

Saint Agnes Church and Holy Trinity Church



Administrator - Reverend Joseph R. Grosko
Administrative Office and Rectory
529 Grant Avenue Extension • West Mifflin, PA 15122
Saint Agnes School Principal - Sister Cynthia Wessel
653 St. Agnes Lane • West Mifflin, PA 15122

Mission Statement of Saint Agnes Parish

622 St. Agnes Lane • West Mifflin, PA 15122

Saint Agnes Parish established in West Mifflin, PA in 1867, is a viable Catholic community that witnesses the message of Jesus through the talents of its members who are nurtured by the Holy Spirit. Our mission is to invite people to know and become one with Jesus Christ reaching out in service to all.

Mission Statement of Holy Trinity Parish

529 Grant Avenue Extension • West Mifflin, PA 15122

Holy Trinity Parish is a Faith Community gathered in celebration of the Eucharist, strengthened by the Word of God, reaching out to all generations and inspired by the Holy Spirit to promote holy, authentic and faithful Catholic living.

ST. AGNES MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 2-FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT

6:00p(Sat)-**Rose Montalbano-Birthday** (Dennis/Rose Anne Needham)
 8:00a - **Roberta Karichko** (Mary Mayher and Family)
 11:00a - **Roy W. Cochrane** (Wife and Family)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 4 - ST. JOHN DAMASCENE

6:45a - **Henry Kudla** (Audrey Lesutis)

WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 5 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 6 - ST. NICHOLAS

6:45a - **Deceased Benefactors of St. Vincent de Paul Society**

FIRST FRIDAY - DECEMBER 7 - ST. AMBROSE

8:15a - **James Abels-Anniversary** (Edward Fink Family)
 7:00p Vigil - **Rita Peters** (Schaff Family)

SAT-DEC 8-IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BVM

9:30a - **Emilia Koreny** (Fred and Joann Smith)

SUN-DECEMBER 9 - SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

6:00p(Sat) - **Anna Stanicar** (Family)
 8:00a - **Glenn Steimer** (Mary Steimer Dale)
 11:00a - **Eleanor Havrilla** (Stavor Family)

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 2-FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) **Tillie & Stanley Kelmeckis and John & Julia Matta - Parents** (George and Flo Matta)
 9:30a - **Michael Sotak** (Debbie Gaydos)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

8:00a - **Michael Onofrey** (Wife and Family)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 4 - ST. JOHN DAMASCENE

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

WEDNESDAY-DECEMBER 5 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Debby Sabo Lebedda** (Mother and Sisters)

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 6 - ST. NICHOLAS

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

FIRST FRIDAY - DECEMBER 7 - ST. AMBROSE

8:00a - **Betty Horgas** (Veseleny and Welsch Families)
 4:00p Vigil - **Margaret Shimko** (Marie Belancik)

SAT-DEC 8-IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BVM

8:00a - **John Butsko** (Family)

SUN-DECEMBER 9 - SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) - **David Robinson** (Mom and Dad)
 9:30a - **Mary Pavlick** (Goldie Pollack)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Administrative Office and Rectory.....412-466-6545
 St. Agnes School.....412-466-6238
 Social Hall - Saint Agnes..... 412-466-5500
 Social Hall - Holy Trinity..... 412-466-9695
 Saint Agnes Convent 412-466-3554
 Saint Agnes Website..... www.stagneswm.com
 Holy Trinity Website.....www.holytrinitywm.com
 St. Agnes/Holy Trinity Office Email... h.trinity@verizon.net
 St. Agnes/Holy Trinity Fax.....412-466-6968

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

HOLY DAY MASSES: As scheduled.

RECONCILIATION: St. Agnes: Saturdays at 5:30 pm;
 Holy Trinity: Saturdays at 3:30 pm (or by appointment)

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.

**EPHESIANS IV — PRAYER & PRAISE — ALL WELCOME
 ON 1ST & 3RD MONDAYS, 7:30 PM, ST. AGNES CHURCH**

**DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE HOTLINE
 1-888-808-1235**



FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT

First Reading: *Jeremiah 33:14-16* The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14* The Lord will teach us his paths.

Second Reading: *1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2* Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 21:25-28,34-36* Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

Soon we will be pulling out the boxes of Christmas lights and ornaments to decorate, transforming our homes for the Christmas season. Advent is also a time for doing some interior decorating. When it comes to transforming our hearts, we cannot do this alone. Today's readings encourage us to turn with hope to the Source of all life. The prophet Jeremiah offers hope in his image of an old tree stump with a new shoot suddenly springing from it, giving heart to a despondent people. God promised to raise up one who would bring peace and security. This promise was fulfilled in Jesus. Even so, Jesus warns that our hearts can become drowsy from life's daily worries, causing us to miss the many ways he comes into our lives, bringing his peace. With St. Paul, let us ask the Lord to strengthen our hearts, increasing our ability to love one another and all we meet during this holy season. Our God can bring new life to hearts grown not only a little older but perhaps a little colder.

Can you think of one way to ask the Lord to awaken or to strengthen your heart this Advent?

~~~MARK YOUR CALENDAR~~~

Mon, Mar 18th..... **THE MEETING OF THE VICARIATE 2 WITH THE PRIESTS AND BISHOP DAVID ZUBIK ALSO, THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WILL BE CONFERRED BY THE BISHOP.**

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH IS DONUT and FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY.

Heartfelt thanks to the families of Victor Merritt and Mark Bennett for hosting our Donut and Fellowship Sundays. Please join us TODAY after the 8 and 11 am Masses at St. Agnes.



SUGGESTION FORM for TWO POSITIONS on ST. AGNES PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

You are invited to please suggest names for the two positions that are due for replacement on the St. Agnes Pastoral Council. **A suggestion form is included with today's bulletin.** Please return the form via the Collection Basket no later than next weekend, **December 8th/9th.** A **Discernment Retreat Day** will be held in January to reflect, pray, and discern whether or not the suggested parishioners feel called to this ministry of service and leadership.

Advent Day of Recollection, Thursday, December 6th

Father Edward Litavec, our beloved preacher, will give a Day of Recollection for the parishes of **St. Agnes** and **Holy Trinity**. The day will begin at **Holy Trinity Church at 9 am** with an *opening conference* and then the *opportunity for confession* and the *celebration of the Eucharist*. A *luncheon* will conclude the Day of Recollection with a question and answer forum. *Let us give ourselves some spiritual time in the mist of the rush of the holidays and better prepare ourselves for the Birth of Christ by your attendance.* A **SIGNUP SHEET** is located in the back of **Holy Trinity Church** or call the **Parish Office at 412-466-6545.** All are welcome.



FLOWERS FOR THE BLESSED MOTHER AT HOLY TRINITY



LAST SUNDAY: IN MEMORY OF **EDWARD GAMRET** (WIFE, MARGARET)
THIS SUNDAY: IN MEMORY OF **DEBBY SABO LEBEDDA** (MOTHER & SISTERS)



Prayerful Congratulations to the family of Addison Elizabeth, the daughter of James and Heidi Burgess, baptized at Holy Trinity Church, November 25th.

HOLT TRINITY MEN'S CLUB ELECTION RESULTS: We are *prayerfully grateful* for the Men's Club and its service to our parish community. Best wishes to the officers in their new term. President: **George Miteff**; Vice-President: **John Midla**; Treasurer: **Henry Mannella**; Secretary: **Virginia Jasek.**

Immaculate
Conception



First Friday

Feast of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Saturday, December 8th

The **Blessed Virgin Mary** was destined, from the moment of her conception, to be the **bearer of the Eternal Word**. *As Mary was the vessel that carried the Savior of the world, may we, too, be vessels that carry the message of the Gospel to all we meet.* We will gather on **Saturday, the Feast Day, December 8th**, at **St. Agnes at 9:30 am** and at **Holy Trinity at 8 am** to give praise and glory to God for the gift of the Lord Jesus. **PLEASE NOTE: Anticipated Masses** will be on **Friday, December 7th**, at **St. Agnes at 7 pm** and at **Holy Trinity at 4 pm**.

Friday is **also the First Friday** of December. At **St. Agnes, Mass** will be at **8:15 am**; at **Holy Trinity, Mass** followed by **Benediction and Holy Hour** will be at **8 am**.

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."*



Advent

— 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
AT HOLY TRINITY**



LAST SUNDAY: IN MEMORY OF **EDWARD GAMRET** (WIFE, MARGARET)

THIS SUNDAY: IN MEMORY OF **DEBBY SABO LEBEDDA** (MOTHER & SISTERS)

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 place it in the **collection basket** or return to the **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.*



ANGEL TREE

Please bring your gifts to church by **December 9th**. The gifts will be taken to *Sisters Place* in Clairton.

CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS!!

* GIFT CARDS

* SERRA HIGH SCHOOL \$10,000

RAFFLE TICKETS are based on the 4-digit PA number. **This is the last weekend that the tickets are available.** The price is \$10, and *St. Agnes School makes \$5 on every ticket sold.*

* 2013 LOTTERY CALENDARS If you would like a certain number, call the School at **412-466-6238**; if the number is available, we will have it for you during the weekend. Otherwise, we will have a random assortment for purchase after Masses. Price: **\$20 for the entire year.**

* SARRIS CANDY BARS: \$1

* ENJOY BOOKS: \$30; KIDS STUFF BOOKS: \$25

* SLOVAK COOKBOOKS (in English)

* KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS MAGNETS: \$4 Available after Mass at St. Agnes and in the back of church at Holy Trinity. Proceeds benefit the **St. Vincent de Paul Society.**



Football Mania Ticket Winners: Week 11: Geraldine Connor #2113 - \$25 and Jena Nese #1775 - \$25; Week 12: Tim Bobick #1678 - \$200 and Dewey Kosko #4575: \$25.

45+ CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

All are invited **December 13th, 2 pm** at Skyvue Restaurant. Please call Ed Ferchak by **December 7th** for your reservations (412-462-0904).

OPLATKE - HOLY BREAD

The **Christmas wafer** commemorates a custom which is centuries old. Oplatke, from Latin, "Oblatum," Holy Bread, is believed by some to emanate as far back as the "manna" of Exodus; it is sometimes referred to as the Bread of Angels. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, literally, the House of Bread. **Offering: \$2 - 1/2 dozen; \$4 - dozen.**



**SLOVAK
CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER (VILIIJA)**

Please see bulletin insert for details.

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

Monica Branik, Patricia Brevko, Anna Cmar,
Marie Cmar, Helen Gambal, Eleanor Haselhoff,
Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Joseph Kirch, Agnes Kovac,
Diane Kovalsky, Agnes Magdic, Ethel Maydak,
Larry Maydak, Justine Mantich, Ethel Palyo,
Ann Sabo, Mary Sabol, Margaret Svirbel,
Martha Vasil


St. Agnes

Josephine Andres, Marie Beney,
Alberta Buchleitner, Francis J. Capaleo,
Nettie Conley, Patricia DeLuca, Florence Dugan,
Irene Fontanese, Steve Grochalski, John Gruber,
Martha Gruber, Mary Elizabeth Hudick,
Richard Jordan, Mary Kosko, Robert Kosko,
Dorothy Kostovny, Joe Milko, Marguerite Oeler,
Laura Pasternak, Dorothy Petrak, Clara Riley,
Brian Saunders, Rudy Saunders, Marie Steiner,
Roseann Thomas, Paul Thomas

St. Agnes Social Hall


GENTLY USED TOY SALE

DECEMBER 2nd - Noon to 3 pm



HOMEMADE SOUPS SALE

after Masses December 1st and 2nd



Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — November 18 and 25, 2012

\$ 7,343 - Sunday Offering
 \$ 2,398 - Retirement Fund for Religious
 \$ 640 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012 \$ 24,998
 Amount Collected PSP \$ 21,889
 Monthly School Subsidy \$ 6,167

REMEMBER OUR PARISH SHARE PROGRAM CAMPAIGN

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

HOLY TRINITY — November 18 and 25, 2012

\$ 3,812 - Sunday Offering
 \$ 1,622 - Retirement Fund for Religious
 \$ 105 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012\$ 24,248
 Amount Collected PSP\$ 21,487

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