

CONCERNING OUR DIOCESE & COMMUNITY



Prepare the Way of the Lord— Advent is our annual time of anticipation and expectation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and, ultimately, at the end of time.

During this season we make many preparations so that we can be ready to meet the Lord. We prepare our hearts through prayer and reconciliation to be a fitting place of welcome for Jesus to dwell. We also prepare our homes as places of warm hospitality to welcome neighbors and strangers alike with a loving and generous heart. This Advent, we also find ourselves anticipating the changes that will soon be upon us as part of the *On Mission for the Church Alive!* initiative. How are you preparing for the new realities in our parishes? Will your heart meet these changes with resistance or with the resolve to do what it takes to foster new life in your community and help grow the Church? Take some time this Advent to prepare the way of the Lord as he comes to make us and our Church even more alive! Visit: onmissionchurchalive.org to stay informed.

If you suspect that any child is being abused or neglected, call 1-888-808-1235. If you suspect a child is in imminent danger from abuse, please call 911 immediately.

Two **Protecting God's Children Workshop** sessions will be held at *St. Thomas More Parish* (126 Fort Couch Road, Bethel Park) on **Wednesday, January 24, 2018**. There is a day session from **Noon to 3PM** and an evening session from **6-9PM**. If you plan to attend one of them, please contact Susie Levitt at 413-833-0031.

Come to enjoy a **Concert of Sacred and Secular Christmas Music** that will be offered in *St. Elizabeth of Hungary Church* this **Sunday, December 10 at 3PM**. Our St. Clare of Assisi Choir has been invited to participate in this "festival of praise" before our God.



Time to Retreat for a Bit

Our parish is inviting you to a Retreat; a time to get a little closer to the Lord. This is perfect timing because it is Advent — a time to prepare our hearts for the Lord to make His abode.

The retreat will be led by our *Neo Catechumenate Team* and will run from **Friday, December 15** to Sunday afternoon, **December 17**. The retreat will be held at the *Ark and the Dove* in the North Hills. It is a beautiful wooded location with lots of wildlife providing a peaceful glimpse at nature.

If you need some time to get away from the 'hustle and bustle' of the season, this is your opportunity. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. More information will be forwarded to those interested.

Ascension Church is still selling frozen **Cottage Cheese, Potato and Sweet Cabbage Pierogies** for \$8 a dozen. Call 412-233-2711, or 412-233-4155 to place an order and to arrange a pick-up.



The Homestead Council #2201 Knights of Columbus is having a New Year's Eve \$500 Raffle **Casino "Knight" Dinner and Dance** on **Sunday, December 31 at 7PM** at *St. Therese Church Cafeteria* (1 St. Therese Court, Munhall). Cost is \$35 per person or \$60 per couple, which includes dinner, casino games and dancing. For more info, call George Wagner at 412-823-8011.

BILLBOARD SIGNS FROM GOD

**"When you forgive, you heal ...
and when you let go, you grow."
- God**

**Our Bulletin is Sponsored
This Week
In Honor of
Our Lady of Guadalupe**



The Second Sunday of Advent - December 9/10, 2017

**Saint Clare
of Assisi
PARISH**

460 Reed Street, Clairton, PA 15025



MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Family,
United in the Eucharist,
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
Called by Jesus Christ to Grow
in Faith, Love and Prayer
in Harmony with the
Universal Catholic Church

*We will achieve our parish mission
by worshipping together and working
to evangelize, educate and serve each other
and the entire community.*

Phone: 412-233-7870 • Fax: 412-233-0742

Email: stclareparish2@comcast.net

Web Site: www.stclareofassisiparish.com

Office Hours: Mondays - Thursdays 8AM-2PM
CLOSED Fridays

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: **4:30PM** (Sunday Vigil)

Sunday: **9:30AM**

Weekdays: **7:00PM** (Monday)

8:00AM (Tuesday thru Friday)

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Charles J. Baptiste
Student Resident Priest : Rev. Fortunatus Mugisha
Business Manager: Kathleen Ulmer
Office Assistant: Marie Perticone
Music Ministry: Sean Thornton
Buildings & Grounds: Amy Ference
Homebound Ministry: Beverly Mazza
Safe Environment Coordinator: Lorraine Carter
ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-800-932-0313
VICTIM ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-888-808-1235

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

After Mass on Monday Evenings & 12:30PM Saturdays

BAPTISMS

Call the Parish Office to schedule a Pre-Baptism class.

WEDDINGS

Call the Parish Office at least six months in advance.
Each couple is required to attend a pre-marriage course.

ST. CLARE CEMETERY Worthington Avenue

For Information regarding St. Clare Cemetery, call
Catholic Parish Cemeteries Association at 412-256-9370.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - December 9/10
Pages 31-33

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - December 16/17
Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 – Page 40
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 – Page 41
John 1:6-8, 19-28 – Page 41

Mass Intentions  for the Week

 **PRAYER** requests

DECEMBER 9/10 - THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:30PM Freda Moorhouse (Jean Borkowski)
9:30AM For the Parishioners

MONDAY, December 11 - Advent Weekday

7:00 PM Gertrude Mitko (Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Stretavski)

TUESDAY, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00AM Robert Walmsley (Family)

WEDNESDAY, December 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:00AM Jean Buches (Sister-in-Law, Ruth Buches)

THURSDAY, December 14 - St. John of the Cross

8:00AM Stella Yanik (Family & Friends)

FRIDAY, December 15 - Advent Weekday

8:00AM Linda Massaro (Massaro Family)

SATURDAY, December 16

12:30PM Reconciliation

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - December 16/17

4:30PM For the Parishioners
9:30AM Vincent DiLorenzo (Pat Yekich)



Please Pray For ...

Family members of our parishioners serving in the military:

Dante Capane, Richard Cronkhite, Tara Felker, Michael Goliat, Jason Middleton, Garrett Santoline, Michael Santoline, Anthony Svetz, Luke Thornton, Zachary Thornton, Andrew West, Jeffery West

Prayers for Our Seminarians: *This week, please pray for*

John P. Flynn from St. Richard Parish
Br. Carlos Garcia, OFM, Cap

Our Recently Departed 

Janice Baptiste (Aunt of Fr. Chuck),
Patricia (Verba) Dailey (Aunt of Mary Sue Caldwell & Marlene Senko),
Julius Such (Father of Hollis Dresser, Former St. Clare Pre-School Aide)

Our Sick and Shut-ins ...

Barbara Antrom, Pete Azzari,
Fr. Chuck Baptiste, Joseph Bacha,
Eleanor Berggren, Karen Berosky,
Frances Bindas, Caden Boring,
Cullen Boring, Maria Campano,
Loretto Joseph Capaccia, Gloria Cerasoli,
Fran Colonna, Maria Conedera,
Paul DeDominicis, Michael DiCarlo,
Anne Donnelly, Matthew Duymic,
Sheila Eddy, Rebecca Farabaugh,
Irene Fera, Meryl Ferrare,
Anthony Gambino, Kathleen Geletko,
Rudy (Blu Jay) Gori, Genevieve Hartman,
Marie Hodge, Henry Holland,
Richard Jenkins, Joseph Julian,
Paul Julian, Off. James Kuzak Jr.,
Leo Lindley, Edward Lis,
Frances Lofstrom, Ed Lucot,
William Marcus, Desiree Medina,
Audrey Mihalko, Sandra Milas,
Daryl Mitchell, Mary Ann Mitko,
Rev. Peter Murphy, Lucille Nero,
Eleanor Niccoli, Judy Nolder,
Barbara Pavlack, Lou Pavlack Jr.,
Aldia Pavlik, Virginia Perlick,
Sylvia Pittman, Nancy Razorsek,
Candi Riggan, Devin Riggan,
Betty Rothbauer, Edgar Shandel,
Fr. Angelus Shaughnessy,
Mary Ellen Skop, Elizabeth Slivan,
Kathleen Slivan, John Sorrentino,
Lillian Sorrentino, Cathy Speer,
Kenneth Speer, Kathy Tachoir,
Rayne Tortorice, Catherine Vukovich,
Mary Ann Walker, Raymond Werner,
Rita York, Mary Zwack

~ and all Names and Intentions listed in our Prayer Request Book

This Week

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

10:45AM - Counting Team #2
Deadline for Christmas Flower Donations
No CCD
3PM - Concert of Sacred & Secular Music
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

Angel Tree Envelopes Due

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

7-8:15PM - CCD Grades 5-8 - Holy Spirit

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

6-9PM - Reconciliation - "The Light is On for YOU"
No Choir Practice

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

6PM - Men's Club Christmas Gathering
Terrace Gardens

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

12:30PM - Reconciliation

Just a Reminder ... The ushers are taking attendance at each Mass through April, 2018. This count is very important as Bishop Zubik takes into consideration where and when we will be celebrating liturgies in the future.

You count and we count on YOU!

WEEKEND MINISTERS - December 16/17

4:30PM - Eucharistic Ministers
Rebecca Farabaugh, Jennifer Massaro, Ray Werner
Lector - Patrick Thornton
Altar Servers - Elizabeth Boal, Denise Boring
Head Usher - Mike DiCarlo
9:30AM - Eucharistic Ministers
Mary Beth Flaugh, Rick Flaugh, Joanne Kaskin
Lector - Lori Chasko
Altar Servers - Ron Lomis, Elizabeth Marsh
Head Ushers - Vince Gori

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

FISCAL YEAR JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018

Budgeted Weekly Offering Required \$ 5,249.00
Actual Weekly Offering (Dec. 2/3) \$ 4,414.00
Weekly Deficit \$ - 835.00
Parish Share 2017 YTD \$ 28,146.00
Cemetery Envelopes 2017 YTD \$ 8,529.00

There are still a few Envelopes on our **Angel Tree**. If you pick one up this weekend, it must be returned by **Monday, December 11**. Your donation can help to make a child or family's Christmas a little more merrier this year.

Maybe it's been a long time since your last Confession ... but the **Light is ON for YOU** in **every** Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh on **Wednesday, December 13** from **6-9PM**. Rediscover the healing power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The new *Pittsburgh Catholic Magazine* is available for this holiday season. Pick up a free copy of "Christmas Traditions" and enjoy reading the many uplifting stories. Sharing the real meaning of Christmas is the ultimate gift.

Packages of **Oplatky Wafers** for your Christmas Eve or Christmas Day dinner are available at the parish office during normal hours (Monday to Thursday, 9AM to 2PM). There are four wafers in each pack for \$2.00.

CONCERNING OUR FUNDRAISERS. . .

★ And the Winners are ... ★

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY - Drawn November 30
Winner: **Phyllis McKeon** Prize: \$ 310.00

Our next Golden Opportunity Drawing will be held on Friday, December 29

FAB FIVE LOTTERY - November 30
Winner: **#800 Paula Fortunato** Seller: Gloria O'Hara