

# 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 9, 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!

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

St. Patrick Choir will present '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.

**FEAST OF ST. LUCY** (December 13) Christmas Wheat will be available after all the masses next week. Pressed gently into a pot of garden soil, watered and kept in a moderately warm room, your wheat will sprout and be green by Christmas. On Christmas Eve, the wheat could be cut to make a bed for the Infant Jesus or placed in its pot near the Manger Scene. This custom comes from a Hungarian tradition in which seeds were planted on the Feast of St. Lucy (whose name comes from 'Lux' meaning 'Light'). The wheat sprouts were then presented as a gift to the Christ Child, symbolic of the Eucharistic Bread by which He feeds our souls at the altar as well as the Staff of Life by which His Father keeps life in our bodies.

**KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CAR MAGNETS**

With all of the distractions of the season, it's the simple reminders that cause us to pause and reflect on our Savior's birth. As Knights and fellow Christians, the **Knights of Columbus** have developed a way to keep the focus of the Christmas Season on the true meaning of Christ-mas...Christ! Our Knights of Columbus will be selling car magnets in the shape of the Nativity Scene after all masses the weekends of December 9<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>. The attractive magnet is white with a black border and has the words Keep Christ in Christmas emblazoned across the bottom and is highly visible on all colors of cars and trucks. The actual size of the magnet is 6.25" X 7". Best of all, the Knights are only asking for a donation of **\$1.00 each**, which is below their cost!



**THE GOLDEN COMPASS** Be alert! A new movie, The Golden Compass, is set to be released on December 7, 2007 throughout the US and translated into 32 different languages as well. The movie is based on the trilogy, His Dark Materials. The author, Phillip Pullman, has said in an interview that this trilogy concentrates upon this theme: "I want to kill God in the minds of children...I want them to decide against God and the Kingdom of Heaven." quote from Phillip Pullman. The Golden Compass, a sanitized version of the book, wants to have children and young people rebel against parents, teachers, the Church, and anyone in authority. Please avoid going to the movie and call your local theater and ask them not to show the movie.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

*First Sunday of Advent  
December 2, 2007*

Envelopes.....	\$15,372.38
Children's Envelopes .....	\$57.75
Loose Cash and Coin .....	\$954.88
St. Patrick School.....	\$326.00
Parish Total .....	\$16,711.01

**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: \$124,646.15  
Including \$49,276.15 in individual donations

Amount still needed: \$54,092.85

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- December 9 - High School YM Advent Session**  
1:30 - 3:00 Center: Teen Room
- Christmas Choral Concert:** 2:00 PM: Church
- No Ladies of Charity Meeting**
- December 10 - Pierogi Workers Christmas Luncheon:**  
12:30 PM: St. Genevieve
- RCIA - 7:00 PM: Center**
- Advent Bible Study - 7:00 PM: Church**
- Angel Tree Gifts** Need to be in Church
- December 11 - Adult Choir - 7:30 - 9:30: Church**
- Apostolate Comm. Meeting - 6:30: Center**
- December 12 - St. Patrick School Christmas Concert -**  
6:00: Church - **Dinner** following: Cafeteria
- December 13 - Cherub Choir - 5:20 - 6:00: Music Room**
- Children Youth Choir - 6 - 7:00: Music Room**
- Knights of Columbus - 8:00: Knights House**
- December 16 - Church Decorating Begins - After the 12 Mass**
- High School YM Advent Session**  
1:30 - 3:00 Center: Teen Room
- Catholic Men's Club Christmas Party -**  
7:30: Center



**ST. PATRICK RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.—SATURDAY VIGIL)  
Donald J. Jacoby & Dec. Mbrs. Of Drilyak and  
Jacoby Families by Helen Jacoby Family
- 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

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 7:00 (SP) Frank Czadankiewicz by Wife & Family
- 8:00 (SG) Dec. Mbrs. of Andric Family by Family
- 2:00 (Consulate) Joseph Vercek by Dorothy Chalmer

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 - St. Damasus I

- 7:00 (SP) Fallen Away Catholics by Louis J. Marra
- 8:00 (SG) Daniel C. DeVitis & Lena and Antonio Panelli by  
Mary DeVitis

10:00 (Rest Haven) Yolanda Santoni Hollman by Mario DiPalma

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 7:00 (SP) Steve Kazak by Ed & Norma Danyo
- 9:00 (SP) Joseph Warabow by Kathy Borelli
- 2:00 (Greenery) Eleanor Saniga by Sister, Claudia & Web

Months Mind: Joan Ciarallo & Ann Koziel

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 - St. Lucy

- 7:00 (SP) Virginia & Edward Yorke, Sr., Vincent M.  
Fanase, Sr., and all deceased Family Members  
by Gloria & Dick Yorke-Sarlo
- 8:00 (SG) Stella Simms by Family

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 - St. John of the Cross

- 7:00 (SP) Dec. Mbrs. Of the Gregus Family by Family
- 8:00 (SG) Thomas Wylie by Rich & Joanna Ziack
- 10:00 (Pine Lawn) Steve Davadik by Ray & Flo Tkach

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 7:30 (SP) Donna Lee DeVitis by Irene Romanosky
- 11:30 to 12:30 Noon – RECONCILIATION
- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.— VIGIL for Third Sunday of Advent)  
Vene Simpson & Thresa Glass Family by Kathryn Simpson

Months Mind: Susan Rotella

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 7:30 (SP) FOR THE PEOPLE
- 10:00 (SP) Tissot, DiMuzio & DelBene Families by  
Natalie Tissot
- 12:00 (SP) William & Mary Keegan Sr. & Theresa  
Keegan Mathia by Phyllis Keegan
- 5:00 (SP) (P.M.) Louis & Antoinetta Lombardi by Children

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 James Orsini, Dorothy Chesnik, Stanley Shuba and all the faithful departed. May they rest in your peace.

## This 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

## Next Week's Altar Server Schedule

### Saturday, December 15

5:00 pm - C. & M. Cappelli, S. Luba

### Sunday, December 16

7:30 am - N. Castelli, J. Cavallo, A. Boni

10:00 am - Z. Simpson, M. Broglia, E. Regoli

12:00 pm - L. Sollon, M. & T. Costantino

5:00 pm - C. Tarnik, L. & A. Starcevic

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

- Dec. 9 Rev. Mark L. Thomas  
Deacon Richard M. Very
- Dec. 10 Rev. Msgr. Donald W. Kraus  
Rev. Augustus R. Taylor, Jr.
- Dec. 11 Rev. Richard G. Terdine
- Dec. 12 Rev. Joseph A. Kopecky  
Rev. Emmett Schuler, OFM, Cap.
- Dec. 13 Rev. Trieu Ngoc Le  
Rev. Richard J. Tusky
- Dec. 14 Rev. Matthew Tosello  
Rev. Louis F. Vallone
- Dec. 15 Rev. Daniel A. Valentine  
Cpt. Richard C. Yagesh, CH.C.U.S.N.R.

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

Heads Up! Coming in May- a Ministry Fair! All ministries and organizations will be invited to participate in informing all parishioners of the many opportunities to grow in service to the Lord.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26  
38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Com-  
mon of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas 5:7-10;  
Mt 11:2-11

## FR RICH REFLECTIONS

*“I will abandon my people until they have suffered enough for their sins. And they will come looking for me. Perhaps in their suffering they will try to find me.”*

- Hosea 6:15

During Advent many years ago while I was on retreat at the Cardinal Wright Retreat Center on Babcock Boulevard in the North Hills, I was **hoping** for magical words from the retreat master to speak to my ‘life-story’. I was **wondering** who was making this Advent-time retreat. I was **expecting** to meet a friend(s) to share the joys and challenges of ministry. I was **waiting** for time alone with the **Alone**—to touch my life with His amazing, wonderful grace. I was **longing** to re-ignite my passion and love as a herald and messenger of His ‘Good News’. I was **seeking** to hear anew the radical and demanding ageless message of John the Baptist —“**Repent of sin, the Kingdom of God is near at hand.**” I was **looking** for peace as I walked through the woods—viewing a sign on a tree that read—“**No hunting except for peace**”. I was **praying** in the silence of my Room 11 and read a plaque that is worth remembering and sharing with all of you—it read:

‘When you’re **lonely**  
I wish you **love**.  
When you’re **down**  
I wish you **joy**.  
When you’re **troubled**  
I wish you **peace**.  
When things are **complicated**  
I wish you **simple beauty**.  
When things are **chaotic**  
I wish you **inner silence**.  
When things **look empty**  
I wish you **hope**.’

This past Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, Bishop David Zubik invited all the bishops, priests, and deacons of our Diocese to an Advent Vesper prayer service at St. Paul Seminary in Crafton. It was a special occasion to gather in ‘grace-filled’ prayer, joyous songs, merciful forgiveness, generous meal, and a fraternal brotherhood. It was an Advent night of **joy** and **peace**.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote his second encyclical letter on Christian hope entitled ‘**Spe Salvi**’ meaning ‘**Saved by Hope**’. It was released on

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007. It is 65 pages long. The text is published initially in Latin, Italian, English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish. The title comes from St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, in which he said: “**For in hope we have been saved.**” It explores the theme of salvation and hope offered by Christianity in light of modern philosophy and contemporary culture.

Christians need to be ever reminded that God **never** abandons His people and His presence is alive and active in the world. Hope saves, sin destroys. Hope pledges promise, sin deals death. Hope heals, sin divides.

**Bible Study** meets on **Monday, Dec.10<sup>th</sup>**—last time this year 2007. We will discuss the message and meaning of Advent. “**Advent opens a new chapter every year in the book of salvation which God writes in the Church through the story of man...Advent reminds us that grace—that is God’s will to save—is more powerful than sin.**” - Pope John Paul II. Sin abounds, so the need for the coming Messiah is greater than ever. This world of ours still hopes for the best and Jesus Christ is the ‘Best’ Hope!

This following prayer/song was written in the **Magnificat** (December 2007 edition) prayer book (page 125) on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent** —

**‘Wild and lone the prophet’s voice  
Echoes through the desert still,  
Calling us to make a choice,  
Bidding us to do God’s will:  
“Turn from sin and be baptized;  
Cleanse your heart and mind and soul.  
Quitting all the sins you prized,  
Yield your life to God’s control.”**

**“Bear the fruit repentance sows:  
Lives of justice, truth, and love.  
Trust no other claims than those;  
Set your heart on things above.  
Soon the Lord will come in power,  
Burning clean the threshing floor:  
Then will flames the chaff devour;  
Wheat alone shall fill God’s store.”**

**With such preaching stark and bold  
John proclaimed salvation near,  
And his timeless warnings hold  
Words of hope to all who hear.’**

(12.09.07)



### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

Mr. Jim Hyde, the newly appointed Athletic Director of St. Patrick School is to be congratulated for implementing several new programs at St. Patrick School. The Athletic Department in conjunction with the H.S.A. entered a float into the Canonsburg Annual Christmas Parade which was held on December 2, 2007. The Athletic Association also sponsored a food booth at the parade. The Intramural Sports Program will begin at South Central School on Friday, January 4, 2008 for all students in grades 1 – 8. The program will include indoor soccer and indoor hockey.

### Calendar of Events

- December 11, 2007: Gateway vision Program for Grade 5  
December 12, 2007: Student Liturgy prepared by Grade 3  
December 12, 2007: Happy birthday Jesus Program at  
6:00 P.M. in the church  
December 12, 2007: School Family Christmas Dinner at  
7:00 P.M. in the cafeteria  
December 14, 2007: Casual Dress Day

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Just in time for Christmas!!! **WALMART** certificates are here!!! Stop by the **SCRIP** table and purchase your certificates for all your holiday needs. Available every morning in the school cafeteria from 8:15 am—9:30 am, and after Sunday masses from 8:30—11:45 am. You may also order online at [www.saintpatsschool.org](http://www.saintpatsschool.org) and pick up your order on Sunday. Questions, call Kristie at 724.969.1069.

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St. Patrick's Athletic Association is selling \$1.00 raffle tickets for a gift basket that is made to appeal to those who appreciate the finer things in life! Filled with many exceptional items, this massive basket is a sure bet to please any winner. Tickets are available through any Athletic Association member, Mr. Mozina and after each Sunday mass or by calling Jim Hyde at 724.288.5191.

### 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, Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> for your convenience in purchasing religious Christmas cards. Proceeds will benefit the Respect Life movement. Any questions, feel free to call Alan Henderson, 724.747.2572

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Tuesday, January 22, 2008—March for Life in Washington, DC.** This is the 35th Anniversary of the Roe V. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized the destruction of babies in the wombs of their mothers. It has brought about the deaths of over 48 million of God's most innocent children! Planning for our bus trip to the March for Life will begin at the Respect Life meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Center. ALL are invited to join us!

**GET IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!** Tickets are still being offered for the Monday, December 17 Christmas Concert at Heinz Hall. Regretfully, bus transportation is no longer available due to the overwhelming response. Please call the rectory if you would like to obtain tickets.

**ADULT FLU SHOTS** are being offered by the PA Department of Health at no cost. Please call 724.223.4540 to schedule a date and time to get your flu shot.

**MEMORIALS** were received for the following:

**Parking Lot Paving Memorial:** In loving memory of **Bob Wingard, Sr., Mark Wingard, Mary & Dan D'Amico, Peg & Bill Wingard, and Gramps Boyd** by Ange Wingard; **John Urbancic** by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Altman; **Frank A. Strnisa** by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Strnisa; **Joseph D'Amico** by Ann & Frank Chuppetta, **Nancy Shaw** by Dorothy Skowvron. **St. Patrick School:** In loving memory of **Joe D'Amico** by Marge Popiolkowski. **St. Patrick Church:** In loving memory of **Joe D'Amico** by Allan & Nancy Brooks. **My Father's House:** In loving memory of **Joseph D'Amico** by Mr. & Mrs.. Fred Motto.

**MASSES** were received in loving memory of: **Joseph D'Amico** by Chuck, Jan Jessica & Carley Lenz, Patty Barnes, Bill & Carol Stolze, Tony & Connie Chiaverini, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Alterio, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D'Orazio, K. Kissala, and D. Kerekes.

**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.



**This Sunday & Every Sunday in Advent,** High School Youth Ministry will be **meeting from 1:30 to 3:00 pm**. All members are encouraged to bring both a friend and a Christmas ornament or decoration each week as the anticipation of the Advent season both builds and ushers us into Christmas joy.