



Mass Intentions

- MON., 12/21 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY**
8:00 A.M. - Ed Linz (Bob & Helen Russell)
- TUE., 12/22 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY**
8:00 A.M. - Bob Helch (Jim & Doris Mushrush)
- THU., 12/24 - CHRISTMAS EVE**
5:00 P.M. - Our Relatives and Friends
12:00 A.M. - Our Relatives and Friends
- FRI., 12/25 - CHRISTMAS DAY**
9:30 A.M. - Our Relatives and Friends
- SAT., 12/26 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**
5:00 P.M. - Lou Boyd (Kate & Family)
- SUN., 12/27 - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**
8:00 A.M. - Andrew James (A.J.) Pollus (Mom, Dad & Family)
10:30 A.M. - The Parishioners



Last Sunday's offertory, \$2,962.00 (368 envelopes mailed and 179 envelopes received) and loose, \$301.00. Children's offering, \$21.71. Average gift of envelope users: \$16.55. Second collection for Retired Religious, \$1,319.00. **And also from our children . . .** "I grated cheese . . . I made high honors (at school) . . . I helped Mom . . . I listened to a Bible story . . . I made cards . . . I helped around the house . . . I helped sort laundry . . . I helped my sister clean her room . . . I made cookies . . ."

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL
Diocesan Goal: \$31,729
Pledged to Date: \$60,617
191% of Diocesan Goal
Amount Received to Date: \$51,348
271 contributors = 68% of Parish

Lucy Keys and Augie Spagnolo won last week's "**300 Club**" drawing for \$250—#238 and #245 for week 18. Congratulations! These **TWO NUMBERS** were drawn at the Feast Day Dinner and were in celebration of the coming Christmas holidays.

Congratulations to **Bob Nicholson** who completed his convert classes this past Tuesday and at our morning Mass was received into the Catholic Church. At that Mass he received the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Eucharist. May God bless him at this wonderful time in his faith-journey.

The Week Ahead

- MONDAY**
- THURSDAY**
- FRIDAY**
- SUNDAY**

Confession for students in Grades 3-6.
Christmas Eve mass at 5:00 and Midnight.
Christmas Day mass at 9:30 A.M.
NO Religious Education classes today.
Today is Samaritan Sunday. Donations of **cleaning supplies** are needed. Please put your donations in the boxes provided at the entrances to the church. Thank you.



Bible Quote: **"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."** Luke 1:42

* There are **NO** Religious Education classes next **Sunday, December 27th or Monday, December 28th.** Have a blessed Christmas and New Year! * Thank you to the 10th Grade for leading us in last week's "*Youth Mass*"! **"Test your Catholic Knowledge"** - Who did Mary go to visit that was pregnant and the baby leaped for joy in her womb? (a) Elizabeth; (b) Sara; (c) Mrs. Santa Claus. Write your answer along with your name and phone number on a piece of paper and place it in the collection basket for a chance to win our monthly drawing. **GOOD LUCK!**

Our Christmas Mass schedule will be this **Thursday, Christmas Eve, December 24th: 5:00 and Midnight Mass. This Midnight Mass will be preceded by a half hour of Lessons and Carols from the choir, beginning at 11:30 P.M. Mass on Friday, Christmas Day, December 25th will be celebrated at 9:30 A.M.** There will be the regular weekend Masses celebrated on December 26th and 27th. **Masses for the New Year, January 1st: Thursday, December 31st at 6:00 and Friday, January 1st at 9:00 A.M.** January 2nd is the First Saturday of the month, Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 A.M. and the regular weekend Mass schedule for the 2nd and 3rd. (I noticed Pope Benedict is celebrating the "Midnight Mass of Christmas Eve" in St. Peter's of the Vatican **at 10:00 P.M.**) Of course, he is 82 years old and celebrates again the next morning at 8:00 I believe. I hope to continue the practice of **MIDNIGHT Mass . . . as long as we gather a nice crowd.** Perhaps this is the year for you to come to this Mass.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to all the "angels" who have made Christmas something special for those who came to us in need. Would you believe there were **323** angels taken and every one of them were returned by the due date! **140 families** from the surrounding area requested assistance. Over **2,000** pairs of socks, and blankets, clothes and gently used toys were given away. Some of these angels were taken by other churches and families . . . but the majority was satisfied by the generosity and love of OLQA parishioners. Again, God bless you and thank you! A very special thank you to **Pat Kaider** who unbelievably organized the entire project and also to the group of adults and children who helped at the sorting and distribution. Amazing!

Husbands searching for a special gift for Christmas this year? Give the gift of yourself for an entire weekend. Bring your wife to **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** and enrich your relationship. Next is February 19-21, 2010. For information call (814) 823-4600.

| | | ALTAR SERVERS | LECTORS | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS | USHERS | GREETERS |
|-----|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|---|------------------|
| SAT | 5:00 PM | Cody Slevin Kary Grieser | Jerry Waldron | John Lauffer, Bob & Linda Slevin | Tom Donegan (c) Bill Greco Bob Russell Mary Donegan | Mary Beth Jacobs |
| SUN | 8:00 AM | Rebecca & Amanda Novosel | Helen Biemer | Diana Conroy, Bob & Paula Hilton | Ken Novosel (c) Bob Burns Rich Starn Bob Harrison | Grace Bossard |
| SUN | 10:30 AM | Rachel Verno Erika Krachkowski | Sandy Ragozine | Marlene Gross, Pete & Sue Simonetta | Dave Perfett (c) Ed Pieszak John Meyerhoff Mark Sobieski | Sue Keas |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:
DECEMBER 20, Caitlin Scott; DECEMBER 21,
 Dick Smith, Rita Valentine; DECEMBER 22,
 Tracy Chuey, Russell E. Duffy; DECEMBER 23,
 Mary Groger; DECEMBER 24, JoAnn Elwell,
 James McAnalley, Kathy Rendulic; DECEMBER 25, Jesus;
DECEMBER 26, Melissa Niedbala, Christopher Staton.
ENJOY YOUR DAY!



As we finish these last days of the Advent season, may we all feel the nearness of Christ—as near as did Elizabeth and Mary thousands of years ago. May we too “leap for joy” as Christ comes so close to us! And as you celebrate Christmas later this week—God grant you all the peace and graces of the season in marvelous ways—to you and to your loved ones. May the presence of the Christ Child in our celebrations bring us great peace and joy. Peace and joy to our parish, our community, our nation and our world. Be assured of my prayers and thoughts during these Christmas days—especially to those who are ill, infirmed, or hurting in some way. Many Christmas blessings to all of you!

F. Atene

Please notice that there is an envelope in your monthly packet for “**Christmas Flowers.**” Please be sure to mark the other side of this envelope with the names of those you wish to remember with this memorial. The Masses on Christmas Eve and Day will be celebrated for these individuals. Please be as generous as you always are. If you do not have envelopes and still wish to memorialize someone with a donation, you can do so in any envelope and just mark what it’s for. Thanks so much.

There is a bus that has been reserved to attend the **March for Life** in Washington D.C. The bus will leave St. Philip’s in Linesville. The March for Life is on Friday, January 22, 2010. Anyone interested in marching for life, please call Rebecca at 382-6363.

I know a lot of the **WHY CATHOLIC?** groups are now finished after 4 years of small group meetings. Congratulations on finishing the course and from what I’ve seen, many of the groups have really bonded together in unbelievable ways. We’re looking for future possibilities of programs and suggestions for groups to continue meeting. We will be having a gathering sometime in January to discuss these possibilities. Watch for more news!

As you are out shopping, please know that on **January 3rd, the Feast of the Epiphany**, we will be gathering items for newborn children and infants as a “**baby shower**” effort. You will be able to place these gifts near the Nativity scene that weekend and all gifts will be distributed to the Pregnancy Center. Wish list items include: diapers, wipes, lotions, shampoo, ointments, powder, newborn outfits, rattles, blankets, etc. Let’s make this a real “shower” in honor of the Infant Jesus for the infants of today’s world. Thank you!

A great big **THANK YOU** to the **Altar Rosary Society** who hosted last week’s **Feast Day Dinner**. It was more than a success—a great crowd, lots of food, fun and fellowship. Mr. & Mrs. Claus made their appearance and the kids had a great time breaking the piñatas. We really had a wonderful feast day celebration. Thanks to all who made it possible!

If you want a statement of your offering for tax purpose for 2009, please call the rectory office right after the holidays.

Today’s Readings

Reading I: Micah 5:1-4. From you will come forth a savior.
Reading II: Hebrews 10:5-10. One sacrifice instead of many.
Gospel: Luke 1:39-45. Mary visits Elizabeth.
Question of the Week: What role does Mary play in your own spirituality? If you were Elizabeth, how would you greet her at your doorway, if she were to arrive there?