

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Dec 16	Third Sunday of Advent	
	9:15-10:15 AM	Religious Ed Gr. K-9
	10:30 AM	Interpreted Mass for the Deaf
	6:30-8:00 PM	Religious Ed Gr. 10-11
Mon Dec 17	6:30 PM	Parish Penance Service
Tues Dec 18	6:10 PM	Bingo
Wed Dec 19	5:45-6:30 PM	Pro-Life Rosary
	6:30 PM	8:15 Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	10:30 Choir Rehearsal
Thurs Dec 20	9:00-11:00 AM	Eucharistic Adoration
Fri Dec 21	6:10 PM	Bingo
Sun Dec 23	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
	10:30 AM	Interpreted Mass for the Deaf



Monday, Dec. 17

8:30 a.m. †Dorothy Reilly (*Gail Prough*)

Tuesday, Dec. 18

8:30 a.m. †Michael P. Turcovski (*M/M John Archey*)

Wednesday, Dec. 19

8:30 a.m. †Gloria J. Hurliman (*Rick & Donna Kelly*)
Special Intentions for Cynthia Kiratzis (*Paul & Mary Engelman*)

Thursday, Dec. 20

8:30 a.m. †Helen Mirabella (*Paul & Mary Engelman*)

Friday, Dec. 21

8:30 a.m. †Anna Fulchiero (*Sue & Wayne Robeson & Jean Davis*)

Saturday, Dec. 22

8:30 a.m. †Marie Giovengo (*Angela Davis & Family*)
5:30 p.m. †Attilio "Joe" Martino (*Wife Josephine & Son*)

Sunday, Dec. 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00 a.m. †Clarence S. Adams (*Francis & Margaret Adams*)
8:15 a.m. †Frank & Dorothy Skupien (*Family*)
10:30 a.m. †Robert Donnelly (*Joseph Macharola & Family*)
12 Noon Mass for the People

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING—DEC. 8-9, 2007

Regular	\$9023.84	Christmas	\$ 236.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 217.00	Rose	\$ 160.14
Christmas Flowers	\$ 762.00	Thanksgiving	\$ 7.00
Religious Retire.	\$ 368.00	Initial	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 774.05	Candles	\$ 30.00
		Total	\$ 11583.03

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

Altar Servers for December 22-23, 2007
Saturday, December 22, 2007
5:30 p.m. Nicole Bagley, Brittany Boslet, Johnny Brown, Elizabeth Jacobs
Sunday, December 23, 2007
7:00 a.m. Julie Fox
8:15 a.m. Tia Irwin, Chase McGeary, Jamie Novack
10:30 a.m. Kevin Condrin, Matthew Gormley, Damon Rickens, Shaelyn Rickens
12 Noon: Colin Berkheimer, Daniel Maier, Josef Maier
Eucharistic Ministers for December 22-23, 2007
5:30 p.m. M. E. Tillard, C. Boslet, K. Boslet, J.E. Brown, B. Bartley
7:00 a.m. D. Leahey, G. Miller, J. Wustrow
8:15 a.m. B. Stoltz, E. Stoltz, R. Novack, P. Blanchard, D.Cree
10:30 a.m. D. Gormley, D. Fraundorfer, M. Dombrowski, C. Housum, D. Housum
12 Noon: G. Beck, J. Eberhardt. R. Fiore
Lectors for December 22-23, 2007
5:30 p.m. Joseph Maschue, Elizabeth Tully
7:00 a.m. Paul Cooney, Raymond Kline
8:15 a.m. John Donley, Patrick Labriola
10:30 a.m. Patrick Condrin, Chris Rickens
12 Noon: Robert Helbig, Chris Danison

FROM THE PASTOR

WORTH OUR WAITING Under the most capable direction of Bryce and Sue Cossitor and the dedicated contributions of talented adults and children, our parish's Advent-Christmas presentation inspired and thrilled concert goes and participants. Voices and instrumentalists offered praise with the spoken word of the Lord Jesus come to shine his light among us. Graceful angelic dancers, engaging portrayals of Gabriel, Zachariah, Simon, Mary, Elizabeth, John the Baptist, and Joseph held our imaginations, moving us to the events Christ wondrous birth. Resplendent refreshments enhanced the evening's delights. Blessings and thanks to all who created this worshipful memory.

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

SCHOOL RESERVE ACCOUNT: This weekend Dec. 15/16 our second Collection will be for the School Reserve Account. We appreciate your strong support. This money has been a significant help to our school as we work to rebuild our reserve account and balance our budget. Remember also that your after Mass purchase and use of merchants' gift cards help our parish help our school.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL NEWS

The Technology Committee will meet Monday, Dec. 17th at noon in the computer room.

Christmas vacation is from Friday Dec. 21st until Wednesday, Jan. 2nd. Dismissal on Friday, Dec. 21st is at 10:30. Mass is at 8:30.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Toy Drive for the Family Kitchen. We sent over 15 super-sized trash bags loaded with toys to the Kitchen last Wednesday. Thank you to Brian and Ann Hummel for transporting the toys.

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 58th 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.

KENTUCKY PROJECT

Many Thanks to the Sunday Religious Education students and their parents for their participation in the "Kentucky Project." Thanks to their generosity we were able to buy and ship presents to three need families. A special Thanks to the Mothers who did the shopping and those parents who helped wrap and box the gifts last Sunday. We cannot forget the seventh graders who also helped us. A very special Thanks to the Makowiecki Family for shipping all nine boxes. Four of which were boxes of donated clothes for other people of the region.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be no Religious Education Classes on December 23 & 30. Classes will resume on January 6, 2008.

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 22	5:30 p.m.	Attilio & Rose Stefanon
Dec. 23	7:00 a.m.	Francis Adams
	8:15 a.m.	Skupien Family
	10:30 a.m.	Randy & Joan Donnelly & Family
	12 Noon	Danison Family

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.

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

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 date:

December 16. If you have any questions or need babysitting, please call Janette 946-4342.

CANDLES

Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Leo Capouellez by Wife, Matilda, William Cobler by Shirley Cobler, Brenda Fether by Shirley Cobler, Special Intentions Job.

Families and the Gospel

In a sense, families are an in-patient clinic where “the blind regain sight, the lame walk again, diseases are cleansed and the deaf hear.” When we tend lovingly to one another, the Kingdom of God breaks into our homes

“IN DEFENSE OF LIFE”

Fr. Richard Neuhaus, commenting on the Supreme Court’s decision upholding a ban on partial birth abortion, wrote, “It is not, I believe a false hope to think that this decision has brought us a little closer to the goal...of a society in which every child is welcomed in life and protected in law.” (*NRL News*, 5/2007)

ADVENT TREE

The ornaments on our foyer Advent Tree remind us of our homebound parishioners. We have tied with each ornament a card that has the name, address, and phone number of a homebound parishioner. Untie this card and arrange an “Advent through Christmas time” visit with the named person. You may want to take a ‘gift’ for beyond the visit. You may want to learn whether being a green thumb or free of diet restrictions is a consideration for your gift. Friendly conversations grow friendships and have zero calories and are especially enriched with love—the Spirit that brought Jesus to visit all of us!

December 16, 2007  Prayer Corner

An Advent Prayer

Oh God everlasting, Your word resounds in the wilderness of Advent, in anticipation of the splendor of Your beauty.

Fill in the valleys of our neglect:

Bring low our mountains of self-centeredness.

Prepare in our hearts Your way of righteousness and peace.

Let our love become a harvest of goodness which You will bring to completion for the day of Christ Jesus, Who was, Who is and Who is to come. Amen.

COME, LORD JESUS!

Come, Lord Jesus!

O Wisdom, O Holy Word of God, Come!

O Sacred Lord of ancient Israel, Come!

O Flower of Jesse’s tree, Come!

O Key of David, O Royal Power of Israel, Come!

O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of Eternal life,
Sun of Justice, Come!

O King of All the Nations, Come!

O Keystone of the Mighty Arch of Man, Come.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

The Diocesan Life & Justice Commission and the **Society of St. Vincent DePaul** will sponsor a Lenten Program entitled “Through the Eye of a Needle” from Pax Christie USA, designed to heighten awareness of social justice issues affecting our world. Any parish or organization that would consider hosting the 5 week program can call St. Vincent DePaul at 539-4627 or the Family Life Office at 886-5551.

Stewardship Reflections

3rd Sunday of Advent

May our spiritual blindness and deafness give way to seeing and hearing Jesus’ presence in our lives—especially when we allow him to serve others through us.

PRAYER CHAIN

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

SUPPER CLUB will meet on

January 6 –5:00 p.m. at King’s on 6th Avenue.

Please call Mary 946-3449 for reservations.

T.E.E.N. CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Date: December 21, 2007

Time: 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Place: St. Mary’s Memorial Hall

Featuring Guitar Hero Tournament, cash prize to winner.

Activities: Bowling, Basketball, Dance Revolution, along with many other activities. For information call Anita 944-7188 or Jim 942-0142.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Depressed or anxious?

Need some help and support?

Catholic Charities, an agency of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, offers professional, confidential counseling for individuals, children and youth, families, and couples. Please call them at 814 944-9388 for more information.

Overwhelmed by bills?

Need help with utility terminations?

Catholic Charities, a program of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, offers qualified applicants emergency financial assistance to help pay utility costs, medications, rent and temporary housing, and transportation expenses. Please call them at 814-944-9388 for more information

Are you Pregnant?

In need of financial assistance or support?

Catholic Charities, an agency of the diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, administers Real Alternatives, a program which assists women in crisis pregnancies by providing free and compassionate, practical and life-affirming alternatives to abortion. They offer confidential counseling, free pregnancy tests kits, maternity clothing and diapers, and other assistance. Please call them at 814-944-9388 for more information.

Young Adults Ages 21-39: Theology on Tap is Coming this Spring!

Theology on Tap is a 4 week speaker series aimed at single or married Young Adults in their 20's or 30's. It takes God out of the confines of the church building and into your life in a fun and relaxing environment. Join other Young Adults from all over the region as we share our faith experiences and have some fun. For more information and to get on our e-mail list, sign up at www.theologyontap.info.

.Liturgical Reflection...

Plans for seasonal decorations should include other areas besides the sanctuary. Decorations are intended to draw people to the true nature of the mystery being celebrated rather than being ends in themselves. Natural flowers, plants, wreaths and fabric hangings, and other seasonal objects can be arranged to enhance the primary liturgical points of focus. The altar should remain clean and free-standing, not walled in by massive floral displays or the Christmas crib.

Who do you know who is hearing the call to serve the Lord in the Church as a Permanent Deacon...maybe you?

God continues to call men between the ages of 32 and 59 to participate in service ministry to God's people in the Diaconate.

Members of our diocesan diaconal community will host a meeting to outline the role of the permanent deacon in the Church in the ministries of the word, the liturgy and charity. The steps to admission and of the formation process leading to ordination will be explained.

It is essential for a married man to be accompanied by his wife.

MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR 2008:

January 12, 2008—1:00 PM

Good Shepherd Parish, (Conference Room)
867 Gray's Woods Boulevard, State College

January 13, 2008—1:30 PM

Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, (Seton Suite)
One Cathedral Square, Altoona

January 19, 2008—1:00 PM

St. John Gualbert Cathedral, (Activity Center)
110 Adams Street, Johnstown (corner of Adams & Railroad Sts.)

If you are unable to attend any of these meetings, please contact:

Deacon Gene P. Neral, Director of Diaconal Formation

124 Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pa. 16648

Telephone: 814-696-9870 or E-mail-
gneral@dioceseaj.org

