

DECEMBER 11, 2016 • 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PARISH INFORMATION

Welcome to Our Lady of Fatima Parish. All new members are welcome to register at the Rectory Office. Those interested in the Catholic Faith should call the Rectory Office. Below is information about our Parish.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday -Saturday	9:00 am
Saturday Vigil	.5:00 pm
Sunday8:00 am, 10:00 am &	12 Noon

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Rectory Office to make arrangements. A Pre-Baptism Class for the parents is required.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact the parish priests at least six months in advance. An initial meeting with a parish priest is required before a wedding date is agreed upon. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Homebound members of the parish should contact the Rectory Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion at home. Those who are in the hospital should inform the Rectory Office.

SPONSOR FORMS FOR GODPARENTS

Only qualified registered members will be issued Sponsor Eligibility Certificates. The sponsor should contact the Rectory Office at least one week in advance.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All children in grades 1–12 are required to participate in a Religious Education Program. We currently have an Elementary School from Pre-School–8th grade and a CCD Program from K–8th grade. Our Youth Group Program provides religious education for grades 9–12.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

In the name of the Holy Trinity and with Our Lady of Fatima as our role model, our mission is to nurture, teach and share our Catholic faith which is centered on the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.





PASTOR'S CORNER

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Howard W. Campbell, *Pastor* Rev. Thomas Wilson *Parochial Vicar*

Mr. Robert Bittner, Deacon

Ms. Marilyn Chesko,

Coord. of Religious Education

Sr. Margie Frazer, C.S.J. *Pastoral Associate*

Mrs. Maureen Cox

Parish Manager

Mrs. Linda Liberatore

School Principal
Miss Erin Nypaver

Director of Music

PARISH DIRECTORY

Rectory Office724-375-7626 School724-375-7565 Religious Ed./CCD .724-378-8020 Sister Margie724-375-7626 Erin Nypaver724-375-7626 Kohler Hall Rentals 724-375-7626 Church Websitewww.olof.us School Website

www.ourladyoffatimahopewell.org Churchemail...olofo1@yahoo.com St Vincent de Paul Food Helplines Food......724-407-3055 Other Necessities .724-407-3375

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



The signs are apparent that Christmas will soon be here. Homes and streets are decorated, television programs celebrating Christmas multiply on the airwaves and the newspapers fill with advertisements for Christmas sales. The signs are clear: the day draws near.

Yet what Christmas celebrates, the coming of Christ and the promise of God's Kingdom, can seem far away from the realities of our world. War and violence still persist, children are starving in some parts of the world, injustice seems firmly entrenched. All of these things are contrary to the will of God. Why hasn't He brought these things to an end? This is the question John the Baptist asks in our reading today from St. Matthew's Gospel. He asks Jesus through his disciples: what is going on? Either John personally expected that Jesus would act immediately to bring about God's reign, or he wanted Jesus Himself to address this common expectation. Jesus replies by pointing out what He is doing; healing the sick, casting out evil spirits and preaching the good news. In other words, He is bringing about God's reign, slowly but surely. Each Advent and Christmas remind us of that truth; God is working in our world, bringing about His kingdom. It will come, because it is already here in so many ways. We can rejoice, as this day invites us to do, because the day draws near.

This Wednesday the "Light is on for You;" the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 6pm until 9pm in our church and every church in the diocese. In addition to this extra opportunity for confession, on Wednesday, December 21st we will be hosting a penance service with extra priests available for confession beginning at 7pm. Please take advantage of these opportunities to celebrate reconciliation as the best way to prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

The St. Titus choir will be preforming their annual Christmas Concert this Sunday, December 11th at 6:30pm. Come and enjoy!

On Friday, December 16th at 7pm in the church, I will do a presentation "With Mary in Advent.".....Fr. Howard.

The Deacon's Corner

Men's Retreat I would like to invite the men of the parish to join me in a weekend retreat at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center the weekend of Jan.27th-29th. The theme for this year is "Make Known to Me Your Ways, Lord". The question of discernment should be foremost in our minds, clergy and laity alike, as we ask "what do You want of me, Lord?" The retreat center is located on the South Side of Pittsburgh. For information, please contact Deacon Bob at 724-378-0903 or at www.stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org or 412-381-7676 (St. Paul's).

Family Perspective The question put to Jesus in today's gospel is also put to us today: "Are you the one?" Are you the one who will give guidance to the children in your life or must they look to TV sitcoms, films, videos and music lyrics for direction? Are you the one? Will you be the one?

PARISH NEWS





Decorating the Church Next Sunday, December 18th, we will be decorating our church after the 12 Noon Mass. We will be decorating the outside, the loft, the vestibule and the inside of the Faith church. Anyone who would like to help is most welcome to join

COAT DRIVE

As the seasons change from autumn to winter and the outside temperatures begin to be lower, please remember that many people, adults and children, do not have warm clothing to protect them from winter's elements. The Knights of Columbus will again be conducting a COAT DRIVE to provide for those in need. We are asking for new and gently used coats and jackets for all ages! Clothing may be placed in the boxes in the Church vestibule by December 18th. Thank you in advance for your generosity as you have been in the past. God Bless you for sharing your abundance!

Winter Wonderland Raffle Tickets Our Lady of Fatima School will be selling \$5 Winter Wonderland raffle tickets in the vestibule December 17th & 18th, January 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, & 22nd after Masses. Prizes are a \$1000 Getgo gift card and an Apple IPad. They make for great stocking stuffers!! Missed purchasing your tickets after Mass...Call the school 724-375-7565 to purchase them. Thank you for supporting our school. Winners are based on the PA lottery 3 digit number drawing on Friday, February 3, 2017.



The School participated in a dress down day to benefit the cancer society and all the money was used to make gift bags for those going through treatment. The bags contained puzzle books, candy, mints and best wishes for a speedy recovery. Last week the students were able to purchase gifts for their parents and loved ones during the Santa Workshop held on

Thursday and Friday. Children were given an opportunity to shop and wrap their treasures. Thank you to Rita Piccirilli, chairperson, and volunteers, Danica Tomb, Dana LaSala, and others for a wonderful shopping experience. The School's Christmas Pageant will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016, in the Church. Grades 3 - 8 are portraying the birth of Jesus. Preschool 4 year olds, Kindergarten, and 1st and 2nd grades will have their own program on Thursday, December 15, at 7 pm in Kohler Hall. Come and see our talented

Alumni News from Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School: The following students have made the Honor Roll for the first nine weeks: Highest Honors: Mara Mercadante, Rebekah Kohser, Brendan Polidora and Adilia Schmidt. High Honors: Gina Crisci and Molly Kirby

Marriage Moments "Be patient, brothers and sisters...Do not complain about one another." (James 5: 7-9). Preparation for Christmas can strain even the best relationships. Be gentle and patient with each other as you do the many tasks to prepare for Christmas.

Knights Collecting

The Knights of Columbus are collecting "pennies" for the McGuire Children's Home after all Masses on December 17th & 18th.

The Light is on for You

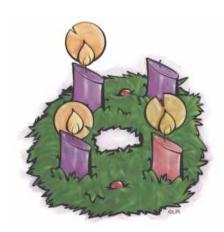
This Wednesday, December 14th, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in every parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Now is the time. God is waiting to offer you forgiveness, healing and peace. The light is on and the confessional door will be open.

St Vincent de Paul Meeting

The December meeting for St. Vincent de Paul will be held on December 13th at 6:30pm in the Upper Room. We welcome all new members to join us.

Coming Soon! Bible Study

Galatians: Set Free to Live Watch for more information in the bulletin and on our website.





AROUND THE DIOCESE AND COMMUNITY

Fab 50

The St. Titus Senior Citizens Group "Faith and Beliefs" is looking for more members to attend its monthly Bingo/Card party that is held on the 3rd Monday of the month. We begin at 1:30 pm and continue until 3:30 pm. Our next get together is Monday, December 19th in Titan Hall. Come for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

McGuire Memorial Hiring

If you are a caregiver at heart we want to meet you. Positions available with fulfilling/ rewarding work assisting individuals who have intellectual & physical disabilities with their daily personal care and activities. We are hiring full time 3-11 shifts and part time 12 hour weekend shifts 7am to 7pm or 7pm to 7am. Qualifications: High school diploma or GED & a driver's license.; Clean drug screening & physical; Child abuse clearance, & criminal screening FBI fingerprinting. (Physical, drug screening & clearances will be scheduled & completed prior to Applications orientation.) available at 2119 Mercer Rd., New Brighton. Apply on line at www.mcguirememorial.org or call 724-833-3400.





Regional Advent Penance Services

Several churches in our area are participating in an Advent Penance Service "marathon." Please note the following schedule:

Friday, Dec. 16—2:30pm, Good Samaritan, Ambridge Saturday, Dec. 17—Noon, St. John's, Monaca Saturday, Dec 17—Noon, St. Titus, Aliquippa Monday, Dec 19—7pm, St. Frances Cabrini, Center Tuesday, Dec. 20—7pm, Our Lady of Peace, Conway Wednesday, Dec. 21—7pm, Our Lady of Fatima Thursday, Dec. 22—7pm, St. Peter & Paul, Beaver

Communal penance services are designed for penitents to be present from the beginning until after individual confession. There will be multiple priests available at each session.

ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE! - Thank you! More than 27,000 people attended 329 parish consultation sessions in October and November. Your initial feedback will help to guide our work ahead. Next steps include: 1. Parish-based opportunities for prayer and conversation; 2. Continued formation experiences to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ; 3. Additional information shared and new opportunities to provide feedback. Stay involved and sign up for e-mail updates at *OnMissionChurchAlive.org*.

Retrouvaille On 11 August 2016, Archbishop Richard Smith, the Archbishop of Edmonton, approved the "Canonical Statutes" of Retrouvaille International and granted us a "Decree of Canonical Erection." What this means is that Retrouvaille International, in addition to holding legal status as an incorporated entity in US civil law, also has legal status and juridical personality in terms of Church law. In short, we are now a legal entity in the Roman Catholic Church in addition to being a legal entity in the State of Texas Retrouvaille: A Lifeline for Married Couples. Retrouvaille offers help to couples experiencing trouble in their marriage. The weekend and post sessions focus on rebuilding marriage through better communication, listening, and understanding. Call today to begin the healing process beginning with a weekend on January 13, 2017. Contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. More information is available at http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org/.

Parenting Pointers The purpose of Advent is not to shop but to learn to wait. Teaching your child to delay gratification is an important life skill. Perhaps this W.A.I.T. acronym could help:

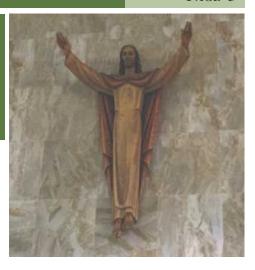
- W Waiting give us time to make a good decision or buy the right thing.
- A Anticipation can enhance appreciation.
- I Instant gratification is often fleeting.
- T Take stock of your blessings. What do you already have?

THIS SUNDAY

PARISH CALENDAR DECEMBER 11-18

KH-William Kohler Hall • FH-Fatima House • UR-Upper Room

8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12 noon		
MONDAY		
9:00 amMass		
7:15 pmSharing Christ - KH		
TUESDAY		
9:00 amMass		
1:00 pmFaith Sharing - FH		
6:30 pmSt. Vincent de Paul Mtg UR		
6:30 pmHandbells		
7:00 pmSharing Fellowship - FH		
WEDNESDAY		
9:00 am		
6:00 pm		
6:30 pm		
7:00 pm		
THURSDAY		
9:00 am		
7:00 pm		
7:00 pm		
FRIDAY		
9:00 am		
7:00 pm		
SATURDAY		
8:30amSharing Christ Retreat - KH		
Noon Penance Service at St. Titus; No noon Confessions at OLOF		
4:00–4:30 pm		
5:00 pmVigil Mass		
Knights Collecting for McGuire Home after Mass		
NEXT SUNDAY		
8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12 noon		
Knights Collecting for McGuire Home after all Masses		
9:00—11:30 amDonut Social & Blood Pressure Screening - KH		





"This is the one about whom it is written:

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;

he will prepare your way before you.

Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." - Mt 11:10-11



Last Week's Collection		
Regular Collection	\$10,122.20	
Parish Share	\$380.00	
School	\$43.00	
Maintenance	\$479.00	
Online-Giving	\$1,119.00	
Christmas Flowers	\$2,240.00	
CCD	\$50.16	



WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL LIFE

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for those who recently died:

† Estelle DiTollo, Parishioner

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

MEMORIAL VOTIVE LIGHTS

The votive lights this week are burning in memory of:
Estelle DiTollo
Tim Kuzma
Lucia Longo
Louis Pantaleo

The angel said to her,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor
with God. Behold, you
will conceive in your
womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him
Jesus." - Lk 1:30-31

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT PRIVATE MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 12-18

MONDAY

9 am Lucy Vallecorsa (Val C Rocco)

TUESDAY

9 am Shirley Strain (Emily & Bob Shaw)

WEDNESDAY

9 am John Fidelie (Elvy & Walt Szedny)

THURSDAY

9 am Clelia DiPangrazio (Family)

FRIDAY

9 am Mike Durbin (Wife, Peg)

SATURDAY

9 am Barbara Progar (Sister, Judy)
5 pm Mary Akoorie (Skippy & Michele)

NEXT SUNDAY

8:00 am Robert Miklos (Parents) 10:00 am Ralph Testa (Bob & Kathy)

12 Noon Parishioners

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11 Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13/Lk 1:26-

38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32 Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30/Lk 7:24-30 Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67/Jn 5:33-36 Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17 Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

92 SUNDAY OF ADVENT









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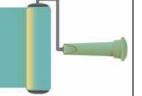
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