

Good Shepherd Catholic Parish

1024 Maple Way
Braddock PA 15104-1612

December 16, 2018

Parish Office: 412-271-1515

Fax: 412-271-1222

Website: www.goodshepherdbraddock.org...Email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Weekend

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Saturday | 4:00 pm | St Maurice |
| | 5:30 pm | Madonna del Castello |
| Sunday | 8:00 am | Good Shepherd |
| | 9:00 am | Word of God |
| | 10:00 am | St Maurice |
| | 11:00 am | Sacred Heart |

Weekday

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------------------|
| Monday | 7:00 pm | St Maurice |
| Tuesday | 9:30 am | Sacred Heart |
| Wednesday | 9:30 am | Sacred Heart |
| Thursday | 9:30 am | Word of God |
| Friday | 9:00 am | St. Maurice (School Mass) |
| | 9:30 am | Word of God |

Confessions

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------------------------|
| Monday | 7:30 pm | St. Maurice (following Mass) |
| Saturday | Noon | Word of God |

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

Parish Staff

Fr. Larry Adams, Administrator
Fr. Jeremy Mohler, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Vince Kolo, Parish Chaplain
Deacon Joseph Dougherty
Deacon Keith Kondrich

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|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Mr. David Barr, Principal, East Catholic | East Catholic School | 412-351-5403 |
| Mrs. Michele Catone, Parish Secretary | East Catholic Fax | 412-273-9114 |
| Ms. Carol Funk, Parish Office Manager | | |
| Mr. Frank Koncerak, Director of Maintenance | | |

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - THURSDAY: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM; FRIDAY-9:00 AM—2:00 PM

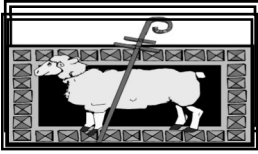
Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the Parish Office at 412-271-1515. Previous arrangements are necessary.

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 before the date is set. 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 tjsirfhi3@verizon.net

New Parishioners are always welcome. Call the Parish Office to register or to notify of a change of address.



December 16, 2018
Third Sunday of Advent

FROM THE DESK OF FR. LARRY:

Each year in October, the diocese asks us to get an idea how many folks are attending our weekend Masses. These “October counts”, as they’re known, help us to plan for the upcoming 12 months.

This year, our counts have also helped us to understand your reaction to the implementation of *On Mission for the Church Alive!*, which began on October 15. Just the other day, the diocese released the ‘count’ numbers for all groupings across the diocese. As we look at the numbers of folks in the pews, we’ve all noticed that there are more people at each Mass, but the big question is how many folks have decided to stop attending Mass. Over the past two months, we’ve found that there are 9% fewer folks attending weekly Mass, in the diocese as a whole.

Here in our neck of the woods, the number is somewhat less rosy. In our grouping, 19% of our parishioners are no longer coming to Mass. One possible explanation is that they’re going to neighboring parishes, but it doesn’t seem that this is the case – our neighboring groupings are down, too (Churchill/Turtle Creek/Wilmerding is down 20% and Monroeville is down 24%).

One of the more serious implications of this downturn is our parishes’ ability to support themselves. As I mentioned in October, the plan is to become a single parish – not to close buildings. However, if a parish is unable to financially support itself – that is, if its expenses are much greater than its income – then we’re going to have to start asking tough questions about whether the parish community is telling us that they value their parish and wish it to continue to operate. That decision isn’t one for the bishop or even for me – **you**, as the faithful members of your parish, are the ones who will ‘vote with your wallet.’

Every dollar you place in your envelope for the first collection returns to your parish and goes 100% to its support. (For those who I’ve heard saying “well, I’m not giving a single dollar to *that diocese*” (or “*to that bishop*”), please recognize that **when you withhold your donation on Sunday, the message you’re really sending is “I’m not giving a single dollar to keep my parish open!”**)

My hope is that, as we continue to evaluate the situations in our parishes, we will find that you *do* want your parish building to stay open, and demonstrate that desire by continuing to support it financially. I promise to be honest and open with you about these issues as we proceed!

Blessings,
 Fr. Larry



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm **Good Shepherd**
Madonna del Castello
- 4:30 pm **St. Maurice**
- 6:30 pm **Word of God**
- 7:30 pm **St. Maurice**
- Midnight **Word of God**
St. Maurice

Christmas Day

- 9:00 AM **St. Maurice**
- 10:00 AM **Madonna del Castello**
- 11:00 AM **Sacred Heart**

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

December 23:

8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Joe, M. Leicht, B. McDonell, P. Koncerak, M. Garritano

Lector: Nick Russo

Server: Josh DiNinno

11:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Keith Kondrich, M. Garritano, K. Carroll, C. Bakin

Lector: Jeff McLaughlin

Server: Briana Skladany

December 30:

8:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: M & L Petri, P. Koncerak, M. Leicht, B. McDowell

Lector: Pat Lanigan

Server: C & D Yezovich

11:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Joe, J. Kondas, S. Szatkowski, E. Foster

Lector: Chester Chorazy

Server: Brian Kelly

Ministers: In situations where a minister is not able to be there at the last minute, please feel free to stand in for that person.

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS



REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

ADVENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

(with reflections by Fr. Mohler)

There is one final opportunity to adore the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration during Advent. In addition to reposition, benediction, and periods of silence, Fr. Mohler will also be giving a reflection on the role of time in the spiritual life during each one. Please join us for this opportunity to be away with the Lord during this often busy season.

Thu. Dec. 20, 6:30 PM – St. Maurice Church.

Reflection on Practicing the Presence of God: the Present in the spiritual life.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR SEND YOU THEIR THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR YOUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AT THANKSGIVING.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2019

We invite you to request any additional Mass intentions for our four parishes for 2019.

Mass intention forms can be picked up at the back of the church, and can be placed in the collection basket. If you wish to mail in your intention form, for Masses at any of our parishes, please mail them to:

Madonna del Castello Parish
2021 S. Braddock Avenue
Swissvale PA 15218
Att: Kelly

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly at 412-271-5666.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

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 those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

If you need help, call: 412-437-8370

Stewardship: Time - Talent - Treasure

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday, December 9: | \$ 4,376.00 |
| Parishioners receiving env: 652 | env used: 206 |
| Loose Offertory: | \$345.00 |
| School Offering: \$414.00 | env used: 41 |
| Loose School Offering: | \$ 73.00 |
| Votive: | \$185.00 |

Thank You for your generosity!

GIVING TREES:

Remember to turn in your gift with the ornament attached. If you forgot to bring it to church with you, you may send it in to the Parish Office on Monday. Thank you in advance from the children.

ANOINTING

Parishioners in need of anointing are asked to call **Fr. Vince Kolo, our Parish Chaplain at 412-737-3350.**

CHURCH ENVELOPES FOR 2019:

Your box sets of church envelopes are available for pick up today after Mass at Sacred Heart Church. The remainder of boxed sets will be in the Office beginning Monday, December 17.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (Oplatky) are available at church and the office. Each envelope contains 3 white and one pink wafer. Donation is \$2.00.

THE PROPHETS

Messengers of God’s Mercy

A Ten-Part Bible Study featuring Thomas Smith
Ten Lessons—January 9 to March 20, 2019
Wednesdays 7:00—9:00 PM

Madonna del Castello Bishop Dattillo Hall

Questions: Contact Deacon Ron Demblowski at 412-241-1372 or at Wordofgodpa@gmail.com. Suggested offering is \$25 for participant pack. Registration and payment are due Monday, December 31. Make checks payable to “Word of God.”

COME TO DINNER

Dinners and Cookies can be purchased after the Saturday 5:30 pm. Mass at **Madonna del Castello Church** in the Church hall, 2021 S. Braddock Ave., Swissvale, PA 15218. Dinners are in containers and include homemade specialties. For more information call 412-271-5666.

WORD OF GOD PARISH

Word of God Parish Library and Canterbury Corner

Gift Shop News: The Gift Shop has everything needed for a meaningful Advent and Christmas season including Advent wreaths and replacement candles, Advent calendars, boxed Christmas cards, and other religious gift items. Stop in the Parish Library to view the **Fontanini Nativity** display with over 200 sculpted figures. **December Christmas Holiday hours:** every Thursday morning following the 9:30am Mass at Word of God until Noon and Sundays, 9:00-11:00am, except Thursday, Dec. 27—Closed and Sunday, Dec. 30—Closed.

Location: First floor of the Parish Center at 7436 McClure Avenue in Swissvale. For more information, call 412-271-4830 or 412-243-1078



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CULTIVATE: A YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY LEADERS COLLABORATIVE -- 12 spaces are available for anyone working (full time, part time, or volunteer) in young adult ministry for CULTIVATE: A Young Adult Ministry Leaders Collaborative. Participants will acquire the fundamental competencies to implement effective ministry for people in their 20s and 30s. CULTIVATE will begin with a weekend retreat from January 4-6, followed by a six-month community of practice experience. Please visit www.diopitt.org/cultivate for more information and to apply. Registration fee is \$150 and scholarships are available.

CANDLELIGHT MASS-- Join your friends and neighbors for the monthly Candlelight Mass at Saint Stanislaus Church in the Strip District. The next Mass will be Friday, January 4, 2019 at 8:00pm. Confessions and music start at 7:00 pm and fellowship follows the Mass. Young families are invited to gather at Bella Notte Pizzeria on Penn Avenue near the church at 6:00pm for dinner and discussion. For more information, visit [facebook.com/beholdpittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/ beholdpittsburgh).

HIGH SCHOOL SILENT RETREAT -- Have you ever allowed God to speak to you through silence? High school men, give God the chance to speak directly to your heart at the High School Silent Retreat, held **February 9-10** at Martina Spiritual Renewal Center. It will include Mass, adoration, dynamic talks, and solid brotherhood. No cost. To register, visit PGHPriest.com by January 25.

NEW YEAR'S EVE \$8,500 Super Bingo. -- Make plans with your friends to attend Bishop Canevin's New Year's Eve \$8,500 Super Bingo. Buffet Dinner, party favors and black light bingo after midnight to rock and roll music. Watch the ball drop on our big screen TV's and toast with champagne at midnight. What a way to start 2019! Ticket Price \$120 per person. Make your reservation with a \$20 deposit and pay only \$80 at the door! Call Mike at 412 523-2220 for information on how to make a reservation. More information at www.bingo-at-bc.com.

BISHOP CANEVIN SHOWCASE-- Experience Our Excellence, February 6, 2019, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. More than an Open House – an opportunity for prospective families to see Bishop Canevin in action! Call 412-922-7400, ext. 220 to learn more. Apply Now for the 2019-20 academic year. Interested students may visit the school's website, www.bishopcanevin.org, to complete and submit an online application. For more information, please call the Mrs. Katie Stevens, Admissions Director, at 412-922-7400, ext. 220.

Diocesan Toll-Free Number for Abuse Response:

1-888-808-1235

MASSSES for the **WEEK**

*Good Shepherd Parish
December 16-23, 2018*

Third Sunday of Advent (Lk 3:10-18)
GS: 8:00 AM +William Mikolics by Wife
SH: 11:00 AM +Helen Bulkowski by Dorothy Danko

Tuesday-Late Advent Weekday (Mt 1:18-25)
SH: 9:30 AM +Mary Giulianelli Goodrich
by Bruno & ChiChi Calabria

Wednesday-Late Advent Weekday (Lk 1:5-25)
SH: 9:30AM +Helen Yurko by Alan & Janet Kondas

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Lk 1:39-45)
GS: 8:00 AM People of Good Shepherd,
Madonna del Castello, St. Maurice
and Word of God Parishes
SH: 11:00 AM +Michael Kobylanski
by Mother, Theresa & Brother, David

REST IN PEACE

*In your charity, we remember all those
who have died, especially:*

Wilma R. Mizla.

May the angels lead you into paradise.

Prayer for On Mission for The Church Alive!

Father of Mercy,

As we journey On Mission for The Church Alive!,

Endow us with your gifts of

collaboration, courage and compassion.

Help us to fulfill the mission of Jesus and His Church

through vibrant parishes

and effective ministries.

Raise up selfless, energetic leaders to serve the

Church in fidelity and with care.

May we, the Church of Pittsburgh

in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and

Washington Counties, be sustained and strengthened

by your grace.

Help us to learn Jesus, to love Jesus and

to live Jesus. Hear this prayer and grant it through

Jesus Christ our Lord,

with the help of our dear Blessed Mother,

under the mantle of her love, *Amen*

