 12, the Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, is **Very Rev. Daniek J. O'Neill, VF**, Pastor of Saint Peter Parish in Somerset and Dean of the Southern Deanery. Father O'Neill will be assisted by Deacon Ronald A. Kolonich.

The Sunday Mass is telecast live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown from 11:00 am until noon on WATM-TV ABC 23 and the Faith and Family Channel of Cornerstone TV. The Mass is also rebroadcast at 9:00 pm Sundays on the Atlantic Broad band Public Access Cable Channel 9.

Our complete list of celebrants for November:
Sunday, November 5 Very Rev. James F. Crookston
Rector, Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown
(The Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time and National Vocation Awareness Week Begins)

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS AT 2 AM
NOV. 5 AS WE RETURN TO STANDARD TIME
(Turn all clocks BACK One Hour)**

Sunday, November 12 Very Rev. Daniel J. O'Neill, VF
*Pastor, Saint Peter Parish, Somerset, and
Dean of the Southern Deanery*

Deacon Ronald Kolonich, Deacon of the Liturgy
Saint Peter Youth Choir will sing at this Mass

(The Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time and Stewardship Sunday)

Sunday, November 19 Very Rev. James F. Crookston
Rector, Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown
(The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Sunday, November 26 Very Rev. James F. Crookston
Rector, Saint John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown
*The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of The Universe*

Minute-a-Month Mass Nov. 5

The Minute-a-Month TV Ministry Mass for November will be celebrated as the 11:00 am TV Mass from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral on **Sunday, November 5**, the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Keeping the Faith Nov., 2017 Guests

Keeping the Faith, hosted by **Bishop Mark Bartchak**, airs at 10:30 am Sundays on WATM-TV preceding the live TV Mass.

Our complete lineup of guests for November:
Sunday, November 5: Blaine Farabaugh of Saint Benedict School in Carrolltown is welcomed by Bishop Mark as part of his Student Spotlight series.

Sunday, November 12: Jean Johnstone, Executive Director of Catholic Charities, discusses why the winter months ahead may be especially challenging for the agency.

Sunday, November 19: Joe, Cathy and Sam Olsavsky, members of Saint Peter Parish in Somerset, explain to the Bishop why they are especially grateful this Thanksgiving.

Sunday, November 26: Bishop Mark answers questions from the faithful about a variety of topics relating to the Church and the Catholic Faith.

Our Viewers Write, E-mail, and Call!

Dear Proclaim!

I reside in Punxsutawney, Jefferson County, and am an active member of the Lutheran church; however, being that your readings on most Sunday's are the same as ours, I tune in to your Mass to hear your understanding of the readings. Today, Oct. 1, having the youth choir was an outstanding addition. Your music director, Evonne, does an outstanding job!

--Anon e-mail

Dear Proclaim!

Please thank Fr. James and Fr. Chuck for the wonderful Faith homilies. I am so grateful for the Sunday TV Mass.

--ER, Punxsutawney (Jefferson County)

Dear Proclaim!

Please add my name to the TV newsletter mail list. I watch the 11 am TV Mass every Sunday and find it to be very inspirational.

--JS, Pittsburgh, PA

A Letter of Thanks from Us to You!

Dear Proclaim! Viewers:

In a reverse of the customary role, we the TV Mass and Production Crew extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our loyal viewers who make the Sunday Mass telecast possible.

We deeply appreciate your loyalty and support over the nearly thirty years we have presented the live TV Mass to thousands of grateful viewers and supporters.

Your expressions of thanks mean a great deal to all of our volunteers who give of their time and talents to produce the TV Mass every week of the year. May God Bless you!

--The TV Production Crew