

# Hope Advent

## ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH

359 WEST AREBA AVE, HERSHEY, PA 17033

### NOVEMBER 29, 2020

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

Phone: (717) 533-7168 Fax: (717) 520-0526

Email: [office@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:office@stjoanhershey.org)

Website: [www.stjoanhershey.org](http://www.stjoanhershey.org)

#### PARISH OFFICE

(717) 533-7168

Rev. Alfred Sceski, Pastor Ext. 102

Rev. Kenneth Roth, Parochial Vicar Ext. 104

Rev. Modestus Ngwu, O.P., In Residence

Rev. Paul Oye, O.P., In Residence

Deacon Rodrigue Mortel, M.D.

John Triscik, Youth Coordinator Ext. 128

Jerry Crawford, Parish Manager Ext. 107

Michelle Gutshall, Finance Manager Ext. 103

Matt Dunkle, Director of Facilities Ext. 127

Michael Davis, Director of Music Ext. 109

Ayana Elmore, Dir. of Communications & IT Ext. 121

Earl Tropp, Director of Religious Education Ext. 122

Susan Robison, Parish Secretary Ext. 100

Mary Butch, Census Secretary Ext. 115

Betty Roksandic, REP Secretary Ext. 124

REP Program Ext. 306

#### SCHOOL OFFICE

(717) 533-2854

Sr. Eileen M. McGowan, D.M., Principal Ext. 118

Deb Rizzotto, Development Director Ext. 123

W.I.N.G.S. Program Ext. 117

#### HOSPITAL EMERGENCIES

(717) 857-5695

#### CONVENT

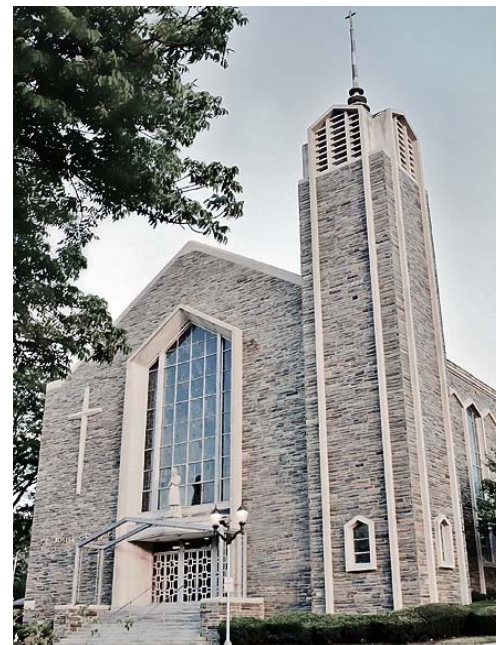
(717) 533-2864

#### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

We, the Eucharistic Community of St. Joan of Arc Parish, by the grace of God and through our participation in His Word, the Church's sacraments, and prayer, seek our eternal salvation.

We live out the doctrines and traditions of our Faith in communion with the holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, established by Our Lord Jesus Christ.

With courage, we follow the example of our patron saint and invoke her intercession as we strive to know God, love God, and serve God which moves us to actively promote and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the midst of our every



### MASS SCHEDULE

#### MORNING MASSES

##### SUNDAY

7:30 am, 9:30 am (live), 11:30 am

##### MONDAY - FRIDAY

6:45 am, 9:00 am (live)

##### SATURDAY

9:00 am (live)

##### LOCATION

359 W Areba Ave, Hershey PA

#### EVENING MASSES

##### SATURDAY & SUNDAY

5:00 pm

##### LOCATION

1525 Sand Hill Road, Hummelstown PA



# FROM THE PASTOR

Today we begin the Season of Advent. As we all know, it is a liturgical season of great expectation, a time of waiting. I don't think most of us like waiting. This year of 2020 has been **THE** year of waiting. Waiting for lockdown to end. Waiting for a vaccine for the coronavirus. Waiting for everything to go back to normal. Like the Hebrew People of old, we cry out, "When, O Lord? When will you come and save your people?" And it seems as if the Lord isn't hearing us! But the reality is that God does hear us and that he knows the time and the way to answer those prayers. We have to be patient. We have to have hope! In many ways, we modern men and women are not good at waiting. We think of our parents and grandparents who waited many long years for the Great Depression to end. They waited for their sons, husbands and brothers to come back from the battlefronts of World War II. They waited for money to be saved up to put a down payment on a house. Today, in contrast, we have the ability to find any information on our phones in just seconds. We can watch any movie we want whenever we feel like it. We don't have to wait in a line at the bank because it is all done electronically. We get annoyed because the microwave is taking too long! Is it any wonder we find it hard to wait for the Lord? The fact is that the vaccine will not be here tomorrow, the pandemic won't simply go away, normal won't be the normal we were hoping for and the Lord answers our prayers in His own way and in His own time! So be patient. Let this Season of Advent be a time to learn patience, to pray to accept God's will, to believe with all your heart that God is in control. His ways are simply not our ways. In the end, thank God for that!

*Father Al*



## SENDING OUR CONDOLENCES

Please pray for the souls of **Gloria Luongo** and **John Rizzo** who died recently. The parish community of St. Joan of Arc extends our deepest sympathy to their families and friends on their loss.

## PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS

The following parishioners or family members are ill. Please remember them, and all the sick of our parish, in your prayers: **David Lynch, Drew Fischer, Tracy Habacivch, Larry & Sharon Shindel, Grubb Family, Kokenvie Family, Barbara Kayser, Susan Peters, Mort Kayser, Joseph Grecia, and the Schilnder Family.**

## ALTAR FLOWERS

**Main Altar Vase 1:** In Thanksgiving from Lisa Balanda

**Main Altar Vase 2:** In loving memory of Mary E. Lewis from Dr. Edward Lewis and Family



*With Much Gratitude...*

We wish to thank the sponsor of the week for advertising in our parish bulletin:

**FOUR S STITCHING**



ARE YOU READY FOR SOME TURKEY?

# HAPPY Thanksgiving

Parish Office Schedule

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CLOSE AT 12:00 PM  
Wednesday, November 25

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CLOSED ALL DAY  
Thursday, November 28 - Monday, November 30

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The office will re-open on  
Tuesday, December 1 @ 8:00 am





MASS INTENTIONS & WEEKLY READINGS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30: FEAST OF SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE

Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
6:45 AM Rich Cappelli
9:00 AM All Souls

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
6:45 AM Nan Yakstis
9:00 AM James Milas

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
6:45 AM Carl Burkhart
9:00 AM Ed Rogowicz

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3: MEMORIAL OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
6:45 AM Andrew Schock
9:00 AM Heart of the Parish & Church Memorials

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4: SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
6:45 AM Gloria Payne
9:00 AM Dr. Dick Ingaglio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
9:00 AM Carl Robinson
5:00 PM Frank Ferguson

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

As we await new heavens and a new earth, let us make clear the way of the Lord by being servants of justice, truth, and peace.

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Deceased Members of the Saragosa and Bergloff Families
11:30 AM Jim Grap
5:00 PM For the Intentions of all our Parish Volunteers



YOUTH NEWS

LIFE TEEN (HIGH SCHOOL)

We will meet in the social hall from 6:15-7:30 pm.

This Week: No Life Teen. Have a blessed Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

Next Week: "Participate" As we are in the 2nd week of Advent, we will conclude our short series on Miracles. How can we be open to the Holy Spirit to work in and through us to see miracles today?

\*\*\* During Life Teen, everyone is required to wear a mask and to practice social distancing. Teens who have been around anyone with Covid-19 or have had any symptoms, please stay home. If you have recently traveled outside of the Hershey area, please stay home for at least a two week quarantine period. \*\*\*

John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org

EDGE (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Edge is for grades 6-8 and meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm. Edge meets next on December 2 with a night on the Season of Advent. We will have EDGE via Zoom.

John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Earl: etropp@stjoanhershey.org | Ext. 122

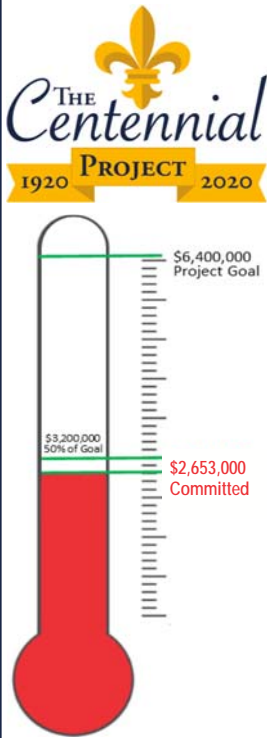
ADULT FAITH

YOUNG ADULTS (21-39)

Calling all young adults between the ages of 21-39, married or single! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom. We meet next on December 9 for our Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped gift (\$5-\$10 value). We'll meet in the gym on Areba Avenue.

We meet not meet on November 25.

John Triscik: jtriscik@stjoanhershey.org



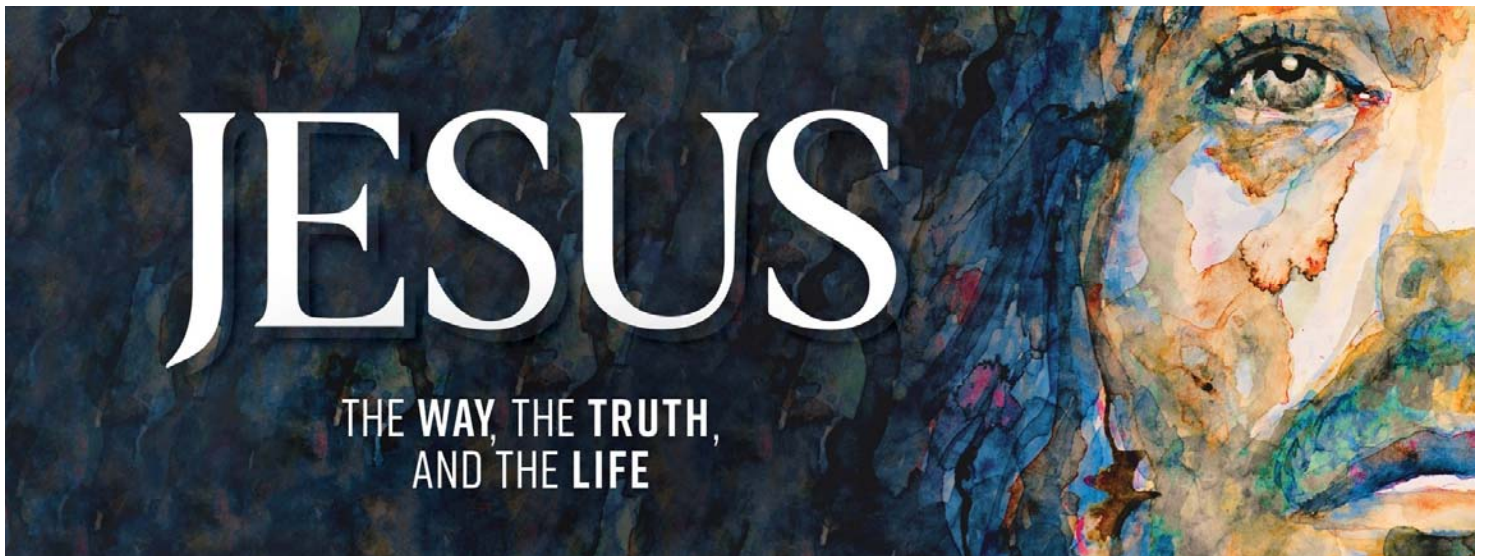
The First Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the new liturgical year, and it marks the season of preparation. In the midst of all the trappings of the holidays, we cannot help but reflect on the insecurity and suffering of the past year and contemplate the coming of Christ. This year there is a greater appreciation for the Gospel reading that warns us that we know not the day or the hour. Our journey on earth may be long or short- we cannot be sure. So let us be ready, but let us also be joyful. Christmas is a special time to enjoy the love of God and the love of one another. Make each day a lasting memory. Share your gifts with those in need.

We give thanks to God for the new school opening in 2020, despite all the challenges. We look forward to the new year in anticipation of gradual relief from the pandemic. The Centennial of St. Joan of Arc Parish extends to August 2021. We are still hopeful to reschedule those special 100th anniversary celebrations.

Saint Joan of Arc School is a nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School with STEM certification. The success of our new facility would not be possible without the financial support of our donors. Your dollars are an investment in the mission of our Parish, that is, passing on our Catholic faith to the next generation through education and worship. If you haven't yet considered a sacrificial gift, year-end tax incentives make it an opportune time. Help us ensure our children's future with an education centered on Christ and a curriculum of academic excellence.

New gifts and pledges to our Centennial Project 2020 amounted to \$5000 for the past week. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information on how you can help, please visit  
[www.stjoanhershey.org/TheCentennialProject](http://www.stjoanhershey.org/TheCentennialProject)



Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be? We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' life and what he means for us as Catholics today. St. Joan of Arc will begin the Jesus study on **January 12, 2021** at 10:00 am in person and 7:00 pm via Zoom. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively group discussion and fellowship.

An informational presentation will be held on **December 8** at 10:30 am in person in the Parish Social Hall as well as at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Please contact Earl Tropp at [etropp@stjoanhershey.org](mailto:etropp@stjoanhershey.org) or at 717 533-7168 x122 to make a reservation.

## ✝ MINISTRY NEWS

### MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

The 2021 Mass Book is open. You can schedule up to 4 intentions for the year for \$10 each. You can order online or pick up a form at the parish office. A post card confirming your dates will be mailed to you. You can complete a request and payment online at the link below.

🔗 [www.stjoanhershey.org/store/p74/intentions.html](http://www.stjoanhershey.org/store/p74/intentions.html)

### RESPECT LIFE

“Among all the crimes which can be committed against life, procured abortion has characteristics making it particularly serious and deplorable. The Second Vatican Council defines abortion, together with infanticide, as an ‘unspeakable crime.’”

-*The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae)*, no. 58.

### LIVING OUR FAITH

Due to the pandemic, we must cancel our Caring Cards and Calendars collection. However, there is a still a great way to make use of your holiday cards. Royer's is collecting cards for service members and veterans for the American Red Cross' "Holidays for Heroes" program. Cards can be dropped off at any Royer's location through November. Cards should be signed with a note of gratitude.

🔗 [More Info: www.royers.com/usrf.cfm?aboutus=holidayheroes](http://www.royers.com/usrf.cfm?aboutus=holidayheroes) | (717) 534-2834

### GIVING TREE PROGRAM

The Christmas Giving Tree Program, sponsored by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, will look different this year. This year we are **asking for donations to St. Vincent de Paul Society by December 13** either electronically on the church's online giving page under St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree or you can drop your donation in a separate envelope marked St. Vincent de Paul Giving Tree and place in collection or at the Church office.

### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

The Centennial Committee is presenting a Monthly Virtual Event during this year of Celebrating the Parish Centennial! The November Monthly Virtual Event is a video that was made for our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (filmed by Tony Mayan). It details the history of the parish. It is a wonderful overview of our parish, as a refresher for established parishioners and a way to learn about St. Joan of Arc Parish for new members. Please take a few minutes to view! The Religious of the Parish, past and present, is the December Monthly Virtual Event.

## ✝ MINISTRY NEWS

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to memorialize a loved one with flowers for decorating the Church at Christmas, forms are available in the online bulletin, the parish website, or at the Parish Office. Requests are due to the parish office by **Friday, December 4 at 12:00 pm.**

### ROAD TO KINDNESS

We are at the start of our beautiful Advent Season! This is such a special time in our church year. We are excited to commence our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Advent Kindness Program. We have prepared a Listing of 25 Acts of Kindness that can be done over the Advent Season. The Listing is posted on the St. Joan of Arc website. Please access it so you can keep track of all the kindness acts that you and your family do during this Advent Season. The more you participate, the more the beauty of the Advent Season will brighten your hearts and the hearts of those who are receiving your kindness! Special kindness activities and gifts are also being coordinated at our school, REP, Life Teen, and the Edge programs (keeping social distancing top-of-mind). Advent Kindness Cards are available at the parish office. These cards are a kindness gift on behalf of the Anthony R. Bellezza Memorial. Please take a few and spread your kindness throughout our community! Become inspired and show someone that you care. Embrace kindness this Advent Season and it will become contagious! Blessings to you! Enjoy this wonderful Advent Season and have a week filled with kindness!

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

Please take note of the early bulletin deadlines for the rest of the year.

**All requests must be submitted by 9:00 am.**

Bulletin	Article Deadline	
December 6	Monday	November 23
December 13	Monday	November 30
December 20	Monday	December 7
December 27	Monday	December 14
January 3	Friday	December 18



✠ **MINISTRY NEWS**

**FATHER BEITING A.M.C.**

Our Parish Volunteers have not gone to Father Beiting Appalachian Mission Center this year, but the needs of the people in the three poorest counties in America has not changed. With coal mines shut down, there are fewer jobs and more poverty than ever before.

This summer three seminarians volunteered as summer interns at FBAMC. Two from the Harrisburg Diocese (Cole Mase from Palmyra and Andrew St. Denis from Maytown) and one seminarian from the Diocese of Lexington, (he grew up in Lexington). The three of them, along with the four full time staff members, repaired decks, built ramps and dug ditches. There is still a lot of other repair work that needs to be done, but with the Covid epidemic, these jobs will be there in the spring and fall when our Parish volunteers travel to Kentucky.

Due to the pandemic, their work was restricted to the outside jobs and a lot of these people's needs will have to be completed by those who live in these homes or will have to wait until next year. There is a great need for the cost of the work that was done this summer by the seminarians and staff to be covered. With resources stretched very thin, the volunteers from St. Joan of Arc want to help in any way we can, and that means we should help financially because we did not travel to Louisa, Kentucky this year.

Our Parish's volunteers are hoping to travel to Kentucky in the spring of 2021 and again in the fall. We will have to decide whether we are allowed to work on the homes of those we serve, or will be working on "outside" jobs next year. Either way, our Parish volunteers from St. Joan of Arc are hoping to travel to Louisa, Kentucky next year.

Our goal is to raise **\$3,000** to help cover the cost of the work that the seminarians and staff did this summer and to cover their expenses that they incurred this summer. As in the past, your generosity has always been very much appreciated, not only by the work that was done, but by St. Joan of Arc volunteers who rely on your help and encouragement to continue this charitable work.

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2. Enter Access Code: **2FTXY3**
3. Enter your email address and create a password.
4. Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

✠ **SCHOOL NEWS**

**WISH LIST ITEMS**

St. Joan of Arc School is currently in need of the following wish list items. To make a contribution, please contact Sister Eileen or Deb Rizzotto.

Thank you to those who have so generously contributed to our wish list items. We greatly appreciate every contribution.



**HELP US  
KEEP OUR PARISHIONERS  
SAFE AND HEALTHY!**

With the recent rise in Coronavirus cases related to cooler weather and more indoor activities, we thought it would be a good time to remind you of our mask wearing obligation. All in attendance are required to wear a mask, except for those with a medical condition that prohibit it and children too young to understand. Those who may be particularly vulnerable are encouraged to view our livestream Mass at home in place of in-person participation.

We have also received some feedback of masks being worn improperly. Masks should cover both the nose and the mouth. Masks should be worn at all times during the service, including processing to and from Holy Communion. Masks should only be lowered when consuming the Host.

Thank you for your cooperation.



**St. Joan of Arc School**  
Deb Rizzotto  
Director of Development  
329 W. Areba Avenue  
Hershey, PA 17033  
717 533-2854

## Would you like Your PA state tax dollars to go directly to St. Joan of Arc School?

Did you know that if you pay more than \$3500 (Line 12 of your PA income Tax Return) in PA taxes you may be eligible to receive a 90% tax credit for a contribution to the Pennsylvania State EITC scholarship fund program that helps students afford tuition at a St. Joan of Arc. Families who join the Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund will receive a tax credit for 90% of the amount pledged, all of which will be given to the school in the form of a donation. (For example if you owe \$3500 in PA taxes, and you make a contribution with the attached agreement to St. Joan of Arc for \$3500, 90% or \$3150 will go to St. Joan of Arc, while your PA tax liability is reduced to \$350)

Your contributions could provide assistance to our school in the following ways:

- Enable the school to offer increased financial aid to more families.
- As participation in the program is for 2 years at a time it will allow us better planning.
- By increasing our funding for financial aid this may help us to keep our tuition costs as low as possible for all students and their families.
- Once a contributor joins the program they are able to continue renewing every two years indefinitely – so the donation could potentially become a long-term blessing to our school and its students.

To learn more you can visit [www.pennsylvaniaeitc.org](http://www.pennsylvaniaeitc.org) & fill out the attached joinder agreement.

If you have additional questions contact Deb Rizzotto, Director of Development, St. Joan of Arc School at 717 533-2854.

You may drop off or mail your completed application at St. Joan of Arc School (Attn: Tax Credits / Deb Rizzotto)

*Please Note: The school is not able to offer professional tax advice. Please consult with your own tax professional to determine whether this program is right for you.*

# PENNSYLVANIA SPECIAL PURPOSE ENTITY (SPE) JOINDER

**For Individual/Joint/Corporate Pennsylvania EITC/OSTC Program Contributions**

For detailed information on the Program and Application/Award Process, please go to:  
<https://www.pennsylvaniaeitc.org/frequently-asked-questions.html>

**Questions: Contact Deb Rizzoto 717-533-2854**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Joinder to Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement of *MicroPlusPlus Investment Management, LLC* as of the date set forth below next to the undersigned's signature.

IF AN INDIVIDUAL OR 2 INDIVIDUALS SIGNING JOINTLY:	IF A LEGAL ENTITY:
PRINT NAME – INDIVIDUAL #1	PRINT NAME – LEGAL ENTITY
SIGNATURE – INDIVIDUAL #1	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE
SOCIAL SECURITY # – INDIVIDUAL #1	PRINT NAME / TITLE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNER
PRINT NAME – INDIVIDUAL #2	
SIGNATURE – INDIVIDUAL #2	
SOCIAL SECURITY # – INDIVIDUAL #2	EIN #
DATE	DATE
ADDRESS	ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP	CITY STATE ZIP
EMAIL ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS
AMOUNT – FIRST YEAR CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION (due upon Fund Manager's request) \$ _____ (NOTE: Minimum \$3,500 contribution unless Manager approves less)	AMOUNT – SECOND YEAR CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION (due upon Fund Manager's request) \$ _____ (NOTE: Same as INITIAL Capital Contribution)

*Fund Manager is to use my Capital Contribution for scholarship support for children attending the following EITC/OSTC qualified schools or scholarship organizations:*

Name of School/Organization St. Joan of Arc School, Hershey PA Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

IF THE ABOVE OPTIONAL DIRECTION IS LEFT BLANK, Capital Contributions will be regarded as undesignated by the Fund Manager.

*Randy Tarpey, in his capacity as Manager of the Company, hereby accepts this Joinder and admits the party or parties identified above as a Member of the Company as of the date set forth next to the signature below.*

*MicroPlusPlus Investment Management, LLC*

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send forms to: Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund, Attn: Randy Tarpey, 227 Jefferson Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686**

**NOTE: Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund will contact you in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter when it is time to submit your donation check.**



# The Spirit and Bride say, "Come!"

## THE LITANY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

Father all-powerful, *have mercy on us.*  
Jesus, Eternal Son of the Father,  
Redeemer of the world, *save us.*  
Spirit of the Father and the Son, boundless  
life of both, *sanctify us.*  
Holy Trinity, *hear us.*  
Holy Spirit, Who proceedest from the  
Father and the Son, *enter our hearts.*  
Holy Spirit, Who art equal to the Father  
and the Son, *enter our hearts.*

Promise of God the Father,  
\* *have mercy on us.*  
Ray of heavenly light, \*  
Author of all good, \*  
Source of heavenly water Consuming  
fire\*  
Ardent charity,\*  
Spiritual unction,\*  
Spirit of love and truth,\*  
Spirit of wisdom and understanding,\*  
Spirit of counsel and fortitude,\*  
Spirit of knowledge and piety,\*  
Spirit of the fear of the Lord,\*  
Spirit of grace and prayer,\*  
Spirit of peace and meekness,\*  
Spirit of modesty and innocence,\*  
Holy Spirit, the Comforter,\*  
Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier,\*  
Holy Spirit, Who governest the Church  
Gift of God, the Most High,\*  
Spirit Who fillest the universe,\*  
Spirit of the adoption of the children of  
God,\*

Holy Spirit, *inspire us with horror of sin.*  
Holy Spirit, *come and renew the face of  
the earth.*  
Holy Spirit, *shed Thy light in our souls.*  
Holy Spirit, *engrave Thy law in our  
hearts.*  
Holy Spirit, *in flame us with the flame of  
Thy love.*  
Holy Spirit, *open to us the treasures of  
Thy graces.*  
Holy Spirit, *teach us to pray well.*  
Holy Spirit, *enlighten us with Thy  
heavenly inspirations.*

Holy Spirit, *lead us in the way of  
salvation.*  
Holy Spirit, *grant us the only necessary  
knowledge.*  
Holy Spirit, *inspire in us the practice of  
good.*  
Holy Spirit, *grant us the merits of all  
virtues.*  
Holy Spirit, *make us persevere in justice.*  
Holy Spirit, *be Thou our everlasting  
reward.*



Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins  
of the world, *Send us Thy Holy Spirit.*  
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins  
of the world, *pour down into our souls  
the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*  
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins  
of the world, *grant us the Spirit of  
wisdom and piety.*

**V.** Come, Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of  
Thy faithful,  
**R.** And enkindle in them the fire of Thy  
love.

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Father,  
that Thy Divine Spirit may enlighten,  
in flame and purify us,  
that He may penetrate us with His

heavenly dew and make us fruitful in good  
works, through Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Thy Son, Who with Thee, in the unity of  
the same Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one  
God, forever and ever.

**R.** Amen.

## CALLED TO LIVE THE FREEDOM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN ADVENT ~GALATIANS 5:13-26

For you were called for freedom, brothers  
and sisters. But do not use this freedom as  
an opportunity for the flesh; rather,  
serve one another through love.  
For the whole law is fulfilled in one  
statement, namely, "You shall love your  
neighbor as yourself." But if you go on  
biting and devouring one another, beware  
that you are not consumed by one another.

I say, then: live by the Spirit and you will  
certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh.  
For the flesh has desires against the Spirit,  
and the Spirit against the flesh; these are  
opposed to each other, so that you may not  
do what you want. But if you are guided  
by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious:  
immorality, impurity, licentiousness,  
idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry,  
jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfish-  
ness, dissensions, factions, occasions of  
envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like.  
I warn you, as I warned you before, that  
those who do such things will not inherit  
the kingdom of God.

In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.  
Against such there is no law.

Now those who belong to Christ [Jesus]  
have crucified their flesh with its passions  
and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us  
also follow the Spirit. Let us not be con-  
ceited, provoking one another, envious of  
one another.

*"The Holy Spirit teaches us to see with the eyes of Christ, to live life as Christ lived, to understand life as Christ understood it. That is why the living water, who is the Holy Spirit, quenches our life, why he tells us that we are loved by God as children, that we can love God as his children and that by his grace we can live as children of God, like Jesus. And we, do we listen to the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit tell us? He says: God loves you. He tells us this. God loves you, God likes you. Do we truly love God and others, as Jesus does? Let us allow ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit, let us allow him to speak to our heart and say this to us: God is love, God is waiting for us, God is Father, he loves us as a true father loves, he loves us truly and only the Holy Spirit can tell us this in our hearts. Let us hear the Holy Spirit, let us listen to the Holy Spirit and may we move forward on this path of love, mercy and forgiveness."*  
- Pope Francis, General Audience, May 8, 2013

*Come, Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful,  
and enkindle in us the fire of  
Your love.*

## ADVENT WREATH TABLE PRAYER

*As we make the Sign of the Cross, the leader says:*

Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
R/. Who made heaven and earth.

*A song may be sung as someone lights the candle(s). The rose candle is lighted during the Third Week of Advent.*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

R./ Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things, far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go. R./

*Opening Prayer*

Open our minds and our hearts, O Lord, to hear your word of promise! Send us the Holy Spirit to guide us through these holy days. Quiet our worries and anxieties and help us to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ who is Lord for ever and ever. R/. Amen.

*Scripture Reading (chosen from the daily readings or from below).*

*The First Week: Isaiah 9:1-6*

*The Second Week: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

*The Third Week: Luke 1:39-45*

*The Fourth Week: John 1:1-5, 9-14*

*A reflection may be shared about the Reading.*

*Concluding Prayer*

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
He is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us, He is the Savior of every nation.  
Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May He come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. R/. Amen.

*To conclude, we make the Sign of the Cross, saying:*

May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil,  
and bring us everlasting life. R/. Amen.

## DAILY READINGS FOR ADVENT

*"Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path."  
- Psalm 119:105*

### FIRST WEEK

**Sunday** Luke 21:25-28, 34-36  
**Monday** Isaiah 2:1-5  
**Tuesday** Psalm 72  
**Wednesday** Isaiah 25:6-10  
**Thursday** Matthew 7:21-27  
**Friday** Psalm 27  
**Saturday** Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26

### SECOND WEEK

**Sunday** Philippians 1:4-11  
**Monday** Psalm 85  
**Tuesday** Luke 1:26-38  
**Wednesday** Zechariah 2:14-17  
**Thursday** Psalm 145  
**Friday** Matthew 11:16-19  
**Saturday** Sirach 48:1-11

### THIRD WEEK

**Sunday** Zephaniah 3:14-18  
**Monday** Genesis 49:2, 8-10  
**Tuesday** Jeremiah 23:5-8  
**Wednesday** Judges 13:2-7, 24-25  
**Thursday** Isaiah 7:10-14  
**Friday** Luke 1:5-25  
**Saturday** Luke 1:26-38

### FOURTH WEEK

**Sunday** Micah 5:1-4  
**Monday** Song of Songs 2:8-14  
**Tuesday** Luke 1:57-66  
**Wednesday** Luke 1:67-79