

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 17th - 3:30 p.m. - Helena Wlaszewski

Sunday, December 17th- 10:30 a.m. - Alexander & Agnes Zaorski



Envelopes can be found today on the altar rail for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas Season. Each plant is \$12.00. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES LEGIBLY.**

Until further notice students of the Polish Language Class will have off the second Saturday of each month.

Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) They will be available at St. Catharine of Siena Rectory during their business hours from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Due to the Holidays, all information for the bulletin must be received in our office as follows: **December 24th and December 31st by Wednesday, December 13th by noon! THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!** Information for the bulletin can be emailed to dsitler@comcast.net.

2018 Sunday Missals and Advent Supplies are now available in the **Church Store**. Included with the Advent supplies are candles, wreaths, calendars, and the "Little Blue Books" – daily meditations for the Advent/Christmas season. The 2018 Sunday Missals are also available at the Parish Center. Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors can pick up their Missals in the Priests' Sacristy.

The Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated at the Santander Arena on Tuesday 12 December. The Solemn Mass will be celebrated in the evening beginning at 6:00PM followed by the fiesta. (Las Mañanitas begin at 4:30AM.) The official novena, organized by the Guadalupe Committee, and prayed in churches, will be held on December 4-7 at St. Joseph Church and continues at St. Margaret Church the evenings of December 8-11. The novena is celebrated in Spanish. Unless advised otherwise, all evening services will begin at 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome to honor the patroness of the Americas.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING . . . memory writes on every page of the calendar. A support group offering caring presence, strength, and wisdom meets two Mondays a month at St. Catharine's of Siena Church, Mt. Penn 19606, at 7 PM. To register call 610 370-1174.



Christmas Schedule

Confession Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 16th -

3:30-4:15 p.m. - Church

Saturday, Dec. 16th -

2:45-3:15 p.m. - Saint Mary's

Monday, December 18th & Tuesday,
December 19th

4-5 & 7-8 p.m. - Chapel

Wednesday, December 20th -

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Saint Mary's

Christmas Masses

Christmas Vigil - 4 p.m. - Church & 4:00
p.m. - Chapel

7:00 p.m. & 12 Midnight-

* Incense - Church Only

9:00 p.m. - Saint Mary's

Christmas Day - 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.*

Incense - Church

10:30 a.m. - St. Mary's

Solemnity of Mary - Mass Schedule

New Year's Day -

8:00 - Chapel *

&

10:30 a.m. - Church

***Please note** that Solemnity of Mary is incorrect in the Christmas letter schedule. The 8:00 a.m. Mass will be in the Chapel on Perkiomen Avenue.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 40:1-5,9-11: Make ready the way for the Messiah. Make known the Good News, for God is near.

2 Pt 3:8-14: There is no counting of time with God. He does not want anyone to perish. We await a new heaven and earth, relying on the justice of God.

Mk 1:1-8: John the Baptist announced the coming of Jesus. John called for repentance and promised that the Messiah would baptize in the Holy Spirit.

Today's Message - As we await new heavens and a new earth, let us make clear the way of the Lord by being servants of justice, truth and peace.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL- 9 a.m. -Knights' Rm
CHILDREN'S LITURGY - during the 10:30 Mass
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA CLAUS- Social Hall- 8 a.m. until 12 Noon

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION-after 8 a.m. Mass until 8 p.m.
GRIEFSHARE MTG. - 7 p.m. - Parish Center
GUITAR CHOIR - 7 p.m. - Church

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

RCIA- 7 p.m. - Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

PREP (LEVELS 6-8) 6:30 p.m. -School
PREP (LEVELS 1-5) 6:45 p.m. - School
LEGION OF MARY - 6:30 p.m. - Parish Center

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

YOUTH CHOIR- 5:30 p.m. - Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

VOICES IN PRAISE CHRISTMAS PARTY-after 4:30 Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL-9 a.m.- Knights' Rm
CHILDREN'S LITURGY- during the 10:30 Mass
YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY - 4:30 p.m. - Parish Center
CUB SCOUTS MTG. - 6:00 p.m. - Social Hall
MT. PENN PILGRIMAGE- 7 p.m. - Chapel

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

6:30 Gerry Didyoung
8:00 John & Mary G. Thorne

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

6:30 Alois & Rosa Sager
8:00 Carl & Marie Heins

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

6:30 Jesse Arnold
8:00 John Turner

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

6:30 Terry Lee Mountz
8:00 Maria Mac
7:00 Jean Olsefsky (Chapel)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

6:30 John Cole
8:30 Nicholas Oliver

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:00 Ann Kiefer
4:30 Harry, Josephine & Antonio Cornista

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:30 Marguerite Arthur
9:00 Martha Safko
10:30 Roger Lengel(18th Ann.)
12:00 Steve M. Bibbo

Readings for the Week of December 10, 2017

Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent
	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
Monday	Saint Damasus I, Pope
	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday	Our Lady of Guadalupe
	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday	Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent
	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, LCPL David Ermentrout, Second Lt. Morgan Hissick, Lt. Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Spc. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Senior Airman Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Staff Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Peter Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Major Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Lt. Cdr. Allison Rosati Martin, Command Master Chief Marie Rosati France, Lt. Brandon Daughtry, David L. Busch, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig & Lt. Cdr. Brian Blair. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net. Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.



Help needed: We will be decorating the Chapel for Christmas on Saturday, December 16th after the 8:00 AM Mass. It usually takes less than an hour.



Wreaths Across America - December 16th

Families and volunteers are invited to join American Heritage Girls and Troops of St George to participate in laying wreaths on veteran graves at Forest Hills Memorial Park. There will be a short ceremony with keynote speaker Dr. Michael Gambone. Ceremony begins promptly at

Noon on Saturday 12/16 at 390 W. Neversink Rd. Reading, PA 19606.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/11	Father Eric Tolentino
Tuesday 12/12	Father James Torpey
Wednesday 12/13	Msgr. James Treston
Thursday 12/14	Father James Ward
Friday 12/15	Deceased priests
Saturday 12/16	Msgr. Robert Wargo
Sunday 12/17	Msgr. Anthony Wassel

50 Plus News

MEETINGS

JANUARY 3, 2018: NEW YEARS CELEBRATION with members to bring appetizers and snacks to share – cookies and coffee. Speaker: Lisa Lorah - Benefits of **Encore**

FEBRUARY 7, 2018: Valentine Day Celebration. Cupcakes and coffee Speaker: Pat White – 2018 trip schedule & pictures from Vermont

March 7, 2018: St. Patrick Day Celebration, wear your Green. Cake and coffee. Entertainment: Harold Graeff from Timeframe – 4 Men to sing for us, Irish songs & other music

APRIL 4, 2018: SPECIAL EVENT - Everybody's Birthday Celebration. Victor Emmanuel's restaurant, more information to follow

2018 TRAVEL PLANS

Pat will have the travel plans for 2018 from April to November at the February meeting.

Call **Pat White 610-582-1437** for trip information

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall on Route 562, 4975 Boyertown Pike in Exeter Township, dues are \$5.00 per year. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

Retirement Fund for Religious - Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others — educating the young comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retired Religious help to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously to today's second collection.

Weekend Mass Schedule

December 16th - 4:30 p.m. (Church)

Lector - George Violand

Cantor - Carol McDevitt

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers – E. Fries - I. Fries - L. Gilbert

December 17th - 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector– Kathy Lavanga

Altar Servers - D. Gombar - H. Keperling - T. Keperling

December 10th - 9:00 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Nanette Gatlos

Guitar Choir

Altar Servers - C. Griffith - N. Griffith– J. Iswalt

December 17th - 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Joe Samolewicz

Voices in Praise

Organist- Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - C. Kominick - J. Konopelski - P. Kopecky

December 17th - 12:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Edrie Watson

Contemporary Ensemble

Altar Servers - N. Krepps - N. Lamp - D. McAdams

ALTAR SERVERS LIST - WEEKDAYS

Week of December 11th - 16th

8:00 a.m.– S. Wright & C. Wright - (Mon- Wed.)

8:00 a.m. - G. McElderry & M. McElderry - (Thurs-Sat)

8:30 a.m.. - G. McElderry & M. McElderry - (Friday Only)

The poor can never take a holiday. Please remember them by your contributions in the poor boxes. **The "Poor Box"** is located at the main entrance of the Church. The money is used by the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help the needy families of our parish. Thanks to all those who have been using it.

You are not alone. There is help. - The Diocese of Allentown has a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced or worked closely with issues surrounding adverse prenatal diagnosis. **For support, contact: Sr. Janice Marie Johnson, jjohnson@allentowndiocese.org or 610-289-8900 x 2280.**

Beautiful hand-made items will be available at the side doors. Siena Stitchers donated money collected from the sales to St. Vincent de Paul.

Cold weather is coming! Saint Vincent DePaul will again be collecting new or gently used children's hats, mittens, scarves & boots. See bins in lobby.

EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY will continue to accept PERSONAL HYGEINE products and any non-perishable food item on an on-going basis. Bins are located in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. For more information, please contact Phil & Bonnie Blankenstein at 610-779-6045.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven"
"a time to be born..."

Recently Baptized: Grace Clark, Milo Kasprzewski & Albert Medoro

Please pray for our sick :

Recently added : Linda Brent & Daniel Leiby

& our soldiers in harm's way:

Paula Abel, Anita Adamo, Stella Albrecht, Jeannine Ambrosi, Sue Ambruch, Tony Angello, Anthony Antonucci, Tara Arnold, Beverly Bansner, Kathy Barnes, Denny Bastian, Kailee Baxter, Melanie Bechtel, Debi Bennett, Harrison Bergstresser, Jan Bertolet, Sandy Bibbo, Stella Bickleman, Nicky Biondo, Karen Bird, Christine Blair, Kim & Michael Blair, Catherine Blanchard, Christina Boehning, Agnes Bohner, Susan Brennan, Maria Briand, Robin Briand, Frank Broga, Kathryn Brubaker, Robert Bryden, Renee Brzostek, Emily Buelow, Renee Burns, Marvin Bush, Jeannine Caffrey, Ronald Calabrese, Neil Carroll, Nancy Cassidy, Bob & Patty Cavallino, Brianna Chery, Mark Christ, Marilyn Clifford, Nancy Ciccone, Donna Cocchia, Michael Conrad, Lisa Costello, Jeannie Crass, Audrey Crilley, Joan Cronan, Alexa Cupitt, Ryan Curley, Larry Curtin, Robin Cuzner, Yvania Dawson, Tony DeAngelis, Charles De Naples, Julie Denunzio, Melissa DeWees, Gretchen Dialectus, Paula DiBuilda, Arthur Dietrich, Jr, Carmela Donato, Mildred Donnelly, Kate Doughton, Father Michael Drury, Dick Dunn, Gina Ebricht, Dorothy Eisenhart, Lu Ann Eyre, Peter Fanticone, Jack Farrell, Josie Farrell, Jared Fenstemacher, Pearl Fillman, Devonna Fisher, Jennifer Flook, Laurie Flynn, Frances Ford, Jane Fordyce, John Fordyce, Al Frankowiak, Margaret Frisbee, Kim Furtow, Shelley Fox, Anna Mae Gantert, Donna Gentry, Grace Gerace, Pat Gerace, Joseph Gierschick, Jr, Frank Gill, Margo Girardi, Kathy Glaser, Larry Glaser, Johanna Goheen, Albert Gombar, Claire Griffith, Ruth Guyah, Jacob Hafer, Tom Hafer, Warren Haggerty, Jeanne Goodwin Hall, Beverly Hannahoe, Richelle Harbst, Eva Hare, Maria Harp, Leann Harris, Debbie Heberling, Jason Heckman, William Hedl, Robyn Hefferan, Diane Herbein, Emory Hilton, Melissa Himmelberger, Ethan Himonitis, William Hinkle, Donna Hofmann, Mark Holtzman, Siegfried Hosey, Robert Hough, Allison Howard, John Hull, Genevieve Iswalt, Catharine Jagielski, Erick Jefferson, Steven Julian, Brian K, Dorothy Kaisoglus, Blake Kauffman, Andrew Kazmierczak, Alex Kelso, John Kiedeisch, Carolyn Kilyk, John Kirsch, Joyce Kleckner, Marilla Kleinsasser, Mary Klick, Barry Kline, Sr, Benjamin Kline, Jean Kline, Ginny Koch, Helen Koehler, John Kogut, Mary Kolakowski, Mary Konopelski, Jim Kowalczyk, Jack Kuhn, Dolores Lamp, Jeffrey Lamp, Tracy Larish, Mike LaScala, Vanessa Leaizer, Harry Logan, Stephen & Genevieve Luskie, Kelly Lynch & family, Julia Marason, Megan Marino, Angela Marroccoli, Anna Mastandrea, Charles Mathews, Mary Ann Matthews, Chris McCarron, Coral McConnell, Jacob McCue, Teagan McDonnell, Rita McHale, Dorothy McGill, Ainsley McLain, Edward McKeaney, Abbie McKinney, Rosemary McNish, Arthur Mengel, Susan Mertz, James Minner, Jacob Mower, Goup Toy Moy, Gertrude Moyer, Thomas Muchanic, Gordon Newmoyer, Bill Norquist, Bernie Nowotarski, Evelyn Oquendo, Anna Ospina, Anna Paone, Gabriella Paone, Landon Paul, Melly Pimentel, Pat Pinto, Donald Pisker, James Pisker, Anne Poserina, Potts Family, Sharon Prechtl, Mary Price, Kathleen Rainey, Thomas Joseph Rainey, Lori Rears, Roger A. Reto, Rosemary Rice, Agnes Roach, Lynn Roberts, Barbara Rowe, Catherine Rudy, Mary Ryan, Elizabeth Fassig, Joann Sacco, Anne Schaeffer, Mary Schalk, Gladys Schell, Ann Schweitzer, Robert Senick, Beth Serafin, Tom Shaaber, Garth Shannon, David Sharpley, Sr., Earl Sheetz, Dawn Siderowicz, Janet Smith, Patricia Smoyer, Tyson Snader, Susan Sneddon, Mike Spear, Mark Speece, Julie Staber, Christopher Starr, Maureen Steimetz, Pam Stribbling, Maria Stubblebine, Annabelle Stump, Ken Styer, Earl Suchomelly, Cullen Sullivan, Gerry Sullivan, Carolyn Taraba, Hilda Thomas, John Tittle, Joe Tomalis, Wendy Tustin, Donald Ulrich, Jane Valeriano, Alan Wachowicz, Sherry Wainwright, Patty Wagner, Mark Walter, Marie Weber, Charles Wettstein, Amber White, Frank White, Annetta Wilson, Leo Woelkers, Ann Marie Zawislak, Bob Zeiler, Sr. & Bob Zeiler, Jr.

...and a time for peace ...a time to die: Edna Reinthal; James Orlando, Bob Whalon (father of Tina Whalon & grandfather of Jadan & Victoria Murren); Eda Brent; To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Names will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that the condition continues and prayers are still requested. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.



The St. Catharine of Siena Home & School Association will be selling Chick-Fil-A calendars after all Masses this weekend in the back by the SCRIP table. For only \$8.00,

these fun 2018 calendars come with a coupon card for free Chick-Fil-A items that change every month! These make great gifts for babysitters, teachers, hostesses, and more!

Thank you for your support of this year's Annual Appeal for the Faith in our Future Education Fund! You should have received information in the mail about how to support this year's campaign. Thank you for supporting our mission of providing an education built for success and nurtured in Christ!

St. Benedict Parish 6th Annual Advent Vespers

Festival of Carols and Lessons

When: Sunday, December 17, 2017

Time: 6:00PM - **Where:** St. Benedict Parish

2020 Chestnut Hill Road

Mohnton (Plowville) PA, 19560

Thanks to everyone who made our Christmas Boutique a huge success, from the volunteers, to the bakers and to everyone who attended the event to show support for both the parish effort and creativity of our artistic vendors. The boutique's gross income was \$13,260.95 The expenses were \$3,063.87 and the boutique made a profit of \$10,197.08. Thank you to everyone for making this possible!

Congratulations to our cash raffle winners:

Edward Wentzel - \$250.00, Samandra Burkholder - \$250.00, Michele Algier- \$50.00, Carolyn Walsh - \$50.00, Dan Grim- \$50.00, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kastenmaier - \$50.00 & Tony N. Weglinski - \$50.00.

LIFE AD CAMPAIGN of 2018

Please demonstrate your support for the *Life Ad 2018 Campaign* sponsored by the Catholic Community of Berks County by signing your name to St Catharine's list of supporters. This Life Ad will be published in the Reading Eagle on Monday, January 22, 2018, the anniversary of the legalization of abortion in the United States.

Your donations not only publish this Ad but also provide financial support to St. Mary's Shelter/home. If you are unable to donate at this time, Please consider giving us your signature support. It is important to raise the awareness that many people support the homeless pregnant woman.

Thank you for taking a public stand against the tragedy of abortion.

NOTE: Volunteers will be available after Mass this weekend to assist you with your signature information. For an added convenience, you may mail your information to the parish center or drop it in the collection basket. **Please PRINT name clearly. We can only use the following Examples: John Smith, John and Mary Smith or The Smith Family.**

Name: _____

Donation: _____ If you are making a donation by check,

Please write it to "Life Ad Campaign 2018".
Thank you.

**Deadline for Campaign:
Sunday, December 17, 2017**

Financial Stewardship

November 5, 2017

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 24,002	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 387,948	\$ 444,999
Year to date deficit	\$ 57,051	
Last Year	\$ 22,165	

November 12, 2017

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 19,588	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 407,536	\$ 468,420
Year to date deficit	\$ 60,884	
Last Year	\$ 20,697	

November 19, 2017

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 20,408	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 427,944	\$ 491,841
Year to date deficit	\$ 63,897	
Last Year	\$ 21,682	

November 26, 2017

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 22,351	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 450,295	\$ 515,262
Year to date deficit	\$ 64,967	
Last Year	\$ 20,041	

December 3, 2017

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 23,693	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 473,988	\$ 538,683
Year to date deficit	\$ 64,695	
Last Year	\$ 24,998	

Hurricane Relief Totals:

Hurricane Irma - \$7500.67

Hurricane Harvey - \$12,218.00

Hurricane Maria - \$6,477.17

A sincere "THANK YOU" to our parishioners and visitors who choose to contribute to St. Catharine's. Your contributions are deeply appreciated.

Women's Heart Attack & Disease Survivors Support Group

Monthly Meeting for any woman who's had a HA or suffers from Heart Disease and lives in or around Berks Cty, PA is welcome to join. Where: St. Ignatius School – meeting room "C", 2710 Saint Albans Drive, West Lawn, PA 19609, When: January 11, 2018 @ 7:00 and every second Thursday thereafter. For more information email: HeartSisters111@gmail.com . Chrissy - 484-955-4372 & Bev - 610-781-5557

Parish Nurse News - As always, and especially in the spirit and season of giving, feel joy and gratitude as you give! It is well-known that the benefits for both the giver and the receiver are tremendous and on-going. Watch the face of a person who is surprised by an unexpected gift- priceless!



St. Catharine of Siena
ONLINE SHOPPING
at BARNES and NOBLES

Plan to do your holiday shopping! A portion of the sales will benefit St. Catharine's School. Share the voucher with family and friends!

Online Shopping is available until Thursday, Dec. 14th.

Our Voucher Number is #12292330