

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun Dec 7	Second Sunday of Advent	9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
		10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i>
		5:30-7:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 10-11
Tues Dec. 9		6:10 PM Bingo
Wed Dec 10		5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary
		6:30 PM 8:15 Choir Practice
		7:30 PM 10:30 Choir Practice
Thurs Dec 11		9:00-11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration
Fri Dec 12		6:10 PM Bingo
Sun Dec 14	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



**Monday, Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

7:00 a.m. Members of the Altar & Rosary Society  
8:30 a.m. †James Callahan (*Mark & Diane Moschella*)  
7:00 p.m. †Rose Cardinal (*Jack & Sally Leiden*)

**Tuesday, Dec. 9 St. Juan Diego**

8:30 a.m. †Richard Engelman (*Dr. & Mrs. Francis Fochler*)

**Wednesday, Dec. 10**

8:30 a.m. †Fritz & Mary Werkmeister (*Friends*)

**Thursday, Dec. 11 St. Damasus I**

8:30 a.m. †Anna M. Olszewski (*Jake & Verna Jarkiewicz*)

**Friday, Dec. 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:30 a.m. †Fr. Daniel O'Friel (*Gene & Vi Bettwy*)

**Saturday, Dec. 13 St. Lucy**

8:30 a.m. †Lucille Frederick (*Husband Ron & Family*)  
5:30 p.m. †Ronald A. Geis Jr. (*Family*)

**Sunday, Dec. 14 Third Sunday of Advent**

7:00 a.m. †Leona Settlemeyer (*Settlemeyer Family*)  
8:15 a.m. †Nick & Augusta Orsena (*Family*)  
10:30 a.m. †Guiseppe & Maria Mangano (*Gregg & Barbara Gentile*)  
12 Noon Mass for the People

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING—NOV. 29-30, 2008**

Regular	\$8852.68	Christmas	\$ 104.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 143.00	Rose	\$ 160.32
Christmas Flowers	\$ 95.00	Thanksgiving	\$ 551.00
Human Development	\$ 40.00	Candles	\$ 30.00
Register	\$ 15.00	All Souls	\$ 2.00
Food Bank	\$ 10.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10003.00</b>

**MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK**

**Servers for December 8, 2008 Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Monday, 7:00 a.m. Volunteers  
Monday, 8:30 a.m. Thomas Keating, Volunteers  
Monday, 7:00 p.m. Ireland McCreery, Jimmy Novack  
**Servers for December 13-14, 2008**  
5:30 p.m. Maggie McCall, Molly McCall, Megan McCall, Alexandra Sheedy  
7:00 a.m. Ireland McCreery, Volunteers  
8:15 a.m. Connor Campbell, Maryssa Brandt, Matthew Eiman  
10:30 a.m. Sarah Fromknecht, Thomas Keating, Thomas Irwin III, Maya Irwin  
12 Noon Mackenzie Bracken, Zachary Bracken, Kevin Condrin

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2008**

Monday, 7:00 a.m. **Readers:** Volunteers  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** J. Wustrow, G. Miller, L. Zakrzewski  
Monday, 8:30 a.m. **Readers:** St. Rose School Children  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Engelman, E. Stoltz, K. Irwin  
Monday, 7:00 p.m. **Readers:** Joseph Breton, James Klueg  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** D. Brown, M. L. Horton, R. Novack  
**Eucharistic Ministers for December 13-14, 2008**  
5:30 p.m. J. Frena, M.E. Tillard, D. Fraundorfer, N. Solimando, B. Bartley  
7:00 a.m. R.M. Fochler, E. Beard, W. Beard Sr.  
8:15 a.m. K. Gburek, D. Cree, R. Spinazzola, J. Woomeer, K. Woomeer  
10:30 a.m. P. Fromknecht, J. Fromknecht, C. Housum, D. Housum, D. Brown  
12 Noon P. Bracken, G. Beck, D. Shrift  
**Lectors for December 13-14, 2008**  
5:30 p.m. Frances Hesser, Elizabeth Tully  
7:00 a.m. Frank Fochler, John Kenny  
8:15 a.m. Linda Wolf, Charles Wolf  
10:30 a.m. Thomas A. Irwin, Ryan Reilly  
12 Noon Christina Bracken, Patrick Condrin

**FROM THE PASTOR**

**ALTOONA AREA CHRISTIAN COALITION**

The parishioners of St. Rose of Lima are invited to the **ADVENT Season of Hope Ecumenical Service to be held at the Cathedral in Altoona on December 7, 2008. This ADVENT Season of Hope service will start at 3:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome**

**AREA RECONCILIATION SERVICES** These opportunities exist for your celebration the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the Birth of Our Lord. These are: St. Therese –Saturday, December 13, 10:00 A.M.; St. Mary's, Hollidaysburg – Sunday, December 14, 4:00 P.M.; Saint John's – Monday, December 15, 6:30 P.M.; Cathedral – Wednesday, December 17, 6:30 P.M.; Sacred Heart – Thursday, December 18, 5:30 P.M.; Our Lady of Lourdes – Friday, December 19, 5:30 P.M.; . Our parish reconciliation service is Monday, December 22, 7:00 P.M. The priests also will hear individual confessions following the 8:30 A.M. Mass Tuesday, December 23, and Wednesday, December 24.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

*Share in the Care*

**Religious give thanks.** "When my eyes came to the enclosed check, I immediately prayed a "Glory Be" and was practically moved to tears, " wrote an abbot at an Oklahoma monastery for benefits received from the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Please give generously to next week's second collection, which benefits the many deserving religious who served our diocese, past and present, and who now need our help meeting the overwhelming costs of elder care. Please use the envelope that is located in your pack of envelopes.

### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

This Monday, December 8th, is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation in the United States of America. Catholics are expected to participate at Mass on this day. Mass will be on Sunday evening, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 8 at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 in the evening.

### 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 19. Your memorial will be in our Christmas Bulletin. Please print your remembrances

### PARISH DEBT REDUCTION

**Next weekend December 13 & 14, the Second Collection will be for the Parish Debt Reduction. As of December 2, 2008, 245 parishioners returned their Commitment Cards.**

### IS THIS A GOOD NUMBER?

**In the above article we say that 245 families have agreed to be part of the solution to our present financial crisis. Would you say that 245 is a good number when there are 794 families registered as members. That is only about 30%. You decide. Please complete and return the Commitment Card which were sent to each member of our parish. Thank You.**

### PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING— NOV. 22-23, 2008

Regular	\$6338.78	Christmas	\$ 44.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 70.00.	Rose	\$ 235.07
Thanksgiving	\$ 270.00	Register	\$ 28.00
Human Dev.	\$ 357.00	School Reserve	\$ 35.00
Perquisites	\$ 300.00		
Initial	\$ 6.00		\$7683.85

### OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 13	5:30 p.m.	Terry & Leigh McCall
Dec. 14	7:00 a.m.	Sally Miller
	8:15 a.m.	CCD Students
	10:30 a.m.	Kim Irwin & Family
	12 Noon	Richard & Carol Anslinger

### ST. ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL NEWS

The students will attend the 8:30 Mass on Monday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. They will not attend Mass on Friday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>.

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays the school children have been involved in many outreach programs: Oxfam and St. Vincent DePaul's Family Kitchen/ two food drives/ cards for veterans, military personnel, and prisoners/ Catholic Charities "Adopt-a-Family" program/Family Kitchen Toy Drive/ loose change collection for our diocesan mission in Fulton County. Thank you, students, for your kindness and generosity to those in need. "Whatsoever you do to the least of these, you do to me."

On Dec. 2 we began our annual **TOY DRIVE** to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society's Family Kitchen which is under the direction of Sr. Paula DeGrosso. We are collecting **new, unwrapped** toys (**maximum \$20.00**) until Monday, Dec. 15. You may give your donation to any St. Rose School student or bring it to the school office. As you know we are in a very difficult economy, and the need is great, so we would appreciate your support. Thank you.

The St. Rose School **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is Wednesday, Dec. 17<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. 18<sup>th</sup>)

Thank you to all who contribute to the second collection on the third weekend Masses. This money is a significant help to the school as we work to rebuild our reserve account. The children always remember you in our morning prayers.

**CANDLES:** Kay Patton by John Patton, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Thanksgiving & Special Intentions for the Living, Thanksgiving & Special Intentions for the Living.

### BAPTISM

Congratulations to Xavier Richard Rogers and Xander Daniel Rogers, sons of M/M Wesley E. Rogers who received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend.

### MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Theresa Wojcik whom we honored with Christian Burial during the past week. May God give comfort to her family.

### SUPPER CLUB

Come and dine with the Supper Club on December 7 at 5:00 p.m. at the Ramada. For reservations or information please call Mary at 946-3449.

### LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

Throughout this new liturgical year of grace the Diocesan Liturgy Office will provide weekly inserts reflecting on the most recent liturgical documents issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. **Sing to the Lord, Music in Divine Worship** was officially published in June of 2008. The guidelines contained in this document provide direction to those preparing for the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy according to the current liturgical books in the ordinary form of celebration. Pastors, music directors, organists, pianists, choirs, cantors, psalmists, and all the Faithful will be aided by this document.

**Sing to the Lord, Music in Divine Worship**, Foreward.

### SCRIP CARD VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

December 13-14, 2008

5:30 p.m. Jen Myrick, John Brown, Bev Elder

7:00 a.m. Brenda Altiero, Dan Altiero, Greg Miller

8:15 a.m. Sherry Price, Mary Reffner, Mary Campbell

10:30 a.m. Pat Condrin, Tom Goss, Becky Bimle

12 Noon Chris Bracken, P.J. Bracken, Jeanne Danison

A former elementary school teacher would like to watch a child in her home Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., preferably a child age 2-4 years. If interested call Michelle Cooney 949-3647.

### THE BOOK CLUB

We are discussing the book "Saint Paul Called to Conversion" by Ronald D. Witherup. Pages 33 through 62 will be discussed on Dec. 14, in the computer room of the school. You do not have to read the book to enjoy the discussion. Come and participate or come and listen!

**St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Shop (2223 8th Ave. Altoona) is in need of blankets. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed.**

### 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 specially enriched with love—the Spirit that brought Jesus to visit all of us!

### "IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

A new book entitled *My Child, My Gift: A Positive Response to a Serious Prenatal Diagnosis* quotes one mother of a child with Down syndrome, "The greatest surprise is this: Our life together has been less about my helping him reach his potential than about him helping me reach mine."

### St. John the Evangelist Church

344 Baynton Ave., Lakemont will present:

#### Music of Advent—St. John's Combined Choirs

The choirs and musicians of St. John's Church unite to perform sacred music of the Advent and Christmas Seasons on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Suggested Donation: \$8.00 Adults/\$15.00 Family

### BISHOP GUILFOYLE HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic 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 11, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. or Friday, December 12, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. Call 944-4014 for reservations by Monday, December 8, 2008.

**There will be no Adult Formation Class on December 15. The next Adult Formation Class will be held on January 5, 2009 in St. Rose of Lima School Art Room, from 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

**The Emergency Shelter Project Inc. Altoona's only family shelter, provides emergency transitional housing for services for homeless families of Blair County. The Shelter has been in operation since 1995 and in 2008 so far has served 25 families and 41 individuals. The Shelter is in critical need of substantial furniture and is accepting financial donations for this particular need. During this holiday season, if you are able to share with families in crisis, please send a donation earmarked "Christmas Project" to:**

Emergency Shelter Project, Inc.

2700 Eighth Ave.

Altoona, Pa. 16602

All donations are tax deductible and any amount is greatly appreciated.

**Gratefully, Sister Cynthia Meyer, CSFN  
Trustee of Emergency Shelter Project**

**PRAYER CHAIN**— If you would like our Prayer Chain to pray for your intentions, please call Bernice at 942-5659.

The Rosary is prayed every Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. here in the church for an end to abortion. Everyone is welcome.

### ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

**St. Vincent DePaul will have their meeting on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 7:00 p.m. in the School Library. We wish to express a Special Thank You for all those who donated food for Thanksgiving. We were overwhelmed by your generosity. We distributed some of the food to Evergreen Manor and some to the Food Pantry.**

THERE IS NO FEAR IN LOVE

God of love and understanding, Let me always remember: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear..."

(1 John 4:18). Give me the strength to trust you and to choose faith over fear, especially when the voices of the world try to frighten and paralyze me by screaming that I am not good enough.

Remind me of how beloved I am. I ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.



SAINT OF THE MONTH

SAINT LUCY

*Feast Day: December 13*

*Patronage: blindness, eye disorders.*

*Profile: The name Lucy means light, lucid, clear or radiant. St. Lucy lived in the time of Emperor Diocletian, who tortured and killed many Christians. Lucy, as a young woman wanted to devote her life to God, but her fearful Mother insisted she marry. Lucy prayed that her mother would let her accept Christ as her life partner. Although, her mother did eventually honor Lucy's wishes, Lucy's the rejected bridegroom did not. He betrayed Lucy to the governor as a Christian. She was tortured and her eyes were plucked out. However, Lucy's sight remained intact, as did her faith. She was eventually martyred for her faith.*

Her courage to be counted as A Christian in spite of torture and death is the light that should lead us on our own journeys through life.

A Prayer to St. Lucy

*St. Lucy, you did not hide your light, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation— every corner of our world. Amen.*

**Did you attend Catholic School?** If so, you will really enjoy this one-woman play! **Late Nite Catechism** is the hit comedy about Catholic school in the fifties and sixties with "Sister," This hilarious performance will be at Bishop Guilfoyle High School on Saturday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 25 at 2:00 p.m. Light refreshments included. And, of course, there will be a 50/50. Wouldn't this make a great Christmas present for Mom and Dad? Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. Call Julie at St. John's for tickets. 943-4966.



PRAYER CORNER

December 7, 2008

The Perfect Spirit of Advent

Written by St. Teresa of Avila

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You, always follow Your plans, and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever You require of me. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your grace, so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honor. May Your will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen.

**WHAT:** Carmelite Day of Recollection

Sunday, December 14, 2008  
1:00-3:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Our Lady of the Alleghenies Chapel at Garvey Manor

**TOPIC:** The life of St. John of the Cross; Surrendering to the will of God.

**PRESENTER:** Fr. Joseph Orr  
Pastor at St. Matthew's Church  
Tyrone, Pa.

St. Catherine of Siena Church, Duncansville, is currently selling **Calendar of Cash Prizes** as their major annual fundraiser. There is a chance to win every day throughout 2009, and the winning number each day is based on the 7:00 p.m. daily number of the Pennsylvania Lottery. Calendars of Prizes make great gifts. The cost is \$25.00. There will be 365 cash prizes given that total \$12,500.00 Checks are mailed weekly. Numbers are not boxed. For more information or to purchase, please call 696-4126 (leave your name and phone number).

VOCATION VIEWS

**Second Sunday of Advent**

God calls us to proclaim the Good News. Share the Good News with others. Pray for the grace to be a faith-filled witness of God's love. (Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11)

