

# St. Patrick

## Roman Catholic Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

317 West Pike Street Canonsburg, PA 15317

Rev. John J. Batykefer, Pastor  
Rev. Richard S. Jones, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Mr. Joseph Cerenzia, Deacon

### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Ph: 724-745-6560 Fax: 724-746-1112

Email: [stpatparish@verizon.net](mailto:stpatparish@verizon.net)

Website: [www.stpatrickparish.net](http://www.stpatrickparish.net)

## December 2, 2007

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 724-745-3787

Carol Serbak, Catechetical Administrator  
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.  
Pre-school - 8th Grade

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Contact a Priest 6 months before intended date of marriage. Pre-marriage preparation is required. Call the Rectory - 724-745-6560.

### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL 724-745-7977

Mr. Stanley Mozina, Principal  
Pre-school - 8th Grade

### COMMUNION CALLS

Any homebound member or shut-in may receive Holy Communion in their home. A Eucharistic Minister, Deacon or Priest will visit.

### COUNSELING SERVICES

**Catholic Charities** 724-228-7722  
**CRISIS PREGNANCY** 1-888-543-3243  
**POST ABORTION** 1-800-593-2273

### CHAPLAIN

#### Fr. Gabriel Badurina, TOR

Serving Canonsburg General Hospital and area Nursing Facilities. Fr. Badurina can be reached by calling 724-745-6560, Ext. 21.



### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m.  
Mon. - Fri. (SP) 7:00 a.m.  
Wed. (SP) 9:00 a.m.  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. (SG) 8:00 a.m.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and anytime by request

### BAPTISM

First time parents should contact the Parish Office well in advance of an expected Baptism, before birth when possible, to prepare for and to schedule the Baptism. Baptisms during Mass are held the 1st Sunday of the month and Baptisms after Mass at 1:15 p.m. are held the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month.

### BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Instructions to prepare adults for reception into the Catholic Faith or for any of the Sacraments are offered by our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Program. Please call 724-745-3787 for more information.

### BIBLE STUDY

Meet every Monday in Church, 7:00-8:15 p.m. Bring a Bible, invite a friend. All are welcome!

 *Solemn Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament*

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
will be held Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00  
noon until 7:00 p.m. concluding with Advent  
Vespers & Benediction.



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED MOTHER** is a holy day of obligation. Masses are scheduled at St. Patrick Church on Friday, December 7 at 7:00 PM and Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM, and 5:00 PM.

**OPLATKI (Christmas Wafers)** are available at the rectory office. Office hours are Monday– Thursday from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Fridays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Donations will be accepted.

**ST. PATRICK CHOIR'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

St. Patrick Choir will be presenting 'A Season of Dreams' on December 9th at 2:00 pm., featuring the Adult, Children, Cherub, and Bell choirs of St. Patrick Church. Please plan to attend this delightful presentation.

**PIEROGI TIME**

Pierogi (potato/cheese) will be made on December 3. To place an order, please contact Pat Rush (724.745.3931) or Rena Patrick (724.745.3058). Cost is \$6.00 per dozen. Pick-up at St. Genevieve's Hall between 12 - 3 pm on Dec. 3rd, or by special arrangement. Workers are to report at 8 am. Please bring a dozen eggs, a roll of paper towels, a dessert, or a 2-liter bottle of pop. Thank you!

**A CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

A Christmas luncheon for pierogi workers will be held at 12:30 p.m., Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Genevieve's Hall catered by Gretchen's Good Eats. To make your reservation, contact Marsha Kulakowski (724-745-3194). Cost is \$18.00/person. Checks should be made payable to Marsha or to "Cash." Please bring your payment to the next pierogi session (December 2 and 3) or drop in the rectory mailbox. The reservation deadline is Tuesday, December 4.



**ST. PATRICK RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**December Sessions: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, & 16<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 - 9:45 am

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

*Thirty–Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 18, 2007*

Envelopes.....	\$13,857.00
Children's Envelopes .....	\$57.55
Loose Cash and Coin .....	\$769.43
St. Patrick School.....	\$70.00
Parish Total .....	\$14,753.98
Retired Religious Fund .....	\$3,127.00

*Feast of Christ the King  
November 25, 2007*

Envelopes.....	\$13,236.00
Children's Envelopes .....	\$47.65
Loose Cash and Coin .....	\$959.01
St. Patrick School.....	\$256.00
Parish Total .....	\$14,498.66
<b>Weekly Budgeted Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$13,980.67</b>

**YOUR SACRIFICE IS APPRECIATED!**

**PARKING LOT RESURFACING**

Total cost: \$178,000.00\*

\*This includes the added cost for the new parking areas of \$28,000.00.

Amount in savings to date: \$122,795.00  
Including \$47,425.00 in individual donations

Amount still needed: \$55,944.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- December 2** - Christian Mother's Banquet– 2:00 PM  
- Youth Ministry Advent Session  
1:30 - 3:00 PM: Teen Room
- December 3** - Pierogi Pick-Ups - 12:00 -3:00 PM: St.Gen  
- RCIA - 7:00 PM: Center  
- **NO BIBLE STUDY!**
- December 4** - Adult Choir– 7:30-9:30 PM: Church
- December 5** - Christian Mothers – 7:00 PM: Cafeteria  
- H.S.A. Board Mtg. - 1:30 PM : Faculty Room
- December 6** - Cherub Choir– 5:20 - 6:00 PM: Music Room  
- Children's Choir– 6 -7:00 PM: Music Room
- December 7** - First Friday Novena -after 7:00 AM SP Mass  
- First Friday Novena - after 8:00 AM SG Mass
- December 8** - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- December 9** - Christmas Choral Concert- 2:00 PM: Church  
- Ladies of Charity– 7:00 PM: Center
- December 10** - Angel Tree Gifts Are Due

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.—SATURDAY VIGIL)  
Albert and Mary Dami –50th Wedding Anniversary
- 7:30 (SP) Lucciola & Walleck Families by Angie Walleck
- 10:00 (SP) Emelio & DeFilippo Families by Mary DiNardo
- 12:00 (SP) Dec. Family & Friends of Paul & Jan Kersnick
- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.) FOR THE PEOPLE

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 - St. Francis Xavier**

- 7:00 (SP) Robert J. Verno by Family
- 8:00 (SG) Stanley Reichert by Rosalie McCoy

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 - St. John of Damascus**

- 7:00 (SP) Kathy Celio and Dorothy Celio by Family
- 8:00 (SG) Angelo Sacco by Joe & Sylvia De Filippo
- 12:00 Adoration - 7:00 Advent Vespers & Benediction**
- 2:00 (Canon House)** Connie Zelinsky by Richard Zelinsky

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5**

- 7:00 (SP) Catherine Milligan by Nieces & Nephews
- 9:00 (SP) Mass of Thanksgiving by Rita Fetsko
- 2:00 (Town View)** Sharon Sopiak by Family

**Months Mind: Blanche Costella**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 - St. Nicholas**

- 7:00 (SP) Bishop Nicholas Datillo by Kristen & David
- 8:00 (SG) Hassen Pastovich, Louise & Jacob Kolian,  
& Jennie and Al Grivetti by Lillian and Family

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 - St. Ambrose**

- 7:00 (SP) Anna Popeck by Gil & Mary Ann Yurus
- 8:00 (SG) NO MASS
- 10:00 (Consulate)** Frank Imperatore by Mary Di Nardo
- 7:00 (SP) (P.M.—SATURDAY VIGIL)  
Fred & Julia Santoro by Ted and Shirley Thomas

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

- 7:30 (SP) Dorothy Derrico by John, Jamie & Jay Michalka
- 10:00 (SP) Andy Lesso by Wife & Family
- 11:30 to 12:30 Noon – RECONCILIATION**
- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.—SATURDAY VIGIL)  
Donald J. Jacoby & Dec. Mbrs. Of Drilyak and  
Jacoby Families by Helen Jacoby Family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 7:30 (SP) Nicholas White by Family
- 10:00 (SP) Vitullo, Gigliotti, and Colaizzo Families
- 12:00 (SP) Michael F. Vinisky by Mom & Family
- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.) FOR THE PEOPLE

**HOME WITH CHRIST:** Gracious Lord, remember and welcome into your Kingdom those who have died and gone before us marked with a sign of faith, especially Mary Holland, John A. Wallack, Rosalie Mlekush, Joseph D' Amico, and Kenneth Reinehr and all the faithful departed. May they rest in your peace.

**This Week's Altar Server Schedule**

**Saturday, December 1**

5:00 pm - J. & K. Angotti, M. Cushma

**Sunday, December 2**

7:30 am - J. Reis, P. Gent, J. Hofrichter  
10:00 am - P. Corwin, M. & M. Fonagy  
12:00 pm - M. & R. Roznak, A. Sciulli  
5:00 pm - A. & M. Corey, A. Starcevic

**Next Week's Altar Server Schedule**

**Saturday, December 8**

5:00 pm - C. & J. Helinski, L. Hammell

**Sunday, December 9**

7:30 am - C. & M. Dombrowski, P. Tordella  
10:00 am - A. Currey, J. & B. Illig  
12:00 pm - A. Severyn, A. & D. Broglia  
5:00 pm - L. Hornak, L. Law, A. Lochran

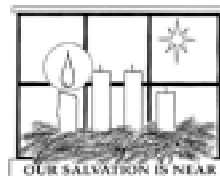
**PITTSBURGH DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN  
DECEMBER PRAYER FOR PRIEST'S LIST :**

- Dec. 1** Most Rev. David A. Zubik
- Dec. 2** Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley
- Dec. 3** Most. Rev. William J. Winter
- Dec. 4** Most Rev. John B. McDowell
- Dec. 5** Fr. Angelus Shaughnessy
- Dec. 6** Rev. Benedetto P. Vaghetto  
Mr. Charles Scheerbaum
- Dec. 7** Rev. Robert G. Turner  
Rev. William F. Kohler
- Dec. 8** Rev. James A. Wehner

May God's abiding presence nourish and sustain them each day  
as they boldly proclaim His Kingdom of mercy and justice.

"You . . . must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come."

— Matthew 24:44



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday:** Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;  
Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9;  
Mt 3:1-12

## FR RICH REFLECTIONS

**“With the coming of the light of Christ, the darkness of the devil is taking flight and the obscurity of sin will not ensue.”** - St. Maximus of Turin

Last Saturday on Thanksgiving weekend, I celebrated my final wedding for the year 2007—*hurray!* It was held at St. Mary of the Mount Church on Mt. Washington with 380 invited guests. Just before the ceremony began, the cantor asked that the entire congregation would turn around facing the back of the church—**look up, smile, shout, and raise your hands.** I thought perhaps a *‘revival’* was about to break out! Was this *really* the Catholic Church? Then, I noticed a photographer standing taking pictures of the assembly up in the choir loft.

I mentioned in my wedding homily, as all your family, friends, and guests *“looked up”* to the Ascended Lord in the stained glass window here in the rear of the church-- we pledge our support, our love, and our prayers as you make this *‘life-time’* commitment to one another in the covenant of marriage. Just think of all the people cheering and encouraging you as you pledge and promise your life and love to each other *today, tomorrow, and forever.* May this picture (photo) remain in your hearts and remind you always of those who care and love you. This couple had *waited* 10 years to finally say *‘I do’* and commit themselves to each other in holy matrimony.

What are you *waiting* for in your life? Preparing for a wedding? Expecting the birth of a child or grandchild? Anticipating a homecoming? Longing for a *‘new beginning’* or *‘second chance’* in life, work, or a relationship? To *‘grow-up’* in life? Final exams to be over in school? The *‘golden years’* of retirement? Prayers to be answered? To be free of every sin? To make a *‘difference’* in this world? Remember the old military saying—**“Hurry up and wait.”**

Advent is a season of waiting not in sleepy *‘boredom’*, endless engagements, and perpetual activism; but instead **Advent is one watchful expectation, engaging hopefulness, graceful promise, peaceful joy and quiet prayer.** Jesus exhorts us, *“Stay awake! Be prepared!”* The Lord comes at a time that we least expect, a moment that we don’t foresee. And often enough that time is *now!*

If Jesus is truly the greatest desire and longing of *our heart, our life, and our story* then we are filled with His grace, truth, holiness, justice, love, and peace. Let us remove any *idols, desires, or possessions* that undermine and impede His coming in our hearts and lives. If Jesus is really what we *await and long for* this Advent 2007 then His hope, joy, gratitude, happiness, holiness, and love is never far off from any of us. There is no expiration on His coming; He comes to those who ardently and faithfully seek Him.

Let us reflect, ponder, and meditate on these eloquent words of the Venerable John Henry Newman (1800-1890) this Advent 2007:

***“Life passes, riches fly away, popularity is fickle, the senses decay, the world changes, friends die. One alone is constant; One alone is true to us; One alone can be true; One alone can be all things to us; One alone can supply our needs; One alone can train us for perfection; One alone can give meaning to our complex and intricate nature; One alone can give us tune and harmony; One alone can form and possess us.”***

Recently I was delighted to receive in the mail a small book from a spiritual ‘giant’ in my life. This surprise gift was most welcomed from a *‘long-time’* friend of mine, Bishop Robert Momeau, Auxiliary Bishop of Green Bay, Wisconsin. The book is called—Living The Days of Advent and The Christmas Season 2007 by Paulist Press, cost \$3.95. On the web: [www.paulistpress.com](http://www.paulistpress.com). In thanksgiving of receiving his new book I pledged and promised to pray for his Green Bay Packers vs. Dallas Cowboys this past Thursday Night Football game. Bishop Bob always wanted to be a wide receiver for the GB Packers, but he says his parents genetically deprived him of his life’s passion. Instead, he calls signals for God’s people at 5’6” 145 lbs!

Two things determine the value of any gift—1.) the spirit in which it is given; 2.) the sacrifice in which it involves. Enjoy the blessing and grace of Advent 2007! Hope you can join us for the **Christmas Concert at Heinz Hall on Monday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**—deadline to ‘sign-up’ is Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>—just call the parish office at (724) 745-6560. Cost is \$10.00.

As the countdown to Christmas continues, may we be an Advent people of faith who wait *patiently and actively* for the *‘good things’* of God!



### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

St. Patrick School students collected over 1200 food items for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. The food items were donated to the Canonsburg Area Food Bank. The winners of the Thanksgiving Food Drive were as follows: First Place: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade with 21 items per student. Second Place: Grade 2A with 16.5 food items per student. Third Place: Grade 3 with 14 food items per student.

### Calendar of Events

- December 1: Christmas Parade  
December 4: St. Patrick School Bowling League begins at 3:30  
December 4: Sarris Candy Pick-Up in school cafeteria  
December 5: Student's Liturgy at 9:00 prepared by Grade 4  
December 5: Washington/Beaver Deanery Meeting 9:00  
December 6: Principal's Day of Recollection  
December 6: Feast of St. Nicholas  
December 7: Middle States Meeting at St. Paul Seminary

**ANGEL TREE** St. Patrick Parish will be participating in the Washington County Catholic Charities Diocese of Pittsburgh Angel Tree this Christmas season. Please take an Angel from the tree in Church - purchase the suggested item and bring the gift back to Church wrapped and with the angel on it to identify the person receiving it. **The gifts have to be brought to the Church by December 10th** for Catholic Charities to pick-up for distribution. Thank you for your cooperation.

### RESPECT LIFE

**MEETING** will be held Tuesday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** Members of the Respect Life Group will be in the school cafeteria from 8:30 am until 12:00 noon, beginning Sunday, November 25th thru December 16th for your convenience in purchasing religious Christmas cards. Proceeds will benefit the Respect Life movement. Any questions, please feel free to call Alan Henderson, 724.747.2572.

### GET IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!

Join us Monday, Dec. 17 for a Christmas Concert at Heinz Hall, and visits to the Pittsburgh Crèche and the Ice Rink at the PPG Place. A performance and event that you do not want to miss. Deadline to register is Monday, December 10th. We have received 94 reservations thus far, a few seats remain. The cost is only \$10 per person; reservations are a must. Our bus will leave St. Patrick parking lot promptly at 6:00 pm the night of the performance. We should return home around 10:30 pm. Let the music, prayer and pilgrimage experience uplift our faith lives.

**CHRISTIAN MOTHERS' BANQUET** will be held at the Rolling Hills Country Club on Sunday, December 2 at 2:00 PM. The doors will open at 1:30 PM.

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

There are quite a number of people that we need to thank for their generosity and recent help. First, we need to thank Tony Bevec, and his son Tony, for their invaluable help in overseeing the completion of the repaving and line painting of the parking lot, which will help in alleviating the congestion during the weekend masses. Our thanks also goes out to the T.A. Robinson Company for donating some \$9,000.00 of extra work that was provided to repair the large sink holes. Our gratitude to you all for a beautiful job well done.

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we also acknowledge all those who made our Thanksgiving celebration such a success. It is amazing and gratifying to see our parish come together so beautifully, reminding us that we are really one giant family. Our special thanks also goes out to Mary Ann Tharp & Rita Polansky for decorating the sanctuary with such fruitful abundance.

OUR THANKS TO YOU ALL!

**MEMORIALS** were received for the following:

**"My Father's House"**: in loving memory of **Genevieve Svitek** by Helen Boles.

**Parking Lot Paving Memorial:** In loving memory of **John J. Urbancic, Jr.** by Cheryl Altman, & The Operating Staff of the Washington Hospital; **Vene C. Simpson** by Wife, Kathryn Simpson; **Genevieve Svitek** by Madaline & John J. Mazza, Barbara & John E. Solensky; **Rosalie Mlekush** by the 7:00 AM Mass Group.

**St. Patrick School:** in loving memory of: **Genevieve Svitek** by Jan & Bo Yarkosky, Joe & Adele Cerenzia, Ron & Julie Yarkosky; **Dolores R. Sethner** by Douglas R. Sethner.

**MASSES** were received for the following: **Genevieve Svitek** by Mr. & Mrs. Sam Angott, Linda & Stan Kreminsky, Dolores & Jim Capra and Family, and Mr. & Mrs. Rick Trumbetta; & **John Walleck** by Helen Tomsic; **Rosalie Mlekush** by the 7:00 AM Mass Group.



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER SALE** Ladies of Charity will be selling Christmas flowers on Saturday and Sunday, December 1st and 2nd & December 8th and 9th after all Masses in the cafeteria. The proceeds will help to purchase Christmas gifts for our parish shut-ins and patients in the nursing homes. The Ladies of Charity thank you for your generous support.

### HOAGIES FOR SALE

In the cafeteria after all the masses this weekend. First come, first served!

