

PARISH MISSION – COME JOIN US DECEMBER 3-5

We sometimes waste a great deal of our energies by dwelling on the past or by worrying about the future. At other times we waste a great deal of energy by imagining what it would be like to be somewhere – or someone – else. Living in the present moment enables us to reinterpret our past and to prepare for our future. Living in the present moment enables us to become more of whom God calls us to be in the real circumstances in which we find ourselves each day.

“Is it possible that I have been loved, and loved so tenderly, by my Savior? That He thought of me personally in all these events by which He has drawn me to Himself? How much then should we love, cherish and make good use of all this for our benefit! This is extremely kind, this loving heart of my God thought of me, loved me and obtained for me a thousand means of salvation. This He did as though there was no other soul in the world He could think of.” (Introduction to the Devout Life 5.13)

Live in the present and be open to the particular graces God has in store for us as Father Michael Murray, OSFS, leads us in our Parish Mission – 7:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

This Week in our Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

Advent Giving Tree

10:30 a.m. Mass – Children's Liturgy

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

Sacred Heart School Santa Shop

6:30 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. Parish Mission

7:00 p.m. RCIA – St. Joseph Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Sacred Heart School Santa Shop

6:30 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. Mass

1:30 p.m. Mass – Country Meadows

7:00 p.m. Parish Mission

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:30 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. Mass

1:30 p.m. Mass – Manor Care

7:00 p.m. Parish Mission

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

3:00 p.m. Joy & Praise Choir

7:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Choir

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

FIRST FRIDAY – HOLY COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS
NO MORNING MASS

1:30 p.m. Mass – Mennonite Home

6:30 p.m. Vigil Mass

7:30 p.m. Night of Prayer for Life

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Blood Pressure Screening after Mass

Youth Group Brownie Sale

8:30 a.m. Mass for Immaculate Conception

5:00 p.m. Mass – 2nd Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND COLLECTION

Blood Pressure Screening after Mass

Youth Group Brownie Sale



The Giving Tree

GIVING TREE - GIFTS FROM THE HEART

This weekend, the annual GIVING TREE will be on display at the St. Joseph Shrine. The tree will be trimmed with paper ornaments each of which carries a message of need. If you want to share yourself this

Christmas, take home a request that you can fulfill. Wrap your gift, put the ornament on the **OUTSIDE** of the package and return to the St. Joseph Shrine. **All gifts are to be returned to the Church or Rectory no later than December 16** as the gifts need to be separated and organized for delivery that week.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If you are interested in helping to deliver poinsettias to our homebound and nursing home parishioners during the weekend of December 8th and 9th, please call Deb Saporetti at 299-1923.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Our parishioners who wish to make a donation for flowers in memory of a loved one are asked to indicate the loved one's name (or names) on the Christmas Flower envelope in the December packet or phone the rectory and give the necessary information to Betty.

A SPECIAL NEED

A parishioner asked that we make known a special need. He is currently living in a nursing home but could return to his own home if he had someone to look in on him throughout the week. He would be willing to pay what he could. Anyone interested, please contact the rectory.

IN THE NEWS AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Good news – one stop holiday shopping – Need the perfect gift?? How about a Gift Card. Purchase your Gift Cards through School and help the School earn money. It is simple – pick up an order form at the SHHGN Table in the Church Vestibule. Place your order and pick up your cards the following weekend at Mass. Remember your weekly grocery shopping can also benefit our parish school. The stores who participate donate a percentage of your purchase back to Sacred Heart School. We offer everything from Dunkin Donuts to JC Penney to Lowes. Beat the rush and help our school. Any one needing more information or wishing to help out feel free to contact the Development Office at 509-3577.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Liturgy Intentions For The Week

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

Vigil Mass BILL HAUK
8:00 a.m. ROBERT SHIRK
10:30 a.m. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:30 a.m. SPECIAL INTENTION
8:30 a.m. ANNA KELLER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

6:30 a.m. MAGDALEN BRAUN
8:30 a.m. MARTHA GRAB

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:30 a.m. MARY HIRAK
8:30 a.m. NICHOLAS OREFO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 a.m. ALBERT HEILAND

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:30 a.m. BILL HAUK
6:30 p.m. JOHN MELLINGER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:30 a.m. WILLIAM ROOS
5:00 p.m. EVELYN SIKORA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 a.m. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
10:30 a.m. MICHAEL G. NAST

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – DECEMBER 8

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is always a Holy Day of Obligation. This year it occurs on a Saturday. **Mass will be celebrated Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m.** PLEASE NOTE: the 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening Mass anticipates Sunday and must use the Mass and Scripture readings for the Second Sunday of Advent. **You are reminded that you are obligated to attend a separate Mass for each of these days. 1) On Friday evening or Saturday morning for the Immaculate Conception and 2) the Saturday evening or Sunday for the Second Sunday of Advent.**

NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

The National Night of Prayer for Life will again take place at Sacred Heart on December 8th after the evening Mass until 9:00 p.m. Sign-up for a half hour or an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We continue to ask Our Lord and His Mother for an end to abortion and reaffirm the sacredness of all human life. Sign-up in the Vestibule.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

The Annual Collection next week benefits elderly women and men religious. More than 19,000 religious have less than 20 percent of the amount needed for projected costs of living and health care. To learn more, visit www.retiredreligious.org.

TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

Fostering Stewardship as a way of life

Stewardship Thought for the Week

."Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your labors." (Proverbs 3:9)

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING SUMMARY

Regular Sunday Offertory

In gratitude for the gifts we have received from God, parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord:

Offertory for November 18, 2007 - \$6,967.60

Offertory for November 20 2006 - \$8,248.96

Offertory for November 25, 2007 - \$7,679.25

Offertory for November 27, 2006 - \$8,602.81

Thanks for Giving First Fruits and Taking a Step.

HAND IN YOUR COOKIE ORDER

The cookie sale effort to support Cross International's Haiti and Jamaica Hunger Relief Project is wrapping up today. Order forms and payment should be in a sealed envelope marked "cookie sale" and dropped in the collection basket. Please pick up your cookies after the Masses on December 8 and 9. If you don't have your order form today, you may total up your order and phone in your total order to Jane Zukus (392-5677) or Karen Grove (392-3218), but we must hear from you by noon tomorrow. The Cookie Sale saves you time from baking, so don't forget to order extras for your own home! If you didn't place an order and still want to buy cookies you may call the Cooke Sale hotline at 1-866-COOKIE-9. There will also be extra cookies available to buy after all the Masses next weekend on a first come, first basis while supplies last.

Dear Parishioners:

Our son, Philip Nightingale, is currently deployed in Heart Afghanistan. Philip is a 1st Lieutenant in the Air Force but answered a call from the Army when they asked the Air Force and Navy for Officers. This is his second Christmas away from home. He works in missiles & satellites in Minot, ND. Christmas is a hard time to be away from home but cards, letters and packages really help morale. Would you send Phil a Christmas card? His address is: Philip Nightingale (please don't put rank on it), 207th RSAC – West, Heart APO AE 09354

Ian & Rosie Nightingale

MANY THANKS

Special thanks go to those who came last Wednesday morning to pack the bread and prepare the baskets for distributing the bread blessed at our Thanksgiving Liturgies. Thanks to Dottie and Dan Fritsch, Rosie and Emily Mann, Betty Girven, Mary Kast and Doris & Henry Wolfe. God bless you for your help!

CLOTHING DRIVE

The Catholic Worker Volunteers are collecting cold weather clothing (coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, scarves and blankets) for our homeless men, women and children of Lancaster. A box for the collection will be in the vestibule of the Church the weekend of December 2. Please, look in your closets, attic, basement and drawers; bring in CLEAN, seldom used winter garment(s) for a stranger in need. Your charity will be greatly appreciated.