

December 15-16, 2018

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts

*Our vision is to lead all whose lives we touch
into a living relationship with the person of
Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament,
Service and Fellowship.*

www.youghcatholic.org



**REJOICE IN
THE LORD
ALWAYS.
I SAY IT
AGAIN
REJOICE!
Philippians 2:2**



To our visitors... If you are just passing through, we are glad you chose to worship with us. If you are seeking a new church home, please know there is always room in our pews and a place in our hearts for you.

DEVIVO CENTRE

116 South 2nd Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

724.628.6840 (f) 724.628.0838

MON-THU 8:30am-noon / 1-4pm
FRI 8:30am-1pm

BRADY CENTRE

459 Ranch Road
Dunbar, PA 15431

724.277.4236 (f) 724.277.8954

MON, TUE, THU, FRI 9am-3pm

SATs 5:15-5:45pm at IC

Confession

and by appointment

We work with the Holy Trinity Conference of Saint Vincent DePaul to help our neighbors in need. You may call them at 724.562.3341.

We are grateful for the advertisers on pages 4 and 9, who cover the cost of printing our bulletins.

Please frequent their businesses in support of them.

This week's featured advertiser is **BROOKS FUNERAL HOME**.

Our Faith Community consists of the Parish Families of Immaculate Conception, Connellsville (1869), Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Dunbar (1874), Saint John the Evangelist, Connellsville (1895), and Saint Rita of Cascia, Connellsville (1915).



We also embrace the former Parish Families of Saint Vincent de Paul, Leisenring (1888-2008), Sacred Heart, Dawson (1889-2007) Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Connellsville (1901-1913), Saint Emory, Connellsville (1903-1970), Holy Trinity, Connellsville (1903-2008), Saint Polycarp, West Leisenring (1917-1997).

OUR STAFF - WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

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RON NAGY

Leisenring Cemetery Care
724.603.2020

SUN, DEC 9, 2018
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult\$4,364.50
 Loose Collection585.90
 Maintenance128.00
Total:\$5,078.40

Cemetery\$85.00
 Immaculate Conception ...\$1,208.00
 Christmas Flowers\$662.00
 Christmas\$80.00
 Accent\$175.00
 Children & Family\$10.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult\$3,141.00
 Loose178.00
 Children/Young Adults14.00
 Parish Improvements273.00
 Energy297.00
Total:\$3,903.00

Immaculate Conception\$411.00
 Christmas Flowers\$180.00
 2nd Collection\$81.00



ST. JOHN

Adult\$2,636.00
 Loose Collection229.00
 Maintenance65.00
Total:\$2,930.00

Cemetery\$13.00
 Immaculate Conception\$624.00
 Christmas Flowers\$681.00
 Accent\$200.00



ST. RITA

Adult\$4,103.00
 Loose Collection401.00
 Maintenance100.00
Total:\$4,604.00

Cemetery\$50.00
 Immaculate Conception\$835.00
 All Saints Day\$5.00
 Accent\$5.00
 Retired Religious\$5.00



Please remember
 JASON FRIGUGLIETTI,
 FOTENIE MONGELL
 & ALEXA ROADMAN,
 new additions to our prayer list.



Philippians 4:4-7
JOY IN THE COMING OF CHRIST

The joy of Christmas is in the air. We receive cards from friends far away. We attend parties with friends close at hand. We hear the happy tunes of Christmas. We shop in a spirit of love. We open our hearts and purses to charities, sharing our concern with strangers in need. We spread the love of Christ.

In his Letter to the Philippians, Paul writes, "Rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near." Paul equates kindness with rejoicing. And the reason for this joy is the nearness of the Lord.

Paul is not talking Christmas here. He does not say, "Rejoice! Christmas is near." He has no interest in an annual celebration of the first coming of Christ. He wants the Philippians to rejoice that the second coming is close at hand.

A lot of us think about the second coming of Christ with anxiety. We worry about dying. What will it be like to meet Christ face to face? Paul would have us put these concerns aside. We should rejoice at the thought of seeing Jesus.

The joy of Christmas fills our hearts because we remember with happiness the birth of our savior. But joy should also fill us when we think ahead to the return of our savior. "Have no anxiety," Paul says. "Then the peace of God will guard your hearts in Christ Jesus." The Lord is near! Rejoice!

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The annual CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES APPEAL COLLECTION to support the work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg will be taken at all Christmas Masses in the diocese DEC 24 and 25. Christmas reminds us of the gift of God's own Son, Jesus Christ, given to each of us without question of our merit or eligibility. You

are asked to support this appeal and make your contribution to help change the future of an individual, family or child through the good work of our diocesan Catholic Charities.



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

MON: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 TUE: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
 WED: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 THU: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
 FRI: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
 SAT: I Sm 1:24-28; I Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
 SUN: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

What's Happening at home

IC and St. John parishioners are encouraged to attend a meeting TUE, DEC 18 in IC's Sciberras Hall, to make decisions about dates and location of the IC/St. John Summer Festival.

Youth Group Christmas party, WED, DEC 19, 6-8pm at the CAPS building. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited. Gift cards for Ugly Sweater winners! Bring a snack to share.



All Youth Group members are also reminded that we'll be delivering our specially-made Christmas ornaments THIS SUN, DEC 16. Please meet in St. Rita's parking lot at 1pm. We'll carpool to several individual homes through Twin Trees, Inc., a local nonprofit that provides support and services for people with disabilities. We'll also sing Christmas carols at each home. We plan to be finished about 3pm.



St. Rita Christian Mothers and Rita Pratt would like to thank all who helped make their Christmas cookie sale such a huge success. Special thanks to the many women and men volunteers, those who gave monetary donations and baking supplies, and all those who came and supported the sale in any way. May God bless all of you for your continued dedication to the church. Total income less expenses was \$10,100.19.

Tom Severin's Bible study group will meet WED, DEC 19 in IC's Sciberras Hall, 6:30-8pm.

Our Lady, Queen of the Yough Catholic Community Children's Choir will rehearse on SAT, DEC 22, in IC's Sciberras Hall at 11am. All children in grades 3-6 are eligible to join. In addition, 7th and 8th graders and senior high students may join as cantors and leaders of song.



Frozen pirohi are still available at St. John for \$10/dozen. They may be purchased SUNs in Moravek Hall from 10:30-11am before Mass and from 12:30-1pm after Mass, until sold out.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of RUDOLPH DEGRAZIA and CECILIA KOKOT-KESSLER, who died recently. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

Many thanks to all who signed up for a time on our Eucharistic Adoration schedule. We currently have 2 people for each timeslot - but there's always room for more! Special thanks to Judy Colvin and Pam Akers who have agreed to be coordinators for this ministry.

If you have questions about Adoration, or wish to volunteer for this ministry please contact Judy at 626-1292 or Pam at 628-1599. No need to call the parish office.



Oplatki Christmas wafers will be available at St. John after 11:30am Mass and at the DeVivo Centre parish office for \$2/package of 4.

You can make your reservations NOW for IC's Anniversary trip to see "JESUS" on SAT, AUG 10, 2019 at the Sight and Sound Theatres in Lancaster, PA - a \$25 deposit payable to IC holds your spot! Tickets are limited, so call Guy Rose at 880-5885/Patty Rose at 880-4919 ASAP. Cost of \$150 includes bus, show and dinner. With your deposit, please include a list of each person attending plus phone number, and indicate if there are any children under age 12. Envelopes marked "Jesus" may be put in the collection basket or dropped off at the DeVivo Centre parish office. Balance of payment is due by JUN 1.

SPECIAL ITEMS FOR SALE NOW FOR IC'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

All items are available after 6pm and 9:30am Masses and at the DeVivo Centre office.

Checks are payable to IC, "anniversary fund" as the memo.

♦ Tickets for NIGHT AT THE RACES being held SAT, JAN 19, \$10 cost includes 1 horse + 4 admission tickets.



♦ Keepsake 1-of-a-kind Glass Christmas Ornaments - \$20 (for \$2.50 you may also buy a hanging stand)

♦ Boxed set of 20 commemorative Christmas Cards - \$25

(may be bought individually for \$2)

♦ Mugs - \$10

♦ Pens - \$2



As the end of the year approaches, there are ways you can make a gift to support your parish and the church and receive a tax benefit, even if you don't itemize deductions. If you are 70 ½ or older and required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA by the end of the year, present law allows use of an IRA charitable rollover without having to pay tax on the withdrawal for gifts to specific charities. For information, contact your IRA administrator or the Catholic Foundation at 724-552-2504 or jdinario@dioceseofgreensburg.org

FINANCIAL CORNER			
ORDINARY INCOME VS. ORDINARY EXPENSES			
FOR NOVEMBER 2018			
IC	St Rita	St John	St. Aloysius
\$24,765.69	\$20,800.36	\$15,050.85	\$18,745.50
(27,990.68)	(25,632.78)	(15,450.33)	(19,543.75)
(\$3,224.99)	(\$4,832.42)	(\$399.48)	(\$798.25)



GAUDETE SUNDAY calls us to rejoice in hope. As John the Baptist found joy amidst suffering due to the Good News that the Christ had appeared, we too pause from our Advent penance to rejoice in a salvation that has drawn near and whose first fruits we can taste. The confident anticipation of this inheritance is known as hope. It makes patience possible. You can endure hardships cheerfully (James 5:7-10) only when the anticipated reward makes it all worthwhile. Hope is also important because it is the key to joy. And that's why the third Sunday of Advent is known as "Gaudete" or "Rejoice" Sunday.

Time is running out to get your **Enjoy discount/coupon books** - only \$30 for hundreds of great offers. Pick yours up at the DeVivo Centre ASAP.



Nar-Anon, WED, DEC 19 at St. John's Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.

Natural Family Planning CM-BBT instruction will be MON, FEB 4 at 6pm in the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Please call at least 1 week prior to the instruction date to preregister. Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 837-1840, x1658 for additional information or to register for this or an upcoming class. For more information visit www.ccharitiesgreensburg.org and link into Natural Family Planning under "Services."

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION FOR 2018

Immaculate Conception	\$834
St. John	\$674
St. Rita	<u>\$803</u>
TOTAL	\$2,311

GIFTED TO:

St Vincent dePaul	\$803
C'ville Community Ministries	\$674
Alternatives.Yes	\$417
Domestic Violence/Fayette Co.	\$417



TUE, DEC 18
St. John, Connellsville, 7pm

THU, DEC 20
St. Raymond, Donegal, 7pm

SAT, DEC 22
Visitation, Mt. Pleasant, 11am

The DeVivo and Brady Centre parish offices will be closed:



MON, DEC 24
TUE, DEC 25
WED, DEC 26
MON, DEC 31
TUE, JAN 1
WED, JAN 2



Due to Christmas, we have early bulletin print deadlines. I'll need all info by the following dates please:

DEC 29-30 bulletin MON, DEC 17
JAN 5-6 bulletin WED, DEC 19

Thanks in advance for your help!
Karen Tweardy

St. Aloysius CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are available in the church social hall. Please stop by to pick yours up. *Thanks.*



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL: THIRSTING FOR TRUTH

PHILIPPIANS 4: 4-7

Brothers and sisters:

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near.

**Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God.**

**Then the peace of God that surpasses
all understanding will guard your hearts
and minds in Christ Jesus.**

Are you anxious about the Christmas season? Whether it is your to-do list, upcoming events, or even financial burdens, the natural busyness of this time of year tends to overwhelm even the most organized of individuals.

Instead of enjoying our time at home, we bark orders in order to make the house "look perfect." Instead of creating memories with our family, we micromanage them. Someone is "doing it wrong."

Instead of taking the time to pick out a thoughtful gift for a loved one, we absent mindedly "add to cart" whatever is on sale and includes free shipping just so that we can "cross that person" off of our list.

Instead of being engaged and present

at a party or gathering, we are checking our phones.

"Togetherness" becomes just one more thing we have to do.

Instead of anxiously awaiting the coming of Jesus Christ, we are anxiously awaiting for Christmas to be over so that we can get back "to normal."

Our second reading today from Saint Paul to the Philippians reminds us that instead of being always anxious, we should be always rejoicing! We should be coming before the Lord in thanksgiving! In this way, "*our kindness should be known to all...*"

Rejoicing that we have a warm and comfortable place to go home to every night.

Rejoicing that we have family who are willing to lend a hand and spend time with us.

Rejoicing that we have the opportunity to show our appreciation to our loved ones through open handed gift giving.

Rejoicing that we can spend meaningful time together in fellowship and love.

Rejoicing that Jesus Christ loved us enough to literally *become* one of us and save us from our sin.

The truth is we are ALL busy. Even though it may seem like it, chances are we aren't "busier" than the average person. Instead of wasting our time being anxious about everything we have to do, we should be at peace with the fact that things WILL get done (as they always do), and rejoice in the time we have.

The word "anxiety" that Paul uses in the Greek is *merimnate*, which is literally translated, "*to be troubled with cares.*" While Paul is not insisting that we simply "don't care" about worldly matters, he is asserting that we should not be anxious about the things of this present life.



Rather, we should have so much confidence in God as to free our mind from anxiety. We should possess such a sense of dependence on HIM as to keep calm.

When HE is at the center of our lives, "*the peace of God that surpasses all understanding*" will be not only OURS, but OURS to share with the world.

This Advent, make it a priority to *guard your hearts and minds* in Christ Jesus. Spend time with our Lord in prayer, thanking Him for all of your many blessings. Rest in Him and find peace in His promises that all will turn out alright in the end. After all, if the house doesn't look like a Martha Stewart magazine, or if the cookies are burnt, Jesus Christ is still the Savior of the world; and THAT is DEFINITELY a reason to REJOICE!

Christ's peace
and our Mother Mary's love,
Mary Sampey



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE
4:30pm - IC
4:30pm - SA
5:00pm - SJ
7:30pm - IC

CHRISTMAS DAY
Midnight - SR
9:00am - SJ
9:30am - SA

Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers are needed for Christmas Eve/Christmas Day.

Please volunteer ASAP by calling Chris Sparks at 628-7510 or by emailing him at crsparks1@zoominternet.net

You will be scheduled on a 1st-come/1st-served basis.

USHERS, call the DeVivo Centre at 628-6840 to volunteer.



TUE & THU Masses will be held at **ST. RITA** if the Connellsville School District has a delay or cancellation for winter weather.

Watch the morning news or listen to your favorite radio station when the weather is bad!

No changes needed for St. Al Masses.



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS



MON, DEC 17		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. Rita	Charlotte Durket (Judy Schroyer)
8:30am	St. Rita	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Steve Klotz (Barbara Klotz)
TUE, DEC 18		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. John	Harry & Sandy Pirl (Dave & Carmie Porter)
8:30am	St. Al	Sturge Hughes (Jeff & Ryan Butela)
7:00pm	St. John	Advent Penance Service
WED, DEC 19		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. Rita	Anna Palladino & Paul M. Palladino (Charles Palladino)
8:30am	St. Rita	Adoration until 4:30pm
THU, DEC 20		WEEKDAY
8:00am	IC	Carmine V., Sr., Anna K. & Anthony A. Molinaro (Margaret Molinaro)
8:00am	St. Al	Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
8:30am	St. Al	Clara, James & Michael Cellurale (Family)
FRI, DEC 21		ST. PETER CANISIUS, PRIEST, DR. OF THE CHURCH
8:00am	St. Rita	John Mongell (Family)
8:15am	St. Al	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Rose Novak (Kenny, Marie & Becky Martin)
SAT, DEC 22		VIGIL
4:00pm	St. Rita	Joey Marciante, Jr. (Brother, Tony & Parents)
5:00pm	St. Al	Parker Blaine Means (Aunt Mary Lynn & Uncle Fred Pounds)
6:00pm	IC	Charles Dowling (Steve & Angie Cortis)
SUN, DEC 23		4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00am	St. Rita	Pro Populo
9:00am	St. Al	Sylvester & Melvina Rendine (Terry, Kristin & Christopher)
		Eugene & Jackie Baker (Don & Mary Jane D'Amico)
9:30am	IC	Michael & Nellie Adams (Michelle & Valarie McCune)
11:30am	St. John	Andrew, Valerie & Tom Glovola (Patty & John Relovsky)

Minister schedules can be found on the parish website www.youghcatholic.org

ST. AL MINISTRY SCHEDULE		
SAT, DEC 22 - 5PM		
ALTAR SERVER C Baldwin R Barron	LECTOR T Nedrow	EX MINISTER K Andolino D Marchewka S Lincoln
SUN, DEC 23 - 9AM		
ALTAR SERVER M Cree F Vinoverski	LECTOR J Grover	EX MINISTER J Laurion K Martray A Trimbath
ROSARY SCHEDULE		
SAT, DEC 22 J Connell	SUN, DEC 23 B Klotz	

IC, ST. JOHN, ST. RITA MINISTRY SCHEDULE				
	ACOLYTE	EX MINISTER	CROSS BEARER	LECTOR
DEC 22 SR-4pm	R Specht E Armstrong	R Brooks L Sparks R Pratt	H Specht	G Panzella
IC-6pm	A Berish A Howrylak	D Calinao J Geary P Calinao	O Spotto	R Lazor
DEC 23 SR-8am	D Long J Long	G Lembo J Lembo N Lembo	T Long	T Kezmarsky
IC-9:30am	A Keller R Keller	J Miller J Baluch C Baluch	A Silbaugh	C Hartz
SJ-11:30am	A Piasecki D Piasecki	P Daniels L Martin J Speeney	L Tomasko	M Hood



RAMBLES & RAVES

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH'S PASTOR
SHOUTS THE

GOOD NEWS

OF THE **SPRIT'S** STIRRINGS IN THE
CONNELLVILLE- DUNBAR METROPLEX!

CASH BASH IN DUNBAR: A fortnight ago Saint Aloysius had a very successful Cash Bash fundraiser. So successful, in fact, that they were running out of seats for people! At least that's what I was told; unfortunately I was unable to make it. Try as I might I haven't yet mastered the art of bi-location! (I was at an event at which Nick Bell's Geibel Showstoppers were performing.)

I want to thank Tony Bartok, a parishioner of Saint Mary in Uniontown and a friend of Father Micah. He had organised Cash Bashes for Father at Saint Mary and continued to do so for him at Saint Aloysius. When I wrote him asking if he would be willing to do the same for Saint Al's new Pastor he graciously acceded to the request. Yet another example of promoting harmony in the Body of Christ through a willingness to work together for the good of the greater Church, not merely one's own parish. I praise Almighty God for the gift of such people!

Additionally I owe a debt of gratitude to Kathy Andolino who took charge of the event and the incredible team of volunteers she gathered: Joe and Keirsten Andolino (her husband and daughter), Joy Wallace, Tammy Nedrow, Jessica and Joe Tabaj, Janet Hustosky, Tanya Bordas, Pam Herron, Jane and Dan

Laurion, Marylynn Pounds, Dave and Sue Ballard, and Anna Marie Baird.

Last, but certainly not least, Father Dan did a **WONDERFUL** job standing in my stead as number-announcer and social butterfly ... and he brought Father Julius to share in the fun! I truly appreciate all he does to support the constant stream of activities taking place in our **VERY ACTIVE** community.

Bottom line is that we cleared about 4K that will go to reducing our debt. Can I hear an Amen!

COOKIES AND PIROHI! Last Saturday the Jewel hosted two ethnic food extravaganzas: Saint Rita's Christmas cookie sale and Saint John's Slovak food sale. Unsurprisingly both were **SMASHING** successes. As Pastor I am **INCREDIBLY** proud of and

thankful for the hard work of the dedicated parishioners who **SLAVE** away in the kitchens to insure that these beautiful traditions continue. Dio vi benedica! Boh teba žehnaj!

CONNELLVILLE AUXILIARY POLICE SEZ: At Immaculate Conception Church, **ESPECIALLY** in the dark at 6pm Mass, **PLEASE** cross Crawford Avenue at the crosswalk. It is **DANGEROUS** out there. Remember a parishioner, Tom Vinoski (may he rest in peace), was killed crossing the street before Mass three years ago. That tragic incident was the impetus for Father Dan's brilliant idea to have the Auxiliary Police assist with traffic.

Trust me, I **NEVER** want to bury another parishioner who died crossing the street!!!

COVER PHOTO: Gaudete Sunday, the coming of the Lord is nigh! The rose colour traditionally associated with the third Sunday of Advent symbolically derives from mixing the advent-ian violet with white, always the colour of **JOY** in the Church. Soon and very soon, brothers and sisters, **SOON** and **VERY SOON!**

