



INCARNATION & RISEN LORD

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES



December 25, 2016

The Nativity of the Lord

INCARNATION OF THE LORD PARISH

4071 Franklin Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15214
PHONE: (412)931-2911 FAX: (412)931-2832

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday - 4:00 p.m. & Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

Weekday: Tuesday & Thursday - 8:00 a.m.

STAFF

Fr. David DeWitt, Pastor.....Ext.2

Fr. David's Office Hours

Tues. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Thurs. 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Or by Appointment

Deacon Bob Koslosky.....Ext. 8

Naomi Wells, Business Manager.....Ext. 7

businessmanagerincarnation@comcast.net

Mary Ann Burke, Social Services.....Ext. 4

Marilyn Ruffner, Religious Education.....Ext. 5

David Volcheck, Director of Music.....Ext. 6

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MON: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TUES: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

WED: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

THURS & FRI: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



© Annika Nelson

*For unto us
a Child is Born!*

Isaiah 9:6

RISEN LORD PARISH

3250 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
PHONE: (412)761-1507 FAX: (412)761-6454

www.risenlordparish.com

risenlord@risenlordparish.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday - 4:00 p.m. & Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday - 8:00 a.m.

STAFF

Fr. David DeWitt, Pastor.....Ext.8

Fr. David's Office Hours

Mon. & Wed. - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Or by Appointment

Fr. Luther M. Raymond, In Residence.....Ext. 16

Fr. Godfrey Torac, In Residence.....Ext. 33

Deacon Bob Koslosky.....rkoslosky@diopitt.org

Naomi Wells, Business Manager.....Ext. 4

businessmanager@risenlordparish.org

Agnes Sterbenac, Social Services.....Ext. 7

asterbenac@risenlordparish.org

Marilyn Ruffner, Safe Environment Coordinator.....Ext. 5

mruffner@risenlordparish.org

Mary Kay Ferrance, Director of Music

Youth & Young Adult Ministry.....mmilsop@yahoo.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MON: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

TUES: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

WED: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

THURS: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FRI: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday afternoon 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. before the 4:00 p.m. Mass or by appointment.

INFANT BAPTISM: To schedule a Baptism, please contact the Parish Office. Parents are expected to attend a Pre-Baptismal session. Sessions will be held at Risen Lord Parish on the third Sunday of each month. Registration for the Sacrament of Baptism and the celebration of the Sacrament will still be at the individual parishes on the last Sunday of the month.

MARRIAGE: Dates for Marriages are scheduled only through the Priest and only after an initial meeting with the couple. Church law requires a minimum of six months notice before a wedding can be celebrated. In light of the many arrangements for a wedding, the couple should contact the Priest as soon as possible after the engagement is announced.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC: Those wishing to share in the sacramental life of the Church are invited to contact the Parish Office. This specifically applies to those wishing to be baptized, who have not previously shared in the Eucharist, who have not sought to share the sacrament of Confirmation, or those raised in another faith but now choosing to share our Catholic faith.

HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND: If a parishioner is in the hospital or sick at home, please call the Social Ministry Office to arrange for a pastoral visit. Each hospital has a priest, either as a chaplain or assigned from a neighboring parish, for emergencies.

SPONSOR LETTERS: Only active and registered members will be issued a Sponsor Letter. The Sponsor should contact the Parish Office at least one week prior to the date needed.

BULLETIN: Submissions can be made to bulletinINCandRL@comcast.net. Deadline is 12:00 p.m. on Friday (nine days before the Sunday of the intended publication). Submissions are subject to approval and space limitations.

ONLINE BULLETIN: View the bulletin online at Risen Lord's website or at www.parishesonline.com and search for Incarnation of the Lord.



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! On behalf of our staff at both Incarnation of the Lord and Risen Lord parishes, joined with Fathers Godfrey Torac and Luther Raymond, your pastor extends to all the Blessings of this joy-filled season as we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus in our homes and hearts. A special word of thanks and appreciation goes out to all who have contributed to making our churches and altars absolutely spectacular as we gather to worship. The music prepared for this holiday and sung so masterfully with the assistance of our choir members contributes to heightening our joy and excitement in this holy season. Although the season of Christmas is short in duration, it is nonetheless filled with many opportunities for grace-filled moments of growth in God's Life. As we celebrate with family and friends this holiday season, may we grow in our appreciation of what it means to be a part of God's family and be renewed in our efforts to be true listeners of His Word!

Parish offices for both Incarnation of the Lord and Risen Lord will be closed through the holidays and will reopen on TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017 at the regular time.



DEACON BOB'S CORNER
The Nativity of the Lord

A Christmas Prayer for You and Yours from Me

God of love, Father of all, the darkness that covered the earth has given way to the bright dawn of your Word made flesh. Make us a people of this light. Make us faithful to your Word, that we may bring your life to the waiting world. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Merry Christmas
Emmanuel
God is with Us



MASSSES for the WEEK

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Saturday (12/24)

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM INC - Living & Deceased of the Parish
4:00 PM RL - Living & Deceased of the Parish

Sunday (12/25)

The Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM INC - Living & Deceased of the Parish
11:00 AM RL - Living & Deceased of the Parish

Monday (12/26)

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

8:00 AM RL - Tom Dush (Pastoral Council)

Tuesday (12/27)

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 AM INC - Frank Bender (Dax & Turack Families)

Wednesday (12/28)

The Holy Innocents

8:00 AM RL - Eileen Oldaker (Jim, husband)

Thursday (12/29)

Fifth Day in the Christmas Octave

8:00 AM INC - Donald Hite (Gail Gross)

Friday (12/30)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

8:00 AM RL - Eileen Oldaker (Jim, husband)

Saturday (12/31/2016)

Seventh Day in the Christmas Octave

4:00 PM INC - Living & Deceased of the Parish
4:00 PM RL - Living & Deceased of the Parish

Sunday (1/1/2017)

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9:00 AM INC - Living & Deceased of the Parish
11:00 AM RL - Living & Deceased of the Parish

ADORATION AT INCARNATION



There will be no Adoration on Christmas Day. Regularly scheduled Adoration on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 PM will resume on New Year's Day.

Spend some extra time with the Lord in 2017!

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late! - James Field, Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co.

Sick Relatives & Friends

Anyone wanting the name or the name of a loved one on or off the list, please call the church or social ministry office. Because of HIPPA regulations, only an immediate family member request the name of a loved one to be placed on the prayer list. Please remember in your prayers:

Ray Kenneally, Kelly Finnegan, Kimberly Behr, Mary Ann Wilson, Lou Saban, Sr., Michelle Fetzer, Kathleen Grady, George Finley, Robert Kroll, Dennis Guthrie, Tom Fowler, Madge Gillespie, Lori Ann Love, Wanda McAllister, Charles Wenzig, Sandy Zabierowsky, Marilyn Ruffner, Julie Fowler, and Gretchen Marker.

May God extend His helping and healing hands upon them all. In the letter of St. James 5:14-15 we are reminded, "If one of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church . . . the prayer of the faith will save the sick man."



GUARD THOSE WHO GUARD OUR FREEDOM

Trevor L. McCallum, Michael Borus, Lt. Col. Katrina (Katy) Saban Coolman, Major Joseph Coolman, Joshua Crankshaw, Dalton Dailey, Joseph Dreves, Mark Enzerra, Jason Fullmer, 2nd Lt., Andrew Geisler, Dave Gratten, Matt Hahn, Christopher Kane, Tina Lippert, Christine May, Alexa and Michael Brown, MSgt. Shaun Seguin, SFC Erin Shaw

SAVE THE DATE - PARISH MEN'S RETREAT The 2017 Incarnation of the Lord Parish Men's retreat will take place January 27 to 29, 2017 at St. Paul of the Cross Monastery. For more information please contact George Linkhauer by phone at (412)952-4127 or Jeff Kammerzell at (412)931-4839. If you already know that you want to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, please call the Retreat Center directly by phone at (412)381-7676.

Weekly Collections

Weekend of December 10 & 11, 2016

Weekly Goal - \$ 5,900.00

Offering Collected - \$ 2,963.00

Deficit - \$ 2,937.00

Last week's bulletin had an error for this date's collection.

Weekend of December 17 & 18, 2016

Weekly Goal - \$ 5,900.00

Offering Collected - \$ 2,425.90

Deficit - \$ 3,474.10

Incarnation Social Ministry - 2016 Year in Review

You made it easy...Here are our major outreach projects for the year. Thank you for your generosity and adding a bit of joy to our neighbors' lives!

- "We Care" Toiletry Totes for the Homebound
- Donuts & Juice to First Responders on 9/11 Anniversary
- Clothing & Bedding Drive
- Food Drive for North Hills Community Outreach-Bellevue
- Giving Tree to Benefit Light of Life Ministries

MINISTERS - DEC. 31, 2016 & JAN. 1, 2017

LECTORS

4:00 PM - D. Gottron 9:00 AM - A. Booz

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

4:00 PM - J. Matelan, L. Lugar, D. Miller
9:00 AM - Sr. Barbara, D. Greene, P. Wilson

ALTAR SERVERS

4:00 PM - G. Linkhauer 9:00 AM - A. Evans

INCARNATION OF THE LORD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Christ became human, and we take up His ministry of love, service, and compassion as an expression of our faith in the Word Incarnate.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS Christmas can be disappointing. We remember the Christmases from our childhood, all the joy, the excitement, and the fun we had. When we grow up, we have to shop for gifts, write and mail the cards, put up the decorations, and do all the preparations that seem to stress us out. We may be sad that the day did not meet our expectations. Now that most of that is done, we can reflect on how the first Christmas upset all expectations.

I'm sure Joseph never expected to have a child so soon. And those Jews who looked forward to the coming of a Messiah never expected him to come as a baby. Yet God had his reasons for coming in this way. Jesus was born in a stable because no one had room for him. The first to see him were the shepherds, the migrant workers of the time. The political leaders (Herod and friends) wanted to kill him.

Jesus was born in this way to show that he came not for the important and wealthy, but for the poor and outcast. So today he continues to come to us in the homeless, the illegal alien, the sick, those in prison, the unborn infant, that we might find him where we least expect. Can we learn to see him in the unexpected, in our trials and difficulties, our own weaknesses? When we do, we will celebrate what Christmas is truly about.

- Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

RISEN LORD PARISH NEWS

AS A PARISH WE LIFT IN PRAYER...

...Those requesting prayer

For the Healing and Well-Being of All
For Agnes Sterbenac, Marie McConnell Scotty,
Debra Butler, and Anonymous

...Those who have gone before us in faith

Due to HIPPA Regulations, only an immediate family member can call the Administrative Office or Social Ministry Office to request their loved one to be placed on the prayer list.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in honor of the Blessed Sacrament and in loving memory of

Marty Tintera

from Jess and Marlene McDonnell.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday, December 31

Pleasant Valley Shelter - 6:30 to 10:00 AM

Minister Schedule - Dec. 31, 2016 & Jan. 1, 2017

Eucharistic Ministers

4:00 PM - J. Kantenwein, M. Glassbrenner, N. Markovich
11:00 AM - S. Murray, M. Miksic

Lectors

4:00 PM - C. Kuziel 11:00 AM - M. Milsop

Stewardship - Weekend of December 10 & 11, 2016

Budgeted Amount - \$5,124.00

Collection (114 Envelopes + \$213.00 Loose)	\$2,179.00
PSP - Blue (33 Envelopes)	<u>\$1,011.00</u>
Total	\$3,190.00
<hr/>	
Debt Reduction (6 Env.)	\$119.00
Maintenance & Utilities (4 Env.)	\$30.00
Social Ministry Outreach (3 Env.)	\$123.00
Immaculate Conception (62 Env. + \$84.00 Loose)	\$720.00
All Saints' Day (1 Env.)	\$20.00
Religious Retirement Fund (1 Env.)	\$20.00

2017 Sanctuary Candle

We are taking requests for the Sanctuary Candle for 2017. The candle that is burning in the Sanctuary may be lit in remembrance of a deceased member of your family, and not for any other reason. The donation for the candle is \$10 and lasts for one week from Saturday to Friday. Intentions can be made in person or by calling the Parish Office during regular office hours or by filling out the form below and returning it in the offertory collection.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Deceased: _____

Requested by: _____

Date: _____

Alternate Date: _____

RISEN LORD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Risen Lord calls us to rejoice as a united people in the Good News that God loves us and has saved us. Each of us, by virtue of our baptism, is challenged to carry God's love to all in our neighborhoods. Through our communal participation in the Word of God and the Eucharist, as a parish, we seek to empower our people to meet this challenge to proclaim the love and hope that is our Risen Lord.

Today's readings are as familiar to most of us as the carols we sing and the commercials that overwhelm this holiday season. Often Christmas finds us tired, struggling with preparations and expectations. What we really want to feel is joy and peace. The stress of preparation, of waiting, is reflected in both Isaiah and Paul's letter to Titus. Luke tells us of the exhaustion that Mary and Joseph felt: a young pregnant wife and her husband, forced to travel just as she is about to give birth, unable even to find a room to stay in. It must have been miserable. They must have been afraid. In the midst of this exhaustion, misery, and fear, a child is born, a Son is given. The world is then filled with light and hope, joy and peace. In that moment they, and we, know what all the waiting has been for.

WAITING IN THE DARK Isaiah writes powerfully of the darkness and the gloom, the burden and the sacrifices that the Jews have been living with for years and years. Their waiting, their misery is deep and prolonged. Yet they continue to wait. In Paul's letter to Titus, the Christian community is also waiting, not for the birth of the Savior, but for the return of that Savior. Paul reminds us of the "blessed hope" that sustains our wait. In Luke we hear the familiar story of Mary and Joseph, the pregnancy and birth, the baby, the Son. This is the one for whom all have been waiting. His coming, long awaited and much anticipated, is real. The only reaction we are told about is that of the shepherds, and they are afraid. But they are reassured with the same words spoken to Mary by the angel who announced that she would give birth to a son, "Do not be afraid."

FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPLATION But how could we not be afraid? A young mother giving birth in a stable. Shepherds seeing angels. We do not need to be afraid because these stories are so familiar. Most of us could tell them almost word for word from memory. They are like the stories our children insist we read to them night after night long after they know every word by heart. They are familiar not just because we hear them repeated every year at Christmas but because they are the stories of our daily preparations, our lifelong waiting, our fear, exhaustion, misery, and our hope and joy. Their very familiarity means we don't have to wonder what the outcome will be. We already know. We know that despite the mean circumstances into which Mary's Son was born, her Son transforms the darkness into light. Her Son brings rejoicing. Her Son brings peace. We know that, despite our exhaustion and our fear, peace awaits us, too.

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Keeping the Faith

by Marilyn Ruffner

There are four different Gospels for the Vigil of Christmas and Christmas Day that are taken from three different Gospel writers. The Gospel reading for Christmas Eve is written by Matthew, the Gospels for Midnight Mass and Mass at Dawn is taken from Luke, and the Gospel on Christmas Day is taken from John. Luke and Matthew's readings are very familiar to us. They are the stories of Joseph listening to the angel from the dream, some of the key people in the genealogy of Jesus, and Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem, where they can't find lodging for the imminent birth of Jesus. John's Gospel tells the story of the Incarnation. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And then the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us." The Word of course is Jesus. This Gospel reminds us of the divinity of Jesus and is not one of the Infancy Narratives. My favorite, of course, is the story of Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem. Mary's labor begins and they can't find a place to stay. The baby, Jesus, is born in a stable. This had to be an anxious time for Mary. Many people today do not give Jesus a place to stay in their hearts. This Christmas season, try to dispel feelings of anxiety about what gifts were bought and those that weren't. The most precious gift is that of our family and friends. These are things that are without material cost. Set aside time to spend quality time with family and friends. I hope there is room in your heart for Jesus and that all of you have the best Christmas ever.

On December 30th, the feast of the Holy Family is celebrated. We always think of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus as the most perfect family and they were, but when Joseph became engaged to Mary, he never expected that his wife to be would be pregnant by the Holy Spirit or that an angel would appear in a dream to tell him of this event. Joseph and Mary thought that they would just be an ordinary married couple. Their family faced many ups and downs just as our own families. The baby was born in a stable and shepherds and kings came to adore Him. King Herod was trying to kill the baby and they had to flee to Egypt. This did not stop King Herod from killing all baby boys two and under, trying to find Jesus. We celebrate this feast on December 28th, the Feast of the Holy Innocents. The boy Jesus studied carpentry under His father, Joseph. At the age of twelve He was lost and found preaching to elders in the temple. I always thought He was a typical teenager, when He replied to Mary's question, "Where were You?" and He replied, "Don't you know I need to be about My Father's business?" Most of our children would have replied, "I was with friends or I forgot to call you." As an adult, Jesus showed His mother respect. Even though he didn't want to do anything at the wedding in Cana, He changed ordinary water into wine because of His mother's request to do something for the couple. My mom is in Kane and no longer recognizes me, but the important thing is I recognize her, when I visit there. She will always be my mom. All families experience ups and downs. During this Christmas season pray to Mary and Joseph and ask them to give you patience when needed. Plan some special activity to do as a family together. Put down the cell phones, the tablets, and turn off the TV. Talk to each other, share memories from other Christmases or family adventures and really listen to each other.

200 CLUB

Week 11 - Ticket 032 - *Madeline Gillespie* - \$100

2017 Mass Intentions

The Mass Books for Incarnation of the Lord and Risen Lord for 2017 are now open! Intentions can include the deceased, those who are suffering from a serious illness or injury, and anniversaries. We must limit weekend requests to one per household so that all parishioners have a chance at getting a weekend mass. Intentions must be in writing (use the form below) and will be taken on a first come - first serve basis. Masses are \$10 per intention and must be paid in full when scheduled. To schedule Mass intentions in person, please contact or stop by the parish office during scheduled office hours.

Please Note: These dates will be closed for scheduling Mass intentions: Triduum and Easter (4/13 to 4/16), All Souls' Day, Thanksgiving Day (11/23), Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Name: _____

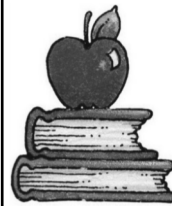
Phone Number: _____

Intention: _____

Requested by: _____

Date: _____ Alternate Date: _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____



NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC NEWS The Kindergarten at Northside Catholic School is full of excitement as Christmas draws near. During this Advent Season they are learning to prepare for the coming of Jesus. We are working on doing acts of kindness for other. What a wonderful gift for Jesus' birthday.

The children have also been working very diligently on their academics. They are making leaps and bounds in Reading. In Math, we are learning the value of numbers 0-31 using tens and ones. During Science class we will begin learning the different animal groups. In Social Studies we are learning about communities and jobs. We have five months ahead to learn much more.

The Kindergarten would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed, Healthy, and Happy New Year!!! For more information on our Christ centered preschool to eighth grade school, give us a call at (412)761-5043 x3001.

SAVE THE DATE The annual Northside Catholic School Night at the Races will be held in the lower level of St. Cyril of Alexandria Church on Friday, February 3, 2017. More information will be coming soon. Also the Northside Catholic School Open House will be held during the day on Thursday, February 9, 2017 from 12:30-2:00 PM, and in the evening from 6:00-7:30 PM. Come see our school and meet the teachers and students!