



# Bethany Charismatic Catholic Church

**December 2021**

Vol. 25, Issue 12



**Chapel of Mercy**

Bishop: THE MOST REV. RAYMOND CONTOIS  
 Assistant Pastor: FATHER JUDE PAIYAGALA BADUGE DON  
 Deacon: REV. MR. ROBERT MORRISSETTE  
 Deacon: REV. MR. PAUL LAFLAMME

***“At Bethany there is no Past, only the Present and Future Hope !”***

Does your family have any special Christmas traditions? Perhaps you make cookies for all of your friends at the holidays. Or, maybe you volunteer at a soup kitchen, or buy a present for a child that doesn't have as much as you do. I know a couple who started to make their own ornaments because when they were first married they couldn't afford to buy ornaments for their tree. It grew into a family tradition with their children. They made their ornaments out of gold cord and colored glue.

They made different shapes out of the cord, setting them on pieces of plastic wrap and gluing them together to make circles, diamonds, etc. They would also make shapes within the shapes such as stars, swirls, even letters of the alphabet. They let the outlines dry and then used bottles of glue dyed with food coloring to fill in the outlines. The creations were then hung on the tree with ornament hooks.

Before the lights were turned on, the ornaments looked a little dull. However, suddenly with the light, they began to twinkle. It was like having a tree covered in stained glass windows. There was color and sparkling light everywhere. When I think about these ornaments they are special to me because they remind me of my friends' creativity and love but, they also remind of something else. They remind me that Christ is the true reason for this season.

I imagine these ornaments as a way of thinking about all the different people in the world, in all their different colors and uniqueness. Furthermore, just like the ornaments, we need light to see all that is true and right about each person and the real beauty that is there. The light takes the focus away from the little imperfections. In the case of the ornaments, it might keep us from thinking about a place where two colors ran together. In the case of people, it helps us to see what is right about a person, even if he or she is not acting so nicely. Looking for the good in everyone we meet helps us see each person for who they really are. This light, this goodness in each person, is Christ.

Jesus is the One who gave us perfect example and who entreats us to be Christ-like as well. He demonstrated His godliness in all that He said and did. His presence within us gives us life and it is that presence which makes you and me good. It also means that Christ didn't just disappear once Jesus ascended to the Father. Furthermore, we don't have to wait until Christmas to celebrate the light in each of us. We can celebrate it every day, just by seeing what is good, by seeing Jesus in every person we meet.

Even after the Christmas tree comes down, and my friends' glue-and-cord ornaments are put away, I know that the light and color that make Christmas so special never really disappear. Christ, the true light and color of Christmas, is always with me. He can be with you the whole year, too.

In His Light,

Bishop Raymond Contois

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 Just 1 mile off route 20

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**WEEKLY MASSES**

Saturday - - Cancelled  
 Sunday - 9:00 AM \*  
 Wednesday\* - Cancelled



**Dates to Remember  
 December 2021**

**RECONCILIATION & PASTORAL MEETINGS**

By Appointment (413) 324-1164

**December Schedule**

**Eucharistic Ministers      Ministers of the Word**

5th	Clergy Only		Paula M, Beth	
12th	Clergy Only		Ron, Heather	
19th	Clergy Only		Paula M, Jayne	
26th	Clergy Only		Sandy, Beth	

Notify Deacon Paul 24 hours in advance if you are unable to serve.

**Bethany Food Drive**

We will continue collecting non-perishable food items for area food pantries. Please drop off your donations of canned goods and dry goods, and leave them in the foyer. Thank You for your constant generosity.



"Hunger never takes a vacation."



Bethany will begin its tradition of using the "Warming Tree" to collect scarves, mittens, and hats for children who, due to personal circumstances, live in group children's homes. Please join us in our effort to provide warmth-giving clothing to children in need by decorating our "Warming Tree" with your gifts of Winter apparel. Thanks to your generosity last year, many children were blessed with your gifts or warmth.



Through the month of December, we will continue collecting donations for the poinsettias used to decorate the Chapel of Mercy for Christmas. Please help us prepare the chapel to joyfully receive the infant Jesus on Christmas Day.

**CCD Classes**

CCD Classes will be at 10:20 am, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, following mass.



Be sure to Check out our Web Site at [www.bethanyccc.org](http://www.bethanyccc.org) for more information about Bethany Charismatic Church.



12th: SUN. 9:00 AM Lord's Day Mass

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

19th: SUN. 9:00 AM Lord's Day Mass

**4th Sunday of Advent / Poinsettia Sunday**

24th: Fri. 10:00 PM "Midnight" Mass begins

25th: Sat. 9:30 AM "Christmas Day" Mass

26th: SUN. 9:00 AM Lord's Day Mass

Jan. 1st: Sat. 9:30 AM Mary Mother of God



**\*Indoor masses have been resumed.**

**"Social Distancing" rules will be as the state mandates. There will be no holding of hands for the "Our Father" at our masses. The Sign of Peace is non-contact. Likewise, the Chalice will be reserved for the clergy.**



Thank you for your understanding and adherence. **\*(Schedule can change in a moments notice, so please**

5th: SUN. 9:00 AM Lord's Day Mass

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

8th: Wed. 7:00 PM Immaculate Conception of Mary



Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.



**"Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, for He has visited and brought redemption to His people."**

Luke 1:68

