



www.holyfamilyportage.org

509 Caldwell Avenue • Portage, PA 15946-1611 • 814-736-4279 • holyfamilyportage@dioceseaj.org

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025

Pastor: Fr. Tom Stabile, T.O.R., Ext. 100

Office Manager: Kelly Yancey, Ext. 101
Asst. Office Mgr. & Cemetery Director: Pam Ellis Ext. 102
Hours: Monday – Friday: 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Phone: 814-736-4279 Fax: 814-736-4764

DRE, C&YP: Sister Vivian N. Nchuaji, SSA, Ext. 104
Plant Manager: Mark Stefanko, Ext. 105
Prayer Chain: Elaine Schaffranek, 814-736-9375
Parish Hall: Ext. 110

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Weekdays: Mass is celebrated at 8 AM Monday through Friday.
Adoration & Benediction Fridays, after the 8 AM Mass.

Confessions are scheduled for Saturdays, from 3 to 3:40 PM and by appointment.

Weekend Masses: Saturday at 4 PM, Sunday, 8 AM and 10:30 AM.

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Sat.	Dec.	13	4:00 pm	+ Ryan A. Steele req. by Karissa Lucas
Sun.	Dec.	14	8:00 am	+Donna Shandor req. by Joe Babiak & Jim Minor
			10:30 am	MASS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Mon.	Dec.	15	8:00 am	+Greta Jones req. by Sacred Heart Ushers Club
	Dec.	15	7:00 pm	PENANCE SERVICE
Tues.	Dec.	16	8:00 am	+Jennifer Schrift req. by Roseanne & Ray Krug
Wed.	Dec.	17	8:00 am	+Marilyn Layo req. by Family
Thurs.	Dec.	18	8:00 am	+Dolores Berger req. by Betty Lazere
Fri.	Dec.	19	8:00 am	+John Prebish, Sr. req. by Wife: Patti Prebish
Sat.	Dec.	20	4:00 pm	+Rita & Sonny Swires req. by Sara & Josie
Sun.	Dec.	21	8:00 am	+Carla Kargo req. by Ray & Family
			10:30 am	MASS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

The Church Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for **John Prebish, Sr.** requested by Patti Prebish.
The Rectory Chapel Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for **Veronica Novak** req. by Joe, Michelle & Angie.

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VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE OFTEN FOR THE LATEST UPDATES. www.holyfamilyportage.org

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END OF THE YEAR SPECIAL TICKETS FUND RAISER...COST IS \$10.00 PER TICKET
\$250 Cash give-a-way December 29 and 30th and \$1,000 give-a-way December 31st The winning number will be determined by the First 7pm pick 3 PA Daily Lottery number. *Tickets are available at the Parish Office and in the vestibule of the church before and after all Masses. 89 Tickets left for sale!! Makes great stocking stuffers!!*

THANK YOU! To all of you for your generous donations to #iGiveCatholic. Our total is \$40,670.00. And a very special THANK YOU to the Sacred Heart Ushers Club for matching up to and including \$15,000 which is included in the \$40,670.00.

Bishop Bartchak would like to remind us to prayerfully consider participating in our diocese’s Vocation Appeal. Over the last few years, our diocese has had too few seminarians to replace our retiring priests, which poses an urgent need for our prayer and actions. To ensure our parishes have priests for the future, our diocese’s Vocation Office has developed a robust plan to reach young men and invite them to consider the priesthood. To learn more about this new plan, and to support financially, visit ajvocation.org/give.

They gave their lives in service – now they need your help. For decades, women and men religious have cared for others, teaching, praying, and serving those in need. Many now face retirement without sufficient savings. Your support ensures they receive the care they deserve. Let us now offer them the dignity they have so selflessly granted to others. Your generosity today is not just a donation – it’s a way of thanking them for their lifelong service. **Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.**

MAKE/KEEP YOUR CONNECTION WITH HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PARISH IN POTAGE, PA. CONSIDER INCLUDING THE PARISH IN YOUR WILL, TRUST, LIFE INSURANCE, OR RETIREMENT PLAN. MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN A BROCHURE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AND ON THE PARISH WEBSITE.

SYMPATHY – Our Parish Family wishes to extend their sincerest sympathy to the families of **Kathleen Petryshak** and **Bernadine Scoran** who recently passed away and to Mary Lou Giles on the loss of her spouse, **Thomas**. May they rest in the peace of the Lord.

PARISH FINANCES – The stats of week 12/07/2025

Sunday/Monthly	\$8,673.00	UP-COMING MEETINGS & EVENTS Dec. 15 – Penance Service 7:00 PM Dec. 15 – K of C Rosary 6:30 PM Meeting 7:00 PM Dec. 21 – Children’s Rehearsal Nativity Presentation 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Dec. 23 – Dress Rehearsal Children’s Nativity 6:00 to 7:30 PM Dec. 29 – Blood Drive – 12:30 to 5:30 PM
Children	15.00	
Loose	83.00	
Holy Day	785.00	
All Saints	10.00	
All Souls	10.00	
Catholic Charities	25.00	
Misssals/Bulletins	146.00	
Energy	35.00	
Retired Religious	<u>190.00</u>	
Total	\$9,972.00	

Religious Education

- **Religious Education class and Mass:** Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025, at 10:30am. The 8th grade class will serve at this Mass.
- **February 14: Post-Confirmation Youth Ministry Workshop.** Do you have a passion for youth? Would you be willing to coordinate youth ministry activities with our parish youth beginning Fall 2026? If you feel called to this ministry, kindly call the Rectory or Sr. Vivian on **814-736-4279, Ext. 104**, to register for the workshop

Child & Youth Protection: All Parish volunteers & personnel are required to have themselves fully cleared. Clearances are to be renewed every **FIVE years**. Stop by the rectory office or Call Sr. Vivian @ 814-736-4279 ext. 104 to check what clearance you need to update. Sr. Vivian will walk you through the process in case you need assistance



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

The third candle is Joy, often marked by a rose-colored candle. Joy is more than happiness; it is rooted in God’s grace. This Sunday reminds believers that even before Christmas arrives, they can rejoice because salvation is near.

Winterfest is this weekend! Look for Holy Family’s Snow Globe parking meter decorations while taking in all the festive activities. A special thank you to the two parishioners who volunteered their time and artistic talent.



Spring Diaconate 2025-2026 classes are being offered in January of 2026 Deadline for Reservation is Friday, Dec. 19, 2025. Saint Paul Apostle to the Gentiles being taught by Deacon Michael Russo via ZOOM. Tuesdays from 6 to 8:30 PM (Running 6 weeks) beginning Jan 6, 2026. Cost for this class is \$35 and a \$20 Material fee.

Writings of John an **IN-PERSON** class taught by Fr. Alan Thomas at St. Mary School in Hollidaysburg on Tuesdays from 6-8:30 PM (Running 6 weeks beginning January 6th. Cost is \$35 and the book on the registration form can be purchased through Amazon. To register please visit www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry, see your Parish Secretary for a registration form or contact Jessica, Office of Adult Enrichment & Lay Ecclesial Ministry at (814) 361-2000.

Holy Name Church Advent Service in Ebensburg: **Sunday, December 14**. All are invited to a special evening of prayer, story and song. The service will feature preludes by the Holy Name Bell Choir beginning at 5:45 PM, followed by the cantata “The Ballad of Bethlehem” performed by the combined Men’s & Women’s choirs. Light refreshments will be served in the Narthex following the service.

PROCLAIM! TO AIR CHRISTMAS SHOW AND MASS

The *Proclaim!* TV Christmas special *Joy to the World: Christmas in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown* will air on Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 p.m. on WWCP FOX 8. The one-hour show will highlight the spirit of Christmas throughout the diocese and include beautiful music from parish and Catholic school choirs, as well as the *Proclaim!* priests' choir. Fr. Tom is participating in this Christmas special!

The *Proclaim!* TV Christmas Mass will air live from Saint John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 4:00 p.m. on WATM ABC 23 with Bishop Mark as celebrant and homilist.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION CALENDAR

DECEMBER: For Christians in Areas of Conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope. Amen.

