



# Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

December 6, 2020 | 2nd Sunday in Advent

329 Poplar Street, Hazard, KY 41701

Phone : (606)436.2533 | 606.233.3012 for emergency or after hours | Fax: (606) 436.0171

[www.mgccc.org](http://www.mgccc.org)

## **Eucharistic Services:**

5:00 pm Saturday - Jackson, Vigil Mass  
11:30 am Sunday - Mass

## **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

## **Ministers for next Sunday, December 13**

Sacramental Minister : Father Livinus Uba

## **Ministers at MGC**

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director  
email: [lhelfrich@cdlex.org](mailto:lhelfrich@cdlex.org)

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY  
Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

1310 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40508-2048  
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## **Mother of Good Counsel Prayer by B.J. Ewing**

Holy Mary, our heavenly mother, keep us in your care.

Give us your good counsel as we strive to be disciples of your son Jesus and help us to grow in faith and in our love for God.

Bless our parish which is named in your honor. Help us in our lives as we humbly pray and help us be attentive to the needs of our families and our community. Amen.

## **Parish Mission Statement**

Inspired and sustained in our Catholic faith through life-giving worship, we Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community, have as our mission to bring Christ and the teachings of the Catholic faith to one another and the larger community in a ways that draws us together as a supportive family, yet reaches out with a genuine concern for all people, so that we can be authentic witnesses in an area where Catholics are few in number.

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Pt 3:8-14

Mk 1:1-8



## **A WORD FROM Pope Francis**

How beautiful it is to think of ourselves as proclaimers of the resurrection of Jesus, not only in words, but also in our conduct and testimony of life! Jesus does not want disciples who are merely able to repeat memorized formulas. He wants witnesses: people who spread hope with their way of welcoming, smiling, and loving.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, OCTOBER 4, 2017



### **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

We will not have Mass at Mother of Good Counsel for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We encourage you to view a livestream Mass, watch Mass on EWTN or read through the readings for the feast and spend time in prayer.

### **Religious Education**

Our Tri Parish Religious Education for will take place on the following Sunday afternoon 12/13 from 2 to 3 pm. The Spring Schedule will be emailed to parents of the children in Religious Education.

### **Confirmation Class & Teen Disciples**

Sunday evening Dec. 6 from 6 pm to 7:30 those our Confirmation Class will meet. Teen disciples group will meet next Sunday December 13 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. New schedules will be coming soon for spring.

### **Second Collection for Retired Religious December 12-13**

Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

### **Diocesan Annual Appeal**

The annual appeal for the Diocese of Lexington has finished its public campaign but you are still able to donate to the appeal throughout December. Mother of Good Counsel has raised \$5550 of its \$6000 goal ( 93% of our goal. We have nearly reached our parish goal, if you are able to contribute even a small amount please consider making your donation to help us reach our goal. Please discern how you are able to support this appeal.



### **Catholic LGBT Ministry Lexington**

40% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered suicide in the last 12 months, according to the 2020 Trevor Project Survey.

The Diocese of Lexington is a place of belonging for all.

If you or someone you care about is struggling with suicide or in crisis, please call:

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)  
Crisis Text line at 741741  
The Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386

Diocese of Lexington LGBT Ministry - Stan "JR" Zerkowski  
jrfflex@gmail.com 859 327 1047

### **Advent & Christmas**

We have begun our new liturgical year. We will be offering a couple of virtual services during this season to help us come together and pray with one another.

### **Advent Peace & Reconciliation Service**

Wednesday, December 16 | 7 pm | Join us: live on Facebook

We "Wait in Joyful Hope" for the coming of our Lord, Jesus, this communal reconciliation service will help us prepare for that coming. And while the nights continue to get longer, we keep lighting our candles and reminding ourselves the God of peace is already present to us, even in our brokenness, our failings, and our woundedness. Join us for this evening prayer service to celebrate God's mercy and stretch toward reconciliation within our families, our neighborhoods, and our cities.

### **O Antiphons Evening Prayer December 17 - 23 5:30 pm**

We will gather for short evening prayer on Facebook from Dec. 17 - 23 to pray the O Antiphons as part of evening prayer. Join us in the lead up to Christmas.

### **Angel Giving Tree**

Again we will be offering a giving tree for parishioners to take a ornament and purchase clothing, shoes and toy for children from the area. Please sign up via the Google document or call the parish office to sign up to adopt a child. Please have any presents dropped off to the Church no later than December 18.

### **Christmas Mass Sign Up**

There is a registration system for our Christmas Masses. There will be a 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass, a Midnight Mass and a 9:30 am Mass Christmas Day. This registration will not open until December 10. We also plan to stream the 5:30 pm Mass & Midnight Mass via Facebook. You may call the parish or register online.

## *Our Weekly Offering*

for 11/22/20

Loose: \$11

Envelopes : \$1150

Weekly Online Donations: \$75

**Total Weekly Offering: \$1236**

for 11/29/20

Loose: \$50

Envelopes : \$830

Weekly Online Donations: \$800

**Total Weekly Offering: \$1630**

IN THE WILDERNESS PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!  
MAKE STRAIGHT IN THE WASTELAND A HIGHWAY FOR OUR GOD!  
ISAIAH 40:3



## Prepare the Way of the Lord

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God's and the people's entry, the way is made clear: "Every valley shall be lifted up... The rugged land shall be a plain" (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public ministry. Despite their differences, both passages in the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! ISAIAH 40:3 speak of the "way of the Lord," which is the way of salvation.

The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence "in which righteousness dwells." Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on "the day of the Lord," the day when God's promises will be fulfilled and "all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9-10).

The events described in all three readings unfold because of God's merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God's words?

### For Reflection

To move in a new life direction, we must leave what we have come to know. Are you ready?

What might you have to leave behind?

### Calendar

#### Monday

DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose,  
Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church  
Is 35:1-10  
Lk 5:17-26

#### Tuesday

DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary  
Gn 3:9-15, 20  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

#### Wednesday

DECEMBER 9

Advent Weekday  
Is 40:25-31  
Mt 11:28-30

#### Thursday

DECEMBER 10

Advent Weekday  
Is 41:13-20  
Mt 11:11-15

#### Friday

DECEMBER 11

Advent Weekday  
Is 48:17-19  
Mt 11:16-19

#### Saturday

DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Zec 2:14-17 or  
Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab  
Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

#### Sunday

DECEMBER 13

Third Sunday  
of Advent  
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11  
1 Thes 5:16-24  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



Readings for the Week

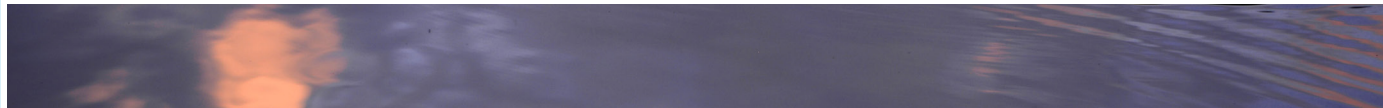
Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



## From the Parish Life Director

During this season of Advent we are called to step back and reevaluate what God is calling us to do to build the Kingdom of God. As We Dream, our parish Advent theme, comes from Psalm 126 “When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.”. The prophets, psalmists, John the Baptist and Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, Simeon, Anna, the shepherds and the Magi were all dreamers. They received, discovered, and responded to God’s dream for the world.

This week we also celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception, this feast is of Mary, that she was conceived without sin so that she could play a very special role of carrying Jesus in her womb. How is God preparing you for whatever special role God is calling you to in your life. No matter your age, state in life, or even if you have lived out a call from God, what is your calling for your current time and place?



### Do we need to evangelize, or spread the gospel, to fellow Catholics?Y

Yes! Evangelization is beneficial to Catholics who already practice the faith. As St. Paul VI pointed out, “The Church...seeks to deepen, consolidate, nourish and make ever more mature the faith of those who are already called the faithful or believers, in order that they may be so still more”(On Evangelization in the Modern World [Evangeliu Nuntiandi], 54).What about nonpracticing Catholics? Yes, again! A particular focus of the evangelizing Catholics ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life. We already know that a large number of the baptized have not formally repudiated their baptism but do not live in accordance with it. They resist the idea of evangelization out of indifference or a hostility based on the belief that he or she is one of the family, but is “in the know” and no longer believes.Christ wishes God’s love to be proclaimed and reproclaimed to all Catholics—practicing and nonpracticing. This is the essential mission that Christ gives to his Church—to invite everyone to experience the full impact of God’s love in Jesus.

— Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

### Prayer for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of Guadalupe,  
You have long been present to the sorrows  
Of the people of the Americas.  
You brought to those without power  
Your image, your presence,  
Your grace and gifts, like brilliant roses in  
winter.  
Pray for us to be present to your beloved  
people,  
Especially to those women living in fear:  
In Mexico, in Guatemala, in El Salvador,  
Where young women continue to disappear,  
Where female bodies are found mutilated,  
Where those in power do nothing,  
Dismissing the dread,  
Dismissing the dark violence against women.  
O Lady of December,  
Wrapped in a poor cloak on a barren hill,  
We wait for you to show us Christ’s Light  
again,  
To remind us all of the dignity of every human  
person,  
To pray for us to be generous with justice,  
Bringing it like roses to your daughters,  
To all those who have been waiting for hope.  
Amen.

Jane Deren, Ph.D.



Stay Connected  
to MGC on  
Social Media



Mother of Good  
Counsel



Mother of  
Good Counsel

### Birthdays This Week:

12/8 : Jack Caudill

12/10: Bill Melton & Jaylissa Braman

### Prayer List

Joey Napier, Ray & Wanda Lindon, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Louise Ayres, Marjorie Himmertzheim, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Nancy Nuttner, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Bob Rogers, Deedee Wells, Sherrian Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Willie Wagers, Christina Askew, Valerie Parsons and Renee Messer.

If you know of someone who needs a pastoral visit or is in the hospital and would appreciate a visit contact the parish and let Lori know about the request.

### Prayer Family: Scott & Jackie Caudill



Our Lady of Guadalupe is a painting by Rain Rinin.