

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Dec 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9 10:30-11:30 AM Religious Ed. Pre-K 10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i> 6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 10& 11
Mon Dec 21	7:00 PM Parish Penance Service
Tues Dec 22	6:10 PM Bingo
Wed Dec 23	5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary
Sun Dec 27	The Holy Family 10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i>

*Mass Intentions
for the Week* 

Monday, Dec. 21 St. Peter Canisius

8:30 a.m. †Raymond Mitarnowski (*Retired Pa. State Police Hollidaysburg*)

Tuesday, Dec. 22

8:30 a.m. †Marguerite Hricko (*Henry Sinisi*)

Wednesday, Dec. 23 St. John of Kanty

8:30 a.m. †Theresa J. Wojcik (*Karen & Paul Wojcik*)

Thursday, Dec. 24 Vigil of Christmas

8:30 a.m. †Anna Mary Yahner
5:00 p.m. †Nick & Augusta Orsena (*Family*)
7:30 p.m. †Patricia Shellengerger (*Family*)
Mid-Night †Mary E. & Leonard S. Fiore (*Judy Drass*)

Friday, Dec. 25 The Birth of Our Lord (Christmas)

8:30 a.m. †Richard Traficante (*Larry Benton & Family*)
10:30 a.m. †Michael Savino & Diane Stasky (*Olive & Granddaughters*)

Saturday, Dec. 26 St. Stephen

8:30 a.m. †Robert & Stephen Donnelly (*Donnelly Family*)
5:30 p.m. †Ronald A. Geis Jr. (*Family*)

Sunday, Dec. 27 The Holy Family

7:00 a.m. St. Rose of Lima Altar & Rosary Society
8:15 a.m. †Viola Fliegerbauer (*Estate*)
10:30 a.m. †Maurice Stoltz (*Eugene & Barbara Stoltz*)
12 Noon Mass for the People

MINISTRIES FOR THE WEEK

Altar Servers

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 5:00 p.m. Amanda Irwin, Patrick Irwin, Andrew Irwin, Matthew Eiman

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 7:30 p.m. Kathryn Nazaruk

MID-NIGHT MASS Megan Shultz

CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30 a.m. James Novack

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 a.m. Vera Boyer, Julia Paule

Servers for December 26-27, 2009

5:30 p.m. Brittany Boslet, Matthew Yahner, Michael Yahner, Alexandra Sheedy

7:00 a.m. Michala Cooney

8:15 a.m. Chase McGeary, Matthew Eiman, Connor Campbell

10:30 a.m. Macy Adams, Nathan Murphy, Nathaniel Friedenberger, Matthew Gormley

12 Noon Noah Trexler, Luke Frederick, Elissa Ehredt

Eucharistic Ministers

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 5:00 p.m. K. Irwin, S. Askey, L. Zakrzewski, N. Solimando

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 7:30 p.m. Volunteers

MID-NIGHT MASS K. Woomer, J. Frena, M. Wiley

CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30 a.m. R. Novack, J. Trexler, K. Gburek

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 A.M. R. Friedenberger

Eucharistic Ministers for December 26-27, 2009

5:30 p.m. C. Boslet, K. Boslet, J. Frena

7:00 a.m. J. Fox

8:15 a.m. K. Woomer, K. Irwin, M.L. Horton

10:30 a.m. T. Heiss, P. Blanchard, R. Murphy

12 Noon Ronald Eberhart

Lectors

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 5:00 p.m. Patrick Irwin, Joseph Breton

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS 7:30 p.m. Charles & Linda Wolf

MID-NIGHT MASS Ken Haney, James Woomer

CHRISTMAS DAY 8:30 a.m. Volunteers

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30 a.m. Volunteers

Lectors for December 26-27, 2009

5:30 p.m. Barbara Kooman, Frances Hesser

7:00 a.m. Paul Cooney, Raymond Kline

8:15 a.m. James Woomer, John Donley

10:30 a.m. Joseph Breton, Todd Cammarata

12 Noon Jim Lane, Joseph Macharola

PASTOR'S CORNER

Our Parish reconciliation service is Monday, December 21, 7:00 p.m. The parish priest will also hear individual confessions following the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, December 22 and Wednesday, December 23.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING— DECEMBER 12-13, 2009

Regular	\$5289.51	Christmas	\$ 44.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 70.00	Flowers	\$ 319.00
Religious Retire.	\$ 227.00	Debt Reduction	\$ 81.99
Immaculate Conc.	\$ 763.50	Candle	\$ 5.00
		Total	\$6800.00

ST. ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL NEWS

Christmas vacation begins Tuesday Dec. 22nd. Dismissal is at 10:30. Mass is at 8:30. School resumes on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010.

Congratulations to our second graders making their First Penance on Monday, Dec. 21st at 6:30 p.m. They are in our prayers.

The St. Rose School Family extends our sincerest wishes to our parish community for a joyous Christmas and a new year filled with God's blessings. Thank you so much for your support throughout the past year.

SCHOOL RESERVE FUND

The second collection this weekend will be for the School Reserve Fund. We appreciate your support.

COMING TO ST. ROSE

"UP" - December 27

Sixth Grade & up
 St. Rose Social Hall
 Activities at 6:00 p.m. Movie at 6:30 p.m.
 Come and enjoy a fun night at St. Rose. Bring your friends to see the movie "UP", on "the big screen"
 Free popcorn, soda and Pizza by Fr. Brian
 Call the Rectory 944-8509, Michael Kuzio 942-4920 or Bernice Shoenfelt 942-5659 for information.

SUPPER CLUB

Come and dine with the Supper Club on January 10 at King's on Plank Road at 5:00 p.m. For reservations or information please call Mary at 946-3449.

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 24	5:00 p.m.	Orsena Family
	7:30 p.m.	Volunteers
	Mid-Night	Irwin-Fiore Family
Dec. 25	8:30 a.m.	Michael & Jeanne Traficante
	10:30 a.m.	Olive Savino & Jamie Stasky

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 26	5:30 p.m.	Robert, Amy, Elizabeth, Abby & Erin Yahner
Dec. 27	7:00 a.m.	Paul, Michelle, Mia & Marin Cooney
	8:15 a.m.	Joe & Donna Daley
	10:30 a.m.	Eugene & Barbara Stoltz
	12 Noon	Volunteers

CANDLES: Kay Patton by John Patton, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Toby & Joyce Kjarsgaard, Special Intention for Lena Joseph by Karl & Judy King. Evan J. Hileman, Our Beloved Grandson by Grandma & Pap Brown & Family

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

CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Children's Holiday Choir will sing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Prelude music by the children will begin at 4:30 p.m.
 The Combined Adult Choirs accompanied by Woodwinds, Brass & Percussion will offer a music prelude beginning at 11:30 p.m. for the Christmas Midnight Mass.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will begin the discussion of the book "Way of a Pilgrim" (the Jesus Prayer) on Dec. 27 at 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. in the Computer Room. You do not have to read the book to enjoy the discussion. Come and enjoy the contents of this book.

"IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

"The Word became flesh and dwelled among us," St. John's Gospel states. Perhaps if we could look at each unborn child as a word from God, we would be less likely to destroy those children who each have a unique message to share with the world.

The "O Antiphons" of Advent

In the Church's Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer, also known as **Vespers**, always includes the great prayer of Mary known as the **Magnificat**. Each day, the Magnificat is preceded by a short verse or "**antiphon**" that links the prayer to the feast of the day or the season of the year. In the last seven days of Advent (December 17-24), the antiphons before the Magnificat are very special. Each begins with the exclamation "O" and ends with a plea for the Messiah to come. As Christmas approaches the cry becomes increasingly urgent.

These moving "**O Antiphons**" were composed in the seventh or eighth century when monks put together texts from the Old Testament which looked forward to the coming of our salvation. They form a rich, interlocking mosaic of scriptural images. The great "O Antiphons" became very popular in the Middle Ages when it became traditional to ring the great bells of the church each evening as they were being sung.

December 17 - [Wisdom from the Most High](#); December 18 - [Ruler of House of Israel](#); December 19 - [Root of Jesse](#); December 20 - [Key of David](#); December 21 - [Rising Dawn](#) & Dayspring; December 22 - [King of the Gentiles](#); December 23 - [Emmanuel](#), God-with-us

A particularly fascinating feature of the O Antiphons is that the first letter of each invocation, when read backwards, forms an acrostic in Latin: the first letters of **Sapientia, Adonai, Radix, Clavis, Oriens, Rex, and Emmanuel** in reverse form the Latin words: **ERO CRAS**. These can be understood as the words of Christ, responding to his people's plea, saying "Tomorrow I will be there."

LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

This is the final Sunday of Advent and the last days of the Advent Season. We are preparing for the coming of Christ in our lives. The Diocesan Liturgy Office will be giving information on the upcoming Roman Missal to be promulgated in our country. The new Missal will reflect the English translation of the Latin text contained in the third edition of the Roman Missal. The countries to be issued the forthcoming English translations are: the United States of America, Australia, Canada, England and Wales, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Scotland and South Africa.

TOUR OF CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Catholic Daughters of the America's Court Prince Gallitzin #2625 is sponsoring a tour of our beautiful Altoona Cathedral on Jan. 3, 2010 from 1:30 to 2:30 for St. Rose CCD students and their families. If interested please contact Jennifer Crum at 946-5249.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

4th Sunday of Advent—SURRENDER

Spiritual surrender is the act of turning your life and your will over to the Lord. When the Angel Gabriel told Mary that God wanted her to be the mother of His Son, she consented willingly saying, "*Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word.*"

(Luke 1:38)

Joy and surrender are two facets of the same jewel. Like Mary, we are called to accept God's will, thus becoming instruments of His love. Like Mary, we can bring Jesus into the world and share Him with others.



St. Leonard's Home

Are you worried about a loved one continuing to live along?

St. Leonard's Home in Hollidaysburg, a licensed personal care home under Catholic sponsorship, offers a caring, home-like environment for people over age 55 who can no longer safely live at home. We also have two apartment units which include meals and housekeeping for persons who are more independent. For information and a tour, call Sister Cynthia Meyer, Director, at 814-695-2920.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL

December 20

Lk 2:41-52

Mary was excited with her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Some consider children as a liability, a "mouth to feed" or an obstacle to a career. While Christmas is "for children" it is also "for adults to appreciate the gift children are to us."

PUT THE NUNS IN CHARGE! – Once again St. John's School is sponsoring a play with a hilarious view of Catholic life. In this professional production by the people who gave us last year's Late Nite Catechism, Mother Superior gives her own take on the Golden Rule and has something to say on everything from skirt lengths to cell phones. Join us at Bishop Guilfoyle High School on Saturday, January 30, at 7 pm or Sunday, January 31, at 2 pm. Buy your tickets for \$20 at the St. John's office, 943-4966. Remember – this would be a great Christmas gift.

LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

This is the day when the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth. The Prince of Peace has appeared on the earth. Lights are strung on pine trees and around the inside and outside of our homes these winter days. Darkness is shattered and the newborn Child brings light into our lives. The Incarnate Word dwells among us and now begins the great revelation of our salvation in the Son of God, Jesus, our Savior and Lord. A holy, blessed, peace-filled Christmas to all on this Christmas day!

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Treat yourselves to a weekend away from all the hustle and bustle. Attend the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

The Marriage Encounter Weekend is intended for couples with good marriages. It provides the opportunity to look at your relationship in an atmosphere of privacy and gives you a chance to give thanks for the gift of your lover, something that most of us don't take the time to do often enough.

The next weekend is at the beautiful Toftrees Resort in State College, February 19-21, 2010. Register by February 1st for a \$10.00 discount on the registration fee. Call 1-814-940-0270 for details or any other questions about Marriage Encounter.

On Sunday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m. the choirs, along with the Cathedral Youth Choir, will present the annual Advent of Christmas Concert at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, accompanied by orchestra and featuring Part 1 of G.F. Handel's Messiah. The choirs will be under the direction of Nicholas Will, Cathedral Music Director, and James Dengler, Organist and Choirmaster of St. Luke Episcopal Church. A free-will offering will be accepted.

CHRISTMAS ARRIVES!

The day finally comes. "While they were there (in Bethlehem), the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth." (Luke 2: 6-7)

Now, the Christmas celebration truly begins. We offer gifts of love to one another as we share in Mary's own hope and joy. We have received the greatest gift; Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior.



Christmas
Blessings