

Saint Agnes Church



& Holy Trinity Church

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

ST. AGNES MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY – DEC 13 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p (Sat)-Ann Gruber/Frances Plumer-birth's(E.Gruber)
8:00 - - Joseph and Catherine Muraca (Fedele Muraca)
11:00 - Mary (Minnie) Magera (Ladies of Charity)

MON - DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

(8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45 - Albert V. Lesutis (Wife, Audrey and Family)

WED - DECEMBER 16 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)

THURSDAY- DECEMBER 17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45- Anna Mae Tolan (Family)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15 - - Sr. Bernadette (St. Agnes Sisters of Holy Spirit)

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 19 -ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 - - Mass at Holy Trinity)

SUNDAY-DEC 20 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p (Sat) - Rita Burgman (Family)
8:00 - - Rinehart W. Bost (Tom and Patty Klocko)
11:00 - Betty T. Smith (Jim and Suzann Bevan)

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

PRINCIPAL, ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Sister Cynthia Wessel 412-466-6238

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

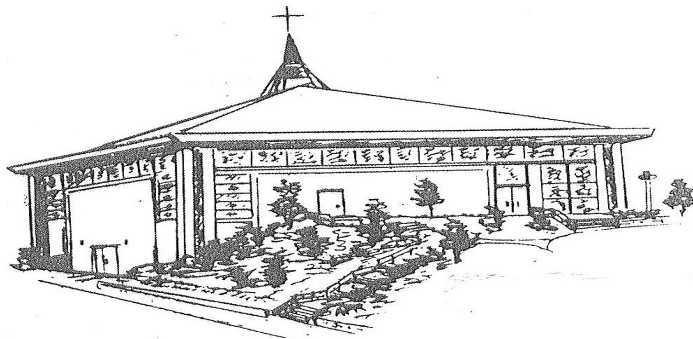
St. Agnes Convent 412-466-3554

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

Holy Trinity E-mail Address HLTRINITY@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 Administrative Center
529 Grant Avenue Ext. • West Mifflin, PA 15122-3830

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY – DEC 13 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p (Sat) -Amanda Chonko/William Chonko (Family)
9:30 - - George Tomko (Marge Tomko)

MON - DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

8:00 - Rae Clark (Betty Clark)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45 - - Mass at St. Agnes)

WED - DECEMBER 16 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 - - Justina Kopay (Mary Ann Polinski)

THURSDAY- DECEMBER 17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45 - - Mass at St. Agnes)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:15 - - Mass at St. Agnes)

SATURDAY -DECEMBER 19 –ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 - - Michael and Helen Bires (Family)

SUNDAY-DEC 20 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p (Sat) - Robert Schorr (St. Vincent de Paul Society)
9:30 - - John Seech (Joe and Tillie Kirch)

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Nemo peccat videns Deus—a theological proverb meaning “Nobody sins seeing God.” It’s an intuition rather than a mathematical formula, but the intuition makes sense. **If we see the diamond, we won’t seize the dime.** To see God reduces lesser goods to insignificance. In our present state we see God only indirectly, sacramentally, as mediated to us by the material universe. *John the Baptist shows what follows if we see our neighbor this way, as a being mediating God’s image.* How many sins come about because we see our neighbor instead as an object? It’s only a short step then to manipulation of that object for our benefit. Next stop: fraud, oppression, violence. If we see not an object, but with whom God identifies, then the next stop becomes: **“Whoever has two cloaks, whoever has food, should share with the person who has none.”** John says the Lord is near, as near as our neighbor. *How we treat our neighbor matters.* But that means *we also matter—very good news indeed.*



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— Mark Your Calendar —

- TODAY, Dec. 13th...Slovak Christmas Dinner, “Vilija”, 2:00 p.m., Holy Trinity Social Hall.**
Dec. 13th...Christmas in Slovakia, 3:30 p.m., Ascension Auditorium, Clairton, PA.
A repertoire of Slovak songs in Roman Catholic & Greek Catholic, 412-233-7422.
- Wed, Dec. 16th...Holy Trinity Penance Service, 7:00 p.m.**
- Thursday, Dec. 17th...Decorating of Holy Trinity Church, will begin at 11:00 a.m.**
Your help is needed for an hour or two.
- Saturday, Dec. 19th...Pittsburgh Slovaks Christmas Party, 1:00 –3:00 p.m., St. Rosalia’s Church, Greenfield. For further info, call Ann at 412-464-1916, EAST5292@aol.com**
- Tuesday, Dec. 22nd...St. Agnes Penance Service, 7:00 p.m.**

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

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 3..Saturday, December 19th, 7:00 p.m., “*Donkey for Sale*”, Social Hall.

GRADES 3 THROUGH 8Sunday, December 20th, 7:00 p.m., “*Christmas WISH*”, Social Hall.

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 14TH.** *The names will be remembered in the Special Masses of Christmas and be listed on a Christmas Flower Memorial bulletin insert.*



THE ANGEL TREE! Please bring your gifts to church **no later than TODAY, Sunday, December 13th.**

“OPLATKE” CHRISTMAS WAFER BREAD - on sale after all weekend Masses, \$2.00—1/2 doz, \$4.00—dozen.

SLOVAK COOKBOOK - on sale at the St. Agnes Parish Center or Holy Trinity Parish Office. Price is \$9.00.



Our Heartiest Congratulations to the family of ***Gustav David Tytke***, the child of ***Gustav and Melissa Tytke***, baptized at St. Agnes Church, December 6th.



Make
Straight
the
way
of the
Lord

Gaudete Sunday

Today is known as “**Gaudete Sunday**”, which means “**Rejoicing Sunday**”. We are happy because the coming of the Lord is near. As the **Prophet Isaiah** in today’s first reading reminded his people, that when the promised Savior would come, there would be singing and joy and gladness. So the people of Israel waited for the coming Savior with joy. *And it is with that same kind of joy that we again prepare to celebrate that first coming of Jesus.*

With only twelve days till Christmas, there is much that needs to be done during the remaining days—like baking, cleaning, decorating, buying and wrapping gifts. But in addition to these, and far more important than any of them, must be our **spiritual preparation to celebrate the birth of our Savior**. It should be a joyful preparation as we try to fathom the deep love that God has for us by allowing Heaven to come down to earth through our Savior and King.

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

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

PENANCE SERVICE: Parish Reconciliation Service on **Wednesday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church** and **Tuesday, December 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at St. Agnes**. 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 joyously reconciled with the Lord and with our neighbors.

—HOLY DAY MASSES —

CHRISTMAS EVE: Thursday, December 24th, 2009 **CHRISTMAS DAY: Friday, December 25th, 2009**

4:00 p.m. Children’s Mass (St. Agnes and Holy Trinity)
10:00 p.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)
12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass (St. Agnes)

8:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)
9:30 a.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)
11:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)

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

Thursday, December 31st, 2009

4:00 p.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)

Friday, January 1st, 2010

8:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)
9:30 a.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)
11:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)



HEARTFELT SYMPATHY to the family and friends of **JOANNE KUDLA**, sister-in-law of **Sister Edward Kudla, S.H.S.**, who was buried this past week. *May all our beloved deceased be embraced by the Heavenly Father at the Banquet of Heaven.*

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 Deanery Penance Service** is scheduled for **St. Agnes on Tuesday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m.** And for **Holy Trinity on Wednesday, December 16th 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!**



Christmas Novena Prayer

December 16th-24th

*O Christ, Word made flesh
You came into our world
not to condemn it,
but to replace
death and hatred
with life and love.*

*You promised to stay with us
until the end of time
and gave us the gift of
Your Body and Blood
in the Eucharist
as a pledge of that promise.*

We thank and praise You!

*We ask that
through this gift of the Eucharist,
we may put on Your mind
and heart and so bring
Your Spirit
of love, justice and peace
to our homes
and to our suffering world.*

Amen

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY...

...will be visiting the sick after the 15th of December. *If you, or someone you know, wishes to be on the visitation list, please contact the Parish Office of Holy Trinity, 412-466-6545, or a St. Vincent de Paul Society Member—or call if you desire the presence of the Priest to receive the Holy Eucharist.*

2009 CONTRIBUTIONS

If you wish to receive financial credit for tax purposes in the 2009 calendar year, **all contributions and/or gifts must be received on or before December 31st, 2009.** *Any contributions received after December 31st, 2009 will be credited to the 2010 calendar year. Thank you.*

Please Pray for Our Beloved Sick

Weekly, the bulletin lists our sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized. *If you wish to add or alter this listing, please call the Parish Offices, so that we can have our special listing updated.* Your cooperation, visits, and daily prayers are deeply appreciated.

Holy Trinity

**Maria Alzo, Harry Fraser,
Steve Gaydos, John Holzwarth,
Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Betty Horgas,
Nancy Jackson, Diane Kovalsky, Anne Kushan,
Theresa Lovas, Mary Pavlik, Ann Sabo,
Ray Shahen, Margaret Shimko,
Margaret Svirbel, Martha Vasil,
Mary Wasilisin, Ann Yonek, Robert Zeok**

St. Agnes

**Jean Abels, Alberta Buchleitner,
Irene Fontanese, Steve Grochalski,
Ann Gruber, Edmond Gruber,
John Gruber, Martha Gruber,
Mary Elizabeth Hudich, Dorothy Kostovny,
George Manns, Judy Matta,
Genevieve Obringer, Catherine Olsakovsky,
Dorothy Petrak, Olga Pollock, Gerry Saracco,
Monica Sinai, Paula Smith,
Glenn Steimer, Marie Steiner, Jerome Zosack**

Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — December 6, 2009

\$ 7,064.00 - - Sunday Offertory
\$ 620.00 - - Parish Share Program
PSP Assessment-2009 \$ 25,546.00
Amount Collected PSP \$ 19,253.00
Monthly School Subsidy \$ 6,167.00

REMEMBER OUR PARISH SHARE PROGRAM CAMPAIGN

~~ REMEMBER ST. AGNES CHURCH
AND HOLY TRINITY CHURCH IN YOUR WILL ~~

HOLY TRINITY — December 6, 2009

\$ 2,722.00 - - Sunday Offertory
\$ 947.00 - - Parish Share Program
PSP Assessment-2009 \$ 24,285.00
Amount Collected PSP \$ 24,603.00

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