

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Dec 4	Second Sunday of Advent	
	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
Tues Dec 6	6:10 PM	Bingo
Wed Dec 7	5:45-6:30 PM	Pro-Life Rosary
	6:30 PM	8:15 Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	10:30 Choir Rehearsal
Thurs Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	
	9:00-11:00 AM	Eucharistic Adoration
Fri Dec 9	6:10 PM	Bingo
Sat Dec 10	9:30-10:30 AM	Children's Choir
Sun Dec. 11	Third Sunday of Advent	
	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



Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec. 5

8:30 a.m. Arthur Decoskey (*Wife, Margie*)

Tuesday, Dec. 6 St. Nicholas

8:30 a.m. †William Costanza (*Raymer Family*)

Wednesday, Dec. 7 St. Ambrose

8:30 a.m. Altar & Rosary Society

7:00 p.m. †Robert Reese (*Joann Reese & Family*)

Thursday, Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception of Mary

7:00 a.m. †Lou Bettwy (*Frank & Florine Fiore*)

8:30 a.m. †Kyle Holtz (*Rose & Joyce Eckenrode*)

7:00 p.m. †Betty L. Drabic (*Jennifer Weaver*)

Friday, Dec. 9 St. Juan Diego

8:30 a.m. †Carl Black (*Donna Lechleitner*)

Saturday, Dec. 10

8:30 a.m. †Phyllis Miller (*Dave & Nancy Grimm*)

5:30 p.m. †Frank Skupien (*Family*)

Sunday, Dec. 11 Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. †Nellie Roebuck (*Michael, Cathy, Kevin, Todd, Doug & Families*)

8:15 a.m. †Charles E. Dillon (*I.U.8 Education Association*)

10:30 a.m. †Rose Basciani (*Madeline Furrer*)

12 NOON Mass For The People

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING –Nov19-20, 2005

Regular	\$7734.47	Christmas	\$ 71.90
Capital Campaign	\$ 147.00	Rose	\$ 170.73
Thanksgiving	\$ 241.00	Register	\$ 20.00
Initial	\$ 3.00	Human Dev.	\$ 318.00
Peru	\$ 5.00	All Saints	\$ 15.00
All Souls	\$ 25.00		
		Total	\$ 8751.19

MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2005

7:00 p.m. Maggie & Molly McCall

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2005

7:00 a.m. Tai Irwin, Tim Link

8:30 a.m. St. Rose School Children

7:00 p.m. Derek Mrdjenovich, Jamie Novack

Altar Servers for December 10-11, 2005

Saturday, December 10, 2005.

5:30 p.m. Brittany Boslet, Justine Shultz, Max Sheedy

Sunday, December 11, 2005

7:00 a.m. Nicole Altiero

8:15 a.m. Kaitlyn Lersch, Tim Link, Daniel Lersch

10:30 a.m. Richie Zelnosky, Brian Goss, Megan Danison

12 Noon Zach Bracken, Sully McConnell, Josef Maier

Vigil for Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2005

7:00 p.m. Readers: Patrick Labriola, Frances Hesser

7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Ministers: S. Baker, B. Stoltz, G. Stoltz

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2005

7:00 a.m. Reader: Frank Fochler

7:00 a.m. Eucharistic Ministers: J. Wustrow, R.M. Fochler

8:30 a.m. Readers: St. Rose School Children

7:00 p.m. Readers: Jim Klueg, Jean Chiridon

7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Ministers: K. Irwin, K. Mrdjenovich, B. Gentile

Eucharistic Ministers for December 10-11, 2005

5:30 p.m. G. Bettwy, G. Baker, J. Scarfone, J. Shoenfelt, J. Brown

7:00 a.m. R.M. Fochler, R. Fox, D. Altiero

8:15 a.m. M. Engelman, R. Novack, P. Engelman, D. Smith,

T. Heiss

10:30 a.m. R. Skupien, T. Goss, C. Housum, K. Madariaga,

B. Gentile

12 Noon R. Fiore, C. Anslinger, J. Frena

Lectors for December 10-11, 2005

5:30 p.m. Bea Shoenfelt, Joe Maschue

7:00 a.m. Frank Fochler, Ray Kline

8:15 a.m. Laverne Previte, Tom Irwin III

10:30 a.m. Chris Danison, Todd Cammarata

12 Noon Bob Helbig

FROM OUR PASTOR

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 celebrates 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: Wednesday evening, December 7, at 7:00 P.M., Thursday, December 8, at 7:00 A.M., 8:30 A.M., 7:00 P.M.

AREA RECONCILIATION SERVICES These opportunities exist for your celebration the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the Birth of Our

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Lord. These are: St. Matthew's, Tyrone – Sunday, December 11, 2:00 P.M.; St. Mary's, Hollidaysburg – Sunday, December 11, 4:00 P.M.; Saint John's – Monday, December 12, 6:30 P.M.; Cathedral – Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 P.M.; Sacred Heart – Thursday, December 15, 5:30 P.M.; Our Lady of Lourdes – Friday, December 16, 5:30 P.M. Our parish reconciliation service is Monday, December 19, 6:30 P.M. The priests also will hear individual confessions following the 8:30 A.M. Mass Monday, December 19, Tuesday, December 20, and Wednesday, December 21.

NEW SANCTUARY APPEARANCE The Advent sanctuary banners enhance the warmth, peace, solemnity, and prayer of our church. This first set is a gift from Fr. Spishak. He has a catalog that displays other banners of the highest handicraft and their reasonable price. Please contact him if you would like to donate banners for any other of the liturgical seasons.

SAINT ROSE ENDOWMENT This weekend we are launching the Saint Rose endowment that will operate exclusively for the pastoral and educational purposes of our parish. Initially endowment earnings will help with smaller maintenance and improvement projects. As the Saint Rose Endowment assets appreciate part of the annual earnings will complement and eventually replace the parish bingo subsidy to the school. The endowment trustees are Raymond Askey, Father Crookston, Kim (Shaner) Irwin, Marty Kooman, Patricia Ronan, Joseph Reilly, and Dr. Adam Trybus, Sr.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING – Nov. 26-27, 2005

Regular	\$8182.65	Christmas	\$ 52.90
Capital Campaign	\$ 86.00	Rose	\$ 170.42
Thanksgiving	\$ 992.56	Register	\$ 5.00
Initial	\$ 5.00	Human Dev.	\$ 40.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 70.00	Mission Sun.	\$ 10.00
		Total	\$9614.53

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SHARE IN THE CARE

Next weekend, December 10th & 11th is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal. Almost 33,000 women religious and more than 5, 500 men religious are past age 70. 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 than is located in your pack of envelopes. Please be generous.

ST ROSE SCHOOL NEWS

- The students will attend 8:30 Mass on Thursday, Dec. 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. They will not attend Mass on Friday.
- Friday, Dec. 9th is the **LAST RETURN DAY** for lottery calendars.
- We are conducting our annual TOY / SMALL GIFT DRIVE to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society's Family Kitchen which is under the direction of Sr. Paula DeGrosso. We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys or children's gifts (**MAXIMUM \$20.00**) until Thursday, Dec. 15. You may give your donation to any St. Rose School student or bring it to the school office. We would appreciate your support.

HOSS'S COMMUNITY NIGHT --- 20% REBATE for SCHOOL

On Monday, December 12 at Hoss's on VALLEY VIEW BLVD. St. Rose School will receive 20% of your food bill. Vouchers (coupons) are stapled to this week's bulletin. We would appreciate your support!

MUSIC NOTES

The St. Rose of Lima Combined Choirs & Orchestra will present "Agnus Dei", a concert of worship for Christmas featuring the songs of Michael W. Smith, on Sunday evening, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Maria Parish Center. The concert will feature a 70-member choir of adults and children and a 15-piece orchestra under the direction of Bryce Cossitor, with accompaniment by Susan Cossitor, and narration by Christopher Mingyar. Dancers and a Nativity Pageant by St. Rose of Lima Parish Youth will be a central focal point of this year's concert. A free will offering to help defray costs will take place during the Concert. Following the Concert, refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Children's Choir will sing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. The children will sing Christmas Music beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Our combined Adult Choirs with accompanying Wind, Brass and Percussion will offer a Music Prelude beginning at 11:30 p.m. for the Christmas Midnight Mass.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Reminder to all involved in the Christmas Pageant during the Christmas Concert on Dec. 11. We will be having a dress rehearsal on Saturday morning, Dec. 10 at 10:00 a.m. at the Maria Parish Center. All are expected to be there. Please bring your

costume if it was given to you at practice last week. Any questions, please contact Gigi Campbell 946-5015.

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 10	5:30 p.m.	Mary Lou Moffitt & Ron Skupien
Dec. 11	7:00 a.m.	Connie Glunt & Family
	8:15 a.m.	Mike & Debbie Dillon
	10:30 a.m.	Chris & Jeanne Danison & Family
	12 Noon	Philip & Christina Bracken & Family

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS NEWS

Christian Mothers will be having their annual Christmas Party on Dec. 12th at Bishop Guilfoyle High School following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Reservations only. Cost is \$3.00 for dinner and entertainment. Sign up sheet in foyer. There will be no exchange gifts but an optional offering will be taken for our armed forces packages to be sent at a later date. Car pooling available after Mass.

Once again during Advent, Christian Mothers will have the Angel Tree in the foyer. Please take an angel, put the name or intention to be prayed for and place it back on the tree.

The Angel Tree will be shared with our Homebound members of St. Rose. Untie the Ornament, place the Ornament on the tree and take the card. Please visit the person whose name is on the card during the Advent season. Maybe take a small gift to the Shut-in. Members of the Prayer Chain will be in the foyer after Mass to help you.

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 Dec. 18. Your memorial will be in our Christmas Bulletin. PLEASE PRINT YOUR REMEMBRANCE.

CANDLES – For the Men & Women in the Military who are serving our Country by the Christian Mothers, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Rita Chverchko by M/M Lee & Family, Rita A. Chverchko by Fred Chverchko, Special Intention by John & Pat Brown, Special Intention, Thanksgiving, For a Daughter who has cancer

BAPTISM

We welcome among us Keira Nicole Mayhue, daughter of M/M Brian S. Mayhue, who received the light of Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Paul A. Beiswenger whom we honored with Christian Burial

during the past week. May God give comfort to his family.

"IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

"Today, the voice of the mass media is particularly needed by that person among us who, threatened with loss of his life, is incapable of counteracting the violence of others with anything to defend himself but the fact that he is a human being. But even that claim cannot be uttered by him. He has no voice (is usually unable to speak up) on his own behalf. All he is left with is the "silent scream." Should we not try and make the "silent voice" audible? Should we not vote on his behalf?...For the true victim of violence is not he that suffers it but he that inflicts it." Msgr. Tadeusz Styczen, "Never Again," *Medicine and Law: For or Against Life*, January, 1999.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you would like Our Prayer Chain to pray for your intentions, please call Bernice Shoenfelt at 942-5659.

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer of St. Nicholas

Wonder-working follower of Christ, from your early years, you practiced fasting and were outstanding in generosity. You quickly distributed to the poor what you had inherited from your parents. Traveling to Palestine, you became a bishop and dared to preach the Gospel, for which you were thrown into prison. As "Santa Claus", you are still loved today. Teach us to be generous like you.

Contemporary prayer

BIRTHRIGHT AND PRECIOUS LIFE

While celebrating the Immaculate Conception, the St. Rose Pro-Life Committee would like to celebrate the conception of every child by collecting new or gently used baby items for Birthright and Precious Life. A play pen will be in the back of the church for collecting items such as winter hats, gloves and coats, clothing for children through age 2, baby food, formula, bottles, diapers, wipes, diaper rash ointments, etc.

LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

This Tuesday, December 6, is the memorial of Saint Nicholas. Saint Nicholas of Myra's feast is celebrated in many European countries as a day to share gifts, usually candy placed in shoes. As Europeans immigrated to the United States, various Saint Nicholas traditions combined and emerged as Santa Claus. Bishop Nicholas was renowned for his generosity; one story tells how this saint saved three young women by providing for their marriage dowries. Sharing the story

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of Saint Nicholas can help us model his charity and reclaim this Christian saint this second week of Advent as we prepare for the great Christmas celebration.

PROJECT RACHEL- For women and men who have been involved in abortions: "The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace...you will come to understand that nothing is definitively lost." Pope John Paul II. Contact Project Rachel 814-884-8000. All calls are confidential!

Adult Enrichment Class will be held on December 4, 2005 Time: 9:20-10:20 a.m. Topic: Parenting Tools to prepare teens for today's challenges. Presenter: Dennis George, Catholic Social Services.

POINSETTIA SALE

Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11, 2005 Bishop Guilfoyle High School 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Cost \$7.00 for 6" pot 5 or more blooms 15" to 19" tall 15" wide. Any questions, please call the B.G.H.S. Athletic Department at 944-8847.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENT

During the spring of 2005, an attempt was made to start a new Christian Family Movement (CFM) group through St. Rose of Lima Parish. This fall, that attempt became successful, and on Friday, October 28, 2005, the new group had its second successful meeting.

Currently, ten couples comprise the group. Ideally, groups should consist of six or seven couples. The current group of ten is seeking an additional 2 to 4 couples who would be willing to join CFM. With the addition of the new couples, the current CFM group of ten would split into two formal, active groups of six or seven.

The current range of age of group members is from the mid twenties to the early fifties. So, couples of all ages who might be interested are welcomed. With the addition of the new couples, the intent would be to split the current group into two separate groups where the age ranges would be similar.

Couples meet once a month in each other's homes for study and conversation followed by simple refreshments. The meetings run monthly from September through May.

CFM is for couples who want a place to share values and faith and to experience Jesus in their lives and lives of their families. CFM makes lasting friends, helps couples to stay married, supports family life, and helps members to grow in faith.

Interested couples should contact Father Spishak at the Rectory

BISHOP GUILFOYLE HIGH SCHOOL

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 Thursday, December 15, 2005, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.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.

Families and the Gospel

December 4

Mk 1:1-8

Today's gospel shows that "people from the whole countryside were going out to see John the Baptist" because he was offering them forgiveness. Forgiveness is one of the foundations of a happy family. When we forgive one another, we "prepare the way of the Lord." Think about it: today God is calling you to prepare the way for his grace through your forgiveness.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

2nd Sunday in Advent

"The Spirit of wisdom and courage helps people seek pardon and be mindful, in the face of all their forgetting, that the most important work of their lives is to be Jesus' disciples." (Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, USCCB, 2002)

FOUNDATION NOTES...

Would you like to learn more about how you could support the parish or other charities through you Will? For details contact the Foundation for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown at 814 696-9514 or visit its website at www.fdtndioceseaj.org.

KINDLE THE FLAME

By William Arthur Ward

If the room of your life is filled with the darkness of despair, it need not remain so. You have the power to kindle the flame of faith, to light a candle of hope, to turn on the lamp of love, to pull back the curtains of fear, to raise the windows of doubt, to unlock the doors of defeat, and to step out into the street of service.

Reprinted with permission from: "Apple Seeds"
Fr. Brian Cavanaugh, T.O.R.

During Advent, perhaps we need to light the candles of our Advent wreath each evening and remember all of the darkness within us that needs the Light of Christ.



Story of St. Francis and the Nativity Scene (Creche):

The story of the origin of the Christmas creche rests with the very holy man, St. Francis of Assisi.

In the year 1223, St. Francis, a deacon, was visiting the town of Greccio to celebrate Christmas. Greccio was a small town built on a mountainside overlooking a beautiful valley. The people had cultivated the fertile area with vineyards. St. Francis realized that the chapel of the Franciscan hermitage would be too small to hold the congregation for Midnight Mass. So he found a niche in the rock near the town square and set up the alter. However, this Midnight Mass would be very special, unlike any other Midnight Mass.

St. Bonaventure, in his Life of St. Francis of Assisi tells the story the best:

It happened in the third year before his death, that in order to excite the inhabitant of Greccio to commemorate the nativity of the Infant Jesus with great devotion, [Saint Francis] determined to keep it with all possible solemnity; and lest he should be accused of lightness or novelty, he asked and obtained the permission of the sovereign Pontiff. Then he prepared a manger, and brought hay, and an ox and an ass to the place appointed. The brethren were summoned, the people ran together, the forest resounded with their voices, and that venerable night has made glorious by many and brilliant lights and sonorous psalms of praise. The man of God [Saint Francis] stood before the manger, full of devotion and piety, bathed in tears and radiant with joy; the Holy Gospel was chanted by Francis, the Levite of Christ. Then he preached to the people around the nativity of the poor King; and being unable to utter His name for the tenderness of His love, He called Him the Babe of Bethlehem. A certain valiant and veracious soldier, Master John of Greccio, who, for the love of Christ, had left the warfare of this world, and became a dear friend of this holy man, affirmed that he beheld an Infant marvelously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, Whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms, as if he would awake Him from sleep. This vision of the devout soldier is credible, not only by reason of the sanctity of him that saw it, but by reason of the miracles which afterwards confirmed its truth. For example of Francis, if it be considered by the world, is doubtless sufficient to excite all hearts which are negligent in the faith of Christ; and the hay of that manger, being preserved by the people miraculously cured all disease of cattle, many other pestilence; God thus in all things glorifying his servant, and witnessing to the great efficacy of his holy prayers by manifest prodigies and miracles.

Although the story is long old, the message is clear for us. Our own Nativity scenes which rest under our Christmas trees are a visible reminder of that night when our Savior was born. May we never forget to see in our hearts the little Babe of Bethlehem, who came to save us from sin. We must never forget that the wood of the manger that held Him so securely would one day give way to the wood of the cross. May we too embrace Him with all of our love as did St. Francis.

Rev. William Saunders. "St. Francis and the Christmas Creche." *Arlington Catholic Herald*.

Blessing of the Nativity Scene:

After the crib has been set up, all may gather for the blessing of the crib.

Readings:

Let us listen to the story of Christmas –

A first reader reads Heb. 1:1-3 (God prepares us for the coming of our savior). A second reader reads John 3:16-17 (God's love for us). Then a third reader reads Luke 1:28-33 (our savior is coming).

All may sing a verse or two of a Christmas hymn.

The first reader reads Luke 2:1-5 (trip to Bethlehem), followed by the second reader with Luke 2: 6-7 (birth of Jesus). The third reader concludes with Luke 2: 8-20 (shepherds).

All may sing a verse or two of Silent Night.

The first reader then reads Heb. 1:4-6 (adoration by angels). A song follows: Angels We Have Heard On High, What Child Is This, or Go Tell It On The Mountain.

Blessing:

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, Lord God, king of all creation:
We praise you for your love.

We thank you because you have loved us so much
that you sent your only Son to bring us eternal life.

Bless this crib that we have prepared,
and let it be a reminder to us of the Lord Jesus,
Son of God and Son of Mary.

Father, we praise you
through Christ our Lord.

(All answer) Amen.

The celebration concludes with all standing around the crib, singing O come, All Ye Faithful.



With the upcoming holy day of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the St. Rose Pro-Life Committee would like to celebrate the conception of every child.



During all Masses from Dec. 8 through Dec. 11, we will be collecting donations of baby items for Birthright and Precious Life.



Items needed include:

- * Clothing for up to 2 years of age
- * Hats
- * Gloves
- * Socks
- * Winter coats
- * Snowsuits
- * Cribs with slats that are no more than 2 1/4" apart to comply with current safety regulations
- * Crib mattresses
- * Crib sheets, * Receiving blankets
- * Diapers, wipes, diaper rash creams/ointments
- * Baby food
- * Formula



Our Parish Family's

Advent Traditions and Activities Collection

If you would like, please submit one or more of your families' favorites to our Parish Families Advent Traditions and Activities Collection. To contribute, simply write it up and drop it in the collection basket or E-mail it to Father Crookston (frided@stroselima.com) anytime throughout the Advent Season. Contributions can be anonymous or signed and may be included within our online Advent Calendar and/or within our weekly Bulletin.

We wish you and yours a Blessed and Joyful Holiday Season!

Build a Manger of Love

Materials:

Baby doll (a stand-in for Jesus)
Doll-sized cradle/box for a manger
Plenty of straw or shredded paper
Paper
Pen
Basket

Each Sunday during Advent:

- 1) On a small piece of paper write each family member's/friend's name who will participate.
- 2) Fold the paper to conceal the names.
- 3) Place them in the basket.
- 4) Pass the basket around and have each person draw out one name.
 - a) Open it, without revealing whom they selected, making certain they didn't draw their own name.
 - b) If they did, they take another name and then place theirs back into the basket.
 - c) Help or symbols/colors (Jane is a triangle/red; John is a circle/blue; Suzy is a square/green;...) is/are often necessary for the younger generation who can't read yet.
- 5) Each day during that week, do something nice for the person you have. Such as:
 - a) Make their bed.
 - b) Slip a special note or sweet treat on top of their purse, lunch bag, desk, brief case,...
 - c) Do a chore that would normally be theirs.
 - d) Tell them how much you love/appreciate them.

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e) Basically, anything that would bring a smile to their face.

6) Each time, after you do something nice for them, add a single piece of straw or shredded paper to the small cradle/box.

a) The more good deeds you do each day, the thicker and softer Jesus' bed will be, come Christmas Day!

7) Repeat every Sunday during Advent, drawing a new name from the basket and bringing a smile to someone's face with each good deed you do for them; not-to-mention, the smile on your own face as you ponder the many ways you can make it happen. If you're lucky enough, you just might be present when your special offering is received!

a) Before new names are drawn, reveal who had who and spend some time reminiscing the past week.

b) Sometimes, you may end up with the same person more than once and that's okay!

c) However, if all agree, go ahead and draw another name from the basket and then slip the other back into the basket.

8) On Christmas, place Jesus in the "Manger of Love" you and your family/friends created for Him.

Consider keeping a Family/Friends Advent Journal, for posterity sake, of all the special deeds done for one another; perhaps read/pass it around during the next Thanksgiving or anytime a gentle reminder is needed of just how far small acts of kindness can go. Again, help the children who can't yet read or write for themselves.

We wish you a Faith-filled Holiday Season
with peace, love, and joy for Christ and one another,
The Fromknecht Family

Be sure to visit: www.stroselima.com to view our Parish Advent Calendar with links to daily prayers and activities and to our Parish Advent Collection of Resources, Coloring Pages, and Traditions and Activities.

Turn Page Over

Minutes
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
November 10, 2005, 7:00 PM, Computer Room

Opening Prayer

Paul Engelman opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members present were:

Father Crookston, Pat Ronan, Vi Bettwy, Sue Cossitor, Pat Irwin, Frank Fochler, Judy Rossi, Cindy Boslet, Todd Cammarata, Tom Goss, Paul Engleman, Mike Fox, and Dave Kibblehouse.

Minutes

Frank Fochler made a motion to approve the October minutes. Tom Goss seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Liturgy Sue Cossitor reported the following:

- The Liturgical Commission met on November 3, 2005.
- The Children's Choir for Christmas has begun practice. There are 35 children participating. Children from the CCD classes are being recruited to participate in the pageant portion of the concert.
- Kelly Detwiler is coordinating a St. Rose of Lima instrumental group. There are 8 or 9 instrumentalists participating. The group will play at the 8:15 AM Mass, The Feast of Christ the King, on November 20, 2005.
- Father Crookston will conduct a meeting for lectors and Eucharistic ministers on November 15th at 7:00 PM and 7:30 PM respectively.
- The Parish Penance Service on December 19th will start at 6:30 PM. Mary Engelman volunteered the Christian Mothers to provide refreshments immediately following the service.
- The parish upgrade is postponed for a while because of the tight financial situation occurring in the parish.
- Michael Fox, manager at Martin's Grocery Store, has donated 500 brown paper bags for the Thanksgiving food collection and distribution. Last year 200 bags were distributed. This year 250 bags will be made up. Larry Harker was contacted about delivering the completed bags.
- Father Crookston will meet with the Christmas Decoration Committee (indoor and outdoor) on Friday, November 11th at 9:00 AM.
- The Adult Faith Formation Group has developed special faith formation inserts for the bulletin to be included for the Sundays in Advent and Christmas Day.
- Father Spishak borrowed three different banners (Pentecost, Christmas, and Ordinary Times) from Holy Rosary Church to help determine size, length, etc. for St. Rose. Father Spishak is donating the first set of banners for Advent. He has already placed the order.
- The Baptistry (old reconciliation room) area in the foyer has been opened up by removing the door and the left side panel. Wooden shelves have been added to the area, and all literature from the foyer will be moved into this area. The folding table in the foyer has been removed, and a new wastebasket has been placed in the area. The collection baskets have also been placed in this area. In progress are (1) the placing of literature in/on the shelves and racks, (2) obtaining a new stand for the petitions book, and (3) talking to St. Vincent de Paul member(s) about procedures used to empty the donation bin. Yet to occur are (1) the mounting of plastic wall shelves, (2) the building and mounting of a bulletin board for the foyer, (3) the relocating of the St. Vincent de Paul donation box and table, (4) the obtaining of matching baskets and bins to be placed on the new shelving units for the different ministries, (5) the obtaining or upholstering of 4 to 6 matching chairs for the rear of the church, and (6) the informing of the foyer organization plan to all parish groups and parishioners. Labels will be made to identify all parts of the area. After Christmas, the members of the Foyer Committee plan to meet with Father Crookston and Father Spishak to discuss the possibility of additional changes.
- Dates have been determined for the liturgical preparing for Lent. A subcommittee of the Liturgical Commission will meet on January 9, 2006, 7:30PM – 9:00 PM, and on January 17, 2006, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM. The subcommittee members are Father Crookston, Sue Cossitor, Bryce Cossitor, and Bea Shoefeld. Any other member or parishioner wishing to serve on the subcommittee is welcomed. Contact Sue Cossitor if interested at 943-0174.
- The next meeting of the Liturgical Commission is February 2, 2006 at 7:00 PM in the new Computer Room.

Other:

- Sue Cossitor asked if Parish Council would be responsible to pass the donation basket at the Choir Christmas Concert. Pat Irwin and Cindy Boslet will coordinate that responsibility.
- Tenth and eleventh graders from the CCD classes will be asked to usher for the Christmas Concert. Father Crookston will contact the classes.

Education

Parish School: Pat Ronan reported the following:

- Parent /Teacher Conferences were held on November 9th in the evening and on November 10th in the morning.
- Holiday outreach programs are beginning. (1) The food drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Society will be conducted from November 14th to the 18th. (2) The seventh and eighth graders will conduct an Oxfam Hunger Banquet on November 17th at Noon. Students in grades one through eight participate along with school staff and parishioners. It is opened to the public. The students sent announcements to the various Catholic churches to be included in their bulletins. Funds raised will go to Oxfam and Sister Paula's Family Kitchen. (3) The annual Christmas Toy Drive for Sister Paula's Soup Kitchen will take place in December. (4) The Student Council has raised money throughout the year for the "Adopt a Family" Christmas outreach program done in conjunction with Catholic Social Services. (5) The school children contributed \$917.00 for the victims of hurricane Katrina. The money was sent directly to Catholic Charities USA.
- A special school Thanksgiving Mass will take place on Wednesday, November 23rd at 8:30 AM. Pre School Pilgrims and Indians will take part in the liturgy. All are welcome to attend. The next Saturday school liturgy will be at 5:30 PM on November 19th.
- Daily morning Advent services will take place each day for all grades beginning November 28th.
- The Public Relations Committee is developing a strategy to market the pre school to St. Rose parishioners and parishioners of the feeder parishes. The campaign also may be expanded to the broader public.
- The school is in compliance with the requirements of Protecting God's Children. There are background clearances for approximately 160 people – staff, coaches, volunteers, parents, and anyone who has contact or potential contact with a child. Anyone who does not have clearance may not take part in any student activities. Again this year, the "Touching Safety" children's component of the Protecting God's Children Program will be taught to the students in kindergarten through eighth grade.
- The school was awarded a \$500.00 grant from First Energy Education Grants Program for a science, math and technology class project dealing with solar energy.

Catechesis: Vi Bettwy reported the following:

- Retreats are in full swing. Classes have been doubled for this year to save parents from having to attend so many. The Confirmation class will have their Christian Story retreat on Sunday, November 20th in the Maria Parish Center. Third and fourth graders will have theirs on Sunday, November 13th. Seventh and eighth grades have already completed theirs.
- Six students attended Shycon this year. All seemed to have a good time and also participated with much enthusiasm.
- The sixth to eighth grade youth day will be held in March. Publicity for the youth day will begin after the holidays. This has been a very active day for the students.
- There will be a meeting for the parents of the children receiving First Reconciliation on November 30th.
- As always, religious education is in need for more catechists. The substitute list is also low in number.
- The Kentucky Project and Gloria Gates Foundation Project are ready to begin.
- Saint Mary C.R.O.S.S. group will be presenting another gathering at Saint Rose in the Maria Center again this month. All children ages 5 to 12 are invited to attend. Flyers have been sent home.
- Adult Faith Enrichment is continuing its bimonthly meetings. Everyone is invited to attend. The subjects are posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule.
- RCIA had their "Welcome" for participants on Sunday, November 6th. There are eight candidates in the program this year...three are children.
- All catechists are in compliance with Protecting God's Children (PGC).

Other:

- A pastoral council member needs to be represented at catechesis meetings. Catechesis members meet the first Monday of each month. Council members were asked to look at their calendar schedules.
- *Catholic Welcome Home* will occur again. An invitation will be extended in the church bulletin.
- Cindy Boslet, Pat Irwin, and Todd Cammarata gave a brief review of the Christian Family Movement (CFM) group, which began meeting recently. Ten couples are involved in the group. They meet once a month in the evening and have a given topic to discuss. All comments about this newly formed CFM group were quite favorable.

Finance

Stewardship: Father Crookston indicated that 190 responses from parishioners were collected after Father Spishak's request for increased giving. A mailing also went out which garnered 77 additional responses.

Saint Rose Endowment: Parish council members voted to elect two candidates at-large for the Saint Rose Endowment Board. The two candidates who received the selection of the parish council were Chuck Dombrowski and Kim (Mrs. Patrick) Irwin. The same ballot will also be given to the members of the Finance Council and the School Council to vote for the two candidates at-large. After the Finance Council and the School Council vote, the two candidates at-large will be named. The individual vote totals from each election will be used to break ties.

Maintenance

Other:

- Father Crookston speaking for Father Spishak indicated that the January Project is on hold.
- Father Crookston reported that Father Spishak did quite a lot of work prior to leaving for vacation. He helped with the foyer project and the near completion of the wall plaque, hanging in the foyer.

Family Life/Activities

Hospitality: Cindy Boslet reported that she is working with Father Crookston and seeking advice and ideas from Char Labriola about greeting new members into the parish. Ideas will be brainstormed. Father also suggested that Cindy talk with Carol Housum.

Other: A brief discussion ensued regarding the purpose of “The Sign of Peace” at Mass as a way to build community.

Social Justice:

Pro-life Activities: Father Crookston reported that an area of the foyer will be designated for pro-life the weekend before and the weekend after the Immaculate Conception. During that time, baby supplies may be placed in the area. Also, in the month of May, some young people participating in the pro-life activity, *Walk Across America*, will be visiting Saint Rose and speaking at the weekend Masses.

Formation: The Appreciative Inquiry Action Plans were reviewed by council. The Action Plans completed are (1) the development of a pictorial parish directory, (2) the Annual Catholic Appeal, (3) the Annual Catholic phone appeal, (4) the Ministry Fair, (5) the parish census, and (6) Stewardship Sunday appeal. The Action Plans in progress are (1) the maintenance of the parish buildings and grounds (Paul Engelman will bring his list to council’s next meeting), (2) the placing of an adult library cart in the rear of the church with sign out cards, (3) the Eucharist ministers’ meeting and the lectors’ meeting, (4) the welcoming of new members to the parish, (5) the recruitment and training of more catechists, and (6) the sessions for adult education. The Action Plans yet to happen are (1) post catechesis for 12th graders, and (2) the restoring and building of a youth social ministry. *Note:* Father Crookston has been talking with Tom McConnell about several parishes sponsoring professional youth ministers. However, Father Crookston indicated that much depends on the number of parishes participating.

After the review of the Action Plans, Father Crookston asked council to think about the *Time* portion of *Treasure, Time and Talent*. He indicated that perhaps next year’s focus for the parish might be *Time*. A time to focus on spiritual needs perhaps by participating in retreats, enrichment activities, and/or educational activities.

Old Business

Appreciative Inquiry: Various ministries are continuing to work through the Action Plans.

New Business

Commissioning at Sunday Mass: Parish council members were commissioned during the Sunday, November 6th 10:30 Mass.

Pastor’s Comments

No additional comments

Schedule of Meetings

December 8 (note time change to 8:00 PM, following Holy Day Mass), January 5 (Ministries Dinner), February 9, March 9, April 6 (note date change to a week earlier due to Holy Week), May 11.

Next Meeting’s Opening Prayer

Frank Fochler will give the opening prayer at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer

Father Crookston offered the closing prayer.

*Respectfully submitted,
Judy Rossi*