

December 29-30, 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



**MAY THE HOLY FAMILY BLESS OUR FAMILY,
OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH,
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY!**

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 MONGELL TIRE SERVICE.

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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Connellsville/Dawson Cemetery Care
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RON NAGY

Leisenring Cemetery Care
724.603.2020

SUN, DEC 16, 2018 STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult\$4,625.00
Loose Collection345.00
Maintenance15.00
Total:\$4,985.00

Cemetery\$514.00
Immaculate Conception\$22.00
Christmas Flowers\$165.00
Accent\$10.00
Retired Religious\$5.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult\$3,424.00
Loose126.00
Children/Young Adults11.00
Parish Improvements113.00
Energy41.00
Total:\$3,715.00

Immaculate Conception\$191.00
Christmas Flowers\$115.00



ST. JOHN

Adult\$2,922.00
Loose Collection292.00
Maintenance30.00
Total:\$3,244.00

Cemetery\$462.00
Immaculate Conception\$50.00
Christmas Flowers\$10.00



ST. RITA

Adult\$3,560.00
Loose Collection499.50
Maintenance28.00
Total:\$4,087.50

Cemetery\$581.00
Christmas Flowers\$133.00
Children & Family\$10.00
Solemnity of Mary\$10.00

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE. Due to an early print deadline, offertory amounts from the DEC 22-23 collections will be reported in an upcoming bulletin.

St. Aloysius children's offertory envelopes are available for pick-up in the church social hall.



SUN, DEC 30, 2018 HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Colossians 3:12-21 THE FORGIVING FAMILY

The Christian family is a symbol of forgiveness and love. Every family has its rough spots. Within one family not everyone believes the same and prays the same. Some show love comfortably, others with embarrassment. Some naturally look out for someone else; others are concerned about themselves. Some boast about their accomplishments, others are humble. Some have old hurts that still ache, others have healed and forgiven. Families are not perfect, but they are designed for love.

On Holy Family Sunday, we remember that the model of family love is the love that Christ gives us. The Letter to the Colossians says, "As the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do."

All society is a symbol of forgiveness and love. At least it should be. God loved us all enough to send Jesus into the world. He came to save us. We do not always respond to this love the way that we should. But at least we have a model for what love is like. It is compassionate, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Within the world, we have our differences, but we hold this in common: the ability to live in peace and the grace of God's forgiveness.

At Christmas we celebrate the gift of God's forgiveness, Christ, our redeemer. We try to imitate that forgiveness as individuals, as families, and as a community. If the forgiving Christ dwells in each family, each family will bring forgiveness to the world.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

MON: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
TUE: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
WED: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
THU: 1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
FRI: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
SAT: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
SUN: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

MON, DEC 31
6pm Vigil at St. John

TUE, JAN 1
9am Mass at St. Rita 10:30am Mass at St. Al

—END OF YEAR—
GIVING
STATEMENTS

will be mailed to you by
the end of JAN.
*No need to call the office,
please.*

A NEW YEAR FOCUSED ON JESUS

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS TO HELP YOU GROW IN FAITH THIS YEAR

There is nothing wrong with losing weight, paying off debt, or setting a new goal for 2019. But, if our faith is truly the number one priority in our lives, shouldn't it top our list of resolutions for the upcoming year?

Would you like to resolve to grow closer to the Lord and His Church in 2019? If so, here are 10 ideas to help get you started. I'd really encourage you not to simply pick one at random and say you're going to do it. Take some time to prayerfully consider what will best help you grow in faith!

GO TO CHURCH EVERY WEEK

Yes, I know you are busy. BUT we have SEVEN different opportunities every weekend to attend Mass here in Our Lady Queen of the Yough Catholic Community. YOU CAN make it to ONE! Countless people have told me that when they are attending Mass regularly, they can feel a real difference in their lives! Mass sets the tone for the rest of the week. Through the Eucharist, we are spiritually fed and filled up so that we can continue to pour ourselves out.

SET ASIDE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES A DAY TO PRAY

Again, I fully recognize that time is an issue for most of us. But even if you are busy, you STILL have time for God. You just have to MAKE it. You could...

- ♦ Wake up 15 minutes earlier
- ♦ Pray in the shower
- ♦ Pray while you're doing your hair/make-up
- ♦ Pray during your morning or evening commute
- ♦ Pray on your lunch break
- ♦ Pray while making dinner, washing dishes, or folding laundry
- ♦ Pray with your kids before they go to sleep every night

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

Keeping the Sabbath holy goes far

beyond going to Mass on the weekend. The Sabbath, after all, is our day of rest. I know I am going to get eye rolls from parents with children when I say to rest on the Sabbath. As someone with 3 children, I get it. But I also acknowledge that I need to MAKE time to rest. Just a few weeks ago, I had to simply say NO to a ministry opportunity. As much as I absolutely HATE to say no (especially for a worthy cause), I knew I needed to take that day for God and my family. What can you cut out or cut back on this year to leave room for rest and Sabbath?

READ YOUR BIBLE/ PARTICIPATE IN A BIBLE STUDY

Your Bible is NOT meant to collect dust on your book shelf. If you don't know where to start, we use the Mission 119 series for our Adults and Children in Faith Formation. I would be happy to prepare the weekly children's packets for you if you are interested, and they are free! The Mission 119 App also makes it easy for you to read weekly adult scripture reflections from your phone. Tom Severin also has a weekly Adult Bible Study at Immaculate Conception on Wednesday evenings.

START TITHING

When we give, it is an act of faith that shows that we are committed to God and the work of the Kingdom. Open handed giving releases joy, prosperity, and favor in our lives. Giving is not just about making a donation; it is about making a difference. Our parishes will NOT be able to make an impact or do any type of ministry if we can't afford to keep the lights on!

BEGIN VOLUNTEERING

One of the best ways that we can be Christ's hands and feet in a broken world is through service to our parish and our community. Sadly, many of the same people volunteer for EVERYTHING and quickly get burnt out. Above and beyond volunteering for our parishes, our local community is always in need of people willing to

lend a hand in various projects. Rita Smith at Community Ministries, or our very own Mayor Greg Lincoln, would both be happy to direct you!

LISTEN TO CHRISTIAN MUSIC

Every New Year, K-LOVE has a challenge in which participants listen to NOTHING but Christian music for 30 days. Four years ago I participated in the challenge, and four years later I am STILL listening to nothing but Christian music! Truly it has made a world of difference in my life. Put on Christian radio in the car, at work, or even while you're cleaning the house and see how it changes your mood, your outlook and even the atmosphere of your home!

STOP COMPLAINING

Are you guilty of complaining? Philippians 2:14 reminds us to "*Do everything without complaining and arguing.*" Trust me; I know how satisfying it can be to complain about slow drivers, work, bills, opinionated trolls on Facebook, and grocery cashiers who put raw meat in the same bag with raw vegetables (*seriously people*)! But in this case, it really is best to just bite your tongue.

REFUSE TO GOSSIP

I will admit it; it is so FUN to gossip, especially in a small town! HOWEVER, 99% of the time, the information that we are spreading is MISINFORMED CHATTER. Gossip creates an environment of negativity and passive aggressive behavior. Again, before you speak, think!

FIND A MENTOR OR ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNER

It's one thing to say you're going to make a change in your life; it's another to find someone to keep you accountable to actually make that change. If you're feeling stuck, or are serious about changing, find a mentor or partner to help hold you accountable.

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

What's Happening at home

Next Youth Group will be WED, JAN 2 in the old CAPS building, 6-8pm.



Our Lady, Queen of the Young Catholic Community Children's

Choir will rehearse on SAT, JAN 5, at IC's Sciberras Hall. Children in grades 3-6 are eligible to join the Choir. 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.

IC Holy Name will meet MON, JAN 7 in Sciberras Hall at 7pm. All men are welcome.

Next Foundations of Faith will be WED, JAN 9 at Geibel, from 5:45-8pm. Dinner will be from Keedy's - chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, anti-pasti salad and dessert.

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 or Patty Rose at 880-4919 ASAP. Cost of \$150 includes bus, show and dinner. 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.

St. John's Fundraising Committee wishes to thank those who donated items, made monetary gifts, took orders, and most importantly gave their time to make pirohi and halupki for the Pre-Order Slovak food sale. The Committee extends a special thanks to all who prepared and purchased food to make the fundraiser such a success. Net profit was \$5,083.44.



St. Emma Monastery, Greensburg, will hold "Visit and Vespers" SAT, DEC 29 from 1-4:30pm. The event will feature the Bethlehem Express train, carols, cookies, tours of the monastery's B&B, and more than 300 Nativity scenes. Free admission. For info, visit www.stemma.org.

Nar-Anon, WED, JAN 2 at St. John's Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.

One of the most beautiful traditions of our Catholic heritage is the BLESSING OF OUR HOMES, which is done near Epiphany Sunday. Below is a blessing you can use for your own home:



Lord, God of heaven and earth you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

After praying, if you have holy water, sprinkle some in each room, then place the following above your doorway:

20 + C + M + B + 19

This marking means your home was blessed in the year 2019. The letters represent the traditional names of the 3 wise men: Casper, Melchior and Balthazar.

SAT, JAN 19, 2019 in Sciberras Hall. \$10 cost includes 1 horse + 4 admissions. Get your tickets now in Sciberras Hall after SAT 6pm and SUN 9:30am Masses.

NO JAN Grief Support meeting for those who have lost a loved one to addiction. The next meeting will be TUE, FEB 5 in St. Rita's Bucci Hall (note change of venue).

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.



DeVivo and Brady Centre offices will be closed on the following dates:

MON, DEC 31, TUE, JAN 1 and WED, JAN 2. Business as usual beginning JAN 3.

SOME THOUGHTS AS THIS YEAR ENDS AND A NEW ONE BEGINS...

And to make an end is to make a beginning.

Maybe this year, we should walk through the rooms of our lives not looking for flaws, but looking for potential.

As the old year retires and a new one is born, we commit into the hands of our Creator the happenings of the past year and ask for direction and guidance in the new one. May He grant us His grace, His tranquility and His wisdom!

IF YOU WANT THIS TO BE YOUR YEAR: DON'T SIT ON THE COUCH AND WAIT FOR IT. GO OUT. MAKE A CHANGE. SMILE MORE. BE EXCITED. DO NEW THINGS. THROW AWAY CLUTTER.

UNFOLLOW NEGATIVE PEOPLE ON SOCIAL MEDIA. GO TO BED EARLY. WAKE UP EARLY. DON'T GOSSIP. SHOW MORE GRATITUDE. DO THINGS THAT CHALLENGE YOU. BE BRAVE.

PRAYER requests

Hank Adair, Victoria Altimus, Arlene Argiro, Scott Aronhalt, John Auer, Maureen & Stephen Austen, Beatrice Babura, Peter Babyak, Ada Bageant, Janice Bailey, Al Balow, Heather Bardin, Connie Bates, Meghan Bayer, Scott Bell, Maya Bennett, Marissa Bercik, Reanne Berger, Seth Beveridge, Scott Bigley, Anise Black, Betty Blacka, Jeffery Blystone, Gail Boucher, Devin Braddock, Patty Broderick, Mary Bredeesen, Brian, Michael Brienza, Quinn Bukovac, Skip Burd, Divinia Calinao, Bob Camilli, Jamey Camp, Margaret Carbonara, Kay Caringola, Grace & Larry Carroll, Cecil Casini, Anthony Cecchini, Toni Cellurale-Kuhlman, Mallory Chaikcic, Patty Check, Anthony Colatch, David Coldren, Rita Cole, Jack Conko, Steve Conko, Cindy Costello-Ford, Angelo Crocetti, Gloria Cross, Ron & Donna Cross, Robert Cumberland, Pat DeCara, Frank Decker, Debbie Del Sordo, Aidan DeMarco, Lavonne Dillinger, Paul Dillon, Albert Disson, Joyce Doppelheuer, Agnes Dowling, Sandy Drury, Mike Dunaway, Cathi Dunn, Alberta Dusha, Melody Dynes, Aaron Ebaugh, Ronald Egnot, John Emanuel, Charlotte Eutsey, Ron Farina, Michael Farris, Michelle Farris, Joan Fattori, Sandra Fletcher, Frankhouser & Hager Families, Cameron Frame, Sr., John Frick, Jason Friguglietti, Nicholas Gaborko, Christopher Galik, Robert Gallo, Sr., Jean Gallo-Ciscon, Machaela Garlowich, Greg Garred, Sr., Timmy Gibbs, Barry Glotfelty, Tanya Gray, Erika Grogan, Allie Guilian, Garrin Haggerty, Paul

Hammaker, Jim Haney, Connie Hatter, Betty Healey, Nancy Heinbaugh, Paul Helinsky, Charles Helms, Sr., Frederick Helms, Alexia Herchko, Bill Herman, Mary Ann Herman, Angela Hill, John Hohmann, Steve Holup, Arlene & Jay Honeycutt, Dennis Hough, Ruthie Hough, Herk & Connie Hubbard, Barry S. Huey, Dominic Ianello, Dolores Iaquina, Brittany Johnson, Darlene & Donnie Johnston, Kevin Jones, Karen, Joseph Kasunic, Rich Kazmierczak, Chase Kemp, Larry Kenison, Larry Kent, Lora Keslar, Joann Kieta, Carol King, Lorraine Kinnick, Alcuin & LaRena Kirsch, Zachary Knabenshue, Judie Kosisko, Kathy Kovac, Trish Koval, Eric Kreinbrook, Maureen Kurp, John Kuzyck, Bernadine Lafko, Susan Lake, Kevin Lape, Sean Lewandowski, Michaelene Lint, Michael Litman, Anita Grasso Lizza, Maryann Lloyd, Justin Loncala, William & Adina Long, Alvera & Michael Long, Savannah Longanecker, Shannon Lown, Darlene Madarish, Jeffrey Madarish, Koochie Maiese, Noah Manges, Christine Martin, Daniel Martin, Marie Martin, Theresa Martin, Michael, Sylvia Myndresku Martin, Carol Martray, Bret Martucci, Ann Matthews, Betty Mazurik, Robert Mazurik, Jean McCormick, Msgr. Ed McCullough, Janet McCune, Dave McMullan, Jeanne Meagher, Hunter Meese, Justin Miller, Kayia Miller, Nancy Miller, Terri Molinaro, Kay Molnar, Diane Monaco, Cathi Mongell, Fotenie Mongell, Adam Morgan, Kimberly Morrell, Edward Mulhorn, Tom Mullen, Carmella Mullins, Betty Nagy, Irene Nakles, Anna Newton, Fred Niemits, John Orazi,

Sr., John Pessamato III, Jonathan Philburn, Tom Pierce, Frank Pilla, Daniel Piper, Doug & Joyce Pirl, Velda Plesz, Caroline P., Gemma Premus, James Price, Marisa Primozic, Scott Prinkey, Ruth Ann Puskar, Theresa Ranker, Dexton Reed, Imogene Rega, Joe Rega, Maryann Reid, Freda Rennick, Tammy Renzi, Alexa Roadman, Jeanette Roley, Ellen Romanko, Terry Rose, Terry Ross, Ronald Rozell, Mary Margaret Ruck, Robert Ruck, Lorelai Santangelo, Parker Scarry, Betty Schott, Theresa Schott, Gavin Schuller, Brennan Sechrist, Susie Seman, Lisa Sezawick, Ray Shamberger, Mary Ann Shandorf, Steve Shandorf, Linda Shank, Martha Sheets, Kelly Huffman Sherbondy, Gen Sherwood, John Shields, Michele Sholtas, Lester Shultz, Sr., Jeff Sigado, Erin Sigwalt, Gunnar Skrobacz, Kendal Skrobacz, Eric Smearman, Mattie Smith, Dennis Soisson, Mark Soisson, Marian Soldano, Sonya Spaw, Heather Spennati, Evelyn Sperry, Charles Spicola, Lori Stofan, John & Janet Stroncheck, Sadie Swank, James Thompson, Michael Tonarelli, Turner Trimbath, Ronnie Umble, David Voda, David Voda, Jr., Denise Voda, Ursula Vozar, Carol Ward, Doug Ward, Millie Warnick, Melvin Washington, Lois Weibl, Henry Whipkey, Marcella Wilburn, Roianne Wilson, Teri Winterhalter, Barbara Wisilosky, Beth Ann Wisniewski-Lee, Bernie Wolfe, Becky & Bob Wurst, Frank & Margaret Zadell, Sr. Mary Mark Zavatsk, Anita Zentarsky, Richard Zientarsky, Esther Ziska, Rebekah Zoldi.



the repose of the soul
of DEACON ROBERT
SCHOTT, who died
recently. May his soul and the
souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest
in eternal peace.

**2019 CALENDARS are now available
at the entrances of our churches.**

Thanks to:

Brooks Funeral Home, Inc.
Burhans-Crouse Funeral Home
Paul G. Fink Funeral Home, Inc.
Richard Kucera Funeral Home
Vito C. Martucci Funeral Home



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

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

**JAN Ministry schedules are on
www.youghcatholic.org.**

**Contact Chris Sparks at 628-7510
or crsparks1@zoominternet.net
with any questions or if you
cannot serve when scheduled.**

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON, DEC 31

8:00am St. Rita
8:30am St. Al

ST. SYLVESTER I, POPE

Ann Kieta (Tony Fao)
St. Al Nelis Family (Dolores & Warne Rankin)
VIGIL, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

6:00pm St. John

Melvina Rendine (Stanton & Paula Fogie)

TUE, JAN 1

9:00am St. Rita
10:30am St. Al

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Deceased Members of the Prestia & Gasbarro Families
(Marian Cadwallader)
Fr. Micah E. Kozoil (Sue & John Maykuth)

WED, JAN 2

8:00am St. Rita
8:30am St. Rita

STS. BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS/DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

Anthony & Roberta Mongelluzzo (Children &
Grandchildren)

THU, JAN 3

8:00am IC
8:00am St. Al
8:30am St. Al

Adoration until 4:30pm

MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Vincent E. Frazier (Wife, Norma Frazier)
Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
Ettore & Eleanor LaCaffinie (Children, Vince, Lucky,
Angela, Mary Lynn & Family)

FRI, JAN 4

8:00am St. Rita
8:15am St. Al
8:30am St. Al

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

Mary & Walter Radlosky (Bill & Nancy Radlosky)
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Margaret J. Martin (Rick & Linda Martin & Family)

SAT, JAN 5

11:30am St. Rita
4:00pm St. Rita
5:00pm St. Al
6:00pm IC

ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

Confession
VIGIL
Warren & Eleanor Gossger (Kathy & Dick Oglevee)
Stephen Mullaney (Mom, Jim & Baba)
John, Sophia & Larry Mayros, Jr. (Kathy Holup & Family)

SUN, JAN 6

8:00am St. Rita
9:00am St. Al
9:30am IC
11:30am St. John

EPHANY OF THE LORD

Philomena Cunningham (Galliete Family)
Rose Papincak (Son, Wayne & Debra Papincak)
William W. Foley Family (Wife, Theresa & Family)
Pro Populo

IC, ST. JOHN, ST. RITA MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	ACOLYTE	EX MINISTER	CROSS BEARER	LECTOR
JAN 5 SR-4pm	Z Zimmerman E Bohinski	G Lembo J Lembo N Lembo	T Long	C Sparks
IC-6pm	K Daniels G Galley	J Colvin M Villa Neuva J Villa Neuva	A Silbaugh	B Colvin
JAN 6 SR-8am	M Pascoe G Joseph	L Kozel D Gephart L Lauffer	C Joseph	J Malone
IC-9:30am	J Bielstein B Petrone	M Lazor E Aquino B Molitor	B Bielstein	R Lazor
SJ-11:30am	L Colland K Yoders	J Speeney L Martin P Daniels	N Gaudiello	M Martin

ST. AL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SAT, JAN 5 - 5PM

ALTAR SERVER C Baldwin C Baldwin J Trimbath	LECTOR T Nedrow	EX MINISTER K Andolino P Herron S Lincoln
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SUN, JAN 6 - 9AM

ALTAR SERVER A Mongell N Mongell F Vinoverski	LECTOR B Martin	EX MINISTER T Grover J Laurion S Smith
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ROSARY SCHEDULE

SAT, JAN 5
Volunteer

SUN, JAN 6
Carol Johnston



RAMBLES & RAVES

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

GOOD NEWS

OF THE **SPirit's** STIRRINGS IN THE
CONNELLSVILLE- DUNBAR METROPLEX!

WE ARE FAMILY! Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. As we meditate on that most perfect family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph it is the **PERFECT** opportunity to reflect on the state of our own families. And beyond each of our biological families I propose a reflection on the state of our faith family as well. In case it hasn't been noticed I quite frequently refer to our grouping of four parishes as a **FAMILY**. That is a **VERY DELIBERATE** choice on my part, brothers and sisters! (Did you get that subtle reference?!)

Of course, anyone with even a glancing familiarity with Sacred Writ understands that from beginning to end Scripture is suffused with familial language and imagery. As we transition from the Old Testament to the New that image becomes more inclusive; for the Jewish people membership in "the family" was restricted by and large to those who were, by blood, members of the Jewish race. Jesus expanded "the family" to include all who accepted him, regardless of the race of people to which they belonged.

That Old-to-New-Testament transition towards a greater inclusiveness is precisely the situation in which we find ourselves. Not that long ago (mere months for our "youngest" family member!) we were four separate families. And now through "marriage" (admittedly

ARRANGED marriages) we have become one. That certainly brings with it challenges. (Pop culture video aid: think of the challenges Carol and Mike faced in integrating Greg, Peter, and Bobby with Marsha, Jan, and Cindy!) In the past six and a half years, to the great credit of our parishioners, many challenges have been met and overcome. It has been my greatest joy watching this maturation in the family of which I am symbolically the head (there is logic behind my title "Father!"). As I have made clear in this space already, I have been especially **DELIGHTED** at the preternatural swiftness with which Saint Aloysius has willingly integrated into its new family! I would gladly propose them as a **PERFECT** model to be imitated by other parishes being partnered.

If you have been a regular reader of this weekly column (and its predecessor "Rambles and Rants") you undoubtedly also know that there are challenges that have **NOT** been met and overcome. Admittedly, I tend to harp on those unmet challenges, but I'm doing it for **YOUR** good. Think of me as an annoying parent; I only harp because I want the **BEST** for my children. I want you to be **ALL YOU CAN BE!**

On this last Sunday of Anno Domini Two Thousand Eighteen, on the cusp of a brand new year (and as I look forward to my seventh anniversary as your Pastor) my fervent

desire is that **EVERY** parishioner will overcome any **INORDINATE** attachment to **THEIR** church (and **VERY SADLY** - for a very, very, very few - positive **HATRED** of the other churches) and embrace their role as members of the bigger family of Our Lady, Queen of the Yough Catholic Community. We will be so much more effective in our primary mission of proclaiming the **GOOD NEWS** of the Kingdom if we all come together. I am profoundly thankful for the many who are already onboard and trust that the Lord will touch the hearts of the few recalcitrants who seem to be holding out for a past that will **NEVER** return.

May the words of Sister Sledge's 1979 hit - and the Pirate's World Series anthem that year (yes, Virginia, there **WAS** a winning MLB team in town!) - be Our Lady, Queen of the Yough Catholic Community theme song in 2019:

Ev'ryone can see we're together
As we walk on by
(Hey) and we fly just like birds of a feather
I won't tell no lie
(ALL) all of the people around us they say
Can they be that close
Just let me state for the record
We're giving love in a family dose!

We are family
I got all my sisters [and Brothers!] with me
We are family
Get up ev'rybody and sing
We are family
I got all my sisters [and Brothers!] with me
We are family
Get up ev'rybody and sing!

COVER PHOTO: A beautiful old picture of the Holy Family, hanging in Waters House. If my memory serves me correctly this was a wedding gift to my (step) Grandmother and her first husband, Bernard Hawkins, on the occasion of their marriage in 1929.