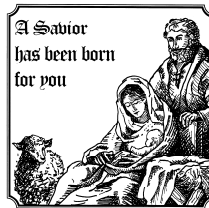




MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK



GOD HAS SPOKEN TO US THROUGH HIS SON, THE WORD MADE FLESH. THUS HAS SALVATION BEEN REVEALED TO ALL THE NATIONS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 (Christmas Vigil)

TODAY'S LITURGY

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Youth Mass
12:00 AM Midnight Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 (Nativity of the Lord)

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

8:00 AM PARISHIONERS
11:00 AM PARISHIONERS

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 (St. Stephen, martyr)

10:00 AM Matthew Piacenza Sr. (Anniv.) + req. by Wife, Blanche

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 (St. John, apostle)

10:00 AM Dorothy Mancini + req. by Kathleen M. Allen

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 (Holy Innocents, martyrs)

6:00 PM Joan Bandi + req. by Richard J. Bandi and Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

10:00 AM Emma Grassi + req. by Dorothy Kissell & Scott

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30 (Feast of the Holy Family)

10:00 AM Adolph M. Kerns + req. by Rosemary Kosiorek

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

5:00 PM Anthony Provenzano + req. by Juliana Furda

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 (Mary, Mother of God)

8:00 AM Mary Polinski + req. by Christian Mothers
11:00 AM PARISHIONERS

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

A Family Perspective on the Gospel . . . .

This Christmas remember your task as a parent is the same as Mary's: We must not let our doubts, fears and unfulfilled expectations get in the way of our loving acceptance of our children.

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Table with 2 columns: Day and Readings. Rows include Monday through Sunday with corresponding Bible verses.



CHRISTMAS CHARITIES Second Collection

The second collection at all Christmas masses is the annual Christmas Charities Collection for Children and Youth. The proceeds from this collection are used to support a number of diocesan programs which serve children and young people. The total collected from this appeal is credited toward our PSP goal. Please be generous.

'For unto you this day is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord'



**We** welcome all who have gathered to worship in our parish during this joyous season. Welcome to our faithful parishioners and also those who come as visitors and guests for the celebration of the Lord's birth. May you be blessed with the gift of faith, the greatest of hope, and the peace of His love at Christmas and throughout the New Year!

Fr. Carmen A. D'Amico  
and the Parish Staff

**2012 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS**

Envelopes and Calendars for 2012 may be picked up in the Church Hall after all masses this weekend, **December 24-25th**. Those who have not used contribution envelopes for **two years**, or did not pick up their boxed envelopes from last year, have not been assigned any for 2012. Please contact the rectory office if your name or address is incorrect on the label, or if you wish to register with the parish.

**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)**

If you are an adult and have never been baptized, or if you were baptized in another Christian faith and are interested in becoming a Catholic, then the RCIA is for you. Classes will begin **Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 7:00 pm** in the rectory basement. Classes will be held every Thursday until Easter. Please call the church office to register or for more information.

**PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN Workshop**

St. Hilary Parish, 320 Henderson Ave., Washington, PA will present **two** Workshops on "Protecting God's Children" on **Saturday, January 7th at 9:30 am** and **Wednesday, January 18th** at 6:30 pm. The Workshops will be held in Fr. Zapora Hall which is handicapped accessible. Call the parish office (724) 222-4087 to register.

**MARCH FOR LIFE Washington, DC**

Reserve a space now for the March for Life bus trip to Washington, DC on **Monday, January 23, 2012**. Two buses will depart from our parish to take part in the March on the Capitol. Call the rectory office to leave your name and number. This is the 39th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade.



Thank you to the advertisers who have placed ads in our bulletin during the past year. The ads help to provide the bulletin to our parish free of charge. Please support their businesses!

CCD Classes will not be in session this weekend or next weekend. Classes for all students will resume on **Sunday, January 8, 2012**.



Please remember the following who have asked for our prayers for their illnesses or their disabilities:

*Tony Vallone, John Bonazza, Cathy Everly, Herb Paraska, Veronica Petrusky, Lynsey Hilderbrand, Frances Paluda, Amber Blackhurst, Kirsten Messer, Susan Zilke, Roxy Zock, Donna Grimm, Carol Haught, Donald Dalrymple, Kathleen Deal, Amanda Brunner, Mary Ann Penrose, Gerry McMillin, Rhonda Wells, Andy Ginch, Helen Knochel, Erin Junker, Robert Mele, Terry Ryan, Randy Brunner, Jordan Rubottom, Roger Schield, Jon Drierton, Laura Fausti, Joseph Brach, James Conklin II, Wesley Violi and Nancy Violi.*

It has become our custom to clear the prayer list at the end of each year and begin anew. If you would like a name to remain on the list, please notify the rectory office.

**Please Note:** There is **NO** Bingo on Wednesday, December 28th. Bingo will resume on Wednesday, **January 4, 2012**.

**PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - Nativity of the Lord
- Dec. 28 - Cath. Men's Group meets 6:00 pm
- Dec. 28 - Legion of Mary meets 6:45 pm Church Hall
- Dec. 31 - Vigil Mass for New Year's Day 5:00 pm
- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day 8:00 & 11:00 am Masses



COLLECTION AMOUNTS FOR SUNDAY, DEC. 18th  
AND CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS WILL APPEAR IN THE  
JAN. 1st BULLETIN