

# 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-DEC 8 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p(Sat) - **Joe Milko** (Jim & Bev Staver)  
 8:00a - **Martha Gruber** (Ed & Joanne Fink)  
 11:00a - **Dec'd. Members of Conley Family** (Conley Family)

#### MONDAY-DEC 9 -IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:15a - **Howard "Tim" Schragl** (Neighbors)

#### TUES-DEC 10 - WEEKDAY

6:45a - **Marilyn Koehler Kepes** (Ladies of Charity)

#### WED-DEC 11 - ST. DAMASUS I

*(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)*

#### THUR-DEC 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

6:45a - **Polly Cortazza** (Ladies of Charity)

#### FRIDAY-DEC 13 - ST LUCY

8:15a - **Daniel Onofrey** (St. Agnes School Teachers)

#### SAT-DEC 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

*(8:00a Mass at Holy Trinity)*

#### SUN-DEC 15 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6:00p(Sat) - **Rudert (Rudy) Saunders** (Jim & Suzann Bevan)  
 8:00a - **Teresa Schaff** (Family)  
 11:00a - **Michael Milko** (Paul & Kaye Milko)

### HOLY TRINITY MASS INTENTIONS

#### SUN-DEC 8 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) - **John F. Jozefov** (Betty Jozefov & Family)  
 9:30a - **John Sabol** (Wife & Children)

#### MONDAY- DEC 9 - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:00a- **Sophia Ponist** (Mark Ponist)

#### TUES-DEC 10 - WEEKDAY

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

#### WED-DEC 11 - ST. DAMASUS I

8:00a - **Geri Mihailoff** (Husband, George)

#### THUR-DEC 12 - OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

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

#### FRIDAY-DEC 13 - ST LUCY

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

#### SAT-DEC 14 - ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

8:00a - **Diane Kovalsky** (Tom & Esther Manns)

#### SUN-DEC 15 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00p(Sat) - **Rae Clark** (Betty Clark)  
 9:30a - **John Bodnar** (Nancy Bodnar)

### 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](http://www.stagneswm.com)  
 Holy Trinity Website.....[www.holytrinitywm.com](http://www.holytrinitywm.com)  
 St. Agnes/Holy Trinity Office Email... [h.trinity@verizon.net](mailto: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:** *Isaiah 11:1-10*. A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17*. The Messiah will bring justice and peace to the nations.

**Second Reading:** *Romans 15:4-9*. Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 3:1-12*. John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

### **Reflecting on God's Word**

As she was stringing her Christmas lights Paula pondered the unsightly stump in her yard. Last spring she had noticed that her pretty red bush that was usually covered with tiny white flowers—wasn't! Then the leaves had come slowly and never reached their normal size. Within a few weeks they were turning brown and falling off the bush. It must be dead, she had thought. Perhaps the winter had been too hard on it. She hated to see it go, but late in September Paula found her ax and her courage, and chopped the bush down to a stump. She was about to lay the ax to the root when her neighbor stopped her. "Leave the stump through next summer. You never know. New healthy shoots can sprout from stumps that appear to be dead. As long as the roots are alive, there's hope." If there was hope for that stump, Paula thought, maybe there was hope for her seemingly fruitless life as well.

Again this week one of the O Antiphons expresses the spirit of the Advent scriptures. We pray, "Come, Flower of Jesse's stem," echoing Isaiah's spirit of hopeful expectation that a Messiah would sprout forth and flower from the seemingly dead stump of Jesse's family tree, inaugurating God's kingdom of justice and peace. We pray, "Sign for all peoples," conveying Paul's message that Jesus Christ showed God's faithfulness to the hopes of the patriarchs as well as mercy to the Gentiles. We pray, "Let nothing keep you from coming to our aid," reflecting John the Baptist's confidence that the Messiah and his kingdom are indeed "at hand."



### ~~~**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**~~~

Mon, Dec 9th.....**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Wed, Dec 11th.....**Lights On Confession** (Holy Trinity, 6-7pm. St. Agnes, 7-9pm)

Thurs, Dec 12th.....**45+ Club Christmas Party** (1:30pm, Skyvue Restaurant)

**Please call Ed Ferchak by December 9th for your reservations (412-462-0904)**

Sat, Dec 14th .....**St. Agnes School Christmas Show K-3rd grades after 6pm Mass.**

Sat, Dec 14th..... **Holy Trinity Men's Club Christmas Party** (5-9pm, Social Hall)

**RSVP by Dec. 7th to George Miteff (412-466-5062)**

Sun, Dec 15th.....**Holy Trinity Church Decorating** (11am)

Sun, Dec 15th.....**St. Agnes School Christmas Show 4th-8th grades, 7pm.**

Sun, Dec 15th.....**Jednota Meeting** (1pm, Holy Trinity Social Hall)

Sun, Dec 15th.....**VILIIA Christmas Eve Dinner** (2pm Holy Trinity Social Hall-- **by reservation only**)

Tue, Dec 17th.....**Penance Service** (7pm Holy Trinity)

Wed, Dec 18th.....**Penance Service** (7pm St. Agnes)

Sun, Dec 22nd.....**K of C #4210 Breakfast with Santa** (9:30am-noon, Holy Trinity Social Hall)

Wed, Dec 25th .....**Birth of our Lord**

Tue, Dec 31st .....**Knights of Columbus #4210 New Year's Eve Party** (Holy Trinity Social Hall)

### **ATTENTION!**

**Please note that due to the Bulletin publisher's holiday requirements the following schedule will be in effect. Please plan ahead. Thank you for your understanding.**

#### **BULLETIN DATE      SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

December 22nd      Monday, December 9th

December 29th      Monday, December 16th

January 5th          Monday, December 23rd

*Thank You!*

**The St. Vincent DePaul Society** extends its gratitude to all those who contributed and donated food to their annual **Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit the Intersection**. Your generosity made it possible for our less fortunate brothers and sisters to experience God's love through your caring actions. **God Bless with prayerful thanks! Your continual giving and prayers are welcomed.**



**Feast of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Monday, December 9th**

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. This year the feast is celebrated on Monday and therefore is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Holy Trinity scheduled Mass 8am. St. Agnes Mass at 8:15am.

***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. 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 17th, at 7pm, and the St. Agnes Penance Service will be on Wednesday, December 18th, at 7pm.



**The Light is Still On for You!** "The Light is Still On for You!" is an initiative of the Diocese to encourage Catholics to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is a wonderful opportunity to set aside our sinful ways and draw closer to our Lord. Confession will be available on Wednesday, December 11, from 6pm to 9pm in every Catholic parish in the Diocese.

**Confessions will be heard at Holy Trinity from 6-7pm and then at St. Agnes from 7pm onward**

**"OPLATKE"—HOLY "OPLATKE"—HOLY BREAD** - 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. Through our beloved Christmas wafer tradition, we are reminded of the Holy Nativity. 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 doz. or \$4.00 - doz.**

***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 Office by Monday, December 16th. These names will be remembered in the Special Masses of Christmas and will be listed on a Christmas Flower Memorial bulletin insert.



**DECORATING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Why not enjoy the Christmas spirit early by volunteering to decorate Holy Trinity or St. Agnes Church. to volunteer for St. Agnes, please call the rectory (412-466-6545). Holy Trinity decorating will take place at 11am on Sunday, Dec. 1st. Please join us!



Heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **Mary Ann Kelly**, Mother of St. Agnes parishioner, **Joyce Collier**. May our Heavenly Father embrace all our beloved deceased and number them among the elect at the banquet of Heaven.

***The Sanctuary Candle at Holy Trinity is in Memory of Debbie Sabo Labedda  
by her Mother***



New Year's Eve Party sponsored by K of C #4210: Dec. 31, Holy Trinity Social Hall, 8pm-12:30am, \$25/pp, BYOB. **For reservations: call Tim Richards (412-896-3290) or email: timmy1825@aol.com.**

### *The Final Analysis*

**People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; *Forgive them anyway!***

**If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; *Be kind anyway!***

**If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; *Succeed anyway!***

**If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; *Be honest and frank anyway!***

**What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; *Build anyway!***

**If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; *Be happy anyway!***

**The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; *Do good anyway!***

**Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; *Give the world the best you've got anyway!***

**You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; *It was never between you and them anyway.***

—Mother Teresa

**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.*

**K of C Breakfast with Santa, Sunday, Dec. 22, 9:30a-Noon. \$6/pp, kids under 4 are free. For reservations call Tim Richards (412-896-3290)**



### **ST. AGNES SCHOOL**

#### **2014 Lottery Calendars are \$20**

Win on the daily number, \$25 and more on special days. For special numbers contact the school office for availability, then we will have them for you after weekend Masses.

#### **Enjoy Books (\$30)**

are in and so are the **Kids Stuff Books (\$25)**. **Candy bars (\$2)** are also available. The sale benefits our **St. Agnes School**. Thank you for your continued support!



**Thank you** to all who donated and volunteered at the recent **St. Agnes Blood Drive**. We're pleased to announce that, through your generosity, **17 units of blood were donated.**

**Please Pray for Our Beloved Sick**

**Holy Trinity**

Monica Branik, Patricia Brevko, Veronica Bujdos,  
Anna Cmar, Helen Gambal, Martin Hock,  
Mary Lisa Holzwarth, Zander Holzwarth (toddler),  
Flo Husfelt, Joseph Kirch, Agnes Kovac,  
Louis Kruszewski, George Miteff, Ethel Palyo,  
Ann Sabo, Mary Sabo, Mary Sabol, Bob Shivey,  
Martha Vasil

**St. Agnes**

Marie Beney, Alberta Buchleitner, Libby Butko,  
Francis J. Capaleo, Nettie Conley, Patricia DeLuca,  
Florence Dugan, Irene Fontanese, Steve Grochalski,  
Mary Hanchak, Mary Elizabeth Hudick, Mary  
Kosko, Robert Kosko, Dorothy Kostovny,  
Marguerite Oeler, Laura Pasternak, Dorothy Petrak,  
Clara Riley, Loretta Sabol, Brian Saunders,  
Jim Schragl, Michael Sorokacs,  
Marie Steiner, Paul Thomas, Betty Tucak,

*Please call the Parish Office with any changes or  
additions. Your cooperation, visits and daily prayers  
are deeply appreciated.*

**Please Pray for Our Beloved in the Military**

- RCT Nikolas Eichenlaub Grandson of Charles & Sue Barnes
- Sean J. Bowen, Grandson of Eileen Cochrane
- Joshua J. Winter, Spc. E4, son of Ron & Mary Ann Winter

**Weekly Collections**

**ST. AGNES**

\$2,953-- November 24 & December 1 Sunday Offerings  
\$1,474-- Religious Retirement Collection  
\$ 703 - - Philippines Special Collection  
\$ 930 -- Parish Share

PSP Assessment-2013 .....\$ 25,758  
Amount Collected PSP .....\$ 26,002  
Monthly School Subsidy .....\$ 6,167

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

**HOLY TRINITY**

\$2,953 -- November 24 & December 1 Sunday Offerings  
\$1,597 -- Religious Retirement Fund  
\$ 900 -- Philippines Special Collection  
\$1,108 -- Parish Share

PSP Assessment-2013 .....\$ 23,221  
Amount Collected PSP .....\$ 18,465

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