

Lottery Calendars

If you are in need of a last minute stocking stuffer, consider purchasing a Lottery Calendar for the month of February. Calendars may be purchased only at the parish office at this time, they will be available in the back of the church during the month of January.

Prayer Shawl Retreat

We warmly invite women from around the Diocese to join us as we gather at the Diocesan Center for our third Prayer Shawl Retreat on Saturday, January 21, 2017 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. The program, hosted by the Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Organization Commission, will include Mass, prayer, knitting / crocheting, fellowship and lunch. You are welcome to attend even if you are a beginner and would like to be part of this time of fellowship and sharing. While the program is free, advance registration is required so that we can arrange a comfortable work area and plan for lunch. Please call Kathy Kokoski at [717-448-8899](tel:717-448-8899) or Deb Black at [717-514-8815](tel:717-514-8815) or email them at kakoko120@comcast.net or mvdb01@verizon.net. Please register early as space is limited. **Deadline is Friday, January 6, 2017.**

The Meaning

of the

Candy Cane

Look at the Candy Cane

What do you see?

Stripes that are red

Like the blood shed

for me

White is for my Savior

Who's sinless and pure!

"J" is for Jesus

My Lord, that's for sure!

Turn it around

And a staff you will see

Jesus my shepherd

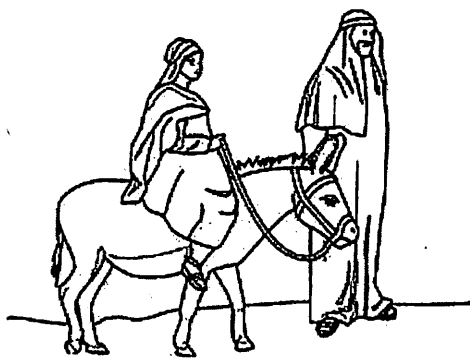
Was born for me!



"You'll know tonight." It was a few days before Christmas. A woman woke up one morning and told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Christmas. What do you think this dream means?" "Oh," her husband replied, "you'll know the day after tomorrow." The next morning, she turned to her husband again and said she had the same dream, and received the same reply. On the third morning, the woman woke up and smiled at her husband, "I just dreamed again that you gave me a pearl necklace for Christmas. What do you think this dream means?" And he smiled back, "You'll know tonight." That evening, the man came home with a small package and presented it to his wife. She was delighted. She opened it gently. And when she did, she found – a book! And the book's title was *The Meaning of Dreams*. Today's Gospel tells us how Joseph had a dream and how he reacted to it.

Like Joseph, we need to trust in God, listen to Him and be faithful.

Although we may face financial problems, job insecurity, tensions in the family and health concerns, let us try to be like St. Joseph, trusting and faithful. Instead of relying on our own schemes to get us through life, let us trust in God and be strengthened by talking to Him in fervent prayer and by listening to Him speaking through the Bible.



We need to experience Emmanuel in our lives and change the world:

The Good News and the consoling message of Christmas is that the Child Jesus still waits today to step into our hearts – your heart and mine – and to change us and the world around us by the beauty of God's love, kindness, mercy and compassion. Let us take some time to welcome the Christ Child into our hearts and lives this week, so that He may change our world of miseries with the beauty of that love.

Do we have any gift for our "Birthday Boy?" Let us check to see if Jesus is on *our* list this Christmas and if we have a special gift in mind for him. A heart filled with love for God and our fellow-human beings is the birthday gift which Jesus really wants from us. Hence, let us prepare our heart for Jesus, filling it with love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness on this Christmas and every day of our lives.

Let us be a Christmas gift to others: The greatest gift we can give to those we love, is to have faith in them, believe in their dreams and try to help them realize them. We need to believe in the dreams of our husband, wife, children, parents, heroes, leaders and friends, then try our best to help them realize those dreams.

From the writings of Gregory Nazianzen

Let us become like Christ, since Christ became like us. Let us become divine for his sake, since he for ours became [human]. He assumed the worst that he might give us the better; he became poor that we through his poverty might be rich; he took upon himself the form of a servant that we might receive back our liberty; he came down that we might be exalted; he was tempted that we might conquer; he was dishonored that he might glorify us; he ascended that he might draw us to himself, who were lying low in the fall of sin. Let us give all, offer all, to him who gave himself a ransom and reconciliation for us.

BINGO

Bingo will be held Tuesday, January 3, 2017.
Doors open 4:30PM. Game begins 6:00PM.

Please note there will not be Bingo on
December 20 & 27.

Bingo Workers & Bakers

Cakes or pies are always needed for Bingo
on Tuesday evenings. Drop off your baked
goods at the Activity Center during the day on
any Tuesday. Men and women are most
welcome to assist with working the floor!

Adoration at St. Pauline Center

Eucharistic Adoration is held at the St. Pauline
Center Fridays from noon until 10:00PM and
Saturdays from 5:00AM to 7:00PM. The Chaplet of
Divine Mercy is prayed in the chapel on Fridays at
3:00PM

Holy Angels Pool Winner

December 6, 2016

Jeff K \$77.00

Altar Server Schedule

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00PM Sarah Cooper, Hannah Nolter

Jessica Whalen, Donald Whalen

6:00PM Angel Barwicki, Emily Olszewski,

Tanner Greco,

9:30PM Bailey Little, Austin Cole, Marshall

Mirarchi IV, Kaden Hine

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

9:30AM Emma Shimko, Noah Shimko

Daniel Vincenzes

Adult Choir

Choir practice will be held on Wednesday,
December 21 at 7:00PM. The choir will sing the
9:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve.

PREP Classes

Sunday, December 18, 2016

for Grades 6, 7, 8 at 9:00AM

Monday, December 19, 2016

for Grades 1-5 at 5:30PM

BUY YOUR GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS AT LOURDES!

Did you know that you can buy all your gift cards
for the holidays at Lourdes and help a student/family
with their tuition? We have gift cards/certificates for
almost every local and national store. No more
running to the mall! Remember there is no "out of
pocket cost" to you. When you purchase
certificates/gift cards, you receive "dollar for dollar"
exchange. Example: If you purchase a \$50 gift card
from Weis you receive \$50 face value to be used any
time you shop at Weis. If you do not use the full value
of the card on one shopping trip, the balance remains
on the card for future purchases. The Lourdes
student/family will receive 3% toward their tuition
payment. If you do not know a current student/family,
we have needy families who could really use your
help! It's a WIN-WIN!

A complete list of participating businesses can be
obtained from the Tuition Sense Office, or see it
online at www.lourdes.k12.pa.us. If you have any
questions call the Tuition Sense Office at (570) 644-
0375 Extension 116.

Reflections in Word and Music will be presented
at Holy Angels Parish on December 18 at
1:30PM. Jacob Frasch, a classical pianist will
perform at the service. Brief Scripture readings
and reflections will be included in the presentation.
Light refreshments will follow. ALL ARE
WELCOME.

Retrouvaille

You Can Help Your Marriage - 25% of surveyed
couples say they are "Happily Married". For everyone
else there is Retrouvaille. Are you frustrated or angry
with each other? Do you argue.....or have just stopped
talking to each other? Does talking about it make it even
worse? Retrouvaille helps couples rebuild their
marriages. For information or to register for the
Harrisburg program beginning with a weekend on
January 13-15, 2017, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit the
web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com

Hershey Bears Tickets-Everyone is invited to join our
Catholic Schools at The Tenth Annual Catholic Diocese
of Harrisburg Night with the Hershey Bears Hockey
Team, Saturday, February 4, 2017 at 7 p.m. Tickets are
discounted to \$14.50 for all ages over 2. Regular
admission is \$20. The evening will begin with the
Bishop McDevitt Choir singing the National Anthem
prior to game start time. Ticket order forms are
available at the Parish Office for those interested in
ordering. **DEADLINE TO ORDER** is Monday, January
30, 2017. For more information, contact Janet Dise at
jdise@HersheyPA.com

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

4:00PM, 6:00PM, 9:30PM

All are invited to the Church Hall after the
9:30PM Mass for Christmas Snacks!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

9:30AM



NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2016

5:30PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

8:30 & 10:30AM

Introduction to Scripture

An introduction to Scripture course will be offered
at Divine Redeemer Church in Mount Carmel for all
catechists of CCD, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional
School, and any interested person. Mr. Joe Mullen from
St. Columba in Bloomsburg will be the presenter. The
classes run on Mondays for 4 weeks, Jan. 9th, Jan. 16th,
Jan. 23rd, and Jan. 30th. They begin at 6:30PM and end
at 9:00PM with a break in between. The cost of the
course is \$25.00. Sometimes your church or school will
cover the cost; make sure you ask them. If you have any
questions, phone 570 339 3450 ask for Betty Ann or
email credrc@ptd.net.

Church of the Holy Angels

December 18, 2016, Fourth Sunday of Advent

855 Scott Street, Kulpmont, PA 17834-1811
 Phone: (570)373-1221 Fax: (570)373-1226
 email: oneangel@ptd.net

WEBSITE: www.HolyAngelsKulpmont.org

**MASSES OF OBLIGATION: SATURDAY 5:30PM
 SUNDAY 8:30AM & 10:30AM**

**CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 4:00PM-5:00PM
 PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

**MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 9:00AM-4:00PM
 OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAYS**

**Rev. Andrew Stahmer, Pastor
 Deacon Thomas Conlin**

Mary Kay Bartol, Secretary, Organist, Choir Director
 Joette Foris, Director of Religious Education, Guitarist
 Robert Balonis, Maintenance
 Elaine Lutz, Office Volunteer

Parish Mission Statement

We, the family of Holy Angels Parish, a diverse community of ethnic and cultural backgrounds, are united through the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Word of God to all peoples by following the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Working together in wisdom and love we commit ourselves in the following ways: protecting the unborn; fostering faith development in our youth; planting new seeds of evangelization throughout our parish family through prayer, spiritual works, education and outreach activities; ministering to the needs of our aging parishioners; promoting holiness through celebration of the sacraments, worship in liturgy, communal prayer, and our faith traditions.

Through these actions rooted in charity and mercy, we pledge to pass on our customs and beliefs to future generations, thus preserving our faith traditions for the greater glory of God and as a sign of Christ's love.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17

**8:00am Robert Bartol
 5:30pm People of the Parish**

Sunday, December 18

**8:30am Deceased of the Cherneski and
 Shalongo Families
 10:30am Helena Kaszytski**

Monday, December 19

8:00am Barbara & Louis Deromedi

Tuesday, December 20

8:00am Daniel Wengrenovich

Wednesday, December 21

7:00am Kathleen York

Thursday, December 22

6:30pm Teresa Mirarchi

Friday, December 23

8:00am Joseph P. Foris

Saturday, December 24

8:00am Eugenie A. Harlow

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00pm Special Intention

6:00pm Special Intention

9:30pm People of the Parish

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

9:30am Special Intention

A Dime at a Time	
Current Debt	\$168,264.97
Dime at a Time	\$92.10
Plus 1 (+1) Contributions	\$46.00
Debt Reduction	\$28.00
Balance	\$168,098.87

Sacrificial Offering

Weekend of December 11, 2016

Sunday Offering Envelopes	\$4,216.00
Youth Offering	\$59.00
Loose Cash	\$265.00
Energy	\$42.00
Thanksgiving	\$16.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1,280.00
Immaculate Conception (loose)	\$84.00

Amount Budgeted	\$8,333.00
Amount Contributed	\$5,962.00
Weekend of December 11	-\$2,371.00

Votive Candles	\$176.00
Air Conditioning Maintenance	\$303.00

Improvement Fund	
Previous Balance	\$9,955.00
Weekend of December 11	+203.00
Current Balance	\$10,158.00

Diocesan Collections	
Matthew 25	\$16.00
Military Collection	\$20.00
Retirement for Religious	\$345.00

Vigil Lights

December 18 thru December 24

Sanctuary Light: *In loving memory of Ronald Zsido by Flo & Family*

St. Anthony: *In loving memory of Deceased of the Fodor Family by Sandy*

St. Anne: *In loving memory of Helen Cupsta by son, Robert*

St. Casimir: *In loving memory of Aaron Ziegler by Mom & Dad*

St. Theresa: *In loving memory of Helen Thomas by husband, Clem*

St. Kateri: *In loving memory of Vendel Petrovicz by Pearl Petrovicz*

St. Marziale: *In loving memory of Elaine Duran by husband, Michael*

Sacred Heart: *In loving memory of Martha Ann Weidman by Pearl Petrovicz*

Calendar

Monday

December 19
Advent Weekday
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a
Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday

December 20
Advent Weekday
Is 7:10-14
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday

December 21
Advent Weekday
Sg 2:8-14
or Zep 3:14-18a
Lk 1:39-45

Thursday

December 22
Advent Weekday
1 Sm 1:24-28
Lk 1:46-56

Friday

December 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
Lk 1:57-66

Saturday

December 24
Advent Weekday
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12,
14a, 16
Lk 1:67-79

Sunday

December 25
The Nativity of the Lord
Is 52:7-10
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18
or 1:1-5, 9-14

Dear Padre,

Why is St. Joseph called “the Worker?” Shouldn’t he be honored primarily as the father of Jesus?

Devotion to St. Joseph has developed along an interesting path. It was not until the eighth century that Joseph, underneath the title “Spouse of Mary,” was even publicly acknowledged—except perhaps as an afterthought or silent participant in the Christmas story. The Church has always acknowledged that Joseph’s relationship with Jesus was unique, but there was, and continues to be, reluctance to call him the father of Jesus. We understand the father of Jesus is not Joseph but rather God the Father.



A consensus about Joseph’s role in the plan of salvation seems to be in place by the early fourteenth century. In 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Joseph the patron of the universal Church. By the early twentieth century, worldwide devotion had found a home at St. Joseph’s Oratory in Montreal.

The title of “the Worker” was used most often by Pope Pius XI in his references to Joseph as the patron of the Church’s battle against atheistic communism. Pope Pius XII established the May 1 feast in 1955 to emphasize the Catholic teaching concerning the dignity of labor.

Saint Joseph could be summarized best as a man who did the best he could when God’s will became clear. This image and model seems the best and most helpful for deepening our understanding of and devotion to him.

From *Dear Padre: Questions People Ask*, Liguori, 2003
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

“By accepting himself according to God’s design, Joseph fully finds himself, beyond himself. His freedom to renounce even what is his, the possession of his very life, ...challenge us and show us the way.”

—Angelus, December 22, 2013

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 7:10-14

Rom 1:1-7

Mt 1:18-24

Focusing on God

Today’s Nativity scene shows the figures set in a golden, eternal background. Details are missing: no landscape, cave, stable, or cattle. Ghirlandaio, Michelangelo’s teacher, focuses on the people. The Gospel also refrains from external details and focuses only on the main actors: Mary and Joseph and what is going on in their hearts and minds.

Joseph has to decide how to handle surprising news: His wife is with child and he isn’t the father. She claims it was by divine intervention. He had every intention of protecting her while at the same time respecting the law. Luckily his open and honest heart hears indications from an angel. He is to do the unthinkable—take her to himself—because the unimaginable has happened: “It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived” (Matthew 1:20).

The artist paints Joseph sleeping peacefully because he is the just man who silences his troubled heart in order to hear God’s voice. He, like Mary, reflects on things profoundly and grapples with God’s will and the amazing vocation placed before

him. His struggle in prayer leads him to have faith and trust. Following God’s plan will mean pilgrimage, thus the walking stick, water jug, and knapsack.

We are all tempted to flee from the challenges of discipleship. Yet today Joseph shows us how to “man up.” He assumes his role as a servant leader, teacher, and example. His dozing is not one of laziness but of silent self-control that leads to attentiveness and obedience to God’s voice.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC



Piece: Nativity
Artist: Domenico Bigordi
(Ghirlandaio), 1492
Location: Vatican
Pinacoteca, Room IX

For Reflection

Challenges are opportunities for growth.

How do I face the challenges of following Jesus?

“...Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her” (Matthew 1:20).