



# Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

**Our Parish  
COMMUNITY**

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent (C)

Zephaniah 3:14-18a / Philippians 4:4-7 / Luke 3:10-18



Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

**Eucharistic Services:**

7:00 pm Wednesday -  
Word & Communion Service  
5:00 pm Saturday - Holy Cross in Jackson,  
Vigil Mass  
11:30 am Sunday - Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

**Office Hours: Wed - Friday 10 am to 5 pm**

**Ministers for next Sunday,**

**Sacramental Minister Rev. Bob Dueweke, OSA**  
**Lector : Molly O'Rourke**

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

1310 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40508-2048  
Phone: (859)253.1993  
[www.cdlex.org](http://www.cdlex.org)



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
OF LEXINGTON

**Ministers at MGC**

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director

email: [lhelfrich@cdlex.org](mailto:lhelfrich@cdlex.org)

**Mother of Good Counsel Prayer by B.J. Ewen**

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 draw 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.

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)



### Becoming Catholic

The parish will continue our Becoming Catholic classes that will journey with those going through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). All people are welcome to come to this faith formation class. Becoming Catholic will be held resume on Tuesday January 14, 2025. Today we welcome to more individuals, Susan Combs and Chase Patrick, to the OCIA journey through the Rite of Acceptance .

### Reconciliation Service

On Tuesday December 16 at 6 pm the parish will host it's regular Advent Reconciliation Service with the option for individual Confession. .

### Third Week of Advent - Gaudete! Sunday

Today marks the third week of Advent when we rejoice that Christmas is nearly here. We will share in hospitality after Mass for this special day!

### Angel Giving Tree

There are still a few children on the angel tree if you are able to purchase gifts for a child please select an child from the list. Please return these presents by December 18, 2024.

### Stockings for Seniors

We are still in need of some people to purchase some Subway gift cards for our Senior Stockings. These stockings are delivered to some friends connected to the Housing Development Alliance.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

There will be Mass on Christmas Eve Dec 24 at 5:00 pm and Midnight Mass at 12:P01 am on December 25.

### One in Christ 2024

With your prayers and contribution to the Diocesan Annual Appeal this year, we are able to support your neighbors in need. Lives will be changed and those most in need will know God's grace in a very special way. We are grateful for your faithful stewardship each Fall. The DAA ends on Nov 30th Please be generous Our parish benefits greatly from this appeal. Our goal fro 2024 is \$9500 and 58 families. Currently we have raised \$5889, which is 62% of our total goal coming from 33 donors which is 57% of our participation goal. Please consider how you can support these goals, all donations are welcome.

### Pilgrimage to Italy 2025

The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy that Mother of Good Counsel is offering in 2025 is open for registration. Follow the QR code for more information. There will be an information session in Decemeber.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy  
with Lori Helfrich  
12 Days  
July 29-August 9, 2025

For More Information Contact:  
Sublet International Tours  
800.840.3340 mch@subletintl.com  
www.subletintl.com

### Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers Needed

The parish is looking for more Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors to help at Mass. Please let Lori know if you are willing to read or be a minister of the Eucharist. There will be training provided for any volunteers.

### Epiphany Party

To celebrate the Christmas season the parish will host an Epiphany party on Sunday Jan 5, 2025. The parish will provide a main dish, please sign up for bringing a dish to share. We will have dinner and games and celebration.

### Silence Before Mass

Parishioners are asked to keep a silent atmosphere in the church before Mass so that people are able to reflect and pray. If you wish to talk, please come out to the gathering space. Thank you for offering this continued space of prayer and reflection.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!

ONE IN CHRIST  
2024 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL  
Catholic Diocese of Lexington

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

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ONLINE: Give online at cdlex.org  
MAIL: 1310 West Main St. Lexington, KY 40508

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

[The crowd asked John the Baptist,] “What shall we do?”  
By suggesting this question, the Gospel reminds us of something important: life has a task for us... Each of us—let us not forget this—has a mission to accomplish. So, let us not be afraid to ask the Lord: what shall I do?

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 12, 2021

# The Light Side of the Dark

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**here's something to be said for kindness. Often when we say to ourselves that something is an act of godliness, it's when someone is kind, especially when it seems to come out of the blue. It's what John the Baptist seemed to be thinking when he said we would be baptized with the Holy Spirit and with the sort of passionate fire that warms and gives off light. Henry James, the British novelist, once said that three things were important in life—the first, be kind; the second, be kind; the third, be kind. Long before Henry James said it, St. Paul wrote to the Christian community in Philippi: "Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near" (Philippians 4:5). God's presence seems to be nearer when someone is kind.

It is curious how in the darkest moments of life, the light of kindness shines more brightly. Natural calamities seem to bring out kindness toward those who suffer. So too, at times of personal tragedies or disasters, when others are grieving the death of someone they love, as well as countless other times when people find themselves lost in the dark. Little wonder then how during this time of year when the days are shortest, and the nighttime dark is longest, that the days of Advent and Christmas seem to be laced with kindness for one another. Then the veil that hides God from our eyes grows thinner, and we catch glimpses of "God with us." ●

## Reflect

*Have you made kindness a regular practice?*



The peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:7

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Readings for the Week

**Monday**  
December 16  
*Advent Weekday*  
Nm 24:2–7,  
15–17a  
Mt 21:23–27

**Tuesday**  
December 17  
*Advent Weekday*  
Gn 49:2, 8–10  
Mt 1:1–17

**Wednesday**  
December 18  
*Advent Weekday*  
Jer 23:5–8  
Mt 1:18–25

**Thursday**  
December 19  
*Advent Weekday*  
Jgs 13:2–7,  
24–25a  
Lk 1:5–25

**Friday**  
December 20  
*Advent Weekday*  
Is 7:10–14  
Lk 1:26–38

**Saturday**  
December 21  
*Advent Weekday*  
Sg 2:8–14 or  
Zep 3:14–18a  
Lk 1:39–45

**Sunday**  
December 22  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
Mi 5:1–4a  
Heb 10:5–10  
Lk 1:39–45



# Dear Padre,

*My family, friends, and coworkers seem to be uncomfortable when I tell them that I've been praying for them. Should I just keep it to myself?*

There is nothing fundamentally wrong with telling people you have been praying for them. Most people are probably grateful for such care and support. But it can be a little tricky. If the person believes the praying is actually a judgment and not a blessing, it may provoke a less-than-grateful response. This is where honest discernment on your part is invited. Are you coming across as prayerfully concerned, or is there some criticism or judgment in what seems to be an innocent blessing? People are able to perceive the difference.

Another consideration—and this is not at all unusual as a response in the culture of today—is that some people are very defensive about any religious expressions and do not react favorably. Think, for example, about the different reactions to “Merry Christmas” or “Happy Holidays,” which can often provoke the familiar idiom “them’s fightin’ words.” My best advice is to keep praying for everyone, as no one truly understands or fully appreciates the power of prayer. That being said, temper your announcement when you suspect it will not be well received. This demonstrates a grateful and blessed heart, which is what you intend and hope for, after all. ●



MARY LONG / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.

### Our Weekly Offering

12/8/2024

Loose: \$134

Envelopes : \$285

Monthly: \$365

Retired Religious : \$ 45

Christmas Flowers \$50

Votives: \$60

Online : \$85

Total Weekly Offering: \$1024

### Birthdays

12/19 :Joe Angel Jr.

### Pope Francis Prayer Intention

December .For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.



### Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



Mother of Good Counsel



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### Prayer List

Joey Napier, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Deedee Wells, Sherrian & Amose Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Roger Noyes, Willow Brockman, Tina Dawhare Fields, Mark Fields, Valarie Maggard Dye, Marleen Combs, Robert Caldwell, Don Davis, The Rice Family, Neal Boggs, Jackson Varela, Julie and Jonah Spencer, Jace Combs, Mandi Dishner, Brandon Robinson, Michael Whitaker, Thomas Stidham, Roy Pulliam Quentin Davis, Nancy Kelly, Bobby Muncy, Grayson & Kaitlin Baker, Chuck Brunty, Al Pratt, Joe Vogel Sr., Margie Fields, Cordis Bishop, Randy Damron, Myla Atienza, Maria Brama, Ronnie Hurt, Sandy & Phillip Craft Jaranda Brunty, Kazmir Sparkman, and Abby Turk.

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.

### Upcoming Events

12/17 : Reconciliation Service 6 pm

12/11 Rosary, Word & Communion

Service

12/21: Perry County Farmers Market

Pop Up

12/24 : Christmas Eve Mass 5 pm

12/25 : Midnight Mass

## Prayer Family

### The Angel Family