



Saint Ignatius Loyola Church Weekly Update December 19, 2021

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses will continue the week of December 20, 2021

Monday thru Thursday – 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

WEEKEND MASSES

Please note weekend Mass schedule:

Saturday Vigil Masses 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Masses 7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

Live Streaming of Sunday Mass will continue at 8:30 a.m.

All Masses will be celebrated at St. Ignatius Church.

The church is now open for private prayer Monday-Friday from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions are held Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Please Note: There will be NO Confessions on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

HOSPITALS, LONG TERM FACILITIES, AND HOME VISITATION

All visitations to homes and hospitals remain limited based upon restrictions of individual health care facilities' protocols. CDC guidelines must be followed.



St. Ignatius Pastoral Staff

Monsignor David L. Tressler
Reverend Shawn M. Simchock
Deacon Gerard P. Pernot
Ms. Deirdre Drinkall
Mrs. Carmella Faust

Ms. Shannon Kowalski

Pastor
Assistant Pastor
Deacon
Notre Dame Intern/Pastoral Associate
Director of Liturgical Music
Director of Religious Education
Youth Minister and Live Stream Coordinator

Main Office Staff

Ms. Mary Lewis
Mrs. Jennifer Carey

Office Manager
Receptionist

Maintenance

Sacristan

Visiting Clergy

Mr. William Gross

Mr. Matt Fiske

Reverend James Alco
Reverend Daniel Issing, CSC
Reverend Robert Sickler
Reverend Andrew Sinnott

Mission Statement

We, the blended Catholic community of St. Ignatius, draw strength from Word and Sacrament, especially in the celebration of the Eucharist. Modeling Christ's work, we embrace our commitment to God's call. We remain faithful to the shared acts of prayer, study, and service. Together we extend Christ's hospitality to others and light the path of peace for generations to come.

Christmas Message 2021

My Dear Friends:

“WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM”

This year as we selected our ornament for the parish Christmas tree the one that struck me was of the Three Kings – a favorite of mine. The words: “Wise Men Still Seek Him” resonated with me. Traditionally, they are at the manger worshipping the Baby Jesus. The announcement that Christ was born brought interest from all over the world. And even today, with the many challenges of a more secular society, the world still takes pause about the Birth of Jesus!

This Christmas, let us focus on the Wise Men. First, they made an effort to find Him. Perhaps the hope and desire for the coming of a Messiah influenced them to make the journey to Bethlehem. All knew that someday One would be born who would save His people.

The journey of the Wise Men was extensive, taking time, resources and the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These were valuable gifts but also contain great symbolism. Gold is always an enduring symbol of incorruptible love while frankincense and myrrh were ingredients in sacred incense and anointing oil. The Wise Men came to worship Him. We today continue to worship Him - to fulfill our Christian lives which require giving – our time, our talents and our treasure. Finally, they were changed by their encounter with the Christ child! We, too, who worship and develop a relationship with Jesus are changed – He lives in us!

Our parish exemplifies the impact of our INFANT KING in our daily lives. Your generosity throughout these challenging months dealing with this unprecedented pandemic is truly inspiring. You continue to support the less fortunate in your donations to our St. Vincent de Paul Fund, the Christmas Wreath gift cards and/or monetary gifts, support of the food pantries, donations of coats/gloves/hats and so much more. We not only assisted in the practical needs but also - remained committed to the spiritual needs of our families. We provided the Little Blue Book for Advent, the Parish Yard Signs, an Advent Presentation on Mary and our Parish Christmas Tree with ornaments representing our parish’s commitment that we are TOGETHER IN FAITH!

I am most grateful to Fr. Simchock, Fr. Issing, Fr. Sinnott and Fr. Alco who I am fortunate to serve with at our wonderful parish along with Deacon Pernot, Ms. Deirdre Drinkall, and our Pastoral staff. My continued prayer for all of us is that our Journeys will be filled with His Peace, Hope, Love and Joy.

With my best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Msgr. David L Tressler

Monsignor David L. Tressler

Pastor

The Magi came and laid their gifts before the Child that day. But greater than the gifts they gave were those they took away. So may you too, as you today adore your Lord anew, receive more gifts than you can give – God bless and care for you!

CONFESSIONS

Special Advent confessions will be held on

Tuesday, December 21st from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 22nd from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 23rd from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**This will be the final opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
before Christmas.**

CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING MASSES & NEW YEAR'S EVE MORNING MASSES

Please note: the 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Masses will not be celebrated on
Friday, December 24th and Friday, December 31st.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The parish office will be closed on Friday, December 24th and Monday,
December 27th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, December 28th.
The parish office will be closed on Friday, December 31st and Monday,
January 3rd. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 4th.

CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

Special Christmas Mass Intention envelopes can be found in your monthly
packets to remember both living and deceased family members and friends.
Please write the names of your loved ones on the back of the envelope. The
envelopes will be placed on the altar during all of the Christmas Masses to
remember your intention

WEEKLY ADVENT REFLECTION

Advent 4

Communion

We gather together to light the fourth purple candle of Advent hope. Against the sparkling lights of the world, the lights of this wreath are small and insignificant. But in the grieving heart of the Christian, Advent light is the gift of Emmanuel.

This out-of-control virus has made churchgoing dangerous, and love of neighbor pushed us to receive spiritual communion at home. The pandemic exposed the weaknesses and wounds of church and society: selfishness, injustice, incivility, and violence. And yet, among some, it has awakened great virtue and courageous service to others. We recognize what we have lost and light this fourth Advent candle in gratitude for Emmanuel, those wonders and blessings that have sustained us through our losses and encourage us now to enter into greater Eucharistic communion and love.

Come, Jesus, come.

MARY'S MINISTRY ADVENT /CHRISTMAS VIDEO HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Ventriloquist, Susan Klein and a Family of Friends will be preparing hearts for the arrival of the King of Kings, the Light of the world! Check out our parish website and Facebook page in December for her two Advent events. "The Good News" story time program featuring Carmel the dog and Nachito the parrot will be available for families with young children. Her "Christmas Lights – Shining Bright – King of Kings" show may be enjoyed by youth and adult parishioners. These entertaining programs have been provided by Mary's Ministry in place of our normal holiday social due to Covid restrictions.



PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE

We will place a Christmas tree in the front yard of the rectory on Friday, December 17th and invite everyone to stop by and securely attach an ornament with your name (s) on it prior to December 24th (if necessary, you may leave your ornament in the container on the rectory porch for us to attach your ornament.) On Christmas Eve, we will light the tree as a visible sign of our unity and commitment to our parish family as we stand “Together in Faith.”



DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

We are in need of your help to decorate the Church! In order to keep volunteers as safe as possible as we decorate the Church, we will utilize two teams.

Team A will do the trees, lights, and manger setup on Monday, Dec 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Team B will do flowers and finish all other inside decorations on Tuesday, Dec 23 at 5:30 p.m.

If you helped last year, we will try to contact you. If you are not contacted for some reason, please just come on Dec 20th at 6:00pm

If you would like to volunteer, please come to the Church on either day. Thank you in advance for your help!

ATTENTION HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS, CARE GIVERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Mary's Ministry will be distributing pocket prayer shawl gifts with a blessed Marian Statue and calendars in place of flowers the week of Christmas to our parishioners currently in nursing homes or homebound. We ask all family members, friends, or care givers to please contact the Rectory 288-6446 with names and addresses of homebound and nursing home parishioners who should be added to our list to be remembered. Our Priests and Eucharistic Ministers serving the homebound and nursing homes will also bring Communion subject to Covid conditions. If you wish to pick up your loved one's gift, please let the rectory know and they will be available to pick in the sacristy after Masses on Dec. 18-19th.



ADVENT CALENDAR FOOD DRIVE!

Many, many thanks to those of our parish family who contributed to the Advent Calendar food drive! Through your generosity we were able to send to the St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry 175 boxes or bags of food items!! God Bless!

OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Christmas Wafers will be available on a table in the rear of the Church beginning Sunday, December 5th. Please deposit money for wafers in the locked collection boxes marked Christmas Wafers. Donation - \$5.00.

BIBLE STUDY

“Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Start the New Year in the biblical study of “Women of the New Testament.” Held via Zoom, inclement weather will be no problem as we hope to begin Wednesday January 5, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Two-book study sets for \$16.95 are on order, further information to follow!

SOCKS, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS, AND MASKS FOR VETERANS AT CHRISTMAS

St. Ignatius will once again be organizing a sock drive to benefit local veterans this Christmas season through the services of the Commission on Economic Opportunity. Donations of new men's and women's socks to support our local veterans and others in need are most welcome. In addition to new men's and women's socks, we will once again be collecting men's and women's personal care items (e.g., soaps, shampoos, deodorants, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine care products). We are also seeking donations of masks this year to address that new and ongoing need. Collection of socks, personal care items, and masks will begin at the back of the church on the weekend of December 18 and will continue through the Feast of the Epiphany on January 2. We thank you for considering this worthy cause!

SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

Sympathy and prayers are extended to family members of the following recently deceased parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish:

Antoinette Naperski
Charles Naperski
Alice Klucitas

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Due to a change in the Internal Revenue regulations, all donations for the calendar year 2021 must be made by December 31, 2021. Tax letters will be sent to all parishioners who donated by January 15, 2022.



Support your Parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal directly from your IRA

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional individual retirement account, you can use all or part of your required minimum distribution to support your parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

Distributions must be sent directly to your parish or the Diocese by the plan administrator of your IRA.

For more information, please contact Jim Bebla,
Diocesan Secretary of Development at
Jim-Bebbla@DioceseofScranton.org
or (570) 207-2250

The Annual Appeal kicked off a few weeks ago. Your continued support of our Diocesan Ministries will be greatly appreciated. Last year, due to your generosity, we went over our parish goal of \$77,000.00. Your support will be deeply appreciated. All parishioners should have received a mailing from the Diocese. Your pledges or donations can be returned to the Diocese or St. Ignatius Parish and the office will forward them to the Diocese. Thank you in advance for your support! The Appeal Video can be viewed on our Face Book page or Web page. We are most grateful to all who have prayerfully considered a pledge to this year's Appeal. God bless.

\$2,000.00 Refund!!!!

This year as an added incentive to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, a \$2,000.00 check will be sent to each parish that has a 10% increase in NEW DONORS, no matter what they donate. Last year we had 387 donors to the appeal. Hopefully, we can increase our participation by 38 new donors. Our goal as a parish is \$77,000.00 and for every dollar that is collected over that amount, 75 cents is returned to our parish. Presently, we are at 316 donors and 74% of our goal. Let us work together to meet this challenge and assist our Diocese in serving the many people in need.



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Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.



St. Ignatius is excited to announce that we have purchased a parish subscription to FORMED, now available to all parishioners! As we begin a new liturgical year, this online resource can help all parishioners to deepen their knowledge and enthusiasm about the faith. Formed is an on-demand digital resource with movies, videos, Bible studies, audiobooks, talks, and more! There are resources for adults, children, teens, and young adults covering just about any Catholic topic. **I like to call it, “Catholic Netflix.”**

Why not try it out? There’s so much to enjoy! Registering is very easy. Just go to signup.formed.org and type in our 18704 Zip-Code or search “St. Ignatius Loyola” and click on the Kingston, PA location. Give a name and an email and you’re registered!

Our ECHO apprentice, Deirdre, will be happy to answer any questions you have about how to sign-up for FORMED and the many treasures you can find on there.

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3. Enter your name and email

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**CHRISTMAS AND
NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE 2021
& JANUARY 1, 2022**

CHRISTMAS EVE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021

4:00 p.m. Mass in Good Shepherd Academy Gym

4:00 p.m. Mass in St. Ignatius Church

6:00 p.m. Mass in St. Ignatius Church

10:00 p.m. Mass in St. Ignatius Church

CHRISTMAS DAY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2021

8:30 a.m. Mass in St. Ignatius Church and Lived Streamed on Facebook Page

10:30 a.m. Mass in St. Ignatius Church

Please note, overflow crowds can be accommodated in Conlan Hall watching Mass on Big Screen Television. Holy Communion will be distributed in Conlan Hall.

Please note there will be no afternoon Liturgies on Christmas Day.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021

7:00 a.m. in St. Ignatius Church

8:30 a.m. in St. Ignatius Church (Mass will also be Live Streamed)

10:30 a.m. in St. Ignatius Church

Noon in St. Ignatius Church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2021

4:00 p.m. in St. Ignatius Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2022

10:30 a.m. in St. Ignatius Church (Mass will be Live Streamed)

*Please note: January 1, 2022, because it falls on a Saturday is not a Holyday of Obligation this year. The Solemnity remains but the obligation to attend Mass is suspended. Please note there will be **NO** afternoon Liturgies on New Year's Day.*

Mass Intentions Week of December 20th – 26th

Monday
7:30 AM – Jennifer Dorosky <i>Mom & Dad</i>
12:10 PM – Adrienna Gaetano <i>Grandma</i>
Tuesday
7:30 AM – Deacon John E. O'Connor <i>Family</i>
12:10 PM – William G. Mulligan <i>Family</i>
Wednesday
7:30 AM – Marie & Joseph Naughton <i>Peggy & Family</i>
12:10 PM – Brandon Bilwin <i>Hosey & Bilwin Family</i>
Thursday
7:30 AM – Stanley M. Schuster, Jr. <i>Family</i>
12:10 PM – Andrew & Margaret Leeson <i>Peggy & Family</i>
Friday
Please note: There will be no 7:30 AM or 12:10 PM Mass today.
Christmas Eve schedule – see page 12
Saturday
Christmas Day schedule – see page 12
Please note: There will no 4:00 PM or 5:30 PM Mass today.
Sunday
7:00 AM – Anthony Maloney <i>Tina & Family</i>
8:30 AM – For the People of the Parish
10:30 AM – James Murphy <i>Claire Thomas</i>
12:00 PM – Margaret Daniels <i>Ralph & Francis</i>

Church Candle for the Week of December 20th

In Memory of Gerald, Tommy & Mary – Requested by Family

Bread & Wine for the Week of December 20th

In Memory of Jeanne Butcher – Requested by Joe Butcher & Family

FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

Sunday Tithe
\$18,231.00

E-Offerings
\$1,435.00

Total
\$19,666.00

**Amount Needed
Each Week to
Meet Expenses
\$12,700.00**

Father Simchock, Deacon Pernot, and I continue to be most grateful for your generosity and support during these challenging days. Envelopes can be mailed in or dropped in the mailbox on rectory front porch.

May God Bless you abundantly for your continued support. Be assured of our prayers for health and safety for all.





Diocese of Scranton
Guidelines for Public Masses
Revised December 10, 2021

On **Friday, December 10, 2021**, Bishop Bambera sent a letter to all parishes of the Diocese of Scranton, reiterating our protocols during this time of COVID. The protocols are listed below. These protocols are in place to protect safety, well-being and health of all parishioners. We appreciate your cooperation with these guidelines as we welcome our family and friends to celebrate the Christmas season.

FACE MASKS

The Diocesan guidelines continue to strongly recommend vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals to wear masks inside for Mass and other indoor gatherings in order to protect the health and safety of all in attendance. We have also been asked to make sure that we have appropriate signage on our entrances. We are most grateful for the cooperation regarding the mask request with our goal of protecting our neighbors. You are reminded to continue to maximize the use of space as much as possible.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All Priests, Deacons and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are required to wear a face mask while distributing communion. The minister must stop and sanitize his/her hands if direct contact is made with a person's tongue before continuing. We respectfully request anyone who wishes to receive communion on their tongue to go to the end of the line. The distribution of the Precious Blood remains suspended at this time.

HAND HYGIENE

Hand washing and sanitizing is essential in preventing the spread of the virus. It is highly recommended that everyone takes advantage of the sanitizers located at the entrances of the church. The Sign of Peace will be extended without physical contact.

LIVE STREAMING MASS

We will continue to livestream the 8:30 a.m. Mass for those who must stay home. The 8:30 a.m. Mass is now available for in-person attendance as well.

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays from 12:00 noon – 12:30 p.m. Please be aware that face masks are required for the Sacrament.

Vaccinations are Encouraged

The Diocese of Scranton strongly recommends that all members of the Catholic Community who are eligible become fully vaccinated for COVID-19. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican has stated that it is morally acceptable to receive the current COVID-19 vaccines. Individuals remain free to exercise discretions regarding vaccination based upon their own reasons of conscience. The Diocese of Scranton will not provide support, written or otherwise, for individuals seeking exemption from the vaccine based on theological or religious grounds.

There is no requirement for face coverings or masks in the parishes of the Diocese of Scranton. There are no requests by the parish regarding information about vaccination status to be admitted to the church.

Face Masks or Face Coverings for Catholic Schools and Parish Religious Education Program

Face coverings are required in all Catholic Schools and Parish Religious Education Programs within the Diocese of Scranton. Parents/Guardians attending programs in either Catholic School or Religious Instruction Classes are required to adhere to the masking policy.

Once again, we are most grateful for your cooperation and understanding as we continue to do our best to end this pandemic. The decisions are based on the most up to date public health information. We are most grateful for your patience throughout these days. God Bless.