

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Sunday, December 8th: Joint Parish Christmas Party** at AOOL at 2 PM. *Don't forget your jingle Gift if you would like to participate.— Ft. Ashby Tree Lighting will be at 5 PM* at the Lions BBQ Site

† **Monday, December 9th:** Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **Holy Day of Obligation**—See bulletin for

Mass schedule

† **Tuesday, December 10th:** St. Anthony's will pray the Rosary for the "unborn" before 12 (N) Mass.

† **Wednesday, December 11th: Craft Day at SA** 10 AM—1 PM - **K of C Council #15610** Business Meeting at 7 PM at AOOL

Donations are being accepted by St. Anthony's Guild to help **13 home and wheelchair bound elderly folks** in the community by collecting items for **Merry Christmas Boxes** - Suggestions are - small "Christmas gifts", tissues, socks, slipper socks, scarves, hand creams, large print books or magazines, and **please no soap**. **December 15th is the last day** for donations to be turned in, as they will be packed that day.



**Spiritual Adoption Tree** - We remember to pray for our spiritually adopted child and family. At **week 13 of pregnancy**, this is the last week of the **First Trimester**. The baby now has fingerprints and is almost 3" long.

**Non-Perishable food items are being accepted at both Churches** for St. Anthony's CCD children to make Christmas Boxes for 4 families with 14 children. **Any help would be greatly appreciated!** A tote has been placed in the vestibule at AOOL for these items. Monetary donations may be put in an envelope marked "SA CHRISTMAS" and put in the offertory or dropped in the poor box at SA's. All items are needed no later than **December 15th**. *Working together, we can help spread God's love as we are called to do.*


**Joint Parish Christmas Party, December 8, 2024 at 2 PM at AOOL**

**Bring a dish**, and join us for some Christmas fun! *Don't forget your jingle gift if you would like to participate.* We will be selling 50/50 tickets to raise money for the security system at AOOL. So far, \$ 659.00 has been raised. **The winner will be drawn at the party.**



*A candle has been lit for the month of December in loving memory of Larry Wolfe, requested by Judy Wolfe.*

**ST. ANTHONY'S** will be decorating for Christmas following Sunday Mass on **December 22nd**. **Please stay and help** make the Church even more beautiful for the Season.



**THE GIVING TREE AT AOOL**

All tags have been placed on our Giving Tree. Thank you for your participation in this outreach project and helping local families at Christmas. **ALL wrapped gifts are due into the Social Hall by December 15th.** The Mineral County Social Worker will pick up all gifts on December 16th to distribute to families. *Thank you for making a child smile on Christmas* 😊

St. Anthony's will be sending **Christmas Boxes** to Sr. Katherine and the nuns in Panhandle, TX. If you would like to help fill a box, suggestions are, coffee, tea, chocolate, craft kits (especially cross stitch and embroidery), snacks, greeting cards for them to send. A sign up sheet is in the back of Church at St. Anthony's where you can indicate what you would like to contribute. **Anyone** from AOOL **can contribute** by dropping off to the office or place in the vestibule in a labeled bag. The cut off date for dropping off these items is December 15th.

**Support those that have given a lifetime.** Women and men religious have dedicated their lives to service—praying, teaching, and caring for those in need— usually for little to no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation provides for the essential care, medicine, and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. *Please give generously.*

**Please Pray for:** Pam Adams, Dena Albright, Walter Aumuller, Alex Balice, Paul & Barb Biser, Grayson Bishop, Nathan Blubaugh, Barbara Bonat, Darlene Bridges, Mary Kay Britt, Ron Brockett, Vicky Brown, Cathy Case, Carla Clark, Julia Codire, Marsha Combs, Robert Dayton, Nick Dearcangelis, Richard Delaney, Logan Duncan, Jenny Emerick, John & Eileen Engel, Jan Evans, Father Bob, Jamie Fazzalore, Lily Fletcher, Patricia Folk, Leia Gallen, Aaron Glinke, Dawn Green, Dale Hankinson, Roy Harsh, Lucy Haywood, Jim Hymes, Jim Howard, Janet Jack, Marc Jedlowski, Kenneth Jenkins, Todd Jones, Wanda Kirk, Doris Klipstein, Michael Knotts, Margritt Krams, Stacy Kobe, Liz Lantz, Ernest Lease, Bob Lewis, Ed Lindner, Ty Linthicum, Catherine & Kierstin Lippold, Doug Long, Bob Maiers, Galen Markley, Jim Martin, Janice McBride, Tom McCoy, Greyson McCullough, Marty Medovic, Maddox Mervinsky, Joey & Heather Miltenberger, Adrienne Monroe, Steve Morgan, Robin Patch, Colleen Patton, Steve Pelaez, George Perry, Heather Peters, Bonnie Price, Mary Susan Resser, Jeanie Rigney, Jacob Robey, Kira Robey, Bertha Romine, Malea Rugg, Cody & Jenny Saville, Debbie Seward, Samantha Shank, Shawnee Simmons, Luke Sites, Destinee Smith, Barry Steed, Harper Struntz, Donna Struntz, Christine Thibault, Lu Thibault, Adam Watts, Reva Waybright, Carl Welch, Mark Wilbourne, Joe Wolfe, Judy Wolfe and Family, Bob Wolford, Mary Margaret Wollan, Harlow Wooton



The Catholic Parishes of

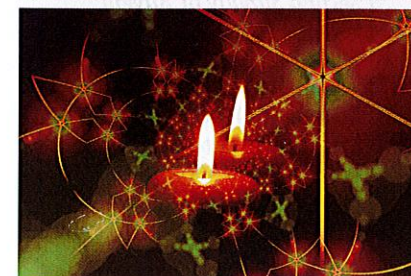
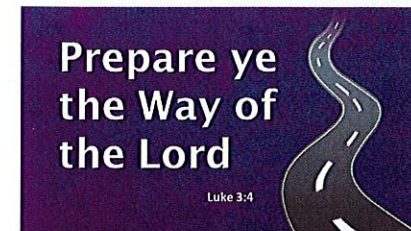
**ANNUNCIATION  
of OUR LORD  
&  
SAINT ANTHONY**

**December 8, 2024**

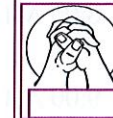
*2nd Sunday  
of Advent*

*Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths:  
All flesh shall see the  
salvation of God.*

*Luke 3:4,6*



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Saturdays 4:00-4:15 PM (AOOL)  
Thursdays 6:00-6:15 PM (SA)  
or by appointment



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
Thursday 5:30 PM (SA)  
1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month  
4 PM—6 PM (AOOL)

**Pastor:** Rev. Daniel Price  
**Email:** dprice@dwc.org  
**K of C #15610 Grand Knight:** Brian Crist  
**Directors of Religious Education**  
Michele Schultz (St. Anthony)  
Matt Sisk (Annunciation)  
**Sacristan (SA):** Fran McFarland  
**Sacristan (AOOL):** Mike Weaver/Volunteers  
**Organist (SA):** Becky Wolfe  
**Organist (AOOL):** Jenn Tupa  
**Nursing Home Coordinator:** Linda Ward  
**OCIA Coordinator (AOOL):** Armando Herrera

**E-mail:** [annunciationchurch@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:annunciationchurch@atlanticbbn.net)  
**Website:** [aolsa.org](http://aolsa.org)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/147125069949301](https://www.facebook.com/groups/147125069949301)  
**Office Hours Monday-Thursday 8 AM -1 PM**  
Tammy Collett, Parish Secretary  
Kathy Brockett, Bookkeeper/Secretary  
**Physical Address:** 8819 Frankfort Hwy.  
AOOL - Fort Ashby, WV 26719  
SA - 176 Main St., Ridgeley, WV 26753  
**Mailing Address** (both parishes):  
P.O. Box 1560, Fort Ashby, WV 26719-1560  
**Phone:** (304) 298-3392 **Fax:** (304) 298-3419

**Devotional Prayers** (25 minutes prior to Sunday Mass times):

Divine Chaplet - Every First Sunday of the Month

Holy Rosary - On the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the Month

## Schedule of Masses

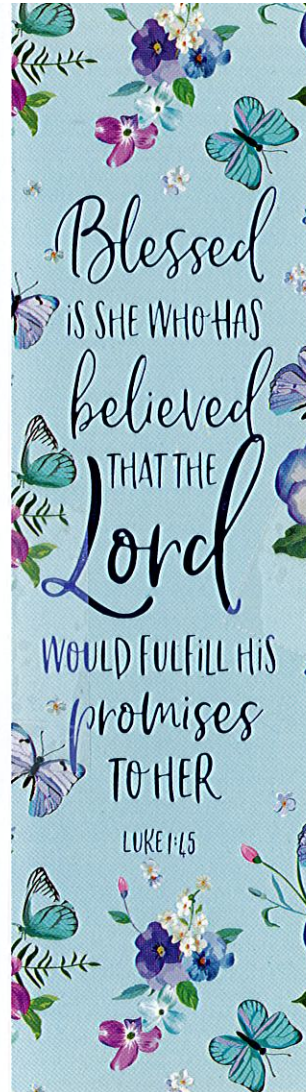
Saturday, December 7 <i>St. Ambrose, Bishop and Dr. of the Church Second Sunday of Advent (Vigil)</i>	9:00 AM (SA) 4:30 PM (AOOL)	Larry Wolfe † Req. by Cumberland Historic Cemetery Organization  Anita Ward Req. by Christy Kegg
Sunday, December 8 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	9:00 AM (AOOL) 11:00 AM (SA)	For the People  Ed Bogard † Req. by Cece Bogard
Monday, December 9 <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)</i>	12 (N) SA 6:00 PM (AOOL)	Jim Howard Req. by People of the Parish  Doug & Sue Long Req. by People of the Parish
Tuesday, December 10 <i>Our Lady of Loreto</i>	12:00 (N) (SA)	Secret Sister Req. by Judy Wolfe
Wednesday, December 11 <i>St. Damasus I, Pope</i>	8:00 AM (AOOL)	Ron & Kathy Brockett Req. by People of the Parish
Thursday, December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	6:30 PM (SA)	Judy McKenzie Req. by St. Anthony's Guild
Friday, December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i>	8:00 AM (AOOL)	Leia Gallen (Healing) Req. by People of the Parish
Saturday, December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Dr. of the Church Third Sunday of Advent (Vigil)</i>	9:00 AM (SA) 4:30 PM (AOOL)	No Mass  Barb Linthicum (Birthday) Req. by People of the Parish
Sunday, December 15 <i>Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday</i>	9:00 AM (AOOL) 11:00 AM (SA)	For the People  Roger Powers Req. by St. Anthony's Guild

## Weekly Readings

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 / Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11 / Mt 18:12-14  
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31 / Mt 11:28-30 Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 / Lk 1:26-38  
 Friday: Is 48:17-19 / Mt 11:16-19 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a / Phil 4:4-7 / Lk 3:10-18

## Weekly Collections December 1, 2024

Attendance AOOL - 44 / 95 Weekly: \$ 1,805.40 Debt. \$ 1,354.65 Candles: \$ 50.00  
 Christmas Flowers: \$ 40.00 Poor Box: \$ 115.00  
 Attendance SA - 50 Weekly: \$ 842.00 Building Fund: \$ 396.00 Poor Box: \$ 735.00



### ADVENT WREATH

- 1st Candle: (purple),  
The Prophecy Candle
- 2nd Candle: (purple),  
The Bethlehem Candle
- 3rd Candle: (pink),  
The Shepherd's Candle / Joy
- 4th Candle: (purple),  
The Angel Candle / Love
- 5th Candle: (white),  
The Christ Candle

Please check your VIRTUS account to make sure you are current moving into the New Year.

## From the Desk of Fr. Dan

Are you watching the chestnuts roast over an open fire? Is Jack Frost nipping at your nose? Are yuletide carols being sung by a choir and are you dressed up like an Eskimo? So, I'm offering this simple phrase to kids from one to ninety-two (well, at least ninety-three, we can't forget Anna). Although it's been said many times, many ways, Merry Christmas to you.

Did you know that Nat King Cole was the first to record the song in 1946? I'm sure you've heard him sing some of the most beloved Christmas songs of all time, like *The Christmas Song* and *O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree*.

Let's look at the Christmas tree. Why is it such an iconic part of our Christmas traditions? It can be debated all day and night as to when you're supposed to put up your tree; it depends on family traditions. For my family, it was Thanksgiving Day weekend. The tree would go up, be decorated and then my dad and I would go outside and put up the lights so our house looked very festive. As a kid, there was something special about the house decorated for Christmas, don't you think? Even now, although I'm not much on decorating for myself, there is still something magical and beautiful about a Christmas tree and Christmas lights. Although I still don't go all out like it was when I was a kid, I do decorate a little. I even put a tree up this year for Christmas for the first time since I've been here. With that inspiration, let's see why the Christmas tree is so special to so many people around the world.

Due to space, I'm going to look at the spiritual significance of it. We can Google the history of it anytime. Putting up a Christmas tree, and all the other decorations, is part of how we welcome Jesus into our homes and our lives. Christmas trees are supposed to be evergreens because the evergreen represents eternal life. Unlike other trees that lose their leaves in the Fall, the evergreen remains vibrant and alive throughout the year. As such, it symbolizes life that never ends; this life for us is Jesus who offers himself to us.

The lights we put on our trees represent the light piercing the darkness of winter, especially December, the darkest month of the year. The world needs light. By lighting the Christmas tree, it symbolizes the light of Christ shining out into the world, shining out into the darkness, and how the light of Christ chases away sin and death.

The tree is also considered a spiritual compass with its pointy top showing the way to God through the light of the world in Jesus Christ. As we decorate, it becomes a beacon of hope and new life guiding us toward his joyous coming on Christmas Day. By putting a star or an angel on top, it's reminder for us of that hope.

It is said that the ornaments that we put on the tree represent the gifts and graces that Christ brings to us in our lives, and of course He is the greatest gift we could ever receive, and the gifts around the tree symbolize the gifts the Wisemen brought to the baby Jesus. So, as we put up our tree and decorate it and put our presents to one another underneath let us be mindful of what this tree and this time of year mean for us. That we've been given the greatest gift ever and that is the Light of the World, and He gives us eternal life if we but follow Him.

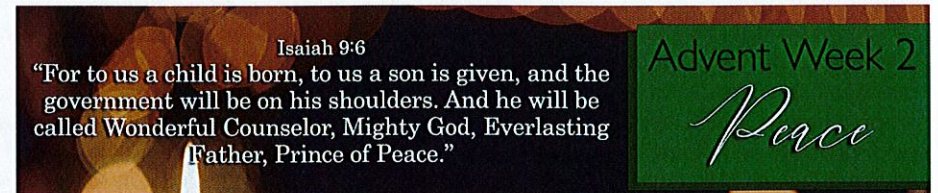
Here ya go:

There's the Christmas sale down at the Lego store... People are lined up for blocks.

"Christmas is so much harder when you get older, don't you agree? 'What do you want this year?' I don't know, maybe a sense of purpose, financial security, I could use more sleep, to be healthy this coming year, and, oh yea, a bottle of wine."

I was born to be wild! But only until about 9:00 PM or so.

See you at the Christmas Party!!



To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org) under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.