

Good Shepherd Catholic Parish

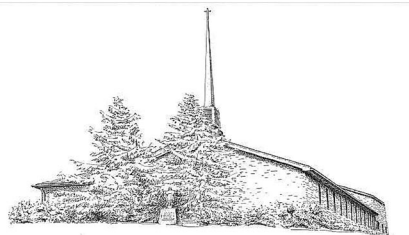
1024 Maple Way
Braddock PA 15104-1612

December 24, 2017

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

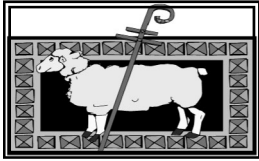
Parish Office:412-271-1515
Phone: 412-351-3710
Fax.....412-271-1222
e-mail.....gshepoffice@comcast.net
East Catholic..... 412-351-5403
School Fax:.....412-273-9114

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 AM - 3:00 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 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

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

December 24, 2017
From the Pastor's Desk
FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT



CHRISTMAS:

Christmas is tomorrow. Our Church schedule begins with the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass this Sunday evening at Good Shepherd. We will then celebrate Mass at 9:00 AM on Christmas Day at Good Shepherd and 11:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart.

My Christmas Wish for You:

May all of you have a very Joy-filled Christmas Day and Christmas Season. May you and your families be filled with the Peace and Joy that our Savior came to bring.



ADVENT 2017:

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. With Christmas starting at 4:00 PM tonight we have a tendency to let the Fourth Sunday get lost in the "shuffle." But Luke's Gospel tells us of the powerful invitation to Mary and her **YES**. The two events in a real sense begin the story. So let us take a moment today to thank Mary as we celebrate the meaning of her **YES**.



CHRISTMAS CHARITIES COLLECTION:

The second collection at all Christmas Masses will support Children and Youth programs in our Diocese. Kindly respond as you are able. This collection is also credited to our 2017 Parish Share Program.

END OF YEAR DONATION:

Some of you like to make an end of the year donation to help reduce taxes. Please write **Parish Share Program** on your donation to support us in the best possible way.

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND:

The following weekend is New Year's weekend. Masses are as usual on Saturday and Sunday. But New Year's Day is NOT a Holyday this year since it falls on a Monday. **Mass will be at 7:00 AM at Sacred Heart.**

WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE:

As I announced before, we will change our weekday mass to 7:00 AM beginning Monday, January 1, 2018. Father Elmer, our very faithful retired priest, can no longer commit to a 7:00 AM mass every morning. So with one less priest, Father Ken and I decided that we want to keep a 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM mass available

since they are both well attended. So we will have the 7:00 AM and the 9:00 AM will be at St. Maurice. I will put the mass schedule for our neighbors in the December 31 bulletin. One of these times may fit your schedule better.

TURKEY TROT-SECOND CHANCE WINNERS:

Monday, December 11: **2806** Christine Yezovich
Tuesday, December 12: **6085** Frank & Mary J. Archer
Wednesday, December 13: **1026** Jack Joyce
Thursday, December 14: **7989** Joanne Wasko
Friday, December 15: **5200** Florence Poprocky

CHURCH ENVELOPES:

Contribution envelopes that were not picked up at the churches are now at the office. Please note the Christmas Office hours in the next item.

OFFICE:

The office will only open one day between Christmas and New Year's Day. So please note that the office will only be open on Wednesday, December 27 (from December 23 to January 2nd). As you are enjoying Christmas know that my faithful staff is too.

MASS TIMES:

In case you need a Mass time for Christmas different than ours, I share these:

Sunday, December 24: 4:00 PM Madonna del Castello
6:00 PM Word of God
Midnight Word of God
Monday, December 25: 10:00 AM Madonna del Castello

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 30-31: Ministers who volunteered on the sign-up sheet for this weekend.

JANUARY 6-7:

4:00 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Joe, A.M. Dougherty, D. Trasoline, J. Carleton, T. McAdams, M. Colao, M. Leicht
Lector: Eric Helminiak
Server: Andy Connelly

9:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Joe, C. Suppes, R. Russo, M & L Petri, B. McDonell, J. Strednak
Lector: Gina Piccolino
Server: Christopher & Drew Yezovich

11:00 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Joe, J & M Besseck, J. Barbusio, N. Moucheron, K. Carroll
Lector: Brendan Howell
Server: Brian Kelly

*Peace and Love,
Fr. Semler*



MONTHLY COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATION

The final MCC will be celebrated this Wednesday, December 27, at 9:00 AM at Sacred Heart.

Thank you to all of our loyal supporters over the years who remembered their loved ones at the Monthly Commemorative Mass.

THANK YOU NOTES

The Mission Office sent a note of thanks for your contribution of \$850.00 on World Mission Sunday. **“Good Shepherd Parish joined with Catholics throughout the world to support the work and witness of the Mission Church, through which the poor receive practical help and experience God’s love and mercy.”**
Rev. Msgr. Ronald P. Lengwin

The Little Sisters of the Poor also sent a note of thanks for your generosity from the canned good drive: **“On behalf of the Little Sisters and Residents, I thank you for your most gracious generosity. God will never be outdone in generosity and your parish will be greatly blessed for your thoughtfulness.”**
“May God bless each one of you and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed, Happy New Year”.
Sister Margaret Mary, Isp

ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

The Lord Is With You – As the archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary to reveal to her that she would be the mother of Jesus, he greeted her with, “hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” Meant to be words of comfort and strength, Mary still needed to be reassured that what she was experiencing was of God. That comfort came in the continued encouragement of Gabriel, in the strong, loving presence of Joseph, her betrothed, in the familial support of her cousin Elizabeth and, through it all, by the constant outpouring of grace from the Father. While we are confident that the Lord is always with us and promises to remain with us, we know how important the presence of a loving family and a supportive community can be to fill our hearts with peace. As the On Mission for The Church Alive! initiative continues to unfold we have a great opportunity to sustain each other in faith. This Christmas, as we celebrate Emmanuel, God-with-us, may he dwell in us so that we can reflect his love to others and grow the Church. Visit onmissionchurchalive.org to learn more and to stay informed.

Stewardship: Time - Talent - Treasure

Sunday, December 17th:	\$5,433.00
Parishioners receiving env: 652	env used: 236
Loose Offertory:	\$245.00
Votive:	\$163.00

Thank you for your generosity

GIVING TREE

Thanks to all of our parishioners who donated gifts for the Giving Tree for our children. Many thanks to Peg Cox and Denise Cunningham for organizing and distributing the gifts. And finally, a big thank you to the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi, Finleyville, St. Ferdinand, Cranberry and St. James, Sewickley. We appreciate your generosity and we know the children will certainly enjoy their Christmas.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Phone: 412-437-8370

NEXT BINGO:

Save the date: Our next bingo will be held on Sunday, February 11th at Sacred Heart Hall. Let your friends know and plan to enjoy the afternoon.

START THE YEAR WITH A RENEWAL OF THE HEART

-- Are you looking for a powerful prayer experience to jumpstart and deepen your faith and the faith lives of those you serve that is both free and easy to get to? Franciscan University and the Steubenville Conferences want to invite all youth, young adults, and their leaders to a special Festival of Praise being held on the campus of Franciscan University on Saturday, January 27, 2018. The evening will feature an inspirational talk by Fr. Joe Freedy from the Diocese of Pittsburgh, worship lead by John Paul Von Arx, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament lead by Fr. Nathan Malavolti. The Festival of Praise is held in Finnegan Field House and starts at 7 PM and ends at 9 PM but we are inviting everyone from the Pittsburgh area to stay and enjoy refreshments and fellowship compliments of the Christian Outreach Office after we are done praying. There is absolutely no charge for this event but we do ask that if you plan on coming, please call our office and let us know how many people you intend to bring so that we can make sure we have enough food. Our office number is 740-283-6315. This is one of the best free events you will find in driving distance of Pittsburgh this winter and is an excellent way to kick off the semester. Great prayer, great fellowship, great music. Do not miss this amazing evening. Get your semester moving with the Holy Spirit.



CANDLELIGHT MASS -- Join your neighbors for a monthly Candlelight Mass at Saint Stanislaus Church in the Strip District on Friday, January 5, 2018. The Mass will take place at 8:00 PM every First Friday of the month. Each month there will be a different priest celebrant and different music. Confessions will be available beginning at 7:00 PM. Fellowship after Mass at the Harp & Fiddle. For more information, visit **facebook.com/ beholdpittsburgh**

ANNUAL HOLIDAY TRAIN DISPLAY

This annual display will take place at St. Aloysius, Second Floor, 3616 Mt. Troy Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, Reserve Township. Operating hours are Saturday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Sundays from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM, November 25, 2017 through January 14, 2018. They are closed on Saturday, December 23 and Sunday, December 24. Free Admission, however donations are appreciated. The event is sponsored by St. Aloysius Christian Mothers.

SENT

All people in their 20s and 30s are invited to **SENT**, a gathering for young adults that will feature live music, free food and drinks, awesome prayer, a dynamic talk, and a time to network with other young adults on Friday January 26 from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Cardinals Great Hall at Saint Paul Seminary. Bob Rice, a professor at Franciscan University of Steubenville, will be speaking on Radical Living: Loving Jesus and Sharing the Gospel. For more information and to register please visit **diopitt.org/yam**.

AUTHENTIC HAPPINESS: A High School Silent Retreat

Father Mike Ackerman will lead this retreat for high school men, February 3-4 at Martina Spiritual Renewal Center. It will include Mass, adoration, dynamic talks, and solid brotherhood. No cost. To register, visit **PGHPriest.com** by January 22.

THE SILVER RING THING Catholic Edition

Young people today are confronted with many images of sexuality and conflicting messages of morality through the media, internet, and society. Yet, the Church's teachings on love and sexuality remain constant in the following of Christ. The Silver Ring Thing Catholic Edition is a high-tech, high-energy performance that educates teens about the benefits of pursuing the virtue of chastity, and the dangers of promiscuous behavior. All teens and parents, and those who serve them, are invited to attend our live event on Friday, January 12, 2017 at Seton LaSalle High School from 7 - 9 PM. With dramas, videos, special effects, and speakers, teenagers will be motivated in a unique and personal way to choose to commit to God by remaining chaste. Parents, join us for a special parent meeting at 7:00 PM, before the start of the program. For further information, please go to **www.silverringthing.com**.

Diocesan Toll-Free Number for Abuse Response:

1-888-808-1235

Safe Environment Administrator: Rose Morgan

MASSSES for the WEEK

Good Shepherd Parish
December 24-31, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Lk 1:26-38)

GS: 4:00 PM Adam Mains by Loretta Yanowich

GS: 9:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish

SH: 11:00 AM Walter Chuckro by Martin McLaughlin



Sunday-Christmas Eve

GS: 4:00 PM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish

Monday-Christmas Day

(Jn 1:1-18)

GS: 9:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish

SH: 11:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish



Tuesday-St. Stephen (Mt 10:17-22)

SH: 9:00 AM Paul W. Bulik by Family

Wednesday-St. John, Apostle (Jn 20:1a,2-8)

SH: 9:00 AM Monthly Commemorative Mass

Thursday-The Holy Innocents (Mt 2:13-18)

SH: 9:00 AM Anna Mitnik by Larry Trasky

Friday-Fifth Day Within Octave of Nativity(Lk 2:22-35)

No Morning Mass

Saturday-Sixth Day Within Octave of Nativity

No Morning Mass (Lk 2:36-40)

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Lk 2:22-40)

GS: 4:00 PM Beth Bitkowski

by Drs. Chester & Anna Chorazy

GS: 9:00 AM Parishioners of Good Shepherd Parish

SH: 11:00 AM Genevieve Bulik by Emelia Kubik

REST IN PEACE

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

Louis Tribus.

May the angels lead you into paradise

MEMORIAL OFFERINGS THIS WEEK:

*Good Shepherd: Altar Bread, Altar Candles, Altar Wine
and Sanctuary Lamp:*

In Memory of Anna Mitnik by Terri Dickerson

*Sacred Heart: Altar Bread, Altar Candles, Altar Wine
and Sanctuary Lamp:*

In Memory of John A. & Stephanie Jakiela

By John & Judy Jakiela

Joyous Christmas to All!

This bulletin is from
Good Shepherd Church
1024 Maple Way
Braddock PA 15104
Fax: 412-271-1222
Email: gshepof-
fice@comcast.
net

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