

Holy Rosary Catholic Church
34 Franklin St.
Buckhannon, WV 26201
December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

"Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." John the Baptist meant business. He proclaimed a serious message of change and conversion in words that, today, might earn him the label of a "hellfire and brimstone" preacher. But he was more than a preacher; he was a witness to repentance. Indeed, he must have been a sight to behold draped in his penitential garb, nibbling on his locusts and honey. Anyone who heard him preaching must have taken notice, even if they didn't take heed. If nothing else, John the Baptist surely got people's attention.

But will he get ours? Because we've heard this story before, we might be inclined to glaze over its inherent drama. He urges us, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" This is the moment! Now is the time! Advent especially reminds us to examine our lives and renew our commitment to Christ. As John the Baptist put it, we are called to "produce good fruit as evidence" of our repentance.

True conversion reveals itself outwardly. When our hearts change, our actions do too. Charity replaces criticism. Forgiveness replaces anger. Service replaces selfishness. This marks the difference between a "tree" that is firmly rooted in Christ, and one that's only good for a pile of firewood. "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees." This Advent, may we feel the urgency of John's words and get about the serious business of repentance. Liturgical Publications Inc.

Join the Adventure Club on Sunday

The Adventure Club will be meeting to ice skate and carol on Sunday, December 10, 2023!

4:00 p.m.: Meet at The Rink on Main Street for ice skating. The cost will be covered by the Adventure Club.

5:30 p.m.: Meet at Marist Hall for Christmas Caroling. Following caroling, we will have Christmas cookies, hot cocoa, and spiced cider. Updates will be posted on the Holy Rosary Catholic Church Facebook page in the event of adverse weather. Youth Group will be joining the Adventure Club on Sunday, December 10th for ice skating and caroling! Join us at the downtown skate rink at 4 pm (the Adventure Club will be covering the cost of rentals) or meet us at Marist Hall at 5:30 pm for caroling. This will be replace our December meeting. See you there!

Advent Communal Penance Service

Our Advent Communal Penance Service will be held on Monday, December 11 at 7 pm in the church. We hope to have several priests for private confessions at this service. As we get ready for the coming of Christ, please consider this humble sacrament. Confessions are also available before each weekend mass and anytime by appointment. If you are unable to make it Monday evening, you are invited to a Communal Penance Service at St. Brendan's Church in Elkins on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 pm.

Christmas Band Concert

TICKETS NOW ON SALE: The Shinnston Community Band and the Brass Rhythm & Sax Orchestra are reuniting once again at the Robinson Grand Stage in Clarksburg for A Community Christmas Concert. Join us on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets for A Community Christmas Concert are only \$8. All tickets can be purchased online at tickets.therobinsongrand.com or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at (855) 773-6283.



ISAIAH 40:3

Forever Fit	
Every Tuesday - 11 am - Free for all Ages	
Marist Hall	
December 12	Soul Core
December 19	Silver Sneakers
December 26	Walking
January 2	Silver Sneakers

Knights Christmas Card Sale

The Knights of Columbus are selling Christmas cards again this year. These beautiful religious boxes sell for \$10 and are available after the masses for the next few weeks. Get yours today!

"saint" of the week



Addison Zirkle is this week's "saint" of the week. She is 16 years old and a junior at BUHS. Addison is an active church member; she is a lector, part of the newly formed youth group, and part of the adventure club. Some of her favorites are the color pink, English class, and sushi. Addison also likes to play Battleship. She would like to visit Italy and Greece. Addison has real team spirit, she is a cheerleader. We are proud of all her accomplishments, especially, winning first

place at the Educators Rising National Conference in WV for her project on Foster, the therapy dog at Buckhannon Academy Elementary School. She won second place in the Nation for her project on Foster. Let's keep Addison n our prayers this week.

Wow! Thank You!

The generosity of our Holy Rosary Family is humbling and an outstanding example of what it means to be Christ-like. We asked for your help in providing for a family with six children for the Salvation Army Angel Tree project and we were overwhelmed by your quick and generous giving. Your contributions were able to provide warm clothing, shoes, socks, toys, health products and other goodies so that these children will have a nice Christmas. Thank you very, very much!

St. Joseph's Missals Have Arrived

Like everything, the price has increased on our St. Joseph's Missals. If you can, please put \$5 in the envelope when you pick up your missal in the hall.

Parish Directories Are Here

Our new Parish Directories are finally here! Many thanks to Laurie Adams for taking on this project! If anyone wants a copy of their picture sent to them through email, they can email Amber directly at the diocese. (achambers@dwc.org) We will put copies in Marist Hall. Please only take one per family!

School of Religion Program

Our School of Religion Program continues. All students in K through 12th grades are required to attend. Please meet at 10:15 in the School of Religion Building.

Dec. 10~Class 10:15 – 11:15

Dec. 17~Class 10:15 – 11:15

Dec. 24 and Dec. 31~NO CLASS

Last Week's Collection

Envelopes: \$1,872

Loose: \$156

Attendance: Sat. 12/2: 30

Sun. 12/3: 112

December special collections:

Retirement Fund for Religious and Catholic Charities of West Virginia



You Can Help: "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious this week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.

Important Lector Training

We invite all lectors who did not attend last week's meeting to attend the final lector training session after mass on Saturday, 12/9/23.

Please remember in your prayers:

Jalen Welcome, Tori Odom, Dolores Reynoso, ChristineKate Deasy, Linus Deasy, Rosemary Austin, Phil

Halligan, Pat Dagneault, David Daignault, Randy Trent, Macyah Riley, Ellie McCarthy, Barbara Bengle, Frances

Beckes, Daphne Johnston, Josephine Baxa, Tony Derico, Helen Kee, Kay Sienkiewicz, Shanna Ericsson, Vonda

Allman, Louise Hawkinberry, Dennis Cortes, Mary Kriner, Jeanne Madigan, Jane Baxter, P.T.Garton, Joseph Moore,

Colleen Hoover, Alina Vernarsky, Eleanor Betler, Stephen Tilson, Anthony Lewellyn, Carolyn Collins Heater, Cindy Raffety, Bruce Maine, Angie Murphy, Jerry Hull.

Please pray for men and women in the military and please pray for those who have died. And don't forget to pray for our first responders.

Please pray for our Homebound: Mary Stump, Ron Frye, Rocenia Asbury, Lorraine McLean, James McCartney, Shirley Linger, William McLea, Barbara Hillberry, Donnie Cox, Rose DeProspero, Linda Coyner, Jerry Stankus, Jean Lantz, Janine Robinson, Barbara Elmore, Helena Bessinger, Alan and Jimmie Jo Simms

Back Pack Thanks

Forty-five students. Week-end snacks. Simple?— YES! With your generous return of WDES Backpack Program envelopes \$3066.00 was raised to extend the purchase of nutritional snacks! Thank you! God is good. Thank you for sharing His love for us Holy Rosary Parishioners with the Students of WDES and the Buckhannon Christian Academy 🙏. You all are awesome witnesses of God's ever presence ❤️

Christmas Cards for Veterans

You can send a Christmas card to any hospitalized veteran this season! Cards may be sent to: Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center, Attn: Voluntary Service (00-P), One Medical Center Drive, Clarksburg, WV 27301.

Will Baxa IV December 5
Charlie Malcolm December 7
Tracy Murphy December 9
Anthony Murphy December 13
Harrison Walker December 15
Andrea Ellis December 27
Grant Murphy December 27
Mike Wilson December 28
Mike Ellis December 31

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Golden Anniversary to Mariann and David Jack who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in December! They were married at Holy Rosary Church by Fr. Michael Kerwick on December 29, 1973.

Congratulations to the Lewellyn Family! Baby Clara Ann was born to Chase & Abigail Lewellyn on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 5:38 pm and weighing 7 lbs 10 oz. The happy grandparents are Dave and Krista Lewellyn! Congratulations!

Six huge bags of Christmas goodies were delivered to the Salvation Army for our Angel Tree Project this recently! Thanks to all who donated!



Merry Christmas!

December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

A Vocation View: John the Baptist stands as a sign of contradiction, calling his contemporaries back to a relationship with the Living God. Perhaps you are being called to follow in John's footsteps today.

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES and SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1-800-553-3321