

Mass Intentions for Nov 30 thru Dec 6, 2015

Monday, Nov 30

6:50 am Joseph Tallo by sister, Florence

Tuesday, Dec 1

6:50 am Peter Palumbo by parents

Wednesday, Dec 2

6:50 am Alfred Bonanni by family

Thursday, Dec 3

6:50 am Michael Magdon by L & P Flynn, K Magdon

Friday, Dec 4 (First Friday)

6:50 am James Baggetta by wife and daughters

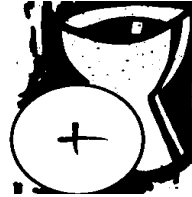
Saturday, Dec 5

4:00 pm John L. Cicilioni by Penny & Jerry Kowalski

Sunday, Dec 6

8:00 am Hilda, Martin & Gerard Patelunas by Christine Griffin

10:00 am Joseph & Dolores Lach by daughter, Deborah



Popish, Mrs Elissa Pompey, M/M Theodore Peterson, Mrs Mary Lou Matoushek, M/M Dominick Manzo, M/M Paul Manarchuck, M/M Ronald Labori, Ms Kathleen Krynick, M/M Guy Juliano, Mrs Louise Gregorowicz, Mrs Anna Geeza, Mr Jason Gambucci, Mrs Grace Berardi, Atty Diana Belisario and M/M Robert Bartosh. Currently, **31%** of our parish families have pledged and raised a total of **\$38,256.00** reaching **87%** of our diocesan assigned goal. Thank you.

First Sunday in Advent



The season of Advent is a time of watching and waiting, preparing ourselves for the coming of Jesus. Not only for His first coming, but for His second coming in glory, whether it be at the end of this present age, or the end of our own earthly journey. We are all called to live in anticipation and preparation of meeting our loving and merciful Savior one day face to

face. This new Advent season is unlike any other for many Christians around the world. At this time of year they are not anticipating Christmas celebrations like they normally would. They are suffering, fighting for their lives, being forced to give up their homes, separated from their families, and being martyred for their belief in Jesus Christ, whose birth we will soon celebrate. They are being called in a very real way to prepare themselves to meet Jesus. Let us join them and take this Advent opportunity to put our own faith lives into better perspective, to step back and truly reflect where we are in our relationship with Jesus. Have we been over committed and allowed the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives to distract us and bring us away from spending time in prayer with our Lord? We all have a yearning for God and an emptiness that can only be filled by him. Let us take this season to look at what we fill up ourselves with on a daily basis. What we all truly desire is more of God, not material things or fleeting worldly pleasures. But we cannot walk this faith journey by our own efforts alone. We need the power of prayer and communion with other Christians. Let us find ways to spend more time with God this Advent, emptying ourselves of the things we are attached to and opening ourselves up to receiving him and letting him fill us with his intimacy and love. Advent is a gift, God wants to forgive us, heal us, fill us and draw us closer to himself. Why not let him?

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for the sick, the suffering, the bereaved and the recently deceased including Deacon Conrad Provencher.

Collection for Last Weekend: November 22, 2015

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| 359 Sunday Offertory Envelopes | \$ 5,501.00 |
| Sunday Cash Offerings | 202.00 |
| 16 Other operating income envelopes | <u>158.00</u> |
| Total operating income | \$5,861.00 |

We sincerely thank all who are consistently using their regular offertory envelopes or prearranged bank checks to support the work and mission of Sacred Heart Parish. We also commend those who are being conscientious to their commitments through our Parish Care Campaign.



Dear Parishioners: To those who have made a pledge to the Diocesan Annual Appeal, "Good Hearts, Generous Spirits," please accept my sincere thanks on behalf of all who will benefit from your generosity. If you have missed a previous opportunities to join with us, I remind you it is never too late to share in the work of the Gospels by coming to the aid of your brothers and sisters in need or supporting the many vital ministries of the Diocese of Scranton. Your gift also helps our Parish attain our parish goal and contribute to the overall Diocesan Appeal goal of \$5 million needed to support much needed programs funded by the Appeal. During this beautiful Advent and Christmas season of the year, you may wish to consider making a donation in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one. Gifts and pledges may be made by calling the Appeal Office at 570-207-2250 or sending a donation directly to Diocesan Annual Appeal, 300 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503-1279.

And so we continue to thank and acknowledge the following new donors to the appeal as of November 24th: M/M Dominick York Jr, Ms Madeline Rodriguez, M/M Joseph

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration



We will have weekly exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the first three Fridays of Advent from 7:20am to 12pm. Please remember the people of our parish and people around the world who yearn and seek intimacy with the One who is and is to come.

Advent Word and Song

Catholic parishioners from Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties will present *Open Our Hearts*, an Advent Service

of Word and Song on Sunday, December 13th at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 208 Smith Street in Dunmore at 7 pm. Music for the service features the combined choirs of more than 60 voices from Holy Family Parish in Luzerne, Saints Anthony and Rocco Parish in Dunmore, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Dunmore, as well as several soloists and an instrumental ensemble. Through Scripture readings and musical selections, the program will focus on how God's people have opened their hearts to welcome Him throughout salvation history. For more info, please contact the parish office at Ss. Anthony and Rocco Parish at 570-344-1209.

Retreat for Those Serving in Parish Ministries



An early winter retreat will be held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish on December 4th & 5th for our parishioners involved in the ministries of Word, Worship, Community and Service. This includes Catechists and Aides, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Liturgical Musicians, Finance Council and Parish Council members, parish staff members, and various volunteers working in parish ministry under whatever heading or title. Gayle Castellani will lead the retreat. Brendan Murphy, Director of Faith Formation at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Parish, Jermyn, will be the guest speaker again this year on Saturday, December 5th. Please try to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for prayer and reflection on Friday, December 4th from 6pm to 8:30pm and Saturday, December 5th from 9am to noon. Please save the dates. To register call Gayle at 570-383-2777.

Thanksgiving Weekend--No Faith Formation Classes

Advent Giving Tree

Once again this year we have the opportunity to reach out to the children at St Joseph's Center, the residents at Lacka-

wanna Rehab and Healath Care, and some local children of our area. Tags are available on the tree in the Willow Street entrance. Please wrap all gifts and return them to the tree area or the rectory with the appropriate tag securely attached to the outside of each package no later than Fri, December 18 in time for Christmas distribution.

Christmas Wafers Available

For those who observe the Christmas wafer tradition on Christmas Eve, please note that the packets are located on the table in the main vestibule only while supplies last. A donation of \$3.00 per packet is suggested

Thanksgiving Food Drive

We offer "A Big THANK YOU" to all parishioners and friends who contributed to the success of this year's Parish Thanksgiving Food Drive spearheaded by our Faith Formation Families and Staff. Everyone was very generous as usual. May God bless you for your continued generosity.

Knights of Columbus

The Jessup/Peckville Council will hold Light up for Christ on Tuesday Dec 1st at 8pm at Sacred Heart Church and host a children's Christmas party on Sun, Dec 13th from 11 to 1:30 at Holy Ghost Parish Hall in Jessup.

Pope Francis to the Religious of Nairobi

The Argentine Pontiff touched on various themes, but stressed that religious are called to follow Jesus until their final steps of this life to the Cross. He warned against ambition, riches, and trying to be an important person in the world. "There's no room for that," he said. "All you have to worry about is going to the Cross," the Pope pointed out, adding, "Let Jesus take care of our Resurrection."

We thank all our business advertisers who place ads on the back of our weekly bulletin. This weekend we acknowledge **Margotta Funeral Homes**. See contact info on back page.

Liturgical Assignments for December 2015

(Be sure to arrange your own substitutions when necessary)

Christmas and New Years Assignments will be published in the bulletin on December 19/20

Lackawanna Health and Rehab Center

Dec. 2 - Maria Ceccacci, Donna Listanski Dec. 9- Silvia Passeri, Donna Listanski

Dec. 16- Ginny Yazinski, Donna Listanski Dec. 23- Sharon Gallo, Donna Listanski Dec. 30- Volunteer needed

| | <u>TIME</u> | <u>SERVERS & CROSSBEARER</u> | <u>LECTOR</u> | <u>EXT MINISTERS HOLY COMMUNION</u> |
|--------|--------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Dec 05 | 4:00pm | Andrew, Ed, Matthew Gregorowicz | Sal Urso | Mariclare Berardelli , Nadine Greco, Silvia Celli |
| Dec 06 | 8:00am | Joe Krishanda, John Redman | Chet Merli | Joan Angeli, Mark Horn |
| | 10:00am | Joseph, Julia, Alyssa Koniszewski | Frank Lesnefsky | Tom & Jean Conigliaro, Elissa Pompey |
| Dec 12 | 4:00pm | Chloe Laboranti, Neve Skapyak | Frank Blasi | Donna Fazio, Jo Ann Berta, Pete Setta |
| Dec 13 | 8:00am | Giavanna Villano, Caroline Burak | Stephen Skierski | Gail & David Haas |
| | 10:00am | S. Ferraro, M. Farrell, Jenna Loomis | Dennis Fanucci | Kim Wolfel, Frank Ghilardi, volunteer |
| Dec 19 | 4:00pm | Andrew, Ed, Matthew Gregorowicz | Kim Gregorowicz | Silvia Celli, Mariclare Berardelli, Lori Kopa |
| Dec 20 | 8:00am | Joe Krishanda, John Redman | Maria Neri | Joan Angeli, Mark Horn |
| | 10:00am | Ed Kozlowski, Aidan Alco | Lisa Kozlowski | Tom & Jean Conigliaro, Elissa Pompey |
| Dec 26 | 4:00pm | Chloe Laboranti, Neve Skapyak | Frank Blasi | Donna Fazio, Jo Ann Berta, Pete Setta |
| Dec 27 | 8:00am | Giavanna Villano, Caroline Burak | Chet Merli | Gail & David Haas |
| | 10:00am | Paige Redman, Brianna Zipay | Frank Lesnefsky | Kim Wolfel, Frank Ghilardi, volunteer |