

December 1-2, 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



WINTER IN DUNBAR!

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 HOME PROUD DEVELOPMENT.

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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Leisenring Cemetery Care
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SUN, NOV 18, 2018
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult\$4,660.00
 Loose Collection536.59
 Maintenance70.00
Total:\$5,266.59

Cemetery\$267.00
 Accent\$10.00
 All Saints\$5.00
 Poverty Relief\$504.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult\$4,192.00
 Loose110.00
 Children/Young Adults10.00
 Parish Improvements60.00
Total:\$4,372.00

Accent\$20.00
 Poverty Relief\$378.00



ST. JOHN

Adult\$3,528.00
 Loose Collection212.00
 Maintenance44.00
Total:\$3,784.00

Cemetery\$401.00
 Accent\$18.00
 All Saints\$15.00
 Poverty Relief\$403.00
 Retired Religious\$5.00



ST. RITA

Adult\$4,041.00
 Loose Collection356.00
 Maintenance20.00
Total:\$4,417.00

Cemetery\$143.00
 Accent\$15.00
 All Saints\$6.00
 Poverty Relief\$510.00
 Retired Religious\$5.00

SUN, NOV 25, 2018
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult\$4,657.00
 Loose Collection421.50
 Maintenance50.00
Total:\$5,128.50

Cemetery\$40.00
 Accent\$334.00
 All Saints\$5.00
 Thanksgiving\$757.00
 Poverty Relief\$49.00
 Christmas Flowers\$20.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult\$3,749.00
 Loose174.00
 Children/Young Adults16.00
Total:\$3,939.00

Accent\$4.00
 Poverty Relief\$72.00
 Flood Relief\$398.00
 Thanksgiving\$312.00



ST. JOHN

Adult\$3,268.00
 Loose Collection277.00
 Maintenance25.00
Total:\$3,570.00

Cemetery\$36.00
 Accent\$248.00
 Thanksgiving\$674.00
 Poverty Relief\$40.00
 Immaculate Conception\$10.00



ST. RITA

Adult\$3,577.00
 Loose Collection276.00
 Maintenance103.00
Total:\$3,956.00

Cemetery\$23.00
 Accent\$289.00
 Thanksgiving\$743.00
 Poverty Relief\$60.00
 Retired Religious\$4.00



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DEC 2, 2018

Jeremiah 33:14-16

HUNGRY FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

The Scriptures of Advent open this year with an appeal for justice and security. Our society longs for a better life the same way ancient Israel and Judah did. We long for safety within our borders. We long for leaders of blameless conduct. We long for these blessings to last.

During Advent we want to see the fulfillment of God's promises. God promised peace. God promised safety. God promised good leaders. God promised food, drink, and strength. During Advent we anticipate the fulfillment of God's main promise: salvation. We await the celebration of the birth of Jesus, whose name means Savior and whose mission brought redemption.

But we still await something more. We need God's presence in our midst now. We need peace in our lives now. We need leaders in whom we can trust, leaders we can admire, leaders who cooperate with the plan of God. And we need them now.

Through Jeremiah, we hear God's promise for something unique and wonderful: "a just shoot." God promises a strong sprout of new growth nudging up from the earth. This shoot will flower with justice. The earth and rain will fertilize its seed and make it grow from year to year.

This Advent our society yearns for a just shoot, the fulfillment of God's promise.

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The DeVivo and Brady Centre parish offices will be closed on FRI, DEC 7 in recognition of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

What's Happening at home

St. Al's Cash Bash is SAT, DEC 1.

Doors open at 6pm. First drawing will be at 6:30pm. Tickets available at the door.

IC Holy Name Pancake, Buckwheat and Sausage Breakfast will be held on SUN, DEC 2 in Sciberras Hall, 7:30-11:30am. \$5.50 adults; \$3/children 9 and under.



IC Holy Name meeting on MON, DEC 3 in Sciberras Hall at 7pm.
All men are welcome.

Volunteers are needed on WED, DEC 5 at 8:30am in Bucci Hall to pack cookies for their cookie sale. Anyone wishing to donate 3 dozen cookies for the St. Rita cookie sale is asked to bring them to Bucci Hall on THU, DEC 6, 8am-noon.

Youth Group will meet WED, DEC 5 in the former CAPS building, 6-8pm.

Tom Severin's Bible study group will meet WED, DEC 5 in IC's Sciberras Hall, 6:30-8pm.



Congratulations to ROSALINA THERESA SLOBODA, daughter of Jennifer Salandra and Santino Sloboda, baptized NOV 18 at St. Rita.



Congratulations to LUCAS JAMES, son of Erin and Lucas Ostroski, baptized NOV 25 at St. Aloysius.

Volunteers from St. John will make cabbage rolls on FRI, DEC 7 at 8:30am in Moravek Hall, for their Slovak food sale.

St. Rita Christian Mothers Christmas Cookie Sale SAT, DEC 8, beginning at 9am in Bucci Hall.

Italian favorites - knots, pizzelles and biscotti will be available, plus a variety of other assorted cookies.



ORDER PICK-UP

Slovak Food Pre-Orders from St. John's will be available for pick-up on SAT, DEC 8 in Moravek Hall, 9-11am.

Bring your own containers if you would like the cabbage rolls packaged as you choose.

Our Children's Choir will rehearse SAT, DEC 8, in IC's Sciberras Hall, at 11am. The Choir will also sing for the 4pm SAT, DEC 8, Mass at St. Rita Church.

St. Rita Holy Name will meet on SUN, DEC 9 in Bucci Hall after 8am Mass.

Election of officers will be held. Anyone interested in becoming an officer should come to the meeting. Coffee and donuts will be served.

The Giving Tree is in the gathering area of St. Al's. Please return all gifts by DEC 10 so that they can be delivered by St. Anne's deadline. Gifts received after that deadline cannot be delivered.



Ladies of Charity, with help from others, will be delivering cookies, poinsettias and Christmas cards to homebound members of our 4 parishes. Deliveries can be made on SAT, DEC 15, SUN, DEC 16 or the following week. Your help would be most appreciated. To volunteer or for more info, call Theresa Jaworski at 628-4034.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

MON: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

TUE: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

WED: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

THU: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRI: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

SAT: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

SUN: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

MON, DEC 10
St. Florian, United, 7pm

THU, DEC 13
St. Aloysius, Dunbar, 7pm

SAT, DEC 15
St. John, Scottdale, 11am

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

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

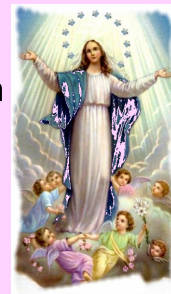
SAT, DEC 22
Visitation, Mt. Pleasant, 11am

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

FRI, DEC 7
St. Rita, 6pm

SAT, DEC 8
Immaculate Conception, 9am
St. Aloysius, 10am

In celebration of IC's Patronal
Feast there
will be light
refreshments in
the social hall
following the
9am Mass.



Nar-Anon, WED, DEC 5 at St. John's
Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.

All You Can Eat Omelet Breakfast,
SUN, DEC 9 8am-noon, St. Pius,
Mt. Pleasant. Get your tickets at
the door. Cost is \$6 adults, \$3,
ages 3-12 under 3/free.

Catholic Daughters Christmas Party
TUE, DEC 11 at Leo's Pub and Grill,
Mt. Pleasant, at 6pm. Cost is \$20,
plus please bring a \$2 wrapped gift
for a game. Call 880-6744 to make
reservations.

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in
Greensburg will host "Lessons and
Carols", with Bishop Malesic SUN,
DEC 9 at 3pm.

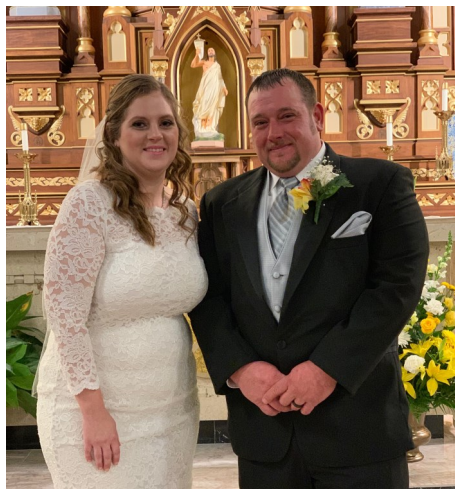
A Christmas preparation retreat with
Benedictine Father Cyprian Constan-
tine will be held at Mount Macrina
House of Prayer, U'town, SUN, DEC 16,
1:15-5:30pm (includes dinner).

Offering is \$35. Please register by
WED, DEC 12. by calling 438-7149.

A few Enjoy discount/ coupon books
are still available at the DeVivo Cen-
tre parish offices for \$30. A great
Christmas gift to use all year long!



Congratulations to DANIELLE
BROWNING AND RUSSELL BAIRD,
married NOV 17 at St. Al.



Congratulations to ANGELA
MCLAUGHLIN & NICHOLAS MIZIKAR,
married NOV 17 at IC.



Congratulations to LAUREN NICHOLSON
(formerly of IC) and CHRISTOPHER
MCGILL, married NOV 17
at Saint Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh

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



THE WOMAN AT THE WELL: THIRSTING FOR TRUTH



LOVE AND HOLINESS

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.

HOLINESS. When a word is so uniquely religious it sometimes doesn't seem to be as practical as some other words. Our Second Reading for today from the letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians defines **HOLINESS** and sheds light on the heart of what true holiness means.

I don't know about you, but as a child when I would hear the word "holiness," it was very mysterious to me; a strange word. This was especially true when someone would point to a particular person and say, "Do you see that man? He is a holy man." I didn't quite know what to make of that, whether that meant that he was part of a secret club, or that he never smiled, or that he was living on some higher level of existence. Holiness seemed to be something

distant, something totally removed from ordinary life.

I think many Christians have this sort of view of holiness. Sometimes God's people see holiness as some abstract thing, or as something lofty and unattainable; something that is so religious and so spiritual that it's hard to know how it connects with real life. But Paul doesn't see it that way. On the contrary, Paul is teaching us that...

If you want to be perfected in holiness, you need to grow in love.

One day we are going to be perfected in holiness, rid of sin, and fully alive to God's will. The people of God will be perfectly sanctified, so that Christ might present the Church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle, that she might be holy and blameless.

Paul doesn't view holiness as something so religious or abstract that it doesn't connect with real life. Yes, it is something lofty, and something religious and spiritual – but it also very much connects with everyday life. It *must* connect with everyday life.

If holiness is not lived out in a concrete way that can be described as love, it is not really holiness.

If holiness is a matter of being increasingly conformed to God's law, and if as Paul says in Romans 13, "*love is the fulfillment of the law*", then it makes sense that as we grow in love, we come more in line with God's law, **and thus become more holy.**

This dynamic also makes sense to

us as we face our sin. For example, if you grow in love for your neighbor, you are less likely to covet your neighbor's possessions. The more you grow in depth of love for your spouse, the less attractive the prospect of adultery becomes. The more you love your fellow man, the harder it is to harbor any malice towards them. **If we perfectly loved everyone, there would be no sin!**

Love is the soil in which holiness grows toward perfection. Love is the means by which a person's heart gets established as blameless in holiness.

This truth ought to shape our prayer life! We have a tremendous privilege to pray for one another in the body of Christ, and this should be a theme that is frequently on our lips – that the Lord would **make us** to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all men and women!

Notice that it is the Lord who must accomplish this – as easy as the concept of love might be, it can be the most difficult thing in the world to actually implement! An increasing, abounding love for one another and for all people is not something that comes naturally or easily to us. It takes divine power, so we must pray to the One who has that power.

Growing in love is how God grows us in our holiness; the call to holiness means pursuing the heart of God for the love of the world.

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



Please remember **MEGAN BAYER, JACK CONKO, DARLENE MADARISH and CAROLINE P.**, new additions to our prayer list.

We are now scheduling 2019 Masses for the Connellsville parishes, and will honor requests on a 1st come, 1st served basis. A Mass Intention Request Form must be received to schedule a Mass - PLEASE, NO PHONE REQUESTS. Completed forms and stipends (\$10/Mass) may be dropped in the collection basket, mailed, or dropped off at the DeVivo Centre parish office. 2 Masses/family/year are allowed: 2 weekday, or 1 weekday + 1 weekend.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **DONALD GOODWIN** (uncle of Gina Lembo), **JAMES KELLY** (son of Connie, brother of Mark Kelly), **ELIZABETH "BETTY" MACKO** and **BARRY RANKER**, who died recently. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS



MON, DEC 3		ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST
8:00am	St. Rita	Lois Lembo (Jake Farris)
8:30am	St. Rita	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Marlene Brienza (Friends)
TUE, DEC 4		ST. JOHN DAMASCENE, PRIEST, DR. OF THE CHURCH
8:00am	St. John	George Kosisko, Jr. (Grandchildren, Ashley, Erica, Julianne, Anthony & Nicholas)
8:30am	St. Al	Michael & Jean Nelis (Dolores & Warne Rankin)
WED, DEC 5		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. Rita	Mary Kosisko (Buddy & Sandy Herman)
8:30am	St. Rita	Adoration until 4:30pm
THU, DEC 6		ST. NICHOLAS, BISHOP
8:00am	IC	Tommy McGuinness & Lizzy Nicholson (Mom, Dad, Cody)
8:00am	St. Al	Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
8:30am	St. Al	Michelina (Maggie) Natale (Dolores & Michele Natale)
FRI, DEC 7		ST. AMBROSE, BISHOP, DR. OF THE CHURCH
8:00am	St. Rita	John & Margaret Balena (Richard & Mary Balena)
8:15am	St. Al	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Frances Novak (Pat & Ann Trimbath)
9:30am	IC	Jean O'Donnell (Nick & Barb Bucci & Family & Petraglia Family)
	Conn-Area	VIGIL, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
6:00pm	St. Rita	Angela Marie Phillips (Family)
SAT, DEC 8		IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9:00am	IC	Bob McGuinness (Wife, Flora McGuinness)
10:00am	St. Al	Pat Orlando (Family)
		VIGIL
4:00pm	St. Rita	Pro Populo
5:00pm	St. Al	John Tomaro (Children & Grandchildren)
		Gerald & Amelia Gambone (Children & Grandchildren)
6:00pm	IC	Theodore Zgorecki & Irene Zgorecki Koballa (Bob & Patty Broderick & Family)
SUN, DEC 9		2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00am	St. Rita	Rich, Mary & John Fabian (Erma Fabian)
9:00am	St. Al	John Zavatchan (Cousin, Tina Tajc Deering)
9:30am	IC	Francis M. Hatter, Jr. (Sisters, Michelle, Dawn & Wendy)
11:30am	St. John	Mary E. Speeney (Children & Grandchildren)

ST. AL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SAT, DEC 8 - 5PM

ALTAR SERVER	LECTOR	EX MINISTER
C Tabaj	T Nedrow	K Andolino
O Tabaj		D Marchewka
		M Vinoverski

SUN, DEC 9 - 9AM

ALTAR SERVER	LECTOR	EX MINISTER
A Mongell	D Pierce	T Dull
N Mongell		J Laurion
		K Martray

ROSARY SCHEDULE

SAT, DEC 8
P Herron

SUN, DEC 9
E & D Gmitter

IC, ST. JOHN, ST. RITA MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	ACOLYTE	EX MINISTER	CROSS BEARER	LECTOR
DEC 8	M Pascoe	G Lembo	A Long	M Merendino
SR-4pm	Z Zimmerman	J Lembo N Lembo		
IC-6pm	E Snyder K Lizza	J Kramer P Calinao J Geary	O Spotto	L Grinko
DEC 9	E Armstrong M Waggett	L Kozel B Bielecki N Stasia	R Lewandowski	P Stefano
SR-8am				
IC-9:30am	L Keller G Joseph	S Reagan I McKenna M DeFazio	C Joseph	N Keller
SJ-11:30am	G Holonich K Burncheck	J Speeney L Martin P Daniels	C Becker	C Petrasun



RAMBLES & RAVES

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

GOOD NEWS

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

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE: With the beginning of Advent it is time to announce the Mass schedule for Christmas. Of course a new wrench was thrown in this FUN-FILLED yearly "holiday tradition" with the addition of Saint Aloysius to our family. Fortunately, it wasn't a GREAT BIG, CHAOS-CAUSING **WRENCH O'DEATH!** I was able to more or less replicate the 2015 schedule and simply add in two Masses in Dunbar. As we move into the future the Christmas schedule will change to a four year rotation instead of a three year one. (At least until we have 5, or 6, or 7 parishes in our community!)

As you will notice it is Saint Rita's year to have only one Mass and that Mass will be the Midnight Mass. I anticipate that there will be those who will grumble "Well, with THREE priests now, why can't we have MORE MASSES." Let me try to offer an explanation; although I know it won't satisfy everyone, I trust that reasonable people will be persuaded that I AM being logical.

The reality is that the vast majority of people these days attend the first Mass on Christmas Eve, and the earlier the **BETTER**. To be honest I am not thrilled with this fact. I grew up going to Mass on Christmas DAY with my family and then going to - and usually serving - Midnight Mass once I started working at Burn's Drug and had to

work in the morning; the evening Mass was specifically for families with small children. I actually remember my Dad dropping grandma off for the Christmas Eve Mass and lecturing her as to why she **SHOULDN'T** be going to that Mass! But regardless of my own **PERSONAL** feelings it is what it is and I have to deal with it. So acknowledging the reality, THREE early Masses have been scheduled; two at 4:30 (Immaculate Conception and Saint Aloysius) and one at 5:00 (Saint John). I trust that every last one of us will take as given that THREE priests cannot celebrate FOUR Masses at basically the same time! Furthermore the half-hour difference between the two Connellsville Masses will allow people who can't pack into IC to go down the hill in time for the Saint John Mass.

With well over half of people choosing to pack into the early Christmas Eve Masses (three this year), that leaves a considerably smaller number of people to spread out across the other four Masses. As a priest let me tell you, practically **NOTHING** is more depressing than celebrating Christmas in a nearly empty church. And that's exactly what will happen if we schedule too many. Because of that I even hesitated scheduling two Masses on Christmas morning; next year, if it is clear that one Mass suffices the schedule will be

adjusted accordingly.

Another important fact that mitigates against expanding the number of Masses is the difficulty in filling in all the ministries needed to celebrate the solemn feast of Christmas in a fitting and dignified manner. We will already be stretching our music ministry beyond the breaking point with seven Masses. Any more would have to be a *cappella*, perhaps without even a cantor. As for altar servers, lectors, EMHCs, and ushers we end up having to make endless phone calls **BEGGING** people to serve at the less-popular Masses.

With all those **WORDS** as background, without further ado, here is the 2018 Christmas Mass schedule:

4:30pm	Immaculate Conception
4:30pm	Saint Aloysius
5:00pm	Saint John
7:30pm	Immaculate Conception
Midnight	Saint Rita
9:00am	Saint John
9:30am	Saint Aloysius

COVER PHOTO: We are blessed with absolutely **BEAUTIFUL** grounds in Dunbar. Last Tuesday they were rendered even **MORE** beautiful by a dusting of one of God's greatest winter gifts (and everyone's favourite four-letter word) **SNOW!** On this first Sunday of Advent this winter shot of Madonna and Child decked out in snowy finery seemed quite apropos. Mary's "yes" to God's will is integral to this season of preparation. Without that "yes" there would be **NO** Christmas for which to prepare. And most importantly there would be **NO** Saviour to set us free from sin and death. "Blessed are you among women, and blest is the fruit of your womb!"