

Saint Agnes Church



& Holy Trinity Church

St. Agnes Administrative Center
529 Grant Avenue Ext. • West Mifflin, PA 15122-3830

ST. AGNES MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY - NOV 27 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p (Sat) - Thomas Oeler-89th birth (Tom/Peg Smith/Fam)
8:00 -- Alice Stanicar (Husband, Vincent)
11:00 -- Leo and Susanne Snyder (Aimee Tokarski)

MONDAY - NOVEMBER 28 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00 -- Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 29 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45 -- Deceased Members of St. Agnes

WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 30 - ST. ANDREW

(8:00 -- Mass at Holy Trinity)

THURS - DECEMBER 1 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45 -- Mary Palyo (Ken and Nancy Kuchma)

FIRST FRI - DECEMBER 2 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

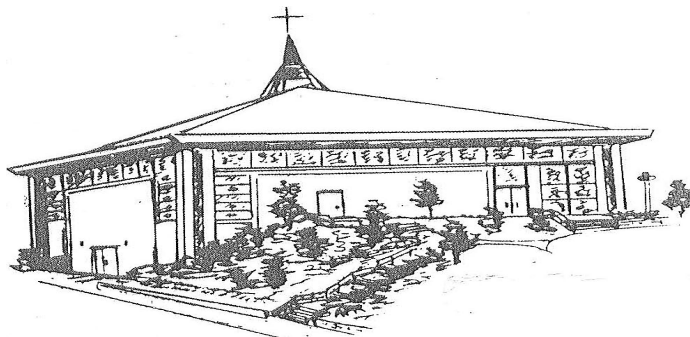
8:15 -- Claire Richards (Family)

FIRST SAT - DECEMBER 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

(8:00 -- Mass at Holy Trinity)

SUNDAY - DEC 4 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p (Sat) - Victor Merritt (Wife, Ann and Family)
8:00 -- Roberta Karichko (Jack and Fran Walters)
11:00 -- Ray Milko (Ellie and Joel Dobos)



Holy Trinity Administrative Center
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HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY - NOV 27 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p (Sat) - Michael Sotak (Debbie Gaydos)
9:30 -- Edward Gamret (Wife, Margaret)

MONDAY - NOV 28 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 -- Deceased Members of Holy Trinity

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 29 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

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

WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 30 - ST. ANDREW

8:00 -- Michael and Thomas Fabian (Irene and Anna)

THURS - DECEMBER 1 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

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

FIRST FRI - DECEMBER 2 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 -- Living/Deceased Members-Jednota Branch #580

FIRST SAT - DECEMBER 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

8:00 -- Margaret Wooddell (Mantich Family)

SUNDAY - DEC 4 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p (Sat) - Regis Hock (Son, Richard Hock)
9:30 -- Michael Onofrey (Frances Onofrey)

ADMINISTRATOR, Rev. Joseph R. Grosko
PRINCIPAL, ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Sister Cynthia Wessel412-466-6238

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rectory - St. Agnes 412-466-6545
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 H.TRINITY@VERIZON.NET
Holy Trinity Fax Number.....412-466-6968

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

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

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.

November 27, 2011

First Sunday of Advent

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Teachers expect their students to be prepared for class so they can make positive contributions and be open to learning new concepts and ideas. Sometimes students will be surprised with a pop quiz so the teacher can determine whether or not the material has been studied in preparation for the final exam. In Mark's Gospel account, **Jesus tells His followers to be prepared. He has given us our "assignment"—a new life rooted in daily conversion through prayer and loving service to one another. *There is no room for complacency or excuses, for at any time God will call on us, and whatever has been left undone in our lives will remain undone. All opportunities to finish the work entrusted to us will be lost, and the "final exam" will have arrived.***



Second Collection of St. Agnes and Holy Trinity, weekend of December 3rd and 4th, Parish Share Campaign.

— MARK YOUR CALENDAR —

TODAY, November 27th....FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—NEW ROMAN MISSAL BEGINS

Sat, December 3rd....HOLY TRINITY MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thurs, December 8th....FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 8th....45+ CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY, 1:30 p.m., Skyvue Restaurant and Lounge.

Sunday, December 18th....TRADITIONAL "VILJA" CHRISTMAS MEAL, Holy Trinity

Tuesday, December 20th....ST. AGNES PENANCE SERVICE, 7:00 p.m.

Wed, December 21st....HOLY TRINITY PENANCE SERVICE, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25th....NATIVITY OF OUR LORD/CHRISTMAS



Flowers at Holy Trinity Church in Honor of Blessed Mother

In Memory of EDWARD GAMRET (Wife, Margaret)



The Opening Prayer (the Collect) in anticipation of the Eucharistic Celebration of the Second Sunday of Advent, December 4th, from the Third Roman Missal.

*Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking
hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to His company,
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*



Angel Tree of St. Agnes Parish

The Angel Tree at St. Agnes is located in the back of the church. The gifts will be given for the **Light of Life Missions**. Please take an angel and purchase the gift listed. **Please do not wrap the gifts, but boxed would be nice.** Just place them under the tree. All gifts must be in church **by December 18th.** *Our heartfelt thanks hopefully for the many who will reach out and make a presentation of their personal gifts. May the Lord reward your personal outreach for the needy.*

St. Agnes 45+ Club Christmas Party

Thursday, December 8th at 1:30 p.m.

Skyvue Restaurant and Lounge 3230 Lebanon Church Road

All are invited to attend this gala celebration of our faith communities.

Please contact Ed Ferchak at 412-462-0904. Reservations needed by Wednesday, November 30th.

Season of ADVENT Begins TODAY

Today we will begin a new Church Liturgical Year with a period that **prepares us to again celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas.** And one venerable tradition that reminds us to prepare ourselves is the **Advent Wreath.** The gradual lighting of 4 candles, one on each of the 4 weeks of Advent, helps to **symbolize** not only the expectation and hope of **Our Lord's first coming into the world, but also His second coming as just Judge at the end of the world.**

We will have an Advent Wreath in Church and will observe this devotion by lighting the candles and saying the prayers before our daily and Sunday Liturgies. **You can also observe this devotion at home,** and we recommend it. You can make your own Advent Wreath or buy one already made. **Clip and save the following prayers** which can be said at the family evening meal, for example, as the candles are lighted each day. Also, special Advent booklets are available in the lobby. Excellent for meditation and reflection.

The Advent Wreath Devotion

Blessing of the Advent Wreath - "O God, by Whose Word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your Blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, and may receive from You abundant graces. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen"

— Prayers for Each Week —

First Week - (Light 1 purple candle) - Stir up Your Might, O God, we beg You, and come, so that by Your protection, we may be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins, and may be saved by Your deliverance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen

Second Week - (Light 2 purple candles) - Stir up our hearts, O God, so that we may prepare for Your Only Begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve You with pure minds. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen

Third Week - (Light 2 purple and 1 pink candles) - We beg You, O God, incline Your ear to our prayers, and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Your visitation. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen

Fourth Week - (Light all 4 candles) - Stir up Your Power, O God, and help us, so that by Your Grace and Merciful Kindness, we may swiftly receive the salvation that our sins impede. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son and our Lord. Amen

SANCTUARY CANDLE - HOLY TRINITY IN MEMORY OF EDWARD GAMRET (WIFE, MARGARET)

Christmas Flower Fund

Each year at Christmas, St. Agnes/Holy Trinity 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 Center by **Monday, December 12th.** *These names will be remembered in the Special Masses of Christmas and will be listed on a Christmas Flower Memorial bulletin insert.*



First Friday Holy Hour will be celebrated at **Holy Trinity following their 8:00 a.m. Mass. St. Agnes, 8:15.**

Traditional "Vilija" Christmas Meal... The Slovak Cultural Committee of McKeesport/West Mifflin will host a traditional Slovak Christmas dinner, "Vilija", on **December 18th at 2:00 p.m.** in the **Holy Trinity Church Social Hall.** The meal will feature *hors d'oeuvres, a meatless meal of wafers, sauerkraut soup with mushrooms, baked fish, pirohy, mixed vegetables, bobalky, pagach, and poppy seed and nut roll.* **Seating is limited to 100, and reservations are required** and can be made by calling **Sister Irene A. Benyak, SCN at 412-751-1673 or Holy Trinity, 466-6545.** Cost is **\$15.00/adults, & \$8.00/children under 12 years.**

OPLATKE"—HOLY BREAD

DELICATE, ORNATE, FESTIVE, BELOVED —
the **Christmas wafer** commemorates

...a custom which is centuries old. Oplatke, from Latin, "Oblatum," Holy Bread, is "Our Christmas Oblation(sm)." Believed by some to emanate as far back as the "manna" of Exodus 16:31, it is sometimes referred to as the Bread of Angels. The ritual observance is called "**Wigilia**" in **Polish; Stedry Vecer**" in **Slovak; "Kucious"** in **Lithuanian; "Feliz Navidad"** in **Hispanic.**

Through our beloved Christmas wafer tradition, we are reminded of the **Holy Nativity**. We remember our Lord, Jesus Christ, was born in **Bethlehem**, literally the "**house of bread**". We hallow His proclamation: "**I am the Bread of Life.**"

*On weekend Masses or call the Parish Office.
Offering \$2.00 - 1/2 dozen or \$4.00 - dozen.*

ST. AGNES SCHOOL

SERRA HIGH SCHOOL \$15,000 RAFFLE—The *Christmas Stocking Stuffer Tickets* based on the 4-digit PA number are still available and are **\$10**. *St. Agnes School makes \$5 on every ticket sold.*

2011 LOTTERY CALENDARS—are available (three-digit lottery) at 7:00 p.m. If you want a certain number, call the school, **412-466-6238** and ask if the number is available and we will have it for you during the weekend. Otherwise, we will just carry over a few to have available for purchasing after Masses. The Lottery calendars are **\$20** and are *good for the entire year.*

SARRIS CANDY BARS—are on sale in the Social Hall after Mass. All bars are **\$1.00**.

ENJOY BOOKS—are on sale at the School office at the cost of **\$27.00**.

SLOVAK COOKBOOKS—(in English) are on sale at the Parish Office.

St. Agnes Coffee/Donuts/Fellowship next week, as always, the first Sunday of the month, following the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses. All welcomed!!

St. Agnes/Holy Trinity Turkey Trot

Prayerful thanks for a successful outing held at Holy Trinity Social Hall which was for the benefit of St. Agnes School and Holy Trinity Parish. Our thanks for the **Men's Club** and **St. Agnes volunteers.**

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, Patricia Brevko,
Anna Cmar, Marie Cmar, Helen Gambal,
Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Joseph Kirch,
Diane Kovalsky, Bernice Kusma,
Agnes Magdic, Ethel & Larry Maydak,
Justine Mantich, Ethel Palyo,
Mary Pavlik, Ann Sabo,
John Sabol, Ray Shahan,
Margaret Shimko, Margaret Svirbel,
Martha Vasil, Robert Zeok**

St. Agnes

**Jean Abels, Josephine Andres,
Alberta Buchleitner, Nettie Conley,
Patricia DeLuca, Florence Dugan,
Irene Fontanese, Edward Godec,
Steve Grochalski, John Gruber,
Martha Gruber, Mary Elizabeth Hudick,
Gene Johnson, Roberta Johnson, Richard
Jordan, Marilyn Koehler, Mary Kosko,
Robert Kosko, Dorothy Kostovny,
Joe Milko, Marguerite Oeler, Laura Pasternak,
Dorothy Petrak, Brian Saunders,
Rudy Saunders, Glenn Steimer, Marie Steiner,
Rose Ann Thomas, Paul Thomas**

Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — November 20, 2011

\$ 5,973.00 - - Sunday Offertory/Religious Retirement

\$ 290.00 - - Parish Share Program

PSP Assessment-2011 \$ 23,033.00

Amount Collected PSP \$ 18,010.00

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 — November 13, 2011

\$ 3,458.00 - - Sunday Offertory/Religious Retirement

\$ 34.00 - - Parish Share Program

PSP Assessment-2011\$ 23,407.00

Amount Collected PSP\$ 12,755.00

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