

Good Shepherd Catholic Parish

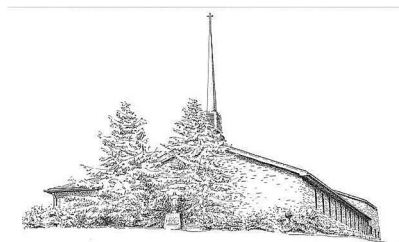
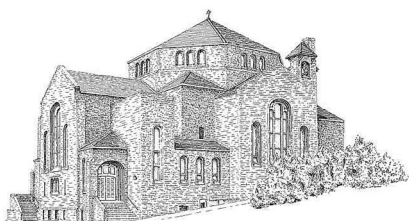
1024 Maple Way
Braddock PA 15104-1612

December 13, 2015

Parish Office: 412-271-1515
Fax: 412-271-1222

Website: www.goodshepherdbraddock.org

Serving the Communities of Braddock, Braddock Hills, East Pittsburgh,
North Braddock and Rankin.



Good Shepherd Church

Braddock Avenue at Frazier Street
Braddock PA 15104-1612

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

Sacred Heart Church

1600 Brinton Road
Braddock Hills PA 15221-4902

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass: 9:00 AM

Weekday Mass: Monday—Thursday—9:00 AM
Sunday: 11:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at 3:00 PM at Good Shepherd Church or by appointment

Parish Staff

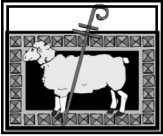
Reverend Albert J. Semler, Pastor
Deacon Joseph M. Dougherty
Mrs. Michele Catone, Parish Secretary (micky52@comcast.net)
Ms. Carol Funk, Parish Office Manager
Mr. Frank Koncerak, Director of Maintenance
Sr. Judith Stojhovic

Parish Telephone Numbers

Parish Office: 412-271-1515
Phone: 412-351-3710
Fax..... 412-271-1222
e-mail..... gshepoffice@comcast.net
East Catholic..... 412-351-5403
School Fax:..... 412-273-9114

- **Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office at 412-271-1515. Previous arrangements are necessary.
- **Instruction in the Faith:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) program is offered for those interested in the Catholic Faith. Contact the Parish Office at 412-271-1515.
- **Sacrament of Marriage:** The prospective bride & groom are to make arrangements with the priest at least six months prior to the Wedding. All couples are required to attend a marriage preparation class.
- **Parish Prayer Line:** Intentions may be placed on the Prayer Line by contacting Joanne at 412-271-8690 or email tjsjrfhi3@verizon.net
- **New Parishioners are always welcome.** Call the Parish Office to register or to notify of a change of address.

We are an “On Mission for the Church Alive” Faith Community.



December 13, 2015

From the Pastor's Desk

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

ADVENT 2015

"Do unto others before they do it to you." You're probably saying "Father Al, that's not correct.." And you are right. It's supposed to be **"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."** I was just making sure that you are concentrating on what you are reading. Today's Gospel finds everyone asking Jesus what they should do and He basically responds to each, Be Fair, Be Nice and Be Respectful. The news tells us this is NOT happening because they emphasize the negative episodes of life. But more and more the news is also bringing us good, heart warming stories. As we approach Christmas we see and hear so much being donated to help those in need. As Christians let us accentuate the positive and good.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Our Mass schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is as follows:

- December 24: 4:00 PM Good Shepherd
- 10:00 PM Good Shepherd
- December 25: 9:00 AM Good Shepherd
- 11:00 AM Sacred Heart

WELCOME HOME:

Take a little time and invite a family member and/or friend to join us for Mass on Christmas. Your invite just might be what is necessary for them to return. Hopefully they will then join us regularly.

BELL CHOIR

Our Good Shepherd Handbell Choir will be performing as part of the New Day Ministries' Christmas play called **His-Story** on **Friday, December 18th at 7:30 PM**. New Day Ministries is the new owner of the former St. Williams Church in East Pittsburgh. You are cordially invited to attend this performance.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Now is the time of year many of you take a few minutes to consider your income tax situation and need or want to make a special gift to your church. To record your kindness we need to have your gift by December 31, 2015. To make sure we get the most mileage out of your gift you must designate it as a gift to our Parish Share Program. Because of your goodness to our parish we are now paying our bills on time and hopefully we will not have to "tap" our savings program.

CONFESSIONS

A number of us priests will be at St. Maurice Church this Thursday, December 17th at 7:00 PM for Confession. You are invited.

ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

"All the good works in the world are not equal to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because they are the works of men; but the Mass is the work of God...the Mass is the sacrifice of God for man." Those are the words of Saint Jean Vianney, the 19th century French priest who is the patron saint of all priests. At the heart of Catholic worship is the Mass. Never take the liturgy for granted. Think of ways to help you and your fellow parishioners experience the life-changing power of the Mass.

To read more, check out "On Mission for the Church Alive!" on page 5 of this week's Pittsburgh Catholic and visit www.OnMissionChurchAlive.org.

HALL RENTAL

Our Hall rental deal can't be beat. But we need to raise our charge. The new rate is \$150 for the hall and \$50 clean up fee for one day use (**parishioner use only**). There are also certain guidelines for using the hall. Call the Parish Office 412-271-1515 for details.

WE DID IT:

We averaged over \$6,000.00 for our Sunday collections in November. A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who have put a little extra in each week. Our overage was on average \$23.00 a week. We are going in the right direction.

COOKIE WALK:

Thanks to all who baked cookies for our Women's Guild Cookie Walk. What a great sight and a great credit to our parish. Gracias!

MINISTER SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 19-20:

4:00 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: A.Kostyak, J. Kaczmariski, F. Szekely, M. Leicht, K. Mirenzi, J. Carleton, M. Colao

Lector: Grant Gunderson

Server: Steve Yezovich

9:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Strednak, T & D Whyel, P. Koncerak, C. DiNinno, L. Petri, M. Giulianelli

Lector: Mark Petri

Servers: Josh DiNinno

11:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: H. Sullivan, K. Carroll, E. Foster, P. Fazio, C. Bakin, K. Bitkowski

Lector: Chester Chorazy

Server: Ryan Walker

I hope you remember your sign ups for December 24, 25, 26 & 27 and for January 1, 2, & 3. But I am not worried because I know you are willing to come up if we are short of ministers.

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Please call a sub if you cannot be there or call Father Al at 412-812-5275 for last minute changes.

*Peace and Love,
Fr. Semler*



Your gifts are due in today, Sunday, December 13th. If you forgot to bring your gift today, you may bring it to the Parish Office early this week. Help us to make a

blessed Christmas for the deserving students of our Parish and School.

2016 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Your contribution envelopes for the New Year are ready and waiting for you to pick them up in the Gathering Spaces of both churches. **We did our best to place them in the church you usually attend, but if you don't find yours, call the Parish Office 412-271-1515 and we'll get them to the right place.** Also, it would be a great help if you would pick up any packets that may belong to your family members or neighbors who aren't able to get to church in the coming weeks.

TURKEY TROT WINNERS

Congratulations to our winners. They are:

Wednesday, Nov. 25:	#1901	\$300	Not Returned
	#1091	\$200	Not Returned
Thursday, Nov. 26:	#5594	\$1000	Catherine Kamenic
	#4955	\$500	Roy Ruggieri
	#5593	\$250	Sue Kettering
	#5595	\$250	Anna Yurinko
Friday, Nov. 27:	#0533	\$300	Bob Burkovich
	#3350	\$200	JoAnn Rusnak

Thanks to all who supported our Turkey Trot Raffle!

MEMORIAL OFFERING

Special thanks to the family of **Mary Cinciripini**, who gave a memorial donation to our parish in Mary's name. An Altar Cloth Bound Roman Missal for Good Shepherd Church and the Keyboard Accompaniment for both Churches were purchased with their donation. We are grateful for their generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations for **Evan Cuccaro** who made High Honors for the first quarter at Central Catholic High School. Great work Evan!

Stewardship: Time - Talent - Treasure

Sunday, December 6th:	\$6,453.00
Parishioners receiving env: 652	env used: 325
Loose Offertory:	\$208.00
Monthly Offering: \$1,286.00	env used: 85
Loose Monthly:	\$ 81.00
Votive:	\$195.00

May God bless your generosity!

RINGING IN THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Our Handbell Choir will be performing several public performances this Christmas season. If you're looking to hear some good music and get in the holiday spirit, you can see them perform on the following dates:

****The Good Shepherd Handbell Choir** will be performing as part of New Day Ministries' Christmas play called **His-Story** on **Friday, December 18th** at 7:30 p.m. in the former St. Williams Church in East Pittsburgh.

****Saturday, December 19th** at One Oxford Center on Grant Street downtown at 11:30 AM.

****The Bell Choir** will also have a Christmas concert next **Sunday, December 20th** here at Good Shepherd Church at 4:00 PM. Join both teams as they ring Christmas carols with a small social afterwards.

We'd love to see some familiar faces in the crowd as we help to make the season merry!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, **"Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise..."**

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

St. Vincent de Paul phone: 412-437-8370

FREE STORY TIME SESSION at East Catholic School Library

Wednesday December 16, 2015 is the next "Perfect for Preschoolers Story-time" at East Catholic School, 2001 Ardmore Boulevard, Forest Hills PA 15221. This is a free story, rhyme, song and craft program designed to entertain and engage young children. The program is for children 2 1/2 to 5 years old and is designed to give them a positive introduction to books and the habit of reading. Each program features appealing books, favorite stories, and lively activities. The theme of this Story-time is "Christmas". There will be one session from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

We invite all children along with their parent or guardian to come and visit Story time at East Catholic Library. Registration is required by calling East Catholic School Office (412-351-5403) during school hours (8:30 am until 2:00 pm). **Final date for registration is Monday, December 14, 2015.**

Join us for some "Christmas" fun! East Catholic follows Woodland Hills School District Weather cancellation



**East Catholic School Walking Tours for the
2016-2017 School Year**

Choosing the right school for your child is a very intuitive decision. Many parents say that they just know in their gut, while touring a school, which school environment is the best fit for them and their child.

The school tours are conducted during school hours. This will allow parents to observe the children in the classroom, learn about the programs, meet our teachers and find out more about the East Catholic School philosophy. Tours include classroom observation as well as a guided tour of the facility. Parents will receive an application with additional information for them to consider.

To sign up for a tour: Contact the School Office between 8:30 am and 2:00 pm at 412-351-5403.

East Catholic School Walking Tour Dates are as follows : January 6 and 20 at 9:30 am, January 31 2016 Open House, February 9 and 23 at 9:30 am and March 2 at 9:30 am. A special tour will be on Sunday March 13, 2016 (at Story Time) scheduled for 2:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS DISCERNMENT RETREAT--Fr. Joe Freedy along with Frs. Welding, Vaskov, and Noel will be leading a retreat for men who desire a deeper relationship with Christ, are seeking to know their vocation, and are interested in learning more about discerning a vocation to the Priesthood. Weekend will include daily Mass, Adoration, opportunities for Confession, conferences, solid brotherhood, as well as a talk and discussion with Bishop Zubik. Friday Evening, December 18th – Sunday Morning, December 20th. No Cost. Gilmary Retreat Center. Must be 18 or older. For more information or if you would like to register please visit www.pghpriest.com

4 STAGES OF MARRIAGE--The 4 stages of marriage are: (1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening. Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment or Misery please contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i). For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 15, 2016, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434.

More information is available at
<http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org/>

STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the faint-hearted with courage. —Anonymous

Diocesan Toll-Free Number for Abuse Response:
1-888-808-1235

Safe Environment Administrator: Rose Morgan

MASSSES for the WEEK

Good Shepherd Parish
December 13-20, 2015

Third Sunday of Advent (Lk 3:10-18)
GS: 4:00 PM Lawrence Kuzins by Wife & Family
GS: 9:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish
SH: 11:00 AM Carol Ritzel by Dorothy Hudak

Monday-St John of the Cross (Mt 21:23-27)
SH: 9:00 AM Philip Mariani
by Gene & Sophie Szatkowski

Tuesday-Advent Weekday (Mt 21:28-32)
SH: 9:00 AM Jack Duch by Family

Wednesday-Advent Weekday (Lk 7:18b-23)
SH: 9:00 AM Nicola & Maria Rosa Filia
by Daughter, Fortunata & Family

Thursday-Late Advent Weekday (Mt 1:1-17)
SH: 9:00 AM Linda Snyder
by Good Shepherd Senior Citizens

Friday-Late Advent Weekday (Mt 1:18-25)
No Morning Mass

Saturday-Late Advent Weekday (Lk 1:5-25)
No Morning Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Lk 1:30-45)
GS: 4:00 PM Frank Trybus by Ceil Balogh & Family
GS: 9:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish
SH: 11:00 AM Carole McIntyre
by Mom & Dad Fischer

What's Happening this Week

December 13-20, 2015

Monday: 7:00 PM Scouts Christmas Party School
Thursday: 6:30 PM Prayer Group SH Chapel
Friday: 7:30 PM Bells/Former St. William Church
Saturday: 11:30 PM Bells Play at One Oxford Center
Sunday: 4:00 PM Bell Concert GS Church
Social follows in Gathering Space



AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.
May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—God our Father!
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope
for the revelation of the glory
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!
To him be glory forever!
Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright 1976, 1981, Lucien Deiss. Published by World Library Publications. p. 127

This bulletin is from
Good Shepherd Church
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Braddock PA 15104
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Email: gshepof-
face@comcast.
net

PRINT COVER, ADS,
AND OUTSIDE TABS
IN CYAN EVERY
WEEK!!!