

The Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

10 December 2017

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Vol. 7, No. 2

Prepare the way of the LORD

In this Issue:

Christmas Mass Schedule	3
Decorating Schedule	3
Rector's Ruminations	4
Christian Awareness	5



Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.

This Week

At The Cathedral



SUN 10 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
 (Sat) 6:00 PM Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie
 8:00 AM Mass for Sophie Moses
 9:15 AM First Communion Classes (*Parish Offices*)
 10:30 AM Mass for the Parishioners

MON 11 **Saint Damasus I, pope**
 12:05 PM Mass for Jean Huff

TUE 12 **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**
 12:05 PM Mass for Bartholomew Purpura

WED 13 **Saint Lucy, virgin, martyr**
 12:05 PM Mass for Mary Bartolovich

THU 14 **Saint John of the Cross, priest, doctor of the Church**
 12:05 PM Mass for Mary Lavern Monnes

FRI 15 **Advent Weekday**
 11:15 AM Confessions
 12:05 PM Mass for Ron Radcliffe

SAT 16 **Advent Weekday**
 9:00 AM Mass for Patrick Davis
 9:30 AM Rosary
 5:00 PM Confessions
 6:00 PM Mass for the Parishioners

SUN 17 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
 8:00 AM Mass for Helen Pasden
 9:15 AM First Communion Classes (*Parish Offices*)
 10:30 AM Mass for Robert Burke



Second Sunday of Advent
 Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
 Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

Our readings from Holy Scripture on this Second Sunday of Advent remind us of what we are supposed to be doing during Advent, in fact, throughout our lives. The reading from Isaiah anticipates the coming of Christ and John the Baptist as it proclaims "... prepare the way of the Lord." This is a time of preparation for us.

That message is repeated in our Gospel from St. Mark. Today's Gospel is the absolute beginning of Mark's Gospel and it immediately gives us that same signal by declaring, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Of course, we all realize that the path to the Lord may not always be straight for us, but now is a time to correct that.

God is waiting for us. St. Peter in his Second Letter, from which our Second Reading is drawn, indicates that God, however, "is patient with you." You might say on this Second Sunday of Advent that the Lord is giving us a second chance to respond to His call.

One of the basics of St. John the Baptist's messages was that we need to get ourselves right with the Lord, perhaps turn our lives in a different direction. We can change; now is the time to do that.

Pope St. John XXIII once stated during a homily in Advent, "We are all part of an immense family. This is proven by what is in our hearts during Advent and Christmas." Now is the time to put love in our hearts and to truly prepare the way of the Lord.



Our Lady of Guadalupe - December 12

The Church throughout America (North, Central, and South) celebrates on December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. It is a feast in the United States of America, but in many Hispanic countries, such as Mexico, it is raised to a solemnity.

The story of the origins of the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is well known. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatocatzin was a quiet, humble man, a poor peasant. When the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to tell the local bishop to build a church in her honor, Juan Diego became a very reluctant messenger. The bishop would not believe him. So Mary filled Juan Diego's tilma, or cloak, with roses in December, and when he emptied out these beautiful flowers at the bishop's feet, there, imprinted on his tilma, was a wonderful image of the Virgin, dressed like a young Aztec woman.



Pope Francis has spoken several times on his devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, observing: "In Mary we find the faithful reflection not of a poetically sweetened faith, but of a strong faith especially at a time when the sweet enchantments of things are broken and there are contradictions in conflict everywhere."

December - Month of the Divine Infancy

During this month of December, as we look forward to Christmas, we recall the Divine Infancy of Christ. Devotion to the Infant Jesus is to marvel at His having humbled Himself by taking on a human nature, subjecting Himself to all that flesh is heir to (minus the effects of original sin, of course), even subjecting Himself to the earthly authority of Mary and Joseph. Many of the heroes and heroines of our Faith had a special devotion to the Child Jesus, some even having been blessed by visions of Him as a boy. St. Christopher, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Teresa of Avila, St. Rose of Lima, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Francis of Assisi with his creche, and, of course, Our Lady and St. Joseph, are particularly associated with the Divine Child and many are pictured with Jesus as a child in art. Through prayer, let the humble and peaceful ways of the Divine Child Jesus become ours as we strive to serve and love as he continues to do.



Christmas at the Cathedral Mass Schedule

The *Fourth Sunday of Advent* will be observed on
Saturday evening, December 23, at 6:00 p.m.,
and Sunday morning, December 24, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
and 10:30 a.m.

Please join us as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Savior:

<i>Christmas Eve</i> Mass at 6:00 p.m. and Midnight	<i>Christmas Day</i> Mass at 10:30 a.m.
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There is an obligation to participate at Mass for both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and for Christmas this weekend. Attendance at one Mass does not fulfill both obligations.

In your charity, please keep in your prayers:

Annie Midcap, Arthur Danehart, Austin Cook, Barb Mazzocca, Betty Teater, Bill Wilson, Bob Armstrong, Bob Jones, Brogan Gallentine, Caleb Hlebiczki, Charles Heizer, Children of the Youth Services System, Chuck Fair, Darleen Williams, David A. Kress, Jr., Dustin Ronevich, Eva Wood, Father Joseph Wilhelm, Frank Davis, Fred Herink, Gail Koch, George Kirchner, Haley Carter, Hines Rotrigo, Jack Jochum, Jr., James Benner, Jane Rudari, Marlene Martin, Janet Cupp, Janie, Jean and Chuck Schultz, Jim Antill, Jim and Dee, Jimmy Hocking, John Petrella, Jon-Michael Lasher, Judy Pack, Julia Sheets, Kathy Cooley, Kermit Klosterman, Liam Manning, Lukie Brown, Margaret Stocke, Mark Davis, Martha Yocum, Mary Alice Florio, Mary Ann Fowler, Mary K. Schlosser, Mary Shutler, Mary Walicki, Michael DeBlasis, Milissa Rose, Milly Burke, Mona Wurtzbacher, Norma Bosold, Patricia Kaliszcz, Pete Mack, R. J. Stocke, Richard Simon, Rick Burgy, Ron Hickman, Rosalie Davis, Sarah Hanasky, Sarah Sargent, Shawn Thomas, Shirley DeCaria, Stanley Kyrck, Stephanie Bugaj, Susan Graff, Susan Mize, Susan Schulte, Tammy, Thelma Pearson, Thomas Griffith, Trystan Timmons



Catholic
Charities
West Virginia

Annual Appeal

If one suffers in poverty, we all suffer. Throughout the Mountain State, Catholic Charities West Virginia (CCWVa) provides vital assistance to the forgotten elderly, the hungry children and the people struggling paycheck to paycheck. Annual contributions to the second collection on Christmas directly impact the amount of assistance and quality of service CCWVa provides in our service region of which our parish is a part.

Pope Francis recently observed the first World Day of the Poor on November 19th. He reminded us that we are all one in the Body of Christ and we must care for the suffering within the Body. Please support the good works that Catholic Charities West Virginia is doing on our behalf for the poor and suffering. Contributions may be made online at www.CatholicCharitiesWV.org, mail to 2000 Main Street, Wheeling, WV 26003 or in the second collection on Christmas.

Weekly Collection

December 3, 2017

Envelopes: \$3259 Loose: \$637

Online: \$278

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Rector's Ruminations

Advent

BY REV. MSGR. KEVIN M. QUIRK

Last Sunday, we began the season of Advent, (derived from the fourth principal part of the Latin verb *advenio* and meaning, roughly, “coming” or “needing to come”, is the period of expectant waiting and preparation both for the coming of Christ at the end of time and for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ, in other words, the period immediately before Christmas. The Latin *adventus* is a rough and ready translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used in reference to the Second Coming. Advent serves a dual reminder of the original waiting that was done by the Hebrews for the birth of their Messiah as well as the joyful waiting we endure until Christ comes again, looking to the example of our Hebrew fathers in faith as an example of how to wait expectantly for Christ.

Indeed, the focus of the entire season is the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent, culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. One of my favorite liturgical writers, Pius Parsch, once said: “It would be wrong to make Advent a sort of sentimental preview of Christmas, as is commonly done in civic and commercial centers. There is more to Advent-Christmas than a few ethical applications. True, we can no longer yearn for Christ’s first coming since it is past. Nonetheless, we can put such desire in the service of grace. And through grace Christ comes to us in a manner symbolized by His first coming. His earthly life and work foreshadowed His work in the Church and in the soul. Every year, therefore, we should long for and prepare

for His coming in grace, using the data or symbols of His first coming, His birth and infancy. For grace, although already within us, can come to us again and again and in fuller measure.”

The Season of Advent is a kind of “mystery play” in which the great themes of salvation are laid out in the scenes of the Church’s liturgy, exposing to public view the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate.

In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes our spiritual journey, as we affirm that Christ has come, that He is present in the world today, and that He will come again in power. This Season gives us the profound sense that we live “between the times” and are called to be faithful stewards of what is entrusted to us as God’s people. We celebrate God’s breaking into history in the Incarnation, and anticipate a future consummation to that history for which “all creation is groaning awaiting its redemption;” we also confess our responsibility as a people commissioned to “love the Lord your God with all your heart” and to “love your neighbor as yourself,” asking continually for the outpouring of grace through the Coming Christ that we might be able to fulfill the Great Commandments.

Our hope is that God will come and come again into our world to reveal himself as a God of newness, of possibility, a God of new things. This time of year we contemplate that hope embodied, enfleshed, incarnated, in a newborn baby, the perfect example of newness, potential, and possibility. During Advent, we groan and long for that newness with the hope,

the expectation, indeed the faith, that God will once again be faithful to see our circumstances, to hear our cries, to know our longings for a better world and a whole life. And we hope that as he first came as an infant, so he will come again as King!

Some particulars about Advent may serve as well: Advent is four Sundays, not four weeks, in length. In the Roman Catholic calendar, Advent starts on the 4th Sunday before December 25; in other words, the Sunday between November 27 and December 3 inclusive. With the way in which the calendar falls this year, Advent is truly just four Sundays, the day after the 4th Sunday of Advent being Christmas day itself.

The First Sunday of Advent is the beginning of the Western Christian Year – it is the boundary point or lintel between the old and the new. Thus, a wonderful Advent symbol is the A and Ω of Jesus, who says of himself: “I am the Alpha and the Omega [the first and the last, the beginning and the end],” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (Rev 1:8 & 22:13, see also Isaiah 44:6). In keeping with the marker of the new Liturgical Year, the First Sunday of Advent marks the time when the Gospel used for Sunday readings changes. This year is the Marcan Cycle (Year B) – most of the Sunday Gospels will be taken from St. Mark, though augmented from time to time by selections from St. John.

The progression of Advent may be marked with an Advent calendar reckoning Advent to start on 1 December, a practice introduced by German Lutherans. The progression may also be marked by an Advent Wreath, with four candles lighted successively to mark each of the Sundays. In the next

**See “Ruminations”
on Page 7**



Christian Awareness

The Birth of Christ

BY ALEX NAGEM

Me: Good morning God. Do you have time to listen to me this morning?

God: There is always time to listen to my children. I wish they would have more time to listen to me. What is on your mind, as if I didn't already know?

Me: I was reading about the birth of Jesus. There are conflicting dates of the birth. Some historians say the birth was in the spring, some say late summer and others say in early winter. Why can't we tell for sure? Why is it difficult to calculate? But maybe the date of birth is not as important as knowing and believing Jesus lived and died for us.

God: Do you remember the date of birth of most people you know, or do you remember what they have accomplished, who they have helped and influenced in their life? A date allows for a point in time to celebrate anything you want to remember. But shouldn't you be celebrating my Son's birth every day? Shouldn't you be generous to others every day? Shouldn't you be like my Son and be a provider of peace every day? Listen to my words about greed. My Son told you not to worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, or what you will wear. My Son prayed to Me each day. How often do my children pray to me? This is why I tell you to remember the life of Jesus so you can follow a perfect example in your own life.

Me: Accomplishment, helping others, generosity and being watchful as not to be overcome by greed. All I wanted to know was the date Jesus was born. Shouldn't we know the date so we can prepare ourselves?

God: Prepare yourselves? Interesting

question you have asked, my child. How do you prepare yourself each day for what is to come? Do you pray for guidance? Do you follow the teachings of the Bible? Can you even repeat the teachings? I am saddened by what I see my children do to each other and how they behave. So I give them signs to help bring them back to the fold. There is kindness in every heart that beats. I placed it there. It is up to my children to find it and use it toward others. There are many who are to be examples of this kindness. They may be the quiet one in the room or the loudest. They are the ones who will bring the kindness out in everyone.

Me: But this time of year as we near the date we celebrate the birth of Jesus, people seem more happy, caring and generous. This can't be all in our minds.

God: You have seen many years of life but upon occasion still think like a child. You can feel this way every day. Every day can be the beginning of your season of miracles. You should celebrate the birth of Jesus every day, not just once a year. You should celebrate His overcoming of death and rise to life every day as well. You tell your children to be good since Santa Claus is watching. Shouldn't you instead tell them to be good since I am watching? Now wouldn't that be a better approach to having your children be more concerned with God?

Me: You always give me more to think about. I would say that I should keep my thoughts and questions to myself, but I already know the response I would receive. As for kindness, I do see it every day along with all that is opposite.

God: If you greet everyone with kindness, and return kindness to all, even those who are not kind, you are celebrating the birth of Jesus. A date of birth then becomes insignificant. You must first believe he lived as my Son on earth. You must believe the words Jesus spoke are true. You must also believe that His death and resurrection saved you from an inconceivable hell. But it is still up to you to follow the teachings of my Son. So as for the actual date to celebrate Christmas, I want you to remember and celebrate my Son's birth every day. For all will be lost if the celebration is only for one day a year.

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you," Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

You are remembered in prayers as I hope I am remembered in yours.

"Vocatus Atque Non Vocatus, Deus Aderit" 🙏



"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

-Pope Benedict XVI

Scripture Readings

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Week of December 10

Monday

Isaiah 35:1-10
Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14
Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday

Zechariah 2:14-17
(Ps) Judith 13:18, 19
Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday

Isaiah 40:25-31
Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10
Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday

Isaiah 41:13-20
Ps 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13
Matthew 11:11-15

Friday

Isaiah 48:17-19
Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Ps 80:2, 3, 15-16, 18-19
Matthew 17:9, 10-13

Sunday

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
(Ps) Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Weekly Devotions at the Cathedral

The following devotions are prayed each week following the 12:05 pm Mass:

Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday

Litany of Saint Joseph
Wednesday

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Fridays

The Holy Rosary
Saturdays after the 9 am Mass



This Week with the Saints

December 11 - As pope, **Saint Damasus I** (c.306-384) commissioned his secretary, St. Jerome, to revise the Latin Bible in use at that time by translating the Old Testament from the Hebrew rather than the Greek version. The Vulgate remained the standard Latin translation until 1979. Damasus presided over the Council of Rome, at which the canon of scripture, or recognized books in the Bible, was set. He fought to counteract Apollinarianism, an over correction to Arianism that de-emphasized Christ's humanity. He is also known for the verses he composed to adorn the tombs of the martyrs in Rome.



December 13 - **Saint Lucy** (c.283-304), even from a young age, had a burning desire to serve God and an infinite love for the poor. Living in Syracuse, a city in Sicily, she fell prey to the Diocletian persecutions, which eventually resulted in her martyrdom. She resisted a man, believed to be a Roman soldier, who tried to rape her. He, in turn, denounced her as a Christian and had her tortured and killed. Numerous legends revolve around her death, but one that has gained popularity is that she tore out her eyes in an act to resist her attacker. Her name in Latin, *Lucia*, comes from *lux*, *lucis*, meaning light; therefore, many northern countries honor her at this time of year when darkness is pervasive. Sweden celebrates the virginity and martyrdom of St. Lucy during a festival of light with a sacred procession of young girls clothed in white dresses with red sashes, and crowned with lit candles. *Patronage*: those with eye troubles; Sicily

December 14 - **Saint John of the Cross** (1542-1591, grew up near Avila in poverty. His father died when he was young, and his widowed mother struggled to support the family. Shortly after his ordination in 1567, he met Teresa of Avila and was drawn into her reform of the Carmelites. The reform set Carmelite brother against brother, and John was even imprisoned but used the time to write the *Spiritual Canticle*. For this, and for his other great work, *Dark Night of the Soul*, he is considered one of the greatest poets to write in Spanish. *Patronage*: contemplatives



*All holy men and women,
Saints of God,
pray for us!*



Photos by Judy Miller

During Children's Liturgy of the Word on Sunday, December 3, the children began the season of Advent creating their own personal Advent Wreaths - each one uniquely different and beautiful. Children's Liturgy of the Word is celebrated each Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All children are invited to attend and journey through the season of Advent together.



Ruminations ... Cont'd from Page 4

installment of the Ruminations, more will be said about the Advent Wreath. For the time being, please see this year's noble version of the Wreath placed in front of the baptismal font.

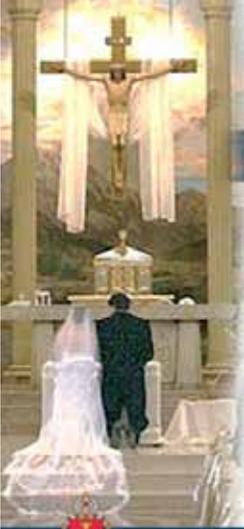
The theme of readings for the first weeks of Advent is to prepare for the Second Coming while commemorating the First Coming of Christ at Christmas.

With the view of directing our thoughts to the first coming of Jesus Christ as Savior, and to his second coming as Judge, special readings are prescribed for each of the four Sundays.

For the liturgical vestments of the Season, a darker purple (sometimes called "Royal Purple") is used whereas in Lent the color is often a reddish purple ("Roman Purple"). On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, Rose is used, since this Sunday takes on

a more joyous tone. Finally, the Great Days of Advent, December 17-24, mark the singing of the Great Advent "O Antiphons," which form the basis for each verse of the popular Advent hymn, "O come, O come, Emmanuel."

If you have a question for The Rector's Ruminations, please share it with our editor, Mr. Tyler Greenwood (tgreenwood@dwc.org). 🌱



*Marriage Preparation
for Engaged Couples*

A New One-Day Retreat

Saturday, January 13th, 2018
8:30a.m.-8:00p.m.

St. Michael Parish | **\$40 per person**
1225 National Rd. | (includes materials
Wheeling, WV | and 3 meals)

Register and pay online at:
WVMarriage.org/RegisterPFCM

Advanced registration required. No registration accepted day of event.

Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, Department of Formation and Mission



**Central Catholic
High School**
Wheeling, WV • est. 1865

News

- ❖ Another round of Mr. Perdziola's Math Skills Class begins on Saturday, January 27, 2018. ACT/SAT prep, test preparation and everyday problem solving for students in grades 7-12. Contact Mr. Perdziola at tperdziola@cchsknights.org for more information.
- ❖ Remember that you can follow all the action of the Maroon Knights by going to NFHS.com and searching for CCHS events. If you can't make it to a game, our students bring it home to you!



**BROADCAST OF THE
SUNDAY MASS AT 11 A.M.**

WTRFDT-ABC (GTRF):	WBOYDT2 (EBOY):
Comcast	DirecTV
Ch 4 & Ch 804 (HD)	Ch 13
DirecTV	Dish
Ch 6	Ch 52
Dish	Spektrum
Ch 10	Ch 14 & Ch 118, 711 (HD)
Bellaire Cable	Suddenlink
Ch 13	Ch 13 & Ch 104 (HD)
Over the Air: Ch 7.3	



Prepare your hearts.
Prepare the Way of the Lord.

The season of Advent invites each of us to prepare for Christ's coming. What better way to do this than by experiencing the abundance of God's grace made available in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Confession is celebrated regularly at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph each Friday from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and on Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Msgr. Frederick Annie, ext. 267, or Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, 270. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



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1218 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 233-4121
www.saintjosephcathedral.com



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PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. James Carroll
FINANCE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. John Petrella
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULER

Masses

Sundays: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday)
8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Weekdays: 12:05 p.m. Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. Saturday

Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin

Confessions

Friday 11:15-11:45 a.m.

Saturday: 5:00-5:45 p.m.
or by appointment



BAPTISMS / INITIATION

Both Baptism and the Rite of Initiation for Adults can be arranged by contacting the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to arrange for a visit.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.
Please notify the parish office of address changes through the parish office or by visiting the website.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements for the Courier must be submitted to Debbie Fahey by email to dfahey@dwc.org by noon on Monday (5 days prior to publication).

