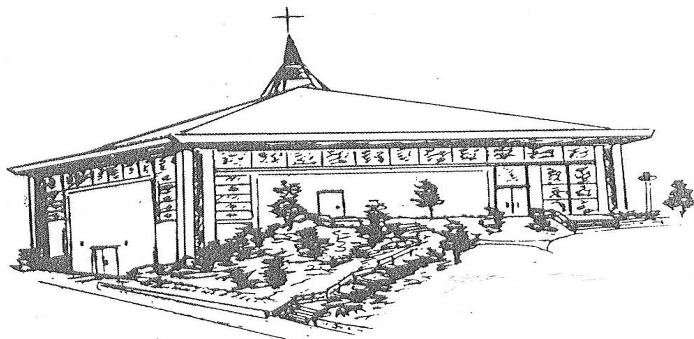


Saint Agnes Church



& Holy Trinity Church

St. Agnes Administrative Center
622 St. Agnes Lane • West Mifflin, PA 15122-2925



Holy Trinity Administrative Center
529 Grant Avenue Ext. • West Mifflin, PA 15122-3830

ST. AGNES MASS INTENTIONS

SUN - DECEMBER 14 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00pm (Sat)-**Dom Tascarella** (Nancy Tascarella & Fam)

8:00 - **Sam Salvucci** (Wife, Audrey)

11:00 - - **Living and Deceased Members of St. Agnes**

MONDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 - - *Mass at Holy Trinity*)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 16 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45 - **Albert V. Lesutis** - Anniversary (Ann/Vic Merritt)

WED - DEC 17 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 - - *Mass at Holy Trinity*)

THUR - DECEMBER 18 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45 - - **Margaret Szabo** (William and Grace Hostetter)

FRI - DECEMBER 19 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15 - **Anna Mae Tolan** (M/M Robert Andres)

SAT - DECEMBER 20 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 - - *Mass at Holy Trinity*)

SUN - DECEMBER 21 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00pm (Sat) - **Clare Richards** - Anniversary (Family)

8:00 - **Marian Nissen** (Jim/Suzann Bevan)

11:00 - - **John Reinhart** (Family)

ADMINISTRATOR, **Rev. Joseph R. Grosko**

PRINCIPAL, ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Sister Cynthia Wessel412-466-6238

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rectory - St. Agnes 412-466-2655

Rectory - Holy Trinity 412-466-6545

Social Hall - St. Agnes 412-466-5500

Social Hall - Holy Trinity..... 412-466-9695

St. Agnes Convent 412-466-3554

St. Agnes Website..... www.stagneswm.com

Holy Trinity E-mail Address HTRINITY@VERIZON.NET

NOVENA TO MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP MONDAYS
AFTER THE 8:00 A.M. MASS AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

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

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN - DECEMBER 14 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00pm (Sat)-**Amanda/William Chonko** (Jean & Fam)

9:30 - **Rae Clark** (Betty Clark)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 - **Dorothy Grego** (Christian Mothers Guild)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 16 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45 a.m. *Mass at St. Agnes*)

WED - DEC 17 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 - **Albert Gaydos** (M/M Robert Denne)

THUR - DECEMBER 18 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45 a.m. *Mass at St. Agnes*)

FRI - DECEMBER 19 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:15 a.m. *Mass at St. Agnes*)

SAT - DECEMBER 20 - LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 - **Martha and Ed Palo** (Saturday Coffee Group)

SUN - DECEMBER 21 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00pm (Sat) - **Bob Schorr** (Marge Tomko)

9:30 - **Veronica Bunda** (Bernice and Charles Kish)

HOLY DAY MASSES: As scheduled.

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays at 5:30 p.m., St. Agnes and Holy Trinity, Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. (or by appt.)

BAPTISM: By appointment. Pre-Baptism preparation required. Arrange before birth.

MARRIAGE: Arrange 6 months in advance.

SICK & SHUTINS: Please call the Rectory.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please register at Rectory.



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The image of the reign of God proclaimed today by the prophet Isaiah is comforting and challenging at the same time. **We are called to take these words to heart and put them into practice in our daily lives.** As this Advent season unfolds, our gaze is turned once again to John the Baptist, who prepares the way of the Lord. **Let us pray that we will be inspired by today's sacred word to become Christ for others—bringing glad tidings to the poor and healing to the brokenhearted.** *As the sacred word is proclaimed, let this be our prayer: "Come, Lord Jesus."*

— Mark Your Calendar —

Tuesday, Dec. 16th....PENANCE SERVICE, Holy Trinity, 7:00 p.m.

Wed, Dec. 17th....PENANCE SERVICE FOR THE DEANERY OF STEEL VALLEY
Please note: The Penance Service for ALL PARISHES of Deanery ST. AGNES, 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 17th....HOLY TRINITY "CHRISTMAS DECORATING"

The decorating of the church will begin at *11:00 a.m.* Your help is needed for an hour or two. *Many hands make our decorating task a joyful event. So please come!*

Thursday, Dec. 25th....NATIVITY OF OUR LORD; full Mass schedule for both parishes is listed.

Thursday, Jan. 01st....SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
PLEASE NOTE the scheduling of Masses.

Sunday, Jan. 04th....EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, regular schedule of Masses.

~~Please pray for Priestly and Religious Vocations~~

Spirituality of Advent and Christmas

John the Baptizer at the Jordan River proclaimed the **joyful news of Christmas: GOD IS WITH US.** In our **individual advents** of poverty and despair, **GOD IS WITH US;** in the humility and the humiliations we endure, in the messes we make of our lives, in the messes others make of their lives that we have to clean up, **GOD IS WITH US.** *Advent faith* calls us to an awareness that *despite the sufferings and difficulties of life, there is always healing:* that *despite our forgetting and abandoning God, God neither forgets or abandons us;* that *despite the cross, there is the eternal hope of resurrection to be ever embraced in the divine ecstasy in the eternal love of the Father.*



THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will be *visiting the sick after December 15th.* If you or someone you know wishes to be on the visitation list, *please call the Parish Office, 412-466-6545, or a Society Member.*

ST. AGNES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS — COME AND ENJOY!!

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 3...will perform **Saturday, December 20th,** at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

GRADES 4 THROUGH 8 will perform **Sunday, December 21st,** at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Order your Lottery Calendar for 2009..... from Sister Cynthia in St. Agnes Social Hall.

A winner every day of 2009 for only \$20. **Please help us sell 1,000 calendars.**

ADVENT PRAYER (BEFORE MAILING YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS)

Blest are you, Lord, our God and Father! You have graced our lives with friends and relatives near and far.
May these Christmas Cards arrive at their destinations as signs of affection, as tokens of peace.
Send your Son to reign in glory among us. He will lead your people to a glad reunion in your holy city,
Where we will sing your praise, for ever and ever. Amen

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE—ST. AGNES/HOLY TRINITY

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Every Saturday — half-hour before the evening Masses.

PENANCE SERVICE: on **Tuesday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m.** at Holy Trinity and **Wednesday, December 17th, 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. No better way to prepare for the Lord's coming and being reconciled.

—HOLY DAY MASSES 2008—

CHRISTMAS EVE: *Wednesday, December 24th*

Holy Trinity 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
St. Agnes 6:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY: *Thursday, December 25th*

Holy Trinity 9:30 a.m.
St. Agnes 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD:

Holy Trinity — *Wednesday, December 31st, 4:00 p.m.; Thursday, January 1st, 9:30 a.m.*

St. Agnes — *Wednesday, December 31st, 6:00 p.m.; Thursday, January 1st, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.*

WINNER of the weekly FOOTBALL MANIA is THOMAS G. BERTA

CHRISTMAS AND YEAR-END GIVING

As this most special Season of Christmas as we look back on the past year, it is most appropriate to pause and consider the many blessings God has bestowed upon us, our loved ones and families. The Birth of the Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated at Christmas and remarkably and traditionally, it establishes Christmas as a season of gift giving. Tradition holds the three Wise Men brought gifts to the newborn Savior. Please consider a generous gift to **the Christmas collection that will not only support our educational, spiritual and parish ministries but also, positively effect your taxes and other financial considerations for the year of 2008.** We are given just limited years in our lives to BUILD UP THE KINGDOM. Sharing your blessings through your generous gifts at Christmas will make the world just a little better because you made a difference while you were here. ***Remember, God is never outdone in His generosity to those who give!!***

Please note: The Christmas Charities collection and St. Anthony School/dePaul School collections in January 2009, will be applied against the Parish Share Assessment. The **PSP assessment of St. Agnes for the year of 2008 is \$25,486**, and that of **Holy Trinity is \$21,741**. We do need a greater response and the fulfilling of our pledges to the PSP if we are to reach our assessed for both parishes. **We have until January 31st, 2009 to fulfill our goals.** Otherwise, our saving accounts will be used to fulfill the assessed goal. Your understanding response and stewardship will be helpful in maintaining our financial viability.

***May the Lord richly bless and reward your stewardship not only now,
but throughout the coming year so that we can indeed
maintain our needed capital improvements and pay the continual bills of the parishes!!***

*~~ People are funny; they want the front of the bus,
the middle of the road, and the back of the church. ~~*

Christmas Flower Fund... Each year at Christmas, the churches are 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 Office **by Monday, December 15th.** *The names will be remembered in the Special Masses of Christmas and will be listed on a Christmas Flower Memorial bulletin insert.*



Where Do Your Kids Spend Their Time?

You can help keep your children safe by knowing where they spend their time. Get to know the adults who show up at the various locations in the community where children gather and where they play together. Be wary of any adult who seems more interested in creating a relationship with a child than with other adults. Pay attention when an adult seems to single out a particular child for a relationship or for special attention. Warning signs include treats, gifts, vacations or other special favors offered only to one specific child.

**Diocese of Pittsburgh Abuse Hotline:
1-888-808-1235**

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"OPLATKE"—*HOLY BREAD CHRISTMAS WAFERS*
will be on sale after all the weekend Masses
or call the Parish Office, 412-466-6545.
— *Offering \$2.00-1/2 dozen or \$4.00-dozen* —

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
SLOVAK COOKBOOK - on sale at the
**St. Agnes Parish Center or Holy Trinity
Parish Office, or call 412-466-6545.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~
GRATEFUL THANKS for the workers
who again zealously worked in a
dedicated fashion to produce the finest
cheregi in our Steel Valley! Their
profit for the benefit of **Holy Trinity
Parish** was \$565. All who purchased
this wonderful Slovak pastry expressed
a heartfelt appreciation for the quality
and service that our "cheregi workers"
exhibited.

PRAYERFULLY THANKFUL for
the numbers who have contributed
towards and in memory of their loved
ones for the **Crucified Cross** that is so
beautifully suspended above the altar
at **Holy Trinity**. May we continue to
receive other donors for this cross and
the necessary improvements to the
interior of the church.



—Sin, poor choices, bad attitudes
 disrupt our relationship with God,
 the Church and our relationships
 with others. Let Advent be a time
 for us to celebrate the *Sacrament of Penance*.

Please Pray for Our Beloved Sick
Holy Trinity

**Maria Alzo, Robert Burke, Eleanor Decker,
 Harry Fraser, Steve Gaydos,
 Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Nancy Jackson,
 Ann Kostelnik, Diane Kovalsky, Ann Kurimsky,
 Theresa Lovas, Elizabeth Mindas, Mary Pavlik,
 Ann Sabo, Ray Shahan, Debra Sievern,
 Margaret Svirbel, Martha Vasil,
 Mary Wasilisin, Ann Yonek, Robert Zeok**

St. Agnes

**Jean Abels, Robert Andres, Elmer Baker,
 Jim Bevan, Rinehart Bost, Alberta Buchleitner,
 Charles Burgman, Rene Dalton, Irene
 Fontanese, Steve Grochalski, Ann Gruber,
 Martha Gruber, Mary Elizabeth Hudick,
 Dorothy Kostovny, Roberta Karichko,
 Judy Matta, Genevieve Obringer, Robert (Pav)
 Pavuchak, Dorothy Petrak, Olga Pollock,
 Rudy Saunders, Rob Schwoeble, Monica Sinai,
 Louise Smith, Paula Smith, Glenn Steimer,
 Marie Steiner, Kathryn Yousko, Jerome Zosack**

Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — December 7, 2008

\$ 4,747.00 - - Sunday, Monthly, Holy Day Envelopes
\$ 490.00 - - Parish Share Program

PSP Assessment-2008 \$ 25,486.00
Amount Collected PSP \$ 23,109.00
New sidewalk and cemetery wall..... \$ 10,000.00
Monthly School Subsidy \$ 6,167.00

REMEMBER ST. AGNES CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

**~ YOUR LOYAL AND FERVENT STEWARDSHIP IS
 PRAYERFULLY APPRECIATED ~**

HOLY TRINITY — December 7, 2008

\$ 2,677.00 - - Sunday and Monthly Envelopes
\$ 766.00 - - Holy Day Collection

PSP Assessment-2008 \$ 21,741.00
Amount Collected PSP \$ 16,404.00

**MEMORIALS IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES ARE
 BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE ONGOING PROJECTS**