

The Catholic Community of Bradford

*First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024*

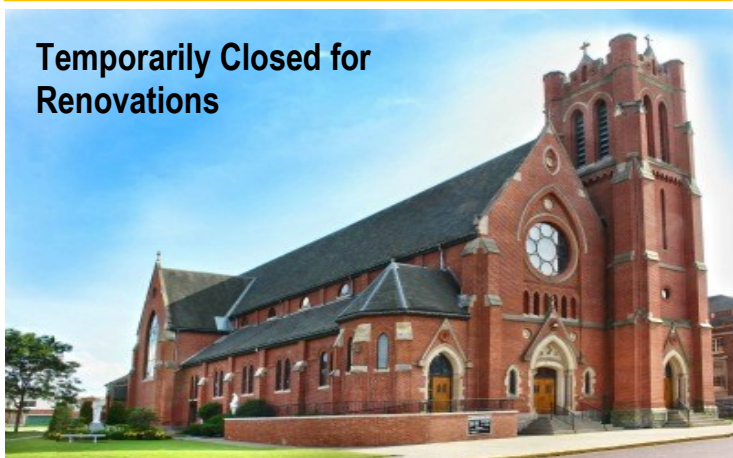
*Rev. John Jacquell
Pastor*

*Rev. Edward Walk
Senior Associate*

95 East Corydon Street
P.O. Box 2394 Bradford, PA 16701-5394

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Temporarily Closed for
Renovations



St. Francis of Assisi



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Website: www.stbernardcatholic.org

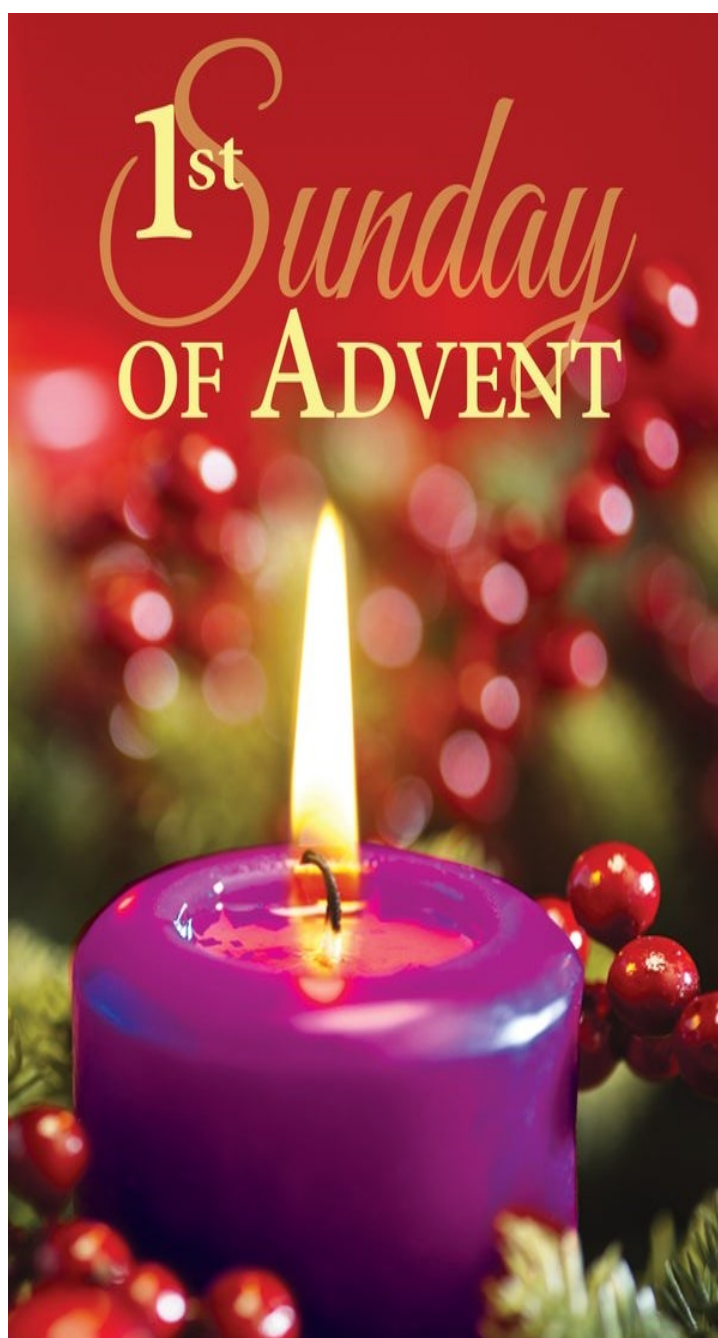
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LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY 10 AM

Youtube.com

St Bernard of Clairvaux, Bradford PA





A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Time again to enter **Advent** – the most neglected season of the year. During these three and a half weeks, we do well to take time to heighten our awareness of Jesus' second coming and prepare ourselves to celebrate the spiritual miracle of God's incarnation in the birth of Jesus, his first coming.

There are so many other things that could distract us from entering fully into these Advent moments, and it will take an abundance of will power and focus to maintain our course. There are so many expectations of how to spend our time, our energies, and our money. Can we be vigilant and keep our priorities?

Shopping, baking, decorating, writing, traveling, television, hearing, partying – we are nearly tapped out! It's the most stressful time of the year. It's the most fattening time of the year, too. It's the most demanding time of the year.

What we need is rest, reflection, quiet, stillness, and prayer. Lest we miss the most important works of the Lord.

You might remember that I have stressed joining the www.adventconspiracy.org before. This is where we light the four candles on our Advent wreaths and 1) Worship Fully, 2) Spend Less, 3) Give More, and 4) Love All. We want to turn our current cultural approach to Christmas upside down AND transform our lives.

Also, as we begin our new "liturgical year," we welcome three people moving toward membership in our Catholic Community. Jordan Mongillo and Devon Poe are seeking Confirmation and full initiation in our church, while Dan Yeager has not yet been baptized and is looking forward to all his sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Let the joy grow!

Fr John

#iGIVECATHOLIC



#GivingTuesday December 3, 2024

"Music for the Advent & Christmas Season" featuring Mr. Alden Wright, organist—Friday, December 6, 2024, 12 Noon, Harriett B. Wick Chapel—University of Pittsburgh at Bradford On **Friday, December 6 from Noon to 1 PM**, Pitt-Bradford will present to the campus and community its **13th Annual Advent and Christmas Organ Recital** on the magnificent Sarah B. Dorn Organ in the Harriett B. Wick Chapel. This year's artist is Mr. Alden Wright, a highly accomplished musician who currently serves as Director of Music & Organist at Christ Church Episcopal in Pittsford, New York. We hope you will make plans to attend and hear the wonderful sounds of the Sarah B. Dorn Organ played by an exceptionally talented and accomplished organist. **Doors open at 11:30 am, and admissions is free.**

ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

Sr Kathleen Dietz, FSO, will be coming to Fr Gallina Social Hall on Saturday, December 7th, to lead us in a morning of prayer and reflection on the themes of Advent. This will be from 10 am until noon. We are hosting this program for women and men from the Bradford Deanery (Potter, McKean, and Warren counties). Mark your calendar!

COMMUNION PROCESSION—please wait for a greeter or usher to approach your pew. You may remain kneeling or seated until that time. We hope that this will increase the reverence of our Eucharistic celebrations.

STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS AT OMPH — The stained-glass windows at Our Mother of Perpetual Help have been removed and will be taken to a church warehouse for distribution elsewhere. We know that some families very much want these as keepsakes. (It seems the same process will be underway for the St Francis Church stained-glass as well.) Please contact the office for more information and availability, if you are interested in one of the OMPH windows.

CEMETERY NEWS *Due to unforeseen circumstances, there is a delay in the opening of the new columbarium. We should be operational before Christmas. Some niches are still for sale.*

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Rosary Altar: TBA
Widow's Group: Wednesday, December 4th @ Noon
K of C #403 : Tuesday, December 10th @ 7:00 pm
Cemetery Board: Wednesday, December 18th @ 11:15 am
Pastoral Council: Tuesday, December 17th @ 6:00 pm
Finance Council: Wednesday, January 8th @ 4:30pm
SF 50+ Club: Wednesday, December 11th @ 11:00 am
Liturgy Committee: Tuesday, December 10th @ 6:30 pm



**The Bradford Council #403
of the Knights of Columbus**
www.koc403.com

meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the parish office.

Please Note: Next meeting on December 10th

Council members are urged to attend, and new members are most welcome.

ATTENTION WIDOWS! We combined November & December meetings into one to be held on Wednesday, December 4th. Rosary at Noon in Divine Mercy Chapel followed by Pot Luck Lunch in Gallina Hall. Please bring a dish to pass and a "white elephant" gift.



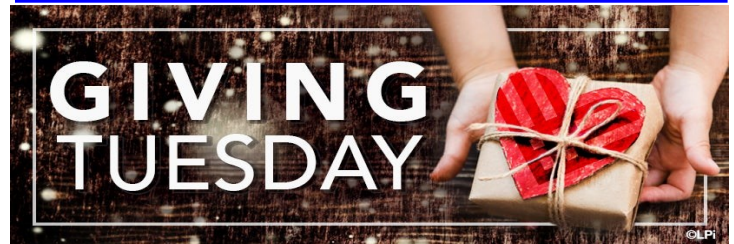
CHRISTMAS FLOAT The float will be assembled in the three stall garage at the rear of the St. Francis parking lot the week of December 2nd. We will meet each night at 6pm until the float is completed. The Christmas Parade is on Friday, December 6th which takes place on Main St. in Bradford. The parade will begin at 6pm.

COLLECTION FOR YWCA: The Knights of Columbus, Bradford Council 403 is partnering with the Zonta Club to collect supplies to support the **YWCA's Victims Resource Center.** Items needed include pillows, socks and underwear in adult and children sizes, laundry detergent, soap, combs, brushes, shampoo and conditioner, feminine hygiene products and grocery gift cards.

Items can be left in a box at the back of the church or at the Parish office. **All items should be dropped off by December 10.** The Knights thank the parish community in advance for their generosity.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.



CHRISTIAN INITIATION We currently have three adults preparing for entry into the full life of the Catholic Church: Jordan Mongillo, Devon Poe, and Dan Yeager. They will be formally received / welcomed as candidates (and Dan as a catechumen) at the 10 am Mass today. Please keep them in your prayers as they make their way to the Easter sacraments.

**ADORATION
OF THE EUCHARIST**



FIRST FRIDAY AT ST. BERNARD

We will have **Confessions on Thursday, December 5th** beginning at 4:30 pm at **St. Francis.** If we need to stretch that beyond 5:00, that's okay. God's mercy knows no boundaries. **First Friday morning, December 6th** we will have Eucharistic Adoration after 8:00 am Mass in the Divine Mercy Chapel until closing at noon with Benediction. We will need to ensure someone will be able to remain in the Chapel, thus there will be a sign-up list near the chapel door.



GRADES 1-5 Will meet on Sunday, December 1st in Gallina Hall at Noon for the Advent Wreath project.
GRADES 6-9 will meet on Sunday, December 8th at Gallina Hall at 5:45 pm.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

There are Christmas Flower envelopes in your November envelope packs. **If you would like to honor a living or deceased family member or friend, write their name on the envelope**, include your donation and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office. If you do not receive envelopes, put your name on a small plain envelope and list your names to be remembered on the back. **Either way make sure to note living (L) or deceased (D) for each name.**



These remembrance requests were due in to the office no later than Sunday, November 24th. Remembrance sheets with these names will be with the Dec. 22nd bulletin.



Due to high demand there will one more Gift Card (SCRIP) order (the last one before Christmas). Forms are available in the back of the church. A percentage of gift card sales goes directly back to the church. This is a great way to give back! **Orders are due by Sunday, December 1st!** Please drop off order forms and payments to the Parish office.



The St. Francis Bell Choir is holding their annual fundraiser, selling tickets to win an authentic, hand-crafted Gingerbread House. Tickets cost \$5.00/each and the winner will be drawn on December 4, at the hand bell concert which takes place in Richie Hall starting at 6pm. Tickets can be purchased from any bell choir member or in the church office. The choir thanks you for your support!

PARENTING POINTERS

At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent appreciates the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Sunday, December 8th - 8am, 10am, 11:30am (regular Sunday Masses) **5:30 pm Vigil Mass**

Monday, December 9th—**8am & 12:10 pm**



Prayer for the First Week of Advent

Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will. Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.

©LPI



CHRISTMAS DINNER — The Women's Club of the Catholic Community of Bradford, along with the St. Francis Rosary Altar, will be meeting at the Bradford Club on Thursday, December 12th for Christmas Dinner. Social gathering is at 5:30 with dinner at 6:00 pm. **We will be collecting items for the YWCA's Victim Resource Center.** Items can include pillows, underwear, socks (men, women & children's) laundry detergent, combs & brushes, shampoo/conditioner, feminine hygiene products, grocery gift cards, etc. Please bring to the dinner on the 12th and we will ensure the items get delivered to the Center. **Please RSVP (if you haven't already) before December 2nd** to either Alicia @ 814-598-5076 or Joanie @ 814-362-3929. The \$20 fee will be collected at the door. Thank you!





PLAQUES STILL AVAILABLE
These would make wonderful Christmas gifts. Church plaque or Altar plaque \$60, both for \$100. Plaques can be seen at the office or at St. Francis Church. Please call the office if interested. They're available for immediate pick-up.



*St. Francis Sanctuary
Candle will be burning this week
in memory of
Andy Pingie*

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the difference between a cross and a crucifix?

Answer: A crucifix always includes Christ's body and a cross does not.

©LPi



What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables.

You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

©LPi

Ministry of Servers for Mass

—With the return to St. Bernard Church, and preparing to celebrate Mass in the renovated space, there is a need to revive the *ministry of server*. The assistance of servers is an important role for the smooth running of the liturgy.

I am asking the parish community to help in two ways: (1) the re-commitment of those who already are servers; and (2) to bring in more volunteers to help in the ministry – volunteers who are **YOUNG OR ADULT, MALE OR FEMALE** – to make our liturgies the best that they can be.

To accomplish this goal, there is a meeting on **Saturday, December 14th at 10:00 am at St. Bernard church** to go over all the responsibilities and steps for serving. The best liturgies are the ones where the parishioners support all the ministries that make up the Mass. Jesus clearly stated that "*the Son of Man has come, not to be served, but to serve.*" Please give serious consideration to our request to be part of this tradition.

Fr Ed

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Total Collection - Needed Weekly: \$10,072

November 17 \$7,075
Campaign for Human Development....\$2,258

2024 Combined CSA Assessment \$89,918
2024 CSA Collected \$59,916

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS**



PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. John B Jacquel, *Pastor*
 Rev. Edward Walk, *Senior Associate*

LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY 10 AM:

You Tube, St Bernard of Clairvaux Bradford

WEBSITE: <https://stbernardcatholic.org/>

FACEBOOK: St Bernard of Clairvaux - Bradford Pa

MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 2394
 Bradford, PA 16701

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am to 4 pm

Gina Davidson, *Business Manager*
 Elaine Doriguzzi, *Administrative Assistant*

CONFESSIONS:

St. Francis — Saturdays from 3:00 to 3:45 pm before
 4:00 pm mass; Thursday before First Friday from
 4:30 to 5 pm; After 9 am mass on Saturdays.

Private appointments may be made by calling the **Parish Office 362-6825.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (REP)

REP Coordinator: Kim VanHorn

Students not attending Catholic school should be enrolled in REP programs. The Bradford Catholic Community Religious Education program is Grades 1—5 & Grades 6—9 (Confirmation). Please call the parish office for more information.

NURSERY: Nursery is available during 10 am Mass at Ritchie Hall. If interested in helping out, even in a limited capacity, please reach out to Ruby Morris at 814-989-0194 or at rubbytmor@gmail.com.



BULLETIN INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED IN WRITING BY NOON ON FRIDAY 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO BULLETIN DATE.

MEMBERSHIP: All Baptized Catholics should be registered, practicing and supporting members of a Parish. Only properly registered members appear on our parish list and are eligible to receive the benefits of parish membership for sacraments. Each parishioner is called upon to practice good stewardship of time, talent and treasure. If you are not currently receiving envelopes, you may not be registered. Call the Parish Office - we would love to meet you!

MARRIAGE: Couples need to contact a priest *at least six months before their wedding*. Registered and active participation needs to be considered before marriage.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

We welcome all inquiries about the Catholic faith. This **RCIA** process begins in the fall of the year. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office to request the Sacrament of the Sick for family members who are seriously ill. Communion for the sick is taken to the hospital, nursing homes, and the home-bound on a regular basis.

BAPTISM: Both parents must attend the Pre-Baptism Preparation Program. Please call the St. Bernard Parish Office for dates and times of upcoming class. Baptisms are scheduled after completing the program. Call the Parish Office to schedule the class and baptism. Godparents must be at least 16, confirmed and active, registered members of their parish.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Liturgical

Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

Organist St. Bernard	Rita Bennardi
Organist St. Francis	Michael Hicks
Resurrection Choir	Joan Raabe
God's Housekeepers	Parish Office
Liturgy	Fr. John B Jacquel

Parish Community

Pastoral Council	Craig Cuthbertson
Catholic Women's Club	Joan Yohe
Rosary Altar Society	Dawn Kozminski
Telephone Prayer Chain	Natalie Marasco (598-5565)

Cover photos of churches by LongArt Photography

WEEK OF DECEMBER 2ND—DECEMBER 8TH
All Masses will now be celebrated at St. Francis during renovations except for the daily Masses in the Divine Mercy Chapel, indicated by SBC in front of the time.

Monday, December 2nd
 SBC 8:00 am Carolyn & Ed Fabric (Family)
 SF 9:00 am Thomas Black (Cindy Greek)

Tuesday, December 3rd
 SF 9:00 am Gloria A. Nahlen (Christine Uslin)

Wednesday, December 4th
 SBC 8:00 am Joseph Cavallaro (Family)

Thursday, December 5th
 SBC 8:00 am Mark Farrell (Sapko, Osgood, Getz Families)
 SF 9:00 am All Parishioners

Friday, December 6th FIRST FRIDAY
 SBC 8:00 am James Colosimo Family (Pat Pascarella)

Saturday, December 7th
 SF 9:00 am Daniel Ward (Family)
 SF 4:00 pm Pat & Mike Pehonsky (Pehonsky Family)

Sunday, December 8th
 SF 8:00 am Brian Lanich (Brian Lanich Family)
 SF 10:00am Louise & Edward Dudick (Family)
 SF 11:30 am Karen Benedict (John & Deb Place)
Weekly confessions: Saturdays after 9 am Mass and 3:00 to 3:45 pm before 4 pm Mass.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 7TH, 2024
Saturday: St. Francis 4:00 pm
Lector: Jim Long
EM: Chris Pehonsky **CUP:** Dick Williams/Peggy Johnson
Servers: Aiden & Sean Kramer

DECEMBER 8TH, 2024
Sunday: St. Francis 8:00 am
Lector: Mike Kozminski
EM: Dawn Kozminski **CUP:** P. Colosimo/C. Greek
Server: David Hill

St. Francis 10:00 am
Lector: Jim Colligan
EM: Teri Everett **CUP:** Lynn Hogue/Beth Mongillo
Servers: Owen Manion & Luke Erickson

St. Francis 11:30 am
Lector: David Ditz
EM: Kim Ditz
CUP: Judy LeRoy/Karen McClain
Server: Dan Cuthbertson



Pray For... Please pray for those who are sick or suffering

Thomas Ackley, Virgil Anderson, Arnold Family, Dianne Barr, Frank Barton, Mary Beth Behan, Nancy Black, Theresa Bond, Sue Bradley, Nancy Bukowski, Tim Burris, Michael Cagney, GiGi Carroll, Dominic "Frank" Cavallero, Dick Clark, Kelly Costello, Melissa Cox, Billie Cummins, Paul & Marianne Curcio, Charlotte Cuthbertson, Jennifer Smith Dawson, Christine DiStrola, Brady Dolan, Denise Douthit, Richard Douthit, James Drumm, Alliyson Feldman, Ferguson Family, Stepheny Franco, Robin Fuller, Pat Geary, Chip Giordano, Pat Girard, Tonya Graves, Anthony Haller, Paul Hamer, Melissa Hannon, John Hart, Kristen Marie Hayes, Jill Henry, Joy James, Craig Johnson, Judy Keenan, Lilly Keesler, Mary Keesler, James Kibby, Bill Kline, Craig Kloss, Bob Kuntz, Chris Lechner, Shirley Lerch, Elizabeth Lindemuth, Harold & Paulette Little, Don Long, Paula Louk, Susan McCann-Piganelli, Pat McCormick, Marilyn Manion, Anita Magnetti, Anthony Magnetti, Mariana Militelo, Lorraine Mueller, Virginia O'Brien, Mary O'Connell, John Pockey, Dan Popiel, Courtney Prentiss, Mary Rae, Donna Rail, Anne Reed, Virginia & Ed Reed, Sandra Remington, Sandy Rhodes, Steve Schmidt, Judy Signor, Steve Skaggs, Eileen Smith, Hailey Smith, Betty Soble, Alex Tingley, Molly Thompson, Carol Vinca, Damion Wasiewski, Philip Weese & Family, Matthew Whelan, Donna Whitford, Beckett Whitney, Corrine Wilson, Lisa Zurat. **May they be strengthened by the healing presence of God's Spirit.**

Readings for the week of December 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/
 1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/
 Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
 Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
 Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/
 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

