

Mass Intentions for the week



SUNDAY - DEC. 16 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p (SAT) - **Cathy Stinner Wright** (Knowlson Family)
 8:00 - - **Sam Salvucci** (Wife, Audrey)
 11:00 - - **Albert V. Lesutis** - 1st Anniv (Ed/Emma Sudo)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY (8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
6:45 - - **Edward Dzurcanin** (Ann Drotar)

WED. -DEC. 19 - ADVENT WEEKDAY (8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)
7:00 p - - **PENANCE SERVICE**

THURSDAY - DEC. 20 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
6:45 - - **Richard/Angela Heidariech** (Elisha/Luke Raker)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS
8:15 - - **Albert Wessel** (Betty Clark)

SAT. - DECEMBER 22 - ADVENT WEEKDAY (8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)

SUN. - DEC. 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 6:00p (SAT) - **Albert G. McElhinny** (Family)
 8:00 - - **Sister Germaine, S.H.S.** (Sisters at St. Agnes)
 11:00 - - **Catherine Betty Bost** (Tom and Barb Salapek)

EPHESIANS IV — PRAYER & PRAISE ON MONDAYS AT 7:30 PM IN CHURCH EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOME



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OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

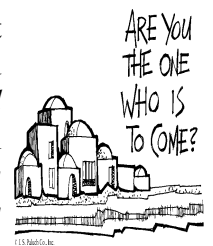
December 9, 2007

\$ 4,848.00 - - Sunday and Monthly Envelopes
 \$ 437.00 - - Parish Share Program Contribution
 PSP Assessment-2007.....\$ 23,391.00
 Amount Paid.....\$ 25,664.00
 Weekly Budget Expenses.....\$ 4,390.00
 Monthly School Subsidy.....\$ 6,167.00
 Equitable Gas Bill.....\$ 2,759.00

YOUR STEWARDSHIP IS PRAYERFULLY APPRECIATED. REMEMBER ST. AGNES CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

Third Sunday of Advent

In this time of war, when images of violence across the desert lands of the Middle East are played and replayed every day, comes today's reading from Isaiah: "The desert and parched land will exult." *The Church teaches us that Advent is a time of waiting in joyful hope.* Even in the face of war and killing, we are a people of hope, crying out to the Lord in the words of today's psalm; "**Lord, come and save us.**" *Let today's word, which prepares a way for the Lord—the Prince of Peace—in our world, be a light that leads us to God's kingdom, where "the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."* **Come, Emmanuel!**



HEARTFELT SYMPATHY...to the family and friends of **ALFRED SCHWOEBLE**, father of parishioner, **Rob Schwoeble**. *May our Heavenly Father embrace all our beloved deceased and number them among the elect at the banquet of Heaven.*

Christmas Flower Fund

Each year at Christmas, St. Agnes Church is *beautifully decorated for the Birth of Jesus* with Christmas Flowers. This tradition is made possible through the *generous donations of our parishioners.* An altar made radiant with flowers is a *beautiful way to honor or remember our loved ones.* We invite you to make a donation to the **CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND "In Memory of"** a *deceased* loved one or **"In Honor of"** a *living* one. Please **write the names of friends and relatives on the back of the envelope** and put in the **collection basket** or return to **Parish Center by Monday, December 17th.** *These names will be remembered in the Special Masses of Christmas and will be listed on a Christmas Flower Memorial bulletin insert.*





Come Home for Christmas!

Any Catholic individual searching for a way to better prepare for Christmas doesn't need to look any further than the parish confessional room. **Do you want to find peace?** Do you want to **grow spiritually?** You are nervous because it has been a long time since you have been to confession. Respond to the movement of the spirit within yourself and take the plunge. Don't worry about what to say or how to say it. You already know the manner in which you have displeased God by your lifestyle. Mention those sins and request forgiveness. **Trust in God's mercy** even if you haven't been to confession in 4, 7, 10 or 15 years. **Come home to a loving Father** waiting to forgive you. The **Advent Adult Penance Service** is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m.** A number of priests will be available. **The Penance Service will begin with prayer and reflection, with personal confession to follow, individually!**

OPLATKE (CHRISTMAS WAFERS) ON SALE AFTER MASSES — \$2 PER 1/2 DOZ, \$4 PER DOZ. CALL PARISH CENTER.

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE — ST. AGNES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Every Saturday — half-hour before the evening 6:00 p.m. Mass.

PENANCE SERVICE: **Vespers Service** (Evening Prayers) and **Parish Reconciliation Service** on **Wednesday, December 19th at 7:00 p.m.** at **St. Agnes Church.** A number of priests will be available for confession. Excellent opportunity of preparing for the Lord's birth by receiving this beautiful Sacrament of being reconciled with the Lord and with our neighbors. Penance and Vesper Service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

—HOLY DAY MASSES —

CHRISTMAS EVE: *Monday, December 24th, 2007* **CHRISTMAS DAY:** *Tuesday, December 25th, 2007*

6:00 p.m. Children's Mass
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

8:00 a.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS: THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD:

Tuesday, January 1st, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Anticipated Mass at Holy Trinity—4:00 p.m.)

PRAYERFUL THANKS! Our Baby Bottle Drive was a huge success. Again God has provided through the generosity of His people. The total raised through the Baby Bottle Drive was over \$24,000. **St. Agnes Church raised \$673.** Thank you for your strong support of this ministry. We understand that the support of the local churches is vital, and we appreciate you coming alongside us. **May God continue to bless St. Agnes Church.** —*Community Care Pregnancy Center.*

THANK YOU

SERRA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - announces a **waiting list for the freshmen class of the 2008/2009 school year.** If you are considering sending your child to Serra Catholic, *please call the office (412-751-2020) as soon as possible and have their name placed on the waiting list.*

RACHEL'S VINEYARD WEEKEND RETREAT FOR POST-ABORTION HEALING - will be held **February 1st to 3rd, 2008** at the **Spiritan Center** in Bethel Park. To register or for more information, call **Catholic Charities** at **412-456-6999** by **January 25th;** ask for **Ann Depner** or **Karen LaFrance.**

"Preparing for the Coming of the Lord: Morality", Dec. 18th, 12:30-1:00 p.m., St. Mary of Mercy Lawless Hall.

INITIATE A TAX-FREE GIFT DIRECTLY FROM YOUR IRA

With the end of the 2007 tax year approaching, **persons aged 70 1/2 and older may choose to donate up to a maximum of \$100,000 directly from their IRAs to a qualified charity.** *No penalty for early withdrawal—distributions are tax free—donations may be directly transferred from you IRA.* This opportunity will not be available in 2008. **Please call Nancy Burke, 412-833-0031 for more information.**