



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

127 Stephenson Street Tel: 570-457-3502 Fax: 570-451-3341 Office Hours: M-F, 9:00-4:00 unless otherwise noted in bulletin.

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Web: [www.nativityduryea.org](http://www.nativityduryea.org)



Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. Michael M. Bryant Pastor

Deacon André Kabacinski, Parish Deacon

Masses: Daily, M-T-W-F 7:00 am Thursday 6:30 pm • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

Confession: Daily, M-T-W-F~6:40-6:55 am; Thur. – 6:10-6:25 • Saturday- 3:15-3:45 pm, and anytime upon request.

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ❖ NOVEMBER 24, 2024 ❖ Final Sunday in Ordinary Time**

A Reflection on Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## The Faithful Witness

THE FAITHFUL WITNESS

As we think over Jesus as *Christ the King*, with the Gospel of John as our resource for this Sunday's feast, we must be careful to not "lump together" every Jewish person when St. John speaks of "*the Jews*." Most times he is speaking of the role the Jewish authorities, people like Caiaphas, the chief priests and some of the scribes and Pharisees, had in Jesus' crucifixion. Indeed, many of the disciples of Jesus who were deeply connected to his message and who believed him to be the Son of God, also initially held tightly to their Jewish roots.

These early disciples broadened their understanding of Jesus over time. Indeed, one of the tenets of their faith to be expanded was this notion of *the King*. Their dreams of the coming of the Messiah were grounded in their learnings about King David, and yearnings for, in the Hebrew scriptures – a mighty warrior who would set them free, especially from the Roman conquests.

Truly, *Christ the King* is mighty; but Jesus' predominant gospel message spoke of mercy and peace. As the Book of Revelation tells us this Sunday, he is the *faithful witness* to this, who "loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood." Our *King* is more centered on sacrifice than he is on war or violence.

This is "the truth" that *the Jews* and Pilate are not able to grasp. Possibly it is the same truth which we sometimes battle with as we seek to live as faithful witnesses. Like the Prophet Daniel in the first reading, we too have "visions in the night" and the day, that somehow *the King* comes and sets free the chaos of our world. We long for the Ancient One to touch our modern times and end the disunity which divides us. We search for a kingdom which initially stops the bad-mouthing we inflict on one another, and then opens doors to a deeper, loving acceptance of "all peoples, nations and languages."

Pilate's inquisitive bantering with Jesus in the Praetorium in John's Gospel, is more about himself, and us, then it is about Jesus. Jesus' confidence and fidelity to "my kingdom is not here" and "the truth" is extremely evident to Jesus. His voice comes from a greater *Truth* and "it shall not be taken away." If only we could find this same strength, this same oneness with *the King*.



There is a concluding verse of this piece of John's Gospel not quoted in our reading. Pilate in response to Jesus' statement, "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice," makes this inquiry, "What is truth?" He then goes out to the authorities and tells them, "I find no guilt in him." It seems he is attempting to hold on to the truth about who Jesus is, but often like ourselves he capitulates to both the authorities and the crowds.

On this feast of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, may we take hold of *the Truth* more profoundly in our living. May we treat with a holiness, everyone's relationship with *the King* – a relationship that is not in the clouds, but rather one in which the kingdom of Jesus is real now. In our standing with Jesus and listening to his voice of compassion and reconciliation towards everyone, may we truly become faithful witnesses. -Fr. Michael

### Questions of the Week based on this Sunday's Readings

► Daniel 7 :13-14 ~ Daniel's Vision of One Like the Son of Man ► Revelation 1 :5-8 ~ Praise to Jesus Christ ► John 18 :33b-37 ~ The Blood and Water

**Adults:** In what ways is Jesus the ruler of your life?

**Kids:** How can you show that you honor Jesus as the King of your life?

LITURGICAL CALENDER, DEVOTIONS, AND INTENTIONS FOR- NOV. 25- DEC 1, 2024			
Mon	25	<i>St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin &amp; Martyr</i>	7:00am Alyce Farrell (by Lyons family)
Tue	26	Weekday	7:00am Walter "Wady" Zavrotny (by wife, Carol & family)
Wed	27	Weekday	7:00am Raymond Vincent Trakimas (by Trakimas family) 7:00pm A Mass of Thanksgiving (for the Intentions of the Parishioners)
Thu	28	Thanksgiving Day	9:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass (for the Intentions of the Parishioners)
Fri	29	Weekday	No Mass
Sat	30	<i>Saint Andrew, Apostle</i>	4:00pm Mary & Andrew Lentowski (by daughter Jean Donovan)
<b>A D V E N T B E G I N S</b>			
Sun	1	First Sunday of Advent	8:00am Chris Barbarevch (by Pasqual & Joanne Sicilia) 11:00am For the Intentions of the Parishioners 7:00pm Don Wasta (by Bill & Debbie Orner)
<b>VOTIVE CANDLES OFFERINGS</b>			
Sacred Heart of Jesus		Florence Tressa (by Stan & Dorice Oliveri & family & mom, Joan)	
Blessed Virgin Mary		Walter "Wady" Zavrotny (by wife, Carol & family)	
Saint Joseph		Gertude, Loretta & dec'd members of Yachna family (by Johanna & Jamie)	

*Upcoming events...*

- 25 Monday**  
- Bible Study @6:00pm
- 28 Thursday – Thanksgiving Day**  
-Office Closed
- 29 Friday**  
-Office Closed

**D E C E M B E R**

- 1 Sunday – ADVENT BEGINS**
- 2 Monday**  
- Bible Study @6:00pm
- 3 Tuesday**  
-Men’s Society, 6:30pm
- 4 Wednesday**  
-Advent faith sharing 10:00am
- 7 Saturday**  
-Duryea Christmas Stroll – traffic patterns change
- 8 Sunday**  
-Christmas Breakfast, 8:30-12:30pm
- 9 Monday- Immaculate Conception**  
(Holy day of Opportunity)
- 11 Wednesday**  
- Advent faith sharing 10:00am

**FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP:** For the period ending November 19: TOTAL \$7,461.75; Sunday \$4,758.00 (\$1,131.00 OL); Loose Sunday Offering: \$235.75; Other Envelopes \$2,012.00 (\$215.00OL); Catholic Campaign for Human Development: \$456.00 (\$215.002<sup>nd</sup> Loose)

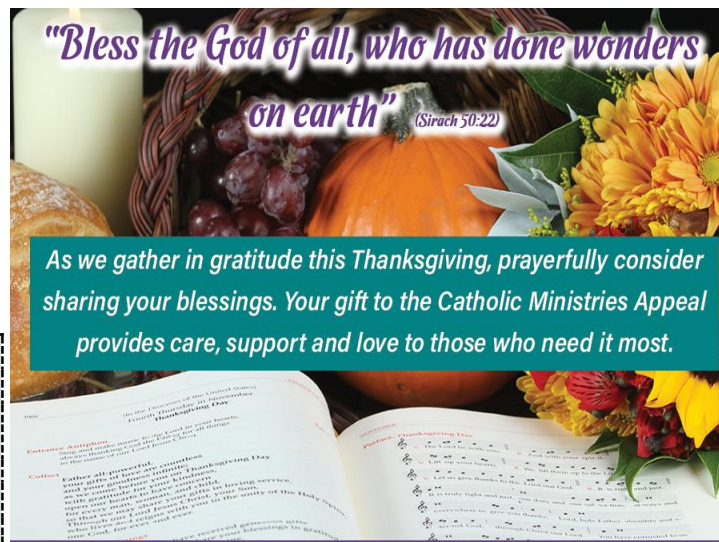
**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL: 2024 GOAL \$44,982.00 So Far: \$27,421.00 ... 60.96% to goal!**

**Our Gratitude, and More Information on Page 4. Thank You, and may God bless your wonderful generosity!**

**ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE:** here at Nativity will take place until Thanksgiving. Please bring non-perishable food items to the 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Mass on November 27, or to Thanksgiving Day Mass on November 28, or drop off any time before then to the vestibule or rectory. Donations will help fill the need at local food pantries and the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels. ALSO, Help is needed for distribution of collected food to the various agencies following Thanksgiving – please call the rectory to volunteer.



**PRE-CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST** - Our parish Men’s Society invites you to their Annual Pre-Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Featuring: scrambled eggs, pancakes, keilbasa, ham, homefries, juice, coffee & danish. Adults: \$12– Children 10 and under – free. Call the rectory for details. For pre-orders, please return form below by Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets will also be available at the door.



**CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST PRE-ORDER**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Breakfasts:** Adults (\$12): \_\_\_\_\_  
Children 10 & under (free): \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Checks payable to NOOL Men’s Society)



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CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

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[AnnualAppeal.org](http://AnnualAppeal.org),  
call (570) 207-2250 or  
click this QR code



*Let us give thanks  
to the Lord  
our God!*

**THANK YOU!** As our Nation pauses this week, united from many backgrounds and beliefs to give thanks to God for the countless blessings we share as a people, and as countless Americans donate food throughout this season for the benefit of those who may otherwise go without, please know that you are appreciated for all that you do for our parish. For the prayers and kindnesses shown, Thank You! For the donations to your parish and to others, Thank You! For your ministry at Mass, in our Parish Societies, Committees, and Councils, and for volunteering at various events and sales, Thank You! For the family you are to each other as we journey in faith, Thank You! God's blessings on each of you this week and always...

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

**THE LORD IS NEAR**  
*Advent Faith Sharing*

Faith Sharing is a group process for spiritual renewal that enables people to deepen faith, develop a closer relationship with Christ, grow in community and reach out in service. Our Faith Sharing groups will meet for **4 consecutive Wednesdays at 10:00 AM** in the meeting room of the Parish Office. They **begin** the Wednesday **before the First Sunday of Advent on November 27**. The other days are: December 4, 11 & 18. If interested, call to make a reservation at 570-457-3502. *Monday, November 25 is the last day to sign-up.* Advent and Christmas are not about where we've been so much as where we are going. Advent, which comes from the Latin word that means "coming," anticipates our celebration of the birth of Jesus but also his coming at the end of time. We who are disciples are not stuck in a moment of history; rather, we are on a mission here and now, to spread the gospel far beyond shepherds and magi, to whatever corners of the earth we touch.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION NEWS:**

**Thank You** to all of the parents who came to help with our 1<sup>st</sup> - Fourth Grade Rosary Project! In conjunction with the Diocesan Rosary Rally in honor of Father Patrick Peyton, parents helped students make their own rosaries. **Christ is King**, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>: -Morning Classes for Grades 1-6th, from 9:45-10:45am -Evening classes 5:15-6:45pm for 7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grades.  
**\*\*Dec 1<sup>st</sup> - No classes Next week - Enjoy the Long Weekend**



**"The family that prays together stays together."**

-Fr. Patrick Peyton



**GIFT CERTIFICATES/VOUCHERS** in support of Catholic Education: There will be no sales the week of Thanksgiving. Sales will resume Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Anyone may participate. What a wonderful way to do your Christmas Shopping!

**FIRST FRIDAY:** Occurs next week. If you would like a first Friday visit, please contact Janice at the Rectory at 570-457-3502 to be placed on the list. Father Michael would love to see you!



# OUR CALL TO SERVE

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

We extend our gratitude to those who have already responded to the Appeal through their pledges/donations as of November 22, 2024.

Please if you are able, consider a gift to the Appeal on behalf of our Parish.

Ms. Kim Adamiak  
Edward and Kathleen Ameika  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Ameika  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Balchune  
Mrs. Lois Balchune  
Mr. & Mrs. Owen Barnett  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael  
Bartnikowski  
Diane E. Blead  
Msgr. David Bohr  
Mrs. Theresa Bowman  
Rev. Michael M. Bryant  
Paul Burke  
Carol Callis  
Mr. & Mrs. Ross Carrozza  
Miss Jane Chropowicki  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Cislo  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Cossack, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Cremard  
Mrs. George Dankulich  
Miss Carmella DeBiasi  
Lori DePetro Gurley  
Ms. Diane Dobroski  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Doxbeck  
Mrs. Adam Drechin  
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Mr. & Mrs. Gary Edwards  
Thomas Emershaw  
Michael Ezdebski, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Filipkowski  
Ann Francis  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Free  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gedrich  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Gima  
Joan Gnall  
Cecelia Groblewski

Mr. Matthew Gronski  
Thomas Hoban  
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Hoover  
Mr. & Mrs. John Hoover  
Mrs. Elaine Horan  
Ms. Cynthia Hunter  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jacek  
Edward Jaksina  
Joyce Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Jopling  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kamor  
Kristen Klimchak  
Mr. & Mrs. William Klimchak  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kobesky  
Lois Komensky  
Marian Kropotavich  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Krypel  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Krysko  
Gloria Kuna  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Lacey  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lambert  
Miss Eileen Lampman  
Mr. & Mrs. John Lampman  
Rose Loggans  
Mrs., Bernadine Lojewski  
Eileen Lojewski  
Barry and Michele Long  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Madrak  
Lucille Madrak  
Mr. & Mrs. David Martinelli  
Janis McAndrew  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian McCoy  
Mr. John McGlynn Jr.  
Mr. Joseph D. Merli  
Francis Mesaris  
Paula Mesaris  
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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Novak  
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George and Pat Sanderson  
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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Skutack  
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Smicherko  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sowa  
Denise Stage  
Sherry Starzec  
Pauline Strzelec  
Dorothy Swieboda  
John Sylvester, Sr.  
Joseph Szweczyk  
Mr. & Mrs. James Tighe  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Timek  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Tonte  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Traeger  
Jean Turowski  
Michael Twomey  
John Wahl  
Vincent Waszczak  
Joan Waters  
Mr. & Mrs. William Waters  
Elizabeth Wieckowski  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Yabonski  
Mary Ann Yager  
Marianne Zawrotny  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Zyblicki

2024 GOAL for Nativity of Our Lord \$44,982.00

So Far: \$27,421.00, 60.96% of our goal! THANK YOU!!!

**TREE OF HOPE** We have begun our annual Tree of Hope Project to aid the poor or lonely in our parish and community. This program helps those who for whatever reason might find nothing under their tree or in their stocking. Simply take a tag, and as you do your Christmas shopping, return the item in a gift bag with the tag attached and place it in the totes in the vestibule of the church. Anyone who may know of an individual or family in need of our love at Christmastime is asked to contact the rectory as soon as possible. New this year are tags specifically for cooperation with the GIFTS FOR KIDS GIVEAWAY coordinated by Friends of the Poor, The Catherine McAuley Center, and Catholic Social Services. These tags will have the option of going on to Amazon and having the gift delivered directly to Catholic Social Service, or giving a check/cash and the rectory staff will do the computerized work for you. More Information is on those tags.

## ADVENT ITEMS

The Holy Season of Advent begins next Sunday. It is a time for new beginnings, in church and in our homes. Our faith is to be lived each and every day in our homes and communities. In part, this is what is known as the "domestic Church," the Church alive in your homes and families. To help you as we begin a new year of grace, we offer the following resources:

- ❖ **ADVENT BOOKS** can be found throughout the church. An offering of \$1.00 is appreciated to help defray the cost, if you are able.
- ❖ **CATHOLIC HOME CALENDARS** are also available near each entrance.
- ❖ **BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFERS** will be made available next week, in the usual manner. May God bless us and our families as we begin anew these Seasons of Grace!
- ❖ **NEW MISSALETTES** will be placed during the week. PLEASE: DO NOT TAKE MISSALETTES FROM THE PEWS FOR HOME USE. Please see David, Father or Deacon if you are in need of one for the home. Thank You.

### SAVE THE DATES:

**TOYLAND BINGO** at Holy Rosary School, an annual tradition, will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**DURYEA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS STROLL** - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup> Join the people and businesses of Duryea for their annual Christmas Stroll and enjoy the food, craft and specialty items.

**TAIZE ADVENT PRAYER SERVICE:** An Evening of Prayer in Anticipation of Our Parish Feast Day. We invite you to a special evening of prayer and reflection. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 17, at 7:00 pm, when our parish will gather for a candle light service based on the Seven O Antiphons of Advent, verses that focus our attention on the Glory of Christ, the mystery of this wonderful gift, who is born to us at Christmas. Take an hour off from your Christmas rush to reflect on all that we are given through this feast, beyond the trees and the lights, the gifts and the food, and meditate on the Savior it honors - who comes to us!

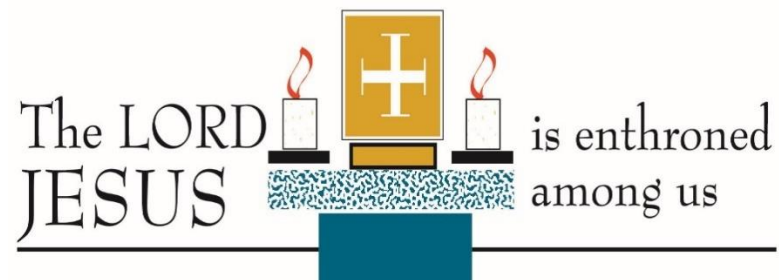
### IN THE COMMUNITY:

**AT ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH:** ● **HOLIDAY GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR** continues today Nov. 24. 9am- 3pm.

**AT SCRANTON PREP** ● **The Scholarship Entrance Exam** will be held on Saturday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> for eighth grade students interested in applying for fall term 2025. Register online at [www.scrantonprep.org/preptest](http://www.scrantonprep.org/preptest). Please call 570-947-PREP or email [admissions@scrantonprep.org](mailto:admissions@scrantonprep.org) with any questions.

**AT SACRED HEART OF JESUS, DUPONT** ● **ADVENT CONCERT SERIES:** A series of classical piano music reflections will take place at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 215 Lackawanna Ave., beginning Sunday, December 1, at 10 a.m. All are welcome to attend this free Advent concert series prior to Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass. ● **A CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK:** will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Hall, 215 Lackawanna Ave., Dupont. \$10 a pound. Be aware that this will not be a nut-free environment.

**AT ST. JOHN'S, PITTSTON** ● **CHRISTMAS ORGAN CONCERT AND SING-ALONG** Sunday, December 15 at 2:00 PM This family-friendly event with organ music and carol singing for the Advent and Christmas seasons will be led by organist Michael Sowa. A free-will



## CHRISTMAS PIEROGI 2024

We are making Christmas Pierogi to brighten the holidays of parishioners and friends alike. Pierogi will be available for **\$10.00 a dozen**, frozen and bagged. Orders are limited to **3-Dozen per customer**, and orders will be taken on a first come, first serve basis until Thursday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, or until supplies run out. **Pick-up Date and Time: Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Church Hall. Only one pick up date and time!**

### CHRISTMAS PIEROGI 2024 Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Pierogi:  1 Dozen,  2 Dozen  3 Dozen Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to Nativity of Our Lord Parish.*

Office use... Order # \_\_\_\_\_ LB: \_\_\_\_\_ Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ CASH or CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_



*This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...*



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Stanley & Stella Rava and Family	Rincavage, Billick and Galinas Families	Anthony & Helen Rincavage and Anthony Singer	Michael and Irene Rostkowski Mark Rostkowski	Jess L. & Beatrice Rutkoski	Victor I. Salidas. Anna Salidas Victor J. Salidas
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Gertrude and Loretta Yachna & Deceased Yachna Family	<i>Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.</i>			Margaret Yauk and Romayne Solarchik	Zujkowski, Pribula, Klink and Nasiatka Families

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