

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 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)

MONDAY - DECEMBER 17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

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

WED - DECEMBER 19 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 20 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:45a - **Jean Abels** (Ladies of Charity)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS

8:15a - **Anne and Bernard Zedo** (Stavor Family)

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 22 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)

SUN-DECEMBER 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

6:00p(Sat) - **Noramae DiPaolo** (Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bevan)
 8:00a - **Carol Andres** (Buddy and Mary Sekowski)
 11:00a - **Robert J. Andres** (Nancy Andres)

HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

SUN - DECEMBER 16 - THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

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

MONDAY - DECEMBER 17 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Agnes, Matthew, Allen Jasek** (Anna & Irene Fabian)

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 18 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

WED - DECEMBER 19 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Margaret Wooddell** - (Maureen Kollar)

THURSDAY - DECEMBER 20 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

(6:45a Mass at St. Agnes)

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS

(8:15a Mass at St. Agnes)

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 22 - ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00a - **Grace Tarczy** (George and Flo Matta)

SUN-DECEMBER 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) - **Elizabeth Potemra** (Len Potemra)
 9:30a - **John S. Jozefov** (Family)

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**

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

First Reading: *Zephaniah 3:14-18* A Savior is promised to Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: *Isaiah 12:2-6* A song of praise to God Our Savior.

Second Reading: *Philippians 4:4-6* Rejoice always because the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading: *Luke 3:10-18* John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

I remember a wedding homily that offered three words of advice to the couple: share, care, be fair. Perhaps the priest was inspired by John the Baptist's advice in today's Gospel, because those three words summarize John's advice to three different groups. To the crowds, John says, "Share your clothes and your food." To the tax collectors, who often profited by overtaxing people, he advises, "Care for these people." And to the Roman soldiers, who could be oppressive, he warns, "Be fair. Don't abuse your power." These three words remain good advice in our own day. When people share with each other, especially those in need; when they care that all are justly treated; and when they are fair in seeing that all have what is necessary to live a human life; then God's kingdom truly comes into the world. But John brought more than good advice. He was the herald of good news about One, the Messiah. John saw him as one coming in judgment and in fire, but when Jesus did come, he came as Savior.

What does it mean to call Jesus Savior?



~~~MARK YOUR CALENDAR~~~

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

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

Fri, Dec 21st.....**Holy Trinity Church will be decorated for Christmas beginning at 10:00 am**

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**

Thurs, Jan 3rd.....**St. Agnes School resumes.**

Sun, Jan 6th.....**St. Agnes Pastoral Council Meeting after 11:00 am Mass**

Mon, Mar 18th.....**Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Zubik**

SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION

- **Any baptized Catholics needing to be confirmed**, please call the **Parish Office** or **St. Agnes School**.
- In preparation for the Sacrament, special classes for the confirmandees will be held on **Sundays in January** beginning on **January 6th** in **St. Agnes School** from **6:00 - 8:00 pm**.
- **Sponsors, parents, and any parishioners who are interested in growing in our Catholic faith** are invited to attend the *compelling video series*, "**Catholicism**," which Peg Smith will present at the same time as the classes for the confirmandees are being held. **Not** a video lecture, Church history, or Scripture study, the "**Catholicism**" series is an **engaging and interesting formational program** that uses the art, architecture, literature, music, and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church. These sessions continue those shown in October.



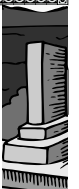
Christmas Flower Fund

Each year, 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.*

CORPUS CHRISTI CEMETERIES - YEAREND MONUMENT SALE

Corpus Christi Cemeteries, who provide services to both **St. Agnes and Holy Trinity** cemeteries, is having an **end-of-the-year MONUMENT SALE**. Take advantage now and avoid the 2013 price increase. Make an appointment and receive a gift card to Bravo La Cucina Italian Restaurant. Please see the **bulletin flyer** for further details or phone **Jozef Madar** at **412-672-6550**.



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 nine days until 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.**

from OUR ADVENT MORNING of RECOLLECTION...

~~Advent is a season of preparation, not decoration...a season to bring Christ deeper into our lives.~~

A - AVAILABLE - Be available for silence, to say “Here I am, Lord. Speak, Lord, I am listening.”

D - DIFFERENT - The Catholic Church’s Christmas Season is Christmas Day through the Baptism of Jesus. Often the media portrays the Christmas Season only as the time leading up to December 25th.

V - VOICE - Hear the voice of Jesus at the readings at Mass. These readings are taken from the Bible.

E - EMPTY - Christ calls us to freedom; to be humble and to empty ourselves.

N - NOBLE - Be slow to react and stately. Respond, rather than react. Make people feel welcome.

T - TRANSFORM - Go forward and change with God’s grace. I must decrease; HE must increase.

Ever grateful for those who attended our Advent morning of recollection.

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 Sacrament of Reconciliation. **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. **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. Please see the schedule for our Parish Reconciliation Services below. **The Penance Service will begin with prayer and reflection with personal, individual confession to follow.**



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 **Tuesday, December 18th, at 7:00 p.m.** at **Holy Trinity Church** and **Wednesday, December 19th, at 7:00 p.m.** at **St. Agnes Church.** A number of priests will be available for confession. Receiving this necessary Sacrament of Reconciliation is an excellent opportunity to prepare for the Lord’s birth and to be joyously reconciled with the Lord and with our neighbors.

— HOLY DAY MASSES —

CHRISTMAS EVE: Monday, December 24th, 2012

CHRISTMAS DAY: Tuesday, December 25th, 2012

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

8:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)

10:00 p.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)

9:30 a.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass (St. Agnes)

11:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)

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

Monday, December 31st, 2012

Tuesday, January 1st, 2013

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

8:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)

This is the only Vigil Mass.

9:30 a.m. Mass (Holy Trinity)

11:00 a.m. Mass (St. Agnes)

ST. AGNES SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS --

COME AND ENJOY!!

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 3:

"Hosanna Rock"

Saturday, December 15th, 7 pm, in the Social Hall.

GRADES 4 THROUGH 8:

"Miracle of Midnight"

Sunday, December 16th, 7 pm, in the Social Hall.



**Attention: Parents of Alumni and
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!

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.**



**All I Want for Christmas
is to join the Catholic Alumni Club
of Pittsburgh's Softball Team!**

The Catholic Alumni Club of Pittsburgh brings together professional Catholics at least 21 years of age, in a safe and fun environment that promotes the meeting of new friends who share faith, values, and social interests. All skill levels are welcome to participate in the Co-Ed Softball League from April - August 2013. Contact: cac.softball@yahoo.com

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

“OPLATKE” CHRISTMAS WAFER BREAD

on sale after all Masses \$2: 1/2 dozen; \$4: dozen.

Holy Trinity Christmas Trees in the Church...

will be decorated on Fri., Dec. 21st, at 10 am.

Anyone available, please come and help.

“Many hands make the work easier.”



Weekly Collections

ST. AGNES — December 9, 2012

\$ 5,683 - Sunday Offering

\$ 1,949 - Immaculate Conception Holy Day Offering

\$ 539 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012 \$ 24,998

Amount Collected PSP \$ 23,198

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 9, 2012

\$ 2,134 - Sunday Offering

\$ 704 - Immaculate Conception Holy Day Offering

\$ 202 - Parish Share Campaign

PSP Assessment-2012\$ 24,248

Amount Collected PSP\$ 22,865

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