

"O Creator God, our world is pregnant with the anticipation
of the birth of your Son.

We are bursting in our preparedness, for the feast of
Christmas that will soon be here. Everything seems to be in order:

the plans are agreed to, the tree is decorated,
most of the gifts are wrapped, and we think we are ready.

However, Lord, as we pause to offer this prayer,
we realize that some things have been rushed, and,
in the process, some important things have been forgotten.

In this brief moment of quiet,
help us to be at least thankful. Help us to appreciate
the Word that comes to dwell with us.

Help us to hope in the promise of His way, truth, and life.

Help us to join with the angels who sing your praise.

Grant us the lasting peace of this great season of joy.

We pray in the name of our long-expected Lord. Amen."

~ from *The Essential Advent and Christmas Handbook*





Welcome to
Saint Charles Borromeo Parish
 St. Charles Borromeo Church - Ashland
 Saint Vincent de Paul Worship Center - Girardville
 Rev. Giuseppe Esposito, M. Div., M.A., Parochial Administrator
 Parish Office: 1115 Walnut Street, Ashland PA 17921
 Phone: 570-875-1521 (fax) 570-875-2635
 Parish Website: www.stcharlesashland.com
 Parish Email: catholicchurchashland@msn.com
 Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/stcvmoj

DRE/Music: Susan Klinger **Business Manager:** Shannon Butler **Office Assistant:** Teri Krolick
Office Times: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Fridays 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and every other Thurs. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Office is closed all Federal Holidays and Holy Days

Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 PM St. Charles Borromeo
 Sunday 9:30 AM St. Charles Borromeo
 For holy days and weekdays, consult the Bulletin.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration takes place Tuesdays after 8:30 AM
 Mass until 11 AM.

Communion Calls

Communion is normally distributed to the home-bound on the Thursday morning before First Friday of each month, except by special arrangements.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays: 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM, Ashland
 Sundays: 9:00 AM to 9:25 AM, Ashland

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Baptisms take place in the main Church in Ashland. They occur on Saturday Mornings. Prior to the day, parents must attend a class, and be regularly attending weekend Masses for at least three months. Pre-register for this class with the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

At least six months before a couple hopes to get married, he and she must talk face to face with the priest and get a firm wedding date and time from him. Only after this initial contact should a couple set the dates for a reception or a honeymoon.

Parish Religious Education

CCD Grades 1-8
 Contact the Parish Office to enroll your children.
 RCIA / Adult Education Contact the Parish Office

Hall Rentals may occur for private events.

Parish Funerals

Any family who desires a priest other than the Pastor to celebrate the funeral Mass of a deceased loved one *on parish premises* must first obtain the Pastor's explicit approval. Such approval, as for other special requests, must be sought in each and every case, but can normally be expected to be granted.

St. Anne Chapel Hours

Located in the lower level of our Church in Ashland, this chapel is unlocked daily, except on Sundays. Monday through Friday it opens at 6 AM, and at 8 AM on Saturday. It remains open until 4 PM.

Regional Catholic Schools

Marian High School, Tamaqua,
 Grades 9-12, 570-467-3335
Nativity BVM High School, Pottsville,
 Grades 9-12, 570-622-8110
St. Joseph Center for Special Learning, Pottsville,
 All levels, 570-622-4638

Diocesan Coordinators for Minors

Pamela J. Russo, MSW, MS
 Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator
 Diocese of Allentown
 1515 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
 P.O. Box F Allentown, PA 18105-1538
 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204
 610-871-5211 (Fax)
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Ms. Wendy Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator
 1-800-791-9209

If you are new to the area, please consider registering with us.

Contact the Parish Office to establish a relationship with us through registration.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

Saturday, December 17

St. Charles Borromeo Church

4:00 PM Elizabeth & Joseph Dougherty
William & Lucy Kripplebauer &
Dorothy & William Kripplebauer
Seitzinger

Sunday, December 18

St. Charles Borromeo Church

9:30 AM Sue Wisdo and Mary Batdorf
Tom Gower (6th Anniversary)

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Regularly scheduled weekday Masses are in Ashland

St. Anne Chapel is the lower level of our Church.

Mon., December 19 - NO MASS

Tues., December 20 -

8:30 AM Doris Herb
Eugene O'Hearn

Wed., December 21 - NO MASS

Thurs., December 22 - NO MASS

Fri., December 23

8:30 AM Patrick McCormick
Aloysius and Martha Burns

Saturday, December 24

St. Charles Borromeo Church

4:00 PM Memorial Society


St. Vincent Worship Center-Girardville

8:00 PM Memorial Society

Sunday, December 25

St. Charles Borromeo Church

9:00 AM All Parishioners

 **Please pray** for all our military men and women, our policemen and women, our sick at home and in the hospitals, and nursing homes, also our deceased brothers and sisters in Christ especially Diane Tarantelli.

The Vigil Lights burn brightly this week: 

In St. Charles Borromeo, in loving memory of Elena Herb by the Herb Family.

In St. Anne Chapel, in loving memory of White, Mattro, Inkrata and Kandrot Families from the White Family.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be open this week, Tuesday, December 20th, Wednesday, December 21st.

Christmas Holiday Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed from Friday, December 23 through and including Monday, January 2, 2023.



Christmas 2022 Mass Schedule

St. Charles Christmas Eve: 4:00 PM
St. Vincent Christmas Eve: 8:00 PM
St. Charles Christmas Day: 9:00 AM



Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God

Saturday, December 31, 2022 4:00 PM
Sunday, January 1, 2023 9:30 AM
(Normal weekend Mass Schedule)

2023 Calendars

As we approach a new year, our parish would like to **SINCERELY THANK**, Thomas and Timothy Sullivan of the Sullivan Funeral Home, Shawn and Melissa Clark of the Kull-Heizenroth Funeral Home, and Rick Fritz of the Fritz Funeral for donating the 2023 Religious Calendars for our Parish. The calendars can be found in St. Charles Borromeo Church, St. Anne Chapel, and/or our Parish Office.

Christmas Flowers!

Christmas Flowers for St. Charles Borromeo Church and St. Vincent Worship Center, will be ordered from the Parish Office. There is an envelope in your packet for Christmas Flowers. Please consider giving an offering of at least \$15 for each flower. Thank you!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

The following are the dates and times of the Advent Penance Service:

Ashland—Monday, December 19 from 6 to 7 PM in St. Charles Borromeo Church

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CHURCH DECORATING

Decorating the church for Christmas will take place on Monday, December 19 at approximately 12 noon. Anyone interested is most welcome to help.

Sunday Missals

If you have ordered a Sunday Missal, they are now available for pick up in the Parish Office during office hours. If anyone has not ordered a missal, and still would like one, extras are available for purchase. Thank you!

CCD News!

Bambinelli Blessing - For the past several decades, on the 3rd or 4th Sunday of Advent, children (and adults) bring their Baby Jesus figure to St. Peter’s Square where the Pope blesses both the people and figurines during the Angelus. Children will bring figurine of Baby Jesus or prayer card. They will be blessed after Mass. This year we will celebrate Bambinelli on Sunday December 18th.

All parishioners are invited to bring their Baby Jesus figurines to be blessed before putting Him in manger.

CCD Holidays—No Classes on 12/25/22, 1/1/23, 1/8/23. Classes will resume on 1/15/2023

St. Charles Borromeo “Text Alerts”

With the upcoming Winter Season, if St. Charles wants to send out a reminder and you want to be added to the St. Charles Borromeo’s “Text Alerts”. Please text @acb3gga to 81010. This will be a great way to keep up on Mass cancellations or changes. If anyone has any questions regarding the Alerts, please do not hesitate to call the Parish Office.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TO THOSE IN NEED – There will be trees in church starting this weekend. Birthright is asking for monetary donations and gift cards for their staff to purchase needed items for the babies. We are also collecting food for the food pantry and gift cards for our parish to use for those in need in the parish/community. Food can be brought to church and placed under the giving trees. Monetary donations and gift cards should be marked for Birthright or community needs and placed in either the collection basket or in the office mail slot.



Father Giuseppe C. Esposito and our Parish staff wishes all Parishioners and visitors a very Blessed and Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Featuring our combined Chancel Choir Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Brass prelude begins at 4:40 p.m. Takes place at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 101 East Main Street, Bloomsburg.

Mr. Mark E. O’Hearn, Conductor and Dr. Alan J. Hack, Accompanist



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LADIES’ AUXILIARY, FR. SHERIDAN COUNCIL #748 (PRIOR 2580) FRACKVILLE

The Auxiliary wants to wish all parishioners and their families a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We will resume our monthly meetings beginning, Wednesday, Marcy 15, 2023 at 6:10 p.m. in the St. Joseph the Worker Social Room at 34 South Line Street, Frackville. We continue to seek new members. For consideration for membership, you must be a spouse or child 18 years of age or older, of a Knights of Columbus member and a Catholic in good standing with your church. **For more information, please contact Carol Syzdek, 570-467-3744.**



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FUNDRAISING MEETING that was scheduled for Monday, December 19 at 11:00 a.m. will be reschedule for a later date due to a conflict in scheduling. Please continue to watch the bulletin for updated date and time. Thank you and sorry for any inconvenience.

THREE-MONTH LOTTERY CALENDARS

Three-month Lottery calendars are available after Mass. January calendars will also be available.