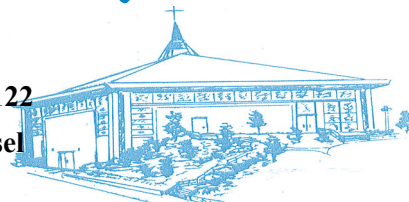


Saint Agnes Church and Holy Trinity Church



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

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)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 10 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 11 - ST. DAMASUS I

6:45a - **Paula Anne Smith** (Elsie Miller)

WED - DECEMBER 12 - OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 13 - ST. LUCY

6:45a - **Marie Steiner** - Own Intention (Ladies of Charity)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN of the CROSS

8:15a - **Genevieve Obringer** (Patsy Black)

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

SUN-DECEMBER 16 - THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

6:00p(Sat) - **Special Intention** (Ann Gruber)
 8:00a - **William Cain** (Charlotte Gall)
 11:00a - **Roy W. Cochrane** (Wife and Family)

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN-DECEMBER 9 - SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

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

MONDAY - DECEMBER 10 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Mary Kertis** (Maria Bunegin)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 11 - ST. DAMASUS I

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

WED - DECEMBER 12 - OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

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

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 13 - ST. LUCY

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 14 - ST. JOHN of the CROSS

(8:15a Mass at St. Agnes)

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 15 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Martha Palo** - (Robert Horgas)

SUN-DECEMBER 16 - THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) - **John Bodnar** (Nancy Bodnar)
 9:30a - **John J. Sabol** (Wife and Children)

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**

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT

First Reading: *Baruch 5:1-9* Jerusalem shall see the splendor of God's glory.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 126:1-6* A song of praise for God's great deeds.

Second Reading: *Philippians 1:4-6,8-11* Paul prays for the Philippians.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 3:1-6* John preaches repentance and baptizes in the region of the Jordan.



Getting "dressed up" does not seem to happen so much these days. No matter where you go, the dress code seems to be casual, weddings and funerals excepted--usually! But today's readings use the idea of "changing our clothes" to capture Advent's invitation to put on a new way of living. Baruch calls on Jerusalem to take off her robe of mourning and misery, donned when her children were carried off into exile, and put on something radiating splendor and glory, a cloak of justice, because her children are coming home. John the Baptist calls for putting on work clothes of repentance so his listeners can build for God a highway that will reach into their hearts; then, when God arrives there, God will dress them in the glorious garments of salvation. And St. Paul tells his beloved Philippians--and us--to put on love to see what really matters and so be ready when Christ returns and takes us into the heavenly banquet.

So what are you "wearing" now, and what do you need to change into as you move toward Christmas and toward eternal life with God?

~~~MARK YOUR CALENDAR~~~

Wed, Dec 12th.....**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 8:00 am Mass at Holy Trinity**

Thur, Dec 13th.....**45+ Club Christmas Party, Skyvue Restaurant, 2:00 pm**

Tue, Dec 18th.....**Penance Service, 7:00 pm, at Holy Trinity**

Wed, Dec 19th.....**Penance Service, 7:00 pm, at St. Agnes**

Mon, Dec 24th.....**4:00 pm Mass at both St. Agnes and Holy Trinity**

Tue, Dec 25th.....**Regular Sunday Schedule for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord**

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.



THANK YOU

Prayerful thanks to the volunteers and donors at the recent Blood Drive at St. Agnes for **Joe Milko**. **35** units of blood, **one** unit of platelets, and **one** unit of double red were donated. *Your*

kindness and love are greatly appreciated.

SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION

In preparation for the Sacrament, special classes will be held on **Sundays in January** beginning on the first Sunday, the 6th of January, in **St. Agnes School** from **6 - 8 pm**. Confirmandees are expected to attend.

Any baptized Catholics needing to be confirmed, please call Holy Trinity or St. Agnes School.

Heartfelt Sympathy to the family and friends of **MARIE CMAR** and **MICHAEL BANOSKY** of Holy Trinity.

May their souls and the souls of all our beloved deceased be embraced by the Heavenly Father.



CHRISTMAS and YEAREND GIVING



As this most special season of Christmas approaches and we look back on the past year, it is most appropriate to pause and consider the many blessings God has bestowed upon us and our loved ones throughout the year. The birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated at Christmas and establishes Christmas as the season of gift-giving. Tradition holds that **the Three Wise Men brought gifts to the newborn Savior.**

Please consider a **gift to the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day collection** that will not only support our educational, spiritual, and parish ministries and necessary capital improvements, but also positively affect your taxes and other **financial considerations for 2012.**

We are all given just a few short years to "Build up the Kingdom." Sharing your blessings through your generous gift at Christmas, a gift of Catholic faith and love, will make this world just a little better and help strengthen the financial viability of the parishes because you made a difference while you were here.

Remember God is never outdone in His generosity. Our prayers and may the Lord bless you.

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.



Your already know the manner in which you have displeased God by your life-style. 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. A number of priests will be available. The**

Penance Service will begin with prayer and reflection, with personal confession to follow, individually!

The Holy Trinity Penance Service will be on **Tuesday, December 18th, at 7:00 pm**, and the St. Agnes Penance Service will be on **Wednesday, December 19th, at 7:00 pm**.



POPULAR REFLECTIONS...New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan's Advent reflections proved to be **so popular** with viewers that EWTN (the Eternal Word Television Network) asked him to provide some **all-new reflections for Advent 2012**. "**Christ Comes in History, Mystery, and Majesty**" airs on **Sundays at 9:00 pm** and on **Fridays at 5:30 pm** for those who have access to cable television (**Channel 265 on Comcast**). There are four half-hour episodes that correspond with the four weeks of Advent. **Part 2** airs today, **December 9th, at 9:00 pm** and on **Friday, December 14th, at 5:30 pm**. Cardinal Dolan reflects on the **MYSTERY of Christ and how the Son of God comes to be reborn in you and me every day--despite the world's failure to recognize Him.**

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

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 3..Saturday, December 15th, 7 pm, "**Hosanna Rock**," Social Hall.

GRADES 4 THROUGH 8 Sunday, December 16th, 7 pm, "**Miracle of Midnight**," Social Hall.

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.*

"OPLATKE"—HOLY "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." 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 sale after all the weekend Masses or call the Parish Office. Offering \$2.00 - 1/2 dozen or \$4.00 -

TODAY - 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 this 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.





**Attention: Parents of Alumni,
Parents, and Grandparents of
St. Agnes School Children**

Nominate a St. Agnes School teacher for the Golden Apple Award. Just write a letter of recommendation to Sister Cynthia to nominate a teacher. Nominations are due by **December 21st.**

Coming Soon!

Super Bowl Super Match Tickets

Only 300 tickets will be available!

Football Mania Ticket Winners Week 13:

Butch Coyne #4299 - \$25; & Rob Ritz #4600 - \$25



CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS!!

- * **GIFT CARDS** are always available.
- * **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): \$9
- * **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.**



Today is the last day for the **Angel Tree.** The gifts will be taken to ***Sisters Place*** in Clairton. Ever grateful for your caring generosity.

A PRACTICAL WAY TO EVANGELIZE

When it comes to evangelization, nothing matters more than love.

As you interact with others and minister to them--at home, at work, in school, in the marketplace--do so with love. Let your love show.

Pope Benedict speaks about this strongly in his encyclical ***Deus Caritas Est***, particularly in the last section when he challenges us as a **Church to be the face of love to an often broken world.**

Our culture's substitutes for love--lust, greed, self-indulgence--cannot fill our need for REAL LOVE.

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,
Helen Gambal, Eleanor Haselhoff,
Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Joseph Kirch, Agnes Kovac,
Diane Kovalsky, Louis Kruszewski, 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



TRADITIONAL SLOVAK
CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER (VILIIJA)
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16th, 2:00 PM
\$15 Adults; \$8 Children 12 years & younger.
Deadline for reservations: December 9th.
Call Sr. Irene at 412-751-1673 or Holy Trinity.

Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — December 2, 2012

\$ 2,588 - Sunday Offering
\$ 985 - St. Vincent de Paul Society Thanksgiving Offering
\$ 770 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012 \$ 24,998

Amount Collected PSP \$ 22,659

Monthly School Subsidy \$ 6,167

REMEMBER OUR PARISH SHARE PROGRAM CAMPAIGN

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

HOLY TRINITY — December 2, 2012

\$ 2,398 - Sunday Offering
\$ 698 - St. Vincent de Paul Society Thanksgiving Offering
\$ 1,176 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012\$ 24,248

Amount Collected PSP\$ 22,663

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