

Sunday, November 29, 2009

The First Sunday of Advent

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS are now being received by the Altar Guild. Flowers are available in Red, White or Pink and Small, Medium and Large. Order Forms are available in the Parish Hall. All orders and payments must be turned in by December 13. Please contact Sandy Sheehan with any questions.

The Music

Prelude: Prelude on "Kremser".....B. Gardzalla

Opening Hymn: *O Come Emmanuel* #56 VS 1,2 ONLY

Gradual Hymn: *Lo He Comes* #58

Presentation of Offerings: Doxology #380 vs.3

Communion: Gottes Sohn Ist Kommen.....J.G. Walther

Post Communion Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
(Pew Rack) verses 1,2, refrain, 3

Closing Hymn: *Hail to The Lord's Anointed* #616

Postlude: Now Thank We All Our God...J.S. Bach, arr. Virgil Fox

The Lectionary

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (*The people sit.*)

The First Reading: *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: *Psalm 25:1-9 Ad te, Domine, levavi*

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *

*God willing,
The Right Reverend Paul V Marshall,
Bishop of Bethlehem,
will ordain to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's one holy, catholic and apostolic Church*

*Brian Alexander Pavlac
Christine Marie Sutton
Michelle Denise White*

*on Monday, the twenty-first of December, two thousand and nine, The Feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle,
at St Stephen's Pro-Cathedral 35 South Franklin
Street Wilkes-Barre, at seven o'clock in the evening.*

Your prayer and presence are requested. Reception to follow.

MINISTERS

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| Celebrant | The Reverend John Major |
| Organist | Bernard Gardzalla |
| Lector / Intercessor | Kelly Jacobs |
| Eucharistic Minister | Carl Goeringer |
| Acolytes | Kelly & Lindsey Jacobs, Dominic Wright |
| Ushers / Oblationers | Terry, Jessica & Andrew Martin |
| Altar Guild | Heather Hules, Lisa Kasarda |
| Vestry Counter | George Gwilliam |

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36 (*Stand & Face the Gospel*)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Announcements

WELCOME We are pleased you have come to worship with us today. If you have any questions about our service, please feel free to speak to an Usher or someone seated near you.

PRAYER LIST Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially: *Heather, Jack, Sarah, Matt, Debbie, Hennie, Brian, Hans, Karen, Len, Lee, David, Maryann, Bob, Therese, Sandy, Laura, Matt, Greg, Andy, Connie, Shane, Taylor, Ann, Sue, Lisa, Patti, Sherry, Jeanie, David, Justin, Robin, Specialist Robert Price & the Camp Family as they mourn the loss of Jean Camp.*

STAY HEALTHY! "SIGN OF PEACE" AND HOLY COMMUNION CONSIDERATIONS

It's probably not a bad idea for all of us to take additional steps to help avoid the flu and colds during the peak flu and cold season. Look for the "hand sanitation stations" near the entrances of the church and consider washing your hands on the way in and out. In addition, consider offering other "Signs of Peace" rather than the traditional handshake. A hand to one another's arm or elbow or shoulder, or a smile and wave and exchange of the words "the peace of the Lord be with you," communicates the same, genuine offer. Further, remember that an option for receiving from the Cup includes what is called the option of "Intinction." To "intinct," simply accept the Bread and carefully dip the tip of the Bread into the Cup. God bless us all with health now and always!

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS ORGAN CONCERT BY

MARK PALL will be held here at Prince of Peace this afternoon at 3 pm. A few volunteers are needed to help with a light reception, please let the Jennifer know if you can help.

BRUNCH WITH SANTA

There will be a Brunch with Santa at Prince of Peace next Sunday, December 6 from 12 - 2 pm. The event will include brunch, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, time to sit on Santa's lap and a treat from Santa. The event is open to the public and the cost is \$5 per person. Families are encouraged to attend together and space is limited. Volunteers are needed to help with this project. Please call Jill and Matt Stretanski at 675-0745 if you would like to help. Reservation forms are available in the Parish Hall.

CHRIS SUTTON

As you all know our very own Chris Sutton is being ordained as a Deacon. Chris' long journey to this outstanding service has not been without some expenses. In an effort to assist Chris with her journey, during the month of December we will be having a second plate offering. This additional offering will go directly to Chris to help her defer the cost of some of these purchases. A listing of what Chris needs will be posted on the bulletin board for your review. If you would rather contribute privately and purchase something specific for her please see Lisa Kasarda for arrangements.