

# ASCENSION PARISH and ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

612 Hudson Street ✱ Forest City, PA 18421

Web Address: [apskdp.org](http://apskdp.org)

Phone.....570-785-3838      Email.....[apskdp@nep.net](mailto:apskdp@nep.net)

Parish Office Hours.....Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Office closed 12—1 pm for lunch

After hours—emergencies only: 570-785-7856

## Our Parish Staff

**Pastor**  
Rev. Arun Lakra

**Deacon**  
Deacon Carl S. Albright

**Administrative Staff**  
Jill Bailer  
Linda Bezek

## Directors of Religious Education

Jennifer Pearson  
Ascension Parish

Danielle O'Neill  
St. Katharine Drexel Parish



*“Advent invites us to a commitment to vigilance, looking beyond ourselves, expanding our mind and heart in order to open ourselves up to the needs of people, of brothers and sisters, and to the desire for a new world.”*

— Pope Francis

## Mission Statement

*Filled with faith, hope and charity, the faithful of Ascension and Saint Katharine Drexel parishes are united as disciples of Jesus Christ. With Christ and under the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to continue to celebrate the faith and traditions of the Catholic Church. We seek to inspire others to build a closer relationship with God by reaching out in love through worship, prayer, fellowship, and sharing the Gospel.*

*Our core values: Celebration ~ Tradition ~ Hope ~ Charity ~ Resilience*

## Sacramental Life

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Because of the importance of the celebration of the sacrament of baptism, please consider carefully the man and woman of faith you choose to inspire and educate your child in the ways of our faith for the entirety of their lives. Godparents must be practicing Catholics and submit a certificate of eligibility from their parish prior to the Baptism.

Please call the office for information regarding Sacrament of Marriage, Natural Family Planning, Anointing of the Sick, and the R.C.I.A. Program.

## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass..... 4:00 PM St. Joseph

Sunday Masses.....8:00 AM St. Juliana • 9:30 AM St. Joseph  
11:00 AM St. James

### Daily Mass

Monday, Wednesday, Friday..... 8:30 AM St. Joseph  
Tuesday, Thursday..... 9:00 AM St. James

### Holy Day Masses

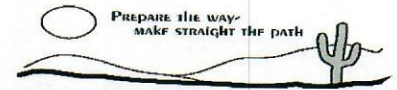
Vigil..... 5:30 PM St. James  
Holy Day..... 12:00 PM & 6:00 PM St. Joseph

Confessions..... Half hour before masses

*Second Sunday*  
of ADVENT

*Peace*





**MASS INTENTIONS & MEMORIALS**

Week of December 5, 2022

**Monday, December 5**

**8:30 AM-St. Joseph** Jim Fitzsimmons  
 by Pete & Denise Vauter

**Tuesday, December 6**

**9:00-St. James** Living Members of the Priests  
 Purgatorial Society

**Wednesday, December 7**

**8:30 AM-St. Joseph** Joseph W. Farrell by John Mayers  
**5:30 PM- St. James** Audrey Malinowski  
 by Pete & Denise Vauter

**Thursday, December 8**

**Noon-St. Joseph** Joseph Franceski Sr. by Grandchildren &  
 Great-grandchildren

**6:00 PM-St. Joseph** Tim Kihullen IV by Sue Kulasinsky

**Friday, December 9**

**8:30 AM -St. Joseph** Tim Kihullen IV by Linda & Paul Bezek

**Saturday, December 10**

**4:00 PM-St. Joseph** Diana Junior by  
 Lisa Branca Payne & Family

**Sunday, December 11**

**8:00 AM-St. Juliana** Ignatovich & Flannigan Families  
 by Family

**9:30 AM-St. Joseph** Rev. Joseph Horanzy  
 by Bennett Family

**11:00 AM-St. James** Rev. Joseph Horanzy by  
 Joseph & Patricia Narciso

**Bread & Wine Offering**

December 10, 2022

**4:00 PM St. Joseph** Diana Junior  
 By Lisa Branca Payne & Family

**Sanctuary Candle**

December 4 – December 10

**St. Joseph Church**

Jim & Janet Fitzsimmons by Joe & Deb

**St. James Church**

Bill Coleman by Pete & Denise Vauter

**PARISH FINANCES**

**Ascension Parish Collection Report  
 November 12-13, 2022**

Weekly Envelopes	\$2792
Other Parish Envelopes	\$359
Loose	\$132
Parish Second Collection	\$406
<b>Total Parish Collection</b>	<b>\$3689</b>
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocese Envelopes	\$60

**Saint Katharine Drexel Parish Collection Report  
 November 13, 2022**

Weekly Envelopes	\$1977
Other Parish Envelopes	\$154
Loose	\$224
Parish Second Collection	\$276
<b>Total Parish Collection</b>	<b>\$2631</b>
Diocesan Second Collection	\$0
Diocese Envelopes	\$67

**Second Collection**  
**This Weekend:** Care & Education of Priests  
**Next Weekend:** Retirement Fund for Religious

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE UPDATE**

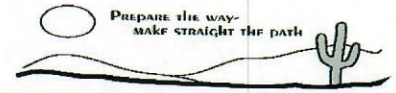
Updates to the confessions schedule have been made.

- St. Joseph: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:00 – 8:20 AM
- St. Joseph: Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 PM
- St. James: Tuesday, Thursday 8:30 – 8:50 AM
- St. Juliana: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month before Mass

Also by appointment – please call the office.

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.





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### CCD NEWS

#### Ascension Parish

- CCD classes are for students in grades 1-8.
- If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Pearson at [apfcreledu@gmail.com](mailto:apfcreledu@gmail.com) or 570-960-1824.
- We are on Facebook! Please like and follow us on Facebook!

#### St. Katharine Drexel Parish

- CCD classes are for students in grades 1-8.
- If you have any questions, please contact Danielle O'Neill at 570-642-1190 or [oneills@nep.net](mailto:oneills@nep.net).
- We are on Facebook! Please like and follow us on Facebook!

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### SKD A&RS COOKIE SALE



St. Katharine Drexel Altar & Rosary Society is having a drive-thru Cookie Sale on Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> in the St. James parking lot. Starts at 10 AM, goes until sold out. \$10 per box of assorted cookies. Anyone interested in baking cookies for this fundraiser can drop them off at St. James Hall on Dec. 8 between 9-10 AM or Dec. 9 between 4-6 PM. Any questions, contact Bonnie Watson at 570-448-2245.

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### A&RS THANK YOU

With everyone's help and working hands, the SKD Altar & Rosary Society's pierogi project was another success this fall! Your commitment to this effort allows the A&RS to help both our church and others in so many ways. Thank you to everyone who brought the much-needed ice or homemade yummys to share! We'll take a rest now for a couple months before we start again during Lent. We are blessed with so many good people! Thank you!

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### CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUP SALE

Beginning Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Christ Episcopal Church (700 Delaware Street), will again offer delicious seasonal homemade soups for take-out. Offering frozen pints for only \$5, varieties will change throughout the season, including tasty chicken or beef soups, split pea, lentil, and chowders, healthy beans and vegetables, and potato. Weekly soup sales are a fundraiser that will continue through the 2023 Lenten season. To order, call ahead for current soup choices and to reserve your order: 570-785-3425. All take-out orders will be available for pick-up on Fridays from 3:00pm to 6:00pm.

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### ANGEL TREE PROGRAM



Ascension and St. Katharine Drexel Parishes are again participating in the Angel Tree Program with Forest City Regional School District. The school is asking for monetary donations this year. A group from the school will do the shopping for the children. Donations need to be received by Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued generosity and Christmas spirit as we directly help children in need in our community.

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### MASS WINTER WEATHER POLICY

All masses for Ascension Parish regardless of weather will be held at St. Joseph Church. St. Katharine Drexel Parish daily and weekend masses will be cancelled via the parish website at [apskdp.org](http://apskdp.org).

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### WINTER CEMETERY POLICIES

Cemetery visitations are prohibited when roads and graves are covered with snow. It is often challenging to navigate cemetery roads with plow trucks and we seek to exercise caution in not damaging grass and, most importantly, graves and their markers. We also wish to protect the safety of each of you and ask everyone to exercise prudence in your visitations in general. We do not want any injuries to occur or vehicles to be stuck in snow.

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### ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

*"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11:25*

The Forest City Area Rotary Club is once again collecting Christmas gift items for the residents of the Forest City Nursing Home. Each year the club sponsors a party with treats, gifts, and entertainment. The nursing home is seeking the following donations: Personal items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, moisturizer, and manicure products/nail polish/polish remover/emery boards. Also, adult coloring books, word search/puzzle books; colored pencils; non-slip socks; winter hats, gloves, and scarves. **Please drop off items to the parish office before Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>.** The club's nursing home Christmas party is Tuesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

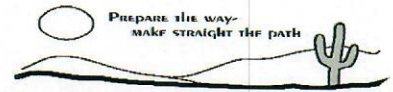
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### CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Christmas wafers are now available in all churches and the Parish Office. Each pack is \$2.00.



**December 4, 2022**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**SICK VISITS**

Please call the office at 570-785-3838 for Fr. Arun to visit if you are ill, or going to the hospital for any reason, or if someone might be entering hospice care. He will gladly come to your home or hospital for a blessing. It's never too early to call.

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

A Christmas Cantata will be presented on December 4th at 2:00 PM in the Thompson Methodist Church. The choir is made up of area church choirs. Members of St Juliana's choir will participate. All are welcome. This is a great way to start the Advent season.

**BABY ITEM COLLECTION**

Providence Pregnancy Center in Scranton, an outreach of St. Thomas More Parish, is collecting items to help babies and women facing crisis. A collection basket will be available in the churches November 1<sup>st</sup> through December 18<sup>th</sup>. Items needed are: new baby clothes sizes newborn – 2T; new/gently used maternity clothes; diapers; wipes; diaper cream; baby shampoo/soap; hooded baby towels; new bottles, pacifiers, baby toys; new blankets, hats; new infant bath tubs; new car seats; and new diaper bags. More information on PPC can be found at [www.providencepregnancycenter.org](http://www.providencepregnancycenter.org).

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

Please consider making a donation to help decorate our churches for the Christmas season with your parishioner Christmas Flowers envelope. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our parishes.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL-ASCENSION**

Come Join Us for Christmas! Ascension Parish is seeking choir members. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 6:00 PM at St. Joseph Church. Previous, current and new members are always welcome! Call Sue at 570-430-0572 if you have any questions.

**ST. FAUSTINA CHAPEL**

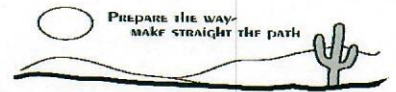
Please come and join us on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> for the last Holy Mass at St. Faustina's Chapel (1763 Great Bend Turnpike, Pleasant Mount) for the year until the springtime, to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe! Our world is in such need of Our Dear Mother, let us honor her and pray to her together on this special feast day! The day starts at 12:00 pm with Confessions, Rosary, Chaplet and Holy Mass at 1:00 pm with our celebrant Fr. Joseph Sibilano, OSJ. Following Mass, we cordially invite you to join us for a meal at Our Lady's Home. Any desserts brought would be appreciated.



Hymns for 12/4/2022 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	4:00 pm 9:30 am	8:00 am	11:00 am
Entrance Hymn	#218 On Jordan's Bank	#218 On Jordan's Bank	#218 On Jordan's Bank
Readings and Psalm	#783	#783	#783
Offertory	#683 Christ Be Our Light	# 222 Waiting in Silence	#683 Christ Be Our Light
Communion	#765 Like a Shepherd	# 679 Prayer of St. Francis	#765 Like a Shepherd
Recessional	#222 Waiting in Silence	# 228 O Come, O Come Emmanuel	#222 Waiting in Silence
Entrance – Dec 7 & 8	6:00 PM St. Joseph #370 Immaculate Mary		5:30 PM St. James #370 Immaculate Mary



**DECEMBER 4, 2022**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**Diocesan Annual Appeal Update:** Continued thanks for your willingness to pledge and support the appeal. Remember, when we go over our goal, we receive a percentage back for ministries in our own parish.

Ascension Parish	Saint Katharine Drexel Parish
24.87% (93 out of 374) gave/pledged	26.86% (47 out of 175) gave/pledged
DAA 2022 Goal: \$25,000.00	DAA 2022 Goal: \$13,000.00
Total Raised: \$18450.00	Total Raised: \$15355.00
Over(Under): (\$6550.00)	Over(Under): \$2355.00

SERVERS		LECTOR	E. MINISTER
<b>St. Joseph Church</b>			
T12/8/22 12:00 PM	Lauren Tomazic	Darlene Ferraro-Ploch	Maryann McCusker
12/8/22 6:00 PM		John Risboskin	Deacon Carl
12/10/22 4:00 PM		Mary Garm	Peg Tomazic
12/11/22 9:30 AM		Sue Kulasinsky	Maryann McCusker
<b>St. Juliana Church</b>			
12/11/22 8:00 AM	Laura & Anna Nebzydoski	Nick DeLucia	Debbie Biondo
<b>St. James Church</b>			
12/11/22 11:00 AM	Jason & Nicole Non	Emily Frisbie	Chris Urban
12/7/22 5:30 PM	Eoghan & Macson Murphy	Denise Vauter	Pete Vauter

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord:** Thomas Warhola. To add a name call 785-3838.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Melody Sherry, Stephanie Dunn, John J. Jurkiw, Stewart Heesh, Christopher Trusky, Maria Koslosky, Tom Zologa, Celestine Cicco, Dave Babich, Caroline Krupovich, Ilene Adamitis, Marge Armstrong, Mary Zigon, Dorothy Jones, Ruth Ann Slis, Thomas J. Madridal, Stan Hadley, Sharon Hadley, Barbara Sprovkin, Heidi Rowe, Brendan Clune, Kate Magalski, John Lillie, Mollie Konczyk, Jean Welicka, Dan Kimberley, Carmen M. McClelland, Karen Campbell, Susan Glinkowski, Debbie Trusky, Louise Brockdorf, Ruthie Sterchak, Robert Polinsky, Marilyn Perine, Joseph Gugliucci, Fulton Joseph Hood, John Reeder, Sr., Jessica Vigorito, Mark Polednak, Charlie Matthews, Vickie Ravnika, Maury Urmanec, Phyllis Flynn, Caitlyn Vauter, Susan Carpenter, Mary Connors, Amelia Giorgano, Ella Pearson, Erin Andersen, Lydia Jones, Kerry Henderson, Carol Bishop, Geri Duplatre, Diane Kimberley, Brian Rock, Walter Welicka, Gerrit Vanderwell, Patricia Simpson, Ruth "Rudy" Peterka, Barbara Scott, Mary Lynott, Kathleen Connor, Patricia Connor Mader, Joyce Skinner, and Cheryl Williams. To submit a name, call 785-3838.






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