

**WEEKLY LITURGY SCHEDULE**

<b>Monday 12/13</b>	<b>St. Lucy, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> Nm 24:2-7,15-17a; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27 <b>12:15 pm MASS (IT): +Holy Souls in Purgatory</b>
<b>Tuesday 12/14</b>	<b>St. John of the Cross</b> Zep 3:1,2,9-13; Ps 34:2,3,6,7,17-19,23 Mt 21:28-32 <b>5:00 pm CONFESSION/ADORATION (PE)</b>
<b>Wednesday 12/15</b>	<b>3rd Wednesday of Advent</b> Is 45:6c-8,18,21c-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23 <b>6:00 pm MASS (IT): Fr. Kevin Wojciechowski</b>
<b>Thursday 12/16</b>	<b>3rd Thursday of Advent</b> Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:4-6,11-13; Lk 7:24-30 <b>10 am – 8 pm ADORATION (IT)</b>
<b>Friday 12/17</b>	<b>3rd Friday of Advent</b> Gn 49:2,8-10; Ps 72:1-4,7,8,17; Mt 1:1-17 <b>9:00 AM MASS(PE): pro populo</b>
<b>Saturday 12/18</b>	<b>3rd Saturday of Advent</b> Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1,2,12,13,18,19; Mt 1:18-25 <b>5:00 pm CONFESSIONS (IT)</b> <b>6:00 pm MASS (IT): +Holy Souls in Purgatory</b>
<b>Sunday 12/19</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> Mi 5:1-4; Ps 80:2,3,15,16,18,19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45 <b>9:00 am MASS (PE): pro populo</b> <b>11:00 am MASS (IT): For all those who grieve a loss this Holiday season</b>

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

<b>Sat., December 18, 6:00 pm Mass (IT):</b>	Marla Macha
<b>Sun., December 19, 9:00 am Mass (PE):</b>	Cliff Thelen
<b>Sun., December 19, 11:00 am Mass (IT):</b>	Drew Endter Jamie Huntoon

**USHERS**

<b>Sat., December 18, 6:00 pm Mass (IT):</b>	Maureen Murphy John Franich
<b>Sun., December 19, 9:00 am Mass (PE):</b>	Joe Daller
<b>Sun., December 19, 11:00 am Mass (IT):</b>	Chuck Wieferich Mark Barrows

[READ TODAY'S DAILY READING HERE](#)

Dear Parish Family,

In the Gospel this weekend John the Baptist is preparing the way of the Lord by preaching a repentance of sins. In so doing, soldiers and tax collectors approach him and ask him what they must do for eternal life. In other words, these were those who would not be considered the "religious types," or "churchgoing types" of his day.

As the pharisees sneered at Christ for mingling with sinners, so they likely did at the Baptist for the same. Nevertheless, God rejoices over those from the outside seeking him, and seeking righteousness. Thus, the Church puts this Gospel on Gaudete (rejoice) Sunday.

Soon it will be time to celebrate our Christmas liturgies. We may have a good number of visitors in our pews. Some may be lapsed Catholics, others may be Protestants, others may have no faith, but are drawn to us for some reason at this time. We must pray for a disposition to rejoice at their arrival, and against a disposition to see them as inconveniences. Perhaps they may even look rather out of place, but so what? Let's be sure to rejoice at their arrival and encourage their attendance with nothing short of saintly hospitality.

Smile at them. Gently introduce yourselves before and after Mass. If they look disoriented, ask them if you can be of help, and ask them if they'd like to sit with you. Ask them if they'd like to meet for coffee sometime. Help them find the bathrooms. If they have a crying kid, let them know you know what it's like, and that it's great to see kids in our church. Welcome them as we would welcome the Christ Child.

prayers,

Rev. Edwin C. Dwyer, JCL

**CHRISTMAS MASSES ST. PAUL PARISH**

Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm Ithaca  
7:00 pm Perrinton  
Christmas Day: 12:01 a.m. in Ithaca  
11:00 a.m. in Perrinton

**NO GIFT IS TOO SMALL OR TOO GREAT  
WHEN GIVEN FROM THE HEART**

**ST PAUL PARISH: 11/28/2021: \$2,984.00**

**LET US PRAY FOR ... THE SICK OF OUR PARISH  
... THE RECENTLY DECEASED**

David Wright | Barbara Donohue

**... THE MILITARY:**

Major Matthew Cary | Tony Bellinger | Lt. Col. Tom Sager  
*Remember those who have no one to pray for them.*

**PARISH SCHEDULE**

<b>Sun 12/5</b>	<b>Whole Family Catechesis</b> 10:00 a.m. Ithaca Room 2 <b>Consecration to St. Joseph</b> 2:30 pm Mt. St. Joseph 6:00 pm Ithaca Room 4
<b>Mon 12/6</b>	<b>St. Martin Altar Soc. Christmas Party</b> At the home of Carol Anderson
<b>Tues 12/7</b>	<b>Consecration to St. Joseph</b> 9:00 am Ithaca Room 4
<b>Wed 12/8</b>	<b>First Reconciliation Retreat</b> Receiving sacrament at Ithaca
<b>Sun 12/12</b>	<b>Christmas Breakfast at Perrinton</b> After Mass in the lower level <b>Coffee &amp; Donuts in Ithaca (K of C)</b> After Mass in the Ithaca parish hall <b>K of C Business Meeting</b> 7:00 pm in the Ithaca parish hall
<b>Tues 12/14</b>	<b>CCW Potluck</b> 6:00 p.m. Ithaca Parish Hall



Our goal this year is **\$33,686.00**. Please send your pledges and contributions directly to the Diocese of Saginaw in the envelopes provided. Since the launch in October, we have received \$3,070.00. **Our current balance is \$30,616.00.**

**CHRISTMAS DINNERS**

**St. Martin Christmas Dinners** – St. Martin is sponsoring two families as in the past. Please drop off non-perishable food in the baskets in the back of church by the **19<sup>th</sup> of December.**

**CCW Christmas Dinners** – Baskets are in the vestibule. Items needed: canned fruit, corn, green beans, cream of mushroom soup; French fried onions, and gravy. **Donations needed by December 19.** Cash for perishables can be put in an envelope marked Christmas Baskets and put in the offertory basket.

The **KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS** will be providing the ham for the dinners for both churches.

**WHOLE FAMILY CATECHESIS**

There is only one lesson this month, and Father will be sending out his video next week on Lesson 5: In the Fullness of Time. Hopefully, you are catching up on and enjoying your Jesse Trees. Those prayers and reflections are an excellent tool to help keep your focus on Jesus and the great plan God had for all mankind when He sent His Son on this much anticipated holiday. May you all be blessed on your journey.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

**Gaudete Sunday** Lighting the pink candle means we're getting oh, so close to the big day - the day we celebrate Jesus' birthday in the Church! As we inch closer and closer to Christmas, lighting the pink candle should bring great JOY to every one of us. Peace be with you! **Prayer Space** the Advent season is the perfect opportunity to create a prayer space in your domestic church - your home! This could be a corner of a family room or office, a table in your dining room, or a designated spot in your house. All you need is a table or mantle, a Bible, and a cross to get started. Look here in the coming weeks for ways to add to that special space. Right now, you could include a nativity...without the baby Jesus! I pray you enjoy the Advent season as you wait for Christmas! **First Holy Communion classes will begin Thursday, January 27, 2022! St. Martin and St. Paul, pray for us!**

**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS SIGNS**

Please feel free to take any of the available signs in the back of the churches for you or your family's use!

**GIVING TREES**

The **CCW** and the **St. Martin Altar Society** are sponsoring giving trees at both church locations. Please take a tag from the tree and return the gift indicated **wrapped and with the tag attached by Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**. The gifts will be distributed that week.

**CCW POTLUCK**

Our St. Paul CCW December potluck will be Dec. 14, 6:00 p.m. at the Ithaca Parish Hall. Bring a dish to pass and a \$10.00 gift if you'd like to participate in the gift exchange. Signup sheet is in the vestibule.

**THANK YOU**

St. Paul CCW thanks everyone who made our Evening by Candlelight so special. The Mass, candles, decorations, meal, and fellowship were all blessings from God.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT PERRINTON**

We will be decorating St. Martin's for Christmas on Sunday, December 19th after mass and all who would like to help are welcome to join.