

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sun Dec 2</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b> 9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed Gr. K-9 10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i> 6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed Gr. 10-11
<b>Tues Dec 4</b>	6:10 PM Bingo
<b>Wed Dec 5</b>	5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary 6:30 PM 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM 10:30 Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thurs Dec 6</b>	9:00-11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration
<b>Fri Dec 7</b>	6:10 PM Bingo
<b>Sat Dec 8</b>	<b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b>
<b>Sun Dec 9</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b> 9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed Gr. K-9 10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i> 6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed Gr. 10-11 7:00 PM St. Rose Combined Choirs & Orchestra Christmas Concert



**Monday, Dec. 3 St. Francis Xavier**

8:30 a.m. †Esther Lenz (Sabby Perianunzio)  
†Joan Bator (Dr. & Mrs. Francis Fochler)

**Tuesday, Dec. 4 St. John of Damascus**

8:30 a.m. †Charles Lovett (Denny & Debbie Elder)

**Wednesday, Dec. 5**

8:30 a.m. †Robert Donnelly (Pauline Deckard)  
†Arthur J. Decoskey (Wife, Margie).

**Thursday, Dec. 6 St. Nicholas**

8:30 a.m. †Gloria J. Hurliman (Ray & Martha Stoltz)

**Friday, Dec. 7**

8:30 a.m. †Lou Bettwy (St. Rose of Lima School)  
7:00 p.m. †Robert Reese (Joann & Family)

**Saturday, Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception**

8:30 a.m. †Joseph Malady (Patrick & Diane Himes & Family)  
10:30 a.m. †Michael P. Turcovski (Mrs. Sis Hollern)  
5:30 p.m. †Helen Mirabella ( Pat & Helen Bruno)

**Sunday, Dec. 9 Second Sunday of Advent**

7:00 a.m. †James Allison (M/M Harold Dumm)  
8:15 a.m. †Frank Skupien (Family)  
10:30 a.m. †Phyllis Timpone (Orsena Family)  
12 Noon Mass for the People

**MINISTERS FOR THE WEEK**

**Altar Servers for Vigil of the Immaculate Conception,**  
December 7, 2007

7:00 p.m. Mackenzie Bracken, Zachary Bracken, Daniel Maier

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception Saturday,**  
December 8, 2007

8:30 a.m. Volunteers

10:30 a.m. Kyle Murphy

**Altar Servers for December 8-9, 2007**

5:30 p.m. Joseph Britz, Michael Fox, Julia Paule, Megan Shultz

7:00 a.m. Julie Fox

8:15 a.m. Kaitlyn Lersch, Jamie Novack, Althea Price

10:30 a.m. Derek Mrdjenovich, Richie Zelnosky, Kaitlyn Zelnosky

12 Noon: Matthew Eberhart, Frank Macharola, Pauline Macharola

**Vigil of the Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2007**

7:00 p.m. **Lectors:** Laverne Previte, Christina Bracken

**Eucharist Ministers:** P. Bracken, J. Shoenfelt, Y. Gibson

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2007**

8:30 a.m. **Readers:** Frank Fochler, Charles Wolf

**Eucharistic Ministers:** E. Beard, W. Beard Sr., R.M. Fochler

10:30 a.m. **Readers:** Todd Cammarata, Damian Charlesworth

**Eucharistic Ministers:** K. Gburek, J. Frena, K. Madariaga

**Eucharistic Ministers for December 8-9, 2007**

5:30 p.m. S. Askey, B. Shoenfelt, J. Shoenfelt, M.E. Tillard, Gene Bettwy

7:00 a.m. N. Altiero, B. Altiero, D. Altiero

8:15 a.m. K. Gburek, R. Novack, M. Solimando, B. Stoltz, E. Stoltz

10:30 a.m. K. Zelnosky, K. Mrdjenovich, T. Heiss, R. Murphy, Y. Gibson

12 Noon: M.A. Eberhart, R. Eberhart, D. Shrift

**Lectors for December 8-9, 2007**

5:30 p.m. Viola Bettwy, Frances Hesser

7:00 a.m. Paul Cooney, Robert Fox

8:15 a.m. Shawn Wesner, Linda Wolf, Religious Education Students

10:30 a.m. James Klueg, Ryan Reilly

12 Noon: Heather Macharola, Joseph Macharola

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary had its origin in the Byzantine Church as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne." It spread through the Europe during the Middle Ages as the "Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrated Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception. She is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what God calls his people to be. This year the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception retains its obligation of participation in the celebration of the Eucharist. Masses celebrating of Mary's selection to be our advocate with God and our pattern of holiness are Friday evening, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, December 8 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**AREA RECONCILIATION SERVICES** These opportunities exist for your celebration the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the Birth of Our Lord. These are: Saint John's-Monday, December 10, 6:30 P.M.; Cathedral—Wednesday, December 12, 6:30 P.M.; Sacred Heart— Thursday, December 13, 5:30 P.M.; Our Lady of Lourdes-Friday, December 14, 5:30 P.M.; St. Mary's Hollidaysburg-Sunday, December 16, 4:00 P.M. Our parish reconciliation service is Monday, December 17, 6:30 P.M. The priests also will hear individual confessions following the 8:30 A.M. Mass Wednesday, December 19, Thursday, December 20 and Friday, December 21.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ALTAR SERVERS** Boys and girls -- grade four and up -- may become altar servers. The beginning of training meeting is 9:30 A.M., December 8. This during the time between the two Masses for the Holy Day of Obligation of the Immaculate Conception. Interested new servers who cannot attend this meeting should call the rectory to let Fr. Crookston know of your desire to be an altar server.

*Parish Sacrificial Giving—November 17-18, 2007*

Regular	\$7355.58	Christmas	\$ 44 50
Capital Campaign	\$ 38.00	Candles	\$ 25.00
School Reserve	\$ 724.17	All Souls	\$ 60.00
Thanksgiving	\$ 266.00	Human Dev.	\$928.75
Christmas Flowers	\$ 10.00		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9452.00</b>

**St. Rose Parish & School Endowment Moment:** Congress passed important legislation last year to strengthen America's retirement system while encouraging charitable giving. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 may offer you opportunities for tax-free charitable giving. The PPA gives those at least 70 1/2 years of age the chance to make gifts directly from an IRA to charities without regard to percentage limitations and other provisions that might have limited tax benefits in the past. There are also options for individuals over the age of 59 1/2. The PPA is an opportunity based upon transfers completed before December 31, 2007. Check with your advisors about ways that you may take advantage of these giving opportunities to support the parish, diocese or other charities important to you. For more information, contact the Independent Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown at 814-696-9514 or email executive director Joe Scialabba at [scialaj@dioceseaj.org](mailto:scialaj@dioceseaj.org). or visit [www.independentcatholicfoundation.org](http://www.independentcatholicfoundation.org) today.

**OFFERTORY PRESENTERS**

Dec. 8	5:30 p.m.	Frances Bell I& Kathy Mirabella
Dec. 9	7:00 a.m.	Betty Allison
	8:15 a.m.	Skupien Family
	10:30 a.m.	Dennis & Carole Housum
	12 Noon	Dave & Keely Berkheimer

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SHARE IN THE CARE**

Next weekend, December 8-9 is the Annual Retirement for Religious Appeal. Skilled care assisted living expenses for religious past age 70 exceed \$450 million each year. One out of every five religious institutes has less than 20 percent of the amount needed to care for elderly members. Though they may withdraw from compensated, full time ministry, religious continue to visit the sick, tutor children and volunteer in parishes and among refugee populations. Your donation helps alleviate the spiraling cost of health. Please use the envelope that is located in your pack of envelopes. Please be generous.

**ST. ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL NEWS**

We are conducting our annual TOY DRIVE to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society's Family Kitchen which is under the direction of Sr. Paula DelGrosso. We will be collecting **new, unwrapped** toys (**MAXIMUM \$20.00**) until Monday, Dec. 10. You may give your donation to any St. Rose School student or bring it to the school office. Please do not put it in the foyer. Thank you.

Thank you to all who supported our Oxfam "Hunger Banquet". We raised \$1,062 to feed the hungry!

The Altoona Johnstown Diocesan Multimedia Competition for the Altoona Region will be held on Tuesday, December 3 at Bishop Guilfoyle. Good luck to the three St. Rose School teams!

- ✦ Making the World Better One Bag at a Time, comprised of Maggie McCall, Hannah Figurelle, and Aubri Conrad,
  - ✦ From Recycled to Jewelry, team members include, Jenna Ott, Alex Baker and Polly Macharola
- Plastic to Fantastic created by Brianna Watt and Nicole Bagley

The St. Rose School **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is Wednesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Maria Parish Center. All are welcome to attend this delightful performance. There is no admission cost. (snow date – Thursday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>)

Simpson Communications is offering a donation to St. Rose School for every cellular phone purchased at their Altoona Store. The school will receive between \$10 and \$20, depending on the plan that is purchased, with no extra cost added to the phone. This is another opportunity to help our school with no additional cost to you. The store is located on 58<sup>th</sup> St./Good's Lane across from Texas Hot Dogs.

Thank you so much to all of our parishioners who generously contribute to the second collection on the third weekend Masses. Thank you, also, to those who support our Scrip Program. This money has been a significant help to our school as we work to rebuild our reserve account and balance our budget. The children include our benefactors in their prayers each morning as they begin their school day.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Any parishioner that would like a Christmas Flower on our altar dedicated for a loved one is asked to use your Christmas Flower envelope or use a plain envelope. Kindly drop the envelope in the collection basket by December 16. Your memorial will be in our Christmas Bulletin. Please print your remembrance.

### "IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

"The common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights...is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination." (Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation. 1988).

### CANDLES

Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Irma Mort By Anne Sukala, Special Intentions & Job.

### BAPTISM

Congratulations to Owen Alexander Carmel, son of M/M George E. Carmel, who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

### MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Bator whom we honored with Christian Burial. May God give comfort to her family.

### Scrip Gift Card Volunteer Schedule

December 8-9, 2007

5:30 p.m. Amy Yahner, Vi Bettwy, Bernice Shoenfelt  
7:00 a.m. Dan Altiero, Brenda Altiero, Greg Miller  
8:15 a.m. Judy Wood, Cindy Wise, Jim/Kathy Woormer  
10:30 a.m. Pat Condrin, Elaine Condrin, Tom Goss  
Noon: Bonnie Frederick, Chris Bracken, P.J. Bracken

The St. Rose of Lima Combined Choirs and Orchestra worshipfully present the Christmas Concert "**Like Winter Waiting**." The concert will be held on Sunday, December 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the Maria Parish Center, 5524 Roselawn Ave., Altoona.

Lighted parking is available near the Parish Center and in the Church's ample Sixth Avenue parking areas. We will have an access open through the Church foyer to the Parish Center entrance.

"**Like Winter Waiting**" is presented as a Choral Concert with a thirty-five member Adult Choir and a fifteen-piece Orchestra under the direction of Bryce Cossitor, with accompaniment by Susan Cossitor. The production features St. Rose of Lima Youth Group, Costumed Characters and Dancers.

The Concert is open to the public, there will be a free-will offering to help defray costs. We will serve refreshments after the concert.

"**Like Winter Waiting**" is a thought provoking musical play that tells the Advent story with humor, poignancy and joy. It celebrated the anticipation of Christmas the way an expectant mother joyously awaits the birth of her child— the waiting is a sacred time of reflection,, preparation and hope.

### ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT CLASSES

This year St. Rose will offer Adult Enrichment Classes on the following Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Computer Room. We will be discussing the Old Testament. No prior knowledge or experience is necessary. Just bring a bible if you have one and come when you are able. All are welcome. If you have any questions, call Ann Mingyar 946-5383.

December 3 and 17	March 10 and 31
January 14 and 28, 2008	April 14 and 28
February 11 and 25	May 5 and 19

### SUPPER CLUB will meet on

December 2—5:00 p.m. at the Ramada

The Student Council of Bishop Guilfoyle High School and the American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on Tuesday, December 11 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information, call the office at Bishop Guilfoyle at 944-4014



### December 2, 2007 PRAYER CORNER

#### Short Prayers for lighting the Advent Wreath Candles

**Week One:** I light the candle of Promise. God promised to send a Messiah to save all people from sin and sadness. Jesus is the fulfillment of this promise.

**Week Two:** I light the candles of Promise and of Hope. The birth of Jesus gives us hope that sickness, sin and sadness will never have the final say in our lives. Jesus gave us abundant life in this world and eternal life in the next!

**Week Three:** I Light the candles of Promise, Hope and Joy. St. Paul said "Rejoice always!" Joy, laughter and celebration are the great signs of the presence of God.

**Week Four:** We light the candles of Promise, Hope, Joy and Love. For God so loved the world, He sent His beloved son Jesus into the world to save it.

God is love, and Jesus is love with skin and bone!

### SAINT OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER



#### *Saint Stephen-The first Martyr*

*Feast Day: Dec. 26*

*Patronage: Deacons, stonemasons*

*Profile: The name Stephen means crown and Stephen was the first disciple of Jesus to receive the martyr's crown.*

*Stephen was a deacon in the early Christian Church. Deacons were the Apostles helpers, looking after the care of widows and the poor. Stephen spoke with wisdom and grace and brought many followers to Jesus. He scolded those who did not believe in Jesus. Therefore his enemies rose up in anger and stoned him to death. As he was being stoned, St. Stephen looked up to Heaven and said that he saw the heavens open and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. He prayed, "Lord God receive my spirit" Then he begged god not to punish his enemies for killing him.*

#### Prayer to St. Stephen for Deacons

*Loving Father, St. Stephen was one of the first deacons in the Church. His holiness was evident always, even to his enemies. I ask him to pray for those who have been called to a life of service as ordained deacons. O Lord, help them to be a sign of Your love in their parishes and in the world where they live and work. Bless them with a vision of their ministry that stirs them to passion and tireless effort. Saint Stephen, pray for us. Amen.*

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET

We the 7th Grade Class of St. Rose of Lima successfully completed our Oxfam Hunger Banquet due to the generosity of our sponsors and helpers. We have not yet finished counting the money, but last year we raised \$600 for Oxfam and \$500 for Sister Paula's Food Kitchen.

We would like to thank all those involved with helping Oxfam, especially those who prepared food, served it and cleaned up. Our banquet would not be possible without this help. Also, we like to give a special thanks to those who picked up the food and helped have it donated.

We would like to express our gratitude to the following businesses:

Marzoni's—rigatoni  
DelGrosso— spaghetti sauce and meatballs  
Olive Garden —salad, salad dressing and breadsticks  
Allegro—soup  
Outback —oyster crackers  
Becky's Floral —centerpiece  
Weis- \$20.00 gift card  
Best Way—soda  
Ramada—mints  
Granny's—soup  
Creative Expressions —centerpiece  
Martin's—\$20.00 gift card  
Lena's—dessert  
U.S.Food—butter  
Hoss's—crackers

### THANK YOU

The Ladies who prepared the Luncheon for James Woomer's celebration to the deaconate would like to thank the ladies who made the cookies and desserts for this celebration.

**BISHOP GUILFOYLE HIGH SCHOOL** invites parents of prospective students in local parochial and public schools to a "Parents' Coffee" in the high school library on Monday, December 10, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. or Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. The program provides an opportunity to look at the spectrum of programs at Bishop Guilfoyle and to meet with students from all grades. Call 944-4014 for reservations by Thursday, December 6, 2007.

**Liturgical Reflection...**This liturgical year of grace the weekly inserts will share the teachings of our bishops on the building or renovation of churches. In November of 2000 the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued these guidelines under the title of Built of Living Stones Art, Architecture, and Worship. This document contains the Church's teaching on its doctrines and its liturgical theology within the context of ecclesial and liturgical law. The bishops of the United States present a guideline for all the Catholic Faithful as they undertake the task of building or renovating their worship space. This document is a wonderful presentation on Church, liturgy and Catholic faith.

### Families and the Gospel

December 2 Mt 24:37-44  
Today Jesus reminds us to expect God to burst into our lives "at an unexpected hour," when we are eating, working, cooking and sleeping. God does not wait for a special invitation. Expect His presence when love is expressed, forgiveness given and wounds healed. Being at home is not wasted time

### Junior High Youth Ministry:

**Place:** St. Mary's Memorial Hall, Altoona, Pa.

**Date:** December 9

**Time:** 2:00—5:00 p.m. Ages 11 thru 13

Activities: Dance, Dance Revolution, Guitar Hero, Basketball, Volleyball, along with many other activities. Please bring your friends. For more information call George Baker 942-5623 or Jim at 942-0142. Need not register to attend but helpful.

**Liturgical Reflection...**This Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And it is a Holy Day of Obligation. A vigil Mass is scheduled for Friday (December 7<sup>th</sup>) and Mass Saturday morning (December 8<sup>th</sup>). However, the late Saturday afternoon vigil Mass on December 8<sup>th</sup> must be for the Second Sunday of Advent. There will be no Mass for the Holy Day late Saturday afternoon. The Immaculate Conception remembers when Mary was conceived in her mother's womb as an immaculate infant. She who was to bear the Eternal Word was immaculate from the first moment of her life.

### FIRST PENANCE

**There will be a Parent Meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2007. This meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.**

### Sunday Morning Book Club

Everyone is welcome to join our parish book club. Club members are currently reading and discussing "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd. We meet from 9:15 till 10:15 a.m. in the computer room on the following dates: December 2 & 16. If you have any questions or need babysitting, please call Janette 946-4342.

### NOCTURNAL ADORATION

The monthly Vigil of Prayer scheduled by the Nocturnal Adoration Society for December 7 will be at Our Lady of Lourdes, Broad Ave. & 27th St. Altoona from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Persons interested in joining the Nocturnal Adoration Society are invited to attend one of the monthly vigils and complete an attendance card provided for that purpose at the church.

### Stewardship Reflections

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Good stewards know they are accountable and use their gifts to do God's will. Stay awake for opportunities to share your time, talent and treasure!

### Mount Aloysius College Community Night, Dec. 5, 2007-

Watch the women's and men's basketball teams play against Pitt-Greensburg. Tip-off is at 6:00 p.m. for the women's game and 8:00 p.m. for the men's game. The first 500 guests will receive a free T-shirt. Prizes will be awarded throughout the evening. The games will be held in the Health and Physical Fitness Center.

**St. Rose of Lima Eighth Grade Graduation Video can now be picked up in the back of the Church.**

