



THE FEAST OF THE



HOLY  
FAMILY

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
**Saturday Vigil - 4:00 pm**  
**Sunday - 8:00, 9:45, 11:30 am**  
**Daily Mass 8:00 am Monday-Friday**

**Confession**  
**Wednesdays 8:30 am & 5:30 pm**  
**Saturdays 3:15-3:45 pm**  
**Sundays 7:15-7:45; 9:20-9:35, & 11:05-11:20am**

**Adoration**  
**Wednesdays 8:30 am - 6:00 pm**

**Rectory Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Fridays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Contact Information**

Rev. Allen J. Hoffa, M.Div., Pastor  
Email: [ahoffa@hgaparish.com](mailto:ahoffa@hgaparish.com)  
Facebook: Allen Hoffa  
Twitter: @padrehoffa  
Instagram: Padre Hoffa

Rev. E. Michael Camilli, M.S.C., Weekend Assistance  
[emcamilli@hgaparish.com](mailto:emcamilli@hgaparish.com)

Deacon John B. Gallagher  
[jgallagher@hgaparish.com](mailto:jgallagher@hgaparish.com)

HGA Rectory  
3121 Kutztown Road  
Reading, PA 19605  
610-921-2729

Facebook: HGA Parish  
Twitter: hgachurch  
Instagram: hgaparish

**Mission Statement**

“We, the parishioners of Holy Guardian Angels Parish united with the Catholic Church throughout the world, proclaim our belief in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. With the help of our Guardian Angels, we seek to live out that belief as a community of sacred worship, apostolic faith, and generous service where each member shares with others their God-given gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

**New Members**

Welcome to Holy Guardian Angels! Please call the Parish Office in order to register in our parish, or stop in during office hours. Please notify the office if you change your address or move away.

**Communion Calls**

Any shut-in parishioner who would like a monthly visit with Holy Communion should call the Rectory at 610-921-2729 to be added to the Communion Call List.

**Bulletin Submissions**

Deadline for submissions for Bulletin - Monday Noon. Please email notices to [baregood@hgaparish.com](mailto:baregood@hgaparish.com).

**Ministry to the Sick - Anointing of the Sick**

Visits to the hospital are made on a regular basis. Please notify the Parish Office when a parishioner is in the hospital or home and would like to receive communion or anointing of the sick. *The Sacrament of the Sick is available to all in need of healing.* PLEASE DO NOT WAIT until death is imminent to offer your loved one this grace. Visits can also be made to those parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive communion by Eucharistic Ministers or Father Hoffa.

**Holy Guardian Angels Regional School**

We encourage all our parents to consider sending their children to Holy Guardian Angels Regional School. The school is located at 3125 Kutztown Road, Reading, PA 19605. Please contact Kelly Prechtel, Head of School at 610-929-4124 for more information or to register. [www.hgaschool.org](http://www.hgaschool.org).

**Berks Catholic High School**

We encourage our high school students to consider attending our local catholic high school – Berks Catholic. Please contact the Director of Admissions, Nicole Smith at 610-374-8361, ext. 244 for more information or to register. [www.berkscatholic.org](http://www.berkscatholic.org).

**Religious Education (PREP)**

All children should be receiving religious instruction through one of our Regional Catholic Schools or through our Parish Religious Education Program offered for grades K-8. Please contact Kari Mallozzi, Director of Religious Education, for more information via email to [kmallozzi@hgaparish.com](mailto:kmallozzi@hgaparish.com) or call 610-921-2729, ext. 2203.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

We welcome and support all whose faith journey brings them to seek full communion with the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

**Knights of Columbus Holy Guardian Angels Council #14847**

Grand Knight - Mike Rusak  
Council email: [koc14847@hgaparish.com](mailto:koc14847@hgaparish.com).

**Wills and Memorials**

As a lasting remembrance or final gift to your parish, all parishioners are encouraged to include Holy Guardian Angels Parish in their wills or as a beneficiary on an insurance policy. At the time of passing of a relative or friend, consider enrolling them in the Holy Guardian Angels Memorial Fund. Memorials are available in the Parish Office and are often used in lieu of flowers.

**Diocese of Allentown**

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator  
Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC  
Direct: (800) 791-9209

Office of Safe Environment  
Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S.  
Secretary, Youth Protection  
& Catholic Human Services  
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538  
610-871-5200, ext. 2204  
[prusso@allentowndioocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndioocese.org)



# MASS Intentions

**Note that all Daily Masses Monday through Friday & the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass are livestreamed on our Facebook page.**

## Monday, January 1

### New Year's Day

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God  
(Not a Holy Day of Obligation)**

**10:00 am Mila Wojciechowski**, requested by John Wojciechowski

## Tuesday, January 2

**Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors**

**8:00 am Lola Rozzi**, requested by her children

## Wednesday, January 3

**The Holy Name of Jesus**

**8:00 am Shirley Burger**, requested by Barbara Aregood

## Thursday, January 4

**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton, Religious**

**8:00 am Father's Day Intentions**

## Friday, January 5

**Saint John Neumann, Bishop**

**8:00 am Memorial Fund Members**

**9:30 am (School Mass) Dave Morganti**, requested by Chris and Nancee Cinelli

## Sunday, January 7

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Saturday Vigil**

**4:00 pm Mother's Day Intentions**

**Sunday**

**8:00 am Richard and Alberta Wummer**, requested by Andrew and Faye Wummer

**9:45 am Joe and Ann Jablonski**, requested by Karen Jablonski

## SANCTUARY LAMP & CANDLE INTENTIONS

Week of December 31, 2023

**Sanctuary Lamp in Church:** Living and Deceased Parishioners. **Sanctuary Candle in Chapel:** Living and Deceased Parishioners. **St. Joseph Candles:** Living and Deceased Parishioners. **Blessed Mother Candles:** In Memory of Walter and Josphine Cichocki requested by daughter, Joan; Living and Deceased Parishioners. **Holy Guardian Angels Candles:** Living and Deceased Parishioners. **Anyone who would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamps, the Candles by St. Joseph, the Blessed Mother or the Guardian Angels for a week may stop by the Rectory Office. The cost is \$10 each.**

God Bless  
You In The  
New Year

## Padre's Piece

The Book of Exodus

The second book of the Old Testament and the second book of the Pentateuch. The Hebrew title for Exodus means "and these are the names," which restate Gen 46:8: "Now these are the names of the Israelites, Jacob and his offspring, who came to Egypt." The title thereby suggests that the book is a continuation of the Genesis account, which ends with the family of Jacob living in Egypt. The Greek uses the title Exodos, meaning "departure" or a "going out," describing the contents of the work: the departure of Israel out of Egypt.

The Book of Exodus is taken up with two of the most important events in the long history of the Old Testament – the departure of the Israelites out of Egypt under the leadership of Moses and the covenant of Sinai. In Exodus, the history of the patriarchs is carried forward to the formation of the nation of Israel through the Sinai covenant and its renewal after the idolatry of God's people.

The central theme of the Exodus is proclaimed by God to Moses: "I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the Lord your God who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the Lord."

The Exodus was an extension of the promise to Abraham that Israel would be granted the Land of Canaan. The event was a cause of eternal celebration and commemoration as a great victory for the Israelite people through the Power of God. But the memory of the Exodus was more than merely a celebration of past events; it was the continuing proclamation of God's mighty works for his people. By the people's commemorating God's saving deeds through celebrating the holiday, God's works could be made real and present to each new generation.

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Barbara Schwartz, Pattie Mihalak, Fr. Wm Seifert, James Waldman, John Perate, Cindy Klymchuk, Daniel

Bastek, Sandra Clayton, Harmony Chiccarine, Aubrielle Beidler, Barbara Coco, Kim Bonner, Mary Ann Wensus, Daneen Poticher, Lisa Wrede, Bob Desherlia, Doris Day, Serge Kuschick, Jeff Strader, Joan Adams, John Gaetani, Kirsten Snyder, Robert Brannon, Jennifer Toplak-Sedlacek, Giada Caruso, Elaine Egan, Sharon Witman, William Ondich, Marie Scholl, Gene Toplak, George and Kathy Helms, Dennis Dautrich, Melissa Neff, Arlene Kunstek, Robert Keim, Irvin Lindinger, Msgr. John Grabish, Ramona Teahan, Marian & Al Masi, Beverly Oudinot, Thomas Greth, Damaris Diaz, Zac Schneider, Jim Selig, Peg Devine, Anne Lazar, Linda Swavely, Loretta Gaetani, Anne Semmel. **Names will remain on the list for one month.**

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**Sunday, December 31-** Confession 7:15, 9:20, and 11:05 am; Mass 8:00, 9:45, and 11:30 am.

**Monday, January 1** - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God Mass 10:00 am; Rectory Office Closed

**Tuesday, January 2** - Mass 8:00 am; CYO Boys Basketball Practice 6:00 pm; Symbolon Part II - Church History with Father Camilli 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, January 3** - Healing Mass 8:00 am; Adoration 8:30 am until Benediction at 6:00 pm; Confessions 8:30 am and 5:15 pm, Rosary Rally 5:30 pm; Confirmation Parent Make Up Meeting 6:00 pm; CYO Girls Basketball Practice 6:00 pm

**Thursday, January 4** - Mass 8:00 am; CYO Boys Basketball Practice 6:00 pm; BSA Troop 161 6:30 pm; Legion of Mary 6:30 pm; Culture of Life Meeting 6:30 pm; Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm

**Friday, January 5** - First Friday 7:00 am; Mass 8:00 am; School Mass 9:30 am

**Saturday, January 6** - Confession 3:15 pm; Vigil Mass (with Live Stream) 4:00 pm

**Sunday, January 7** - Confession 7:15 am, 9:20 am, 11:05 am; Mass 8:00 am, 9:45 am; 11:30 am; PREP 8:15 am; CYO Basketball Games (Girls 1:30 pm, Boys 2:40 pm); BSA Troop 161 Com-



CYO of HGA is currently looking for a High School Basketball Coach & a girls developmental coach. Please contact cyo@hgaparish.com if you are interested.

### The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Holy Guardian Angels Parish is here for you!

Our parishioners have consistently supported our efforts to address the needs of others; however, we hope and pray that parishioners in need will reach out to us so that we may be of service to them as well.

Please communicate with us through the parish website, or call 610-921-2729 (Option4, then Option1) if you are in need of food or assistance. All communications will remain strictly confidential.



**PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Angel Earnings gift cards sales the weekend of December 31st. Sales after Masses will resume the weekend of January 7th. You can purchase gift cards at any time on the Raise Right app or website!**

Here are some ways you can earn money for the parish and/or your tuition account with gift cards every day without a lot of extra planning. All you have to do is use gift cards to buy common items like these -

- Gas & groceries: The household essentials that every family needs. Pay for your weekly gas and grocery bills with gift cards and watch your earnings add up.
- Daily coffee runs: Coffee, tea, bagel, pastry? Whatever your guilty pleasure is, enjoy it knowing you're earning a little something special.
- Streaming services: As temperatures start dropping, get cozy on the couch with your favorite flicks. Watch some new releases or enjoy your go-to TV shows.
- Books, games, and puzzles: Need alone time? Indulge in a good read. Want to connect with your family? Plan a family game night. It's a fun way to bond over some friendly competition.
- Loungewear: Freshen up your weekend wear and work-from-home outfits by shopping for popular online brands.

Buy gift cards for all your everyday shopping on the Raise Right mobile app or website. You can search by brand or filter your search by category to see all of the gift cards available!

If you have any questions regarding the Angel Earnings program, please contact Anne Malinowski at amalinowski@hgaparish.com or call 610-921-2729, ext. 2216.

### First Friday Devotions Friday, January 5, 2024

7:00 am Exposition  
7:00-7:40 am Confessions  
7:45 am Benediction  
8:00 am Daily Mass



### SERVER/LECTOR/EM SCHEDULE - JANUARY 6 & 7

	4:00 pm	8:00 am	9:45 am	11:30 am
<b>Servers</b>	Carlos Flood Patrick Manczak Meredith Swavely	Libby Huston William Johns Sophia Lezette	Dane Prechtl Marcus Rundle Vincent Tartaglia	Matthew Glembocki Lia Martina Laceda Michaela Schmeck
<b>Lector</b>	Rozanne Thompson	Kevin Kleckner	Theresa Quitinsky	Ann Marie Botch
<b>EM</b>	Mark Semprini Tina Semprini	Janet Huston Frank Ligenza	Diane Collins Dan Rundle	Kelli Glembocki Martha Weida

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday, January 1, 2024 Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21 Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God.  
 Tuesday, January 2, 2024 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28 Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors  
 Wednesday, January 3, 2024 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34 The Holy Name of Jesus  
 Thursday, January 4, 2024 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton, Religious  
 Friday, January 5, 2024 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51 Saint John Neumann, Bishop  
 Saturday, January 6, 2024 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38 St. Andre Bessette, Religious  
 Sunday, January 7, 2024 Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

LAST WEEK *Collection* ©JPPC

STEWARDSHIP	DECEMBER 17
WEEKLY	\$10,502.75
LOOSE	\$847.00
CANDLES	\$299.76
EMERGENCY	\$190.00
MAINTENANCE	\$155.00
MORTGAGE	\$151.00
ONLINE GIVING	\$2,104.00
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS	\$100.00
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	\$250.00
OTHER	\$45.00
TOTAL	\$14,644.51

**It's almost time for Cooks with Collars 2024! Stay tuned for details. Videos & voting goes live on Friday, January 12th!**



**Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3: 12-21; Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23**

Many items in our everyday lives follow a formula. The list would include everything from breakfast cereal to industrial chemicals. But the same holds true for our spiritual lives. Our Catholic prayers, for example, generally follow the “formula” or pattern of the “Our Father.” We praise God and then make respectful request(s) of Him.

So too is there a formula for living family life as given us in Holy Scripture. Today’s Second Reading, of St. Paul to the Colossians, should rank high in our estimation. It is a direct refute of all the bullish attacks on Christian family life in the secular culture that surrounds us. The chief feature there is the absence of God and any reference to Him that is sadly prevalent in many families today.

The purpose of this particular letter was to bolster the faith of the community at Colossae and to correct errors reported about the Church in that city. Jewish and Hellenistic elements seem to be combined in those errors: Paganism, magic, astrology and mystery religions.

As we read the particular section of the Letter chosen for us on this special Feast of the Holy Family, we note the formula that emerges for living all our families in a truly Christian way. The basic component is the fact that we are “God’s chosen ones.” This means that God’s existence as well as His presence are the essentials. Take God away and the whole formula is baseless. Note that “bearing with one another and forgiving one another” is included. How absent that seems to be many times these days!

Comedians make light of it, sometimes, but underneath the laughter is the sad kernel of truth that too many of us do not forgive and forget the mistakes of those people who have the same last name as ours.

We dare not push aside the Holy Family as our model because of the sublime holiness present there. If we are, as Paul tells us, “God’s chosen ones,” we have the inborn ability to honor God’s choice by our prayer and daily effort.

The story is told of a young man who stood before a judge to be sentenced for forgery. The judge had been a friend of the boy’s father, who was famous for his books on the law of trusts. “Young man,” said the judge sternly, “do you remember your father, that father whom you have disgraced?” “I remember him perfectly.” the young man answered quietly. “When I went to him for advice or companionship, he would say ‘Run away boy, I’m busy.’ Well, my father finished his book, and here I am.” God love you and bring His peace to your family.



HGA Regional School Families, please mark your calendars:

- **No School for Christmas Break- Friday, December 22 at 12pm-Tuesday, January 2, 2024.**
- **We will reopen on Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

### COUGAR CASH!

**Our HGA Regional School Cougar Cash 50/50 Raffle Sale has begun! Last year's winner won nearly \$4500! Visit [holyguardianangelsregionalschool.square.site](http://holyguardianangelsregionalschool.square.site) to purchase your tickets to support our wonderful students! Join us on our Facebook page for a live drawing on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 1p.m**

New Student Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will open on January 1, 2024. If you are interested in learning more about joining our amazing family, please email Head of School, Kelly Prechtl at [kelpre@hgaschool.org](mailto:kelpre@hgaschool.org) to set up a tour to-day! Current students will be automatically re-enrolled with a registration fee charged to the FACTS tuition account on January 15.

HGA Regional School will be closed on MLK Day, Monday, January 15. We will be hosting several Dine Out Events that day at Austin's, Coastal Grill and YOGO Crazy. Please show our fliers or mention HGA to support our school!

Save the Date for our Annual Open House and State of the School on Sunday, January 28 from 11 a.m.-2p.m. All are welcome to visit our amazing school!



### Knight News!

The Knights of Columbus Rosary Rally will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm in the Chapel. The next date will be this Wednesday January 3, 2024. The next Knights of Columbus Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the Rectory Basement Meeting Room.



Reminder! The make-up meeting for Confirmation Parents is scheduled for Wednesday, January 3rd at 6:00 pm. Please contact Kari Mallozzi, Director of Religious Education at 610-921-2729, ext. 2203 or email [kmallozzi@hgaparish.com](mailto:kmallozzi@hgaparish.com) for more details! **PREP will resume on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 8:15 am.**

## Upcoming EVENTS

**SYMBOLON PART II BEGINS**  
*January 2*

**HEALING MASS  
ROSARY RALLY**  
*January 3*

**CULTURE OF LIFE MEETING**  
*January 4*

**FIRST FRIDAY**  
*January 5*

**SENIOR CLUB MEETING  
BELOVED YOUNG WOMENS BIBLE STUDY BEGINS**  
*January 10*

**1ST SUNDAY BINGO OF 2024**  
*January 14*

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
*January 16*

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING  
PEN 2 PAPER MEETING**  
*January 17*

**POLISH FOOD SALE**  
*January 20*



Are you missing calls from Father Hoffa? If you are not signed up for Parish Cast, please contact Tricia Christ at 610-921-2729, ext. 2202 to make sure your contact information is included in the next important announcement! Also, if your information has recently changed, please let us know that as well. Thank you.

Have you visited the new HGA Website? Everything you need to know about HGA is easy to find. Visit the "News & Events" page to stay up to date with everything that's going on currently or to print recent bulletin fliers. Click on "Bulletin" to view the current bulletin and an archive of past bulletins.

**WWW.HGAPARISH.COM**

St. Peter's School graduating class of 1970 will be having a reunion on Saturday, May 4th 2024 at 6PM at GNA in West Reading. We are looking for classmates. Please pass this news along to anyone you know who may have been in this class. For more information you can contact Theresa (Kimrey) Shumard @ 484-706-4208 or Pat Maureen (Shannon) Walton @ 610-406-2647.

Everyone is welcome to attend The Culture of Life group meeting on Thursday, January 4 at 6:30 pm in the (Small) Rectory Basement Meeting Room.

Be counted along with other Berks County Catholics when we publish the anti-abortion/prolife ad in the Reading Eagle on Monday, January 22, 2024. The suggested donation is \$10/ person, \$15 couple or family.



**The Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County** is accepting memberships for 2024. Part of our mission is to promote and to share public awareness and appreciation of our Polish heritage through cultural, educational and social activities. IF INTERESTED, please contact Marilyn Wlazewski, President, at 610-779-5523.



**The St. Francis Hospice Home in Shillington** is in need of additional volunteers to help provide compassionate, loving care to its residents. Please come and shadow one of our volunteers and see if you are being called to provide this blessed ministry. No medical back-ground is required, just a willing heart. Any amount of time can help. For more info please contact Cathy Goss at 484-645-3981. Thank you and God bless you!

Nocturnal Adoration Devotions in honor of The Sacred Heart of Jesus will be held monthly from now on at St.



Paul's Church on N. 9th & Walnut Streets. The one-hour adoration will be held on first Friday, January 5th from 4:00-5:00 pm. Church parking is available from Walnut Street. All are welcome. (Please note we will no longer be rotating parishes.)



Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 16-18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.

For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.