

Preparing Our Hearts for Jesus

November 24, 2017

Dear Parishioners of St. John's, St. Lawrence, St. Martin's parish cluster,

In a few days we will begin the season of Advent which is a time of watching and waiting for the celebration of the Nativity of the Christ at Christmas. It is also a reminder that we are also awaiting the Lord's return at the end of time. Advent calls for us to pray and repent of our sins and to give in charity. We have already begun with the giving tree which aids many local families each year along with our continued support of the food pantry and the Lion's Club, the Caring Café, Care Net and the Good News Lunch to name a few. Our Advent Penance service will take place on December 13th at St. John's at 6:00 p.m. this will help us in preparing our hearts in a more personal way for our Christmas celebration.

I'm sure there will also be lots of shopping, decorating and cooking at home. But we need to pace ourselves because Christmas day continues with the Octave of Christmas up to January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. and the Christmas Season which continues until the Baptism of the Lord on January 8th.

This year we have a special gift to our communities. Reverend Mr. Ron Maida was ordained a deacon of the Church on November 25th and is officially assigned to our parish cluster. We congratulate Deacon Ron and offer our prayers for a fruitful and joyful ministry here and the Diocese of Scranton.



May the Lord Jesus bless us with a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fr. Dave