

*Liturgy Schedule*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13**

- 8:00 Theodore Neff (Family)
- 9:30 Carmen J. Funaro (Ciccola Family)
- 11:30 Alice Scanlon (Scanlon Family)
- 1:00 Parish Baptisms

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14**

- 6:45 Mary Enrico (Husband)
- 9:00 Jack Donohue (Marie)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15**

- 6:45 James R. Craig (Jim and Carol Mendzrycki)
- 9:00 George Buehler (The Cashi Family)
- 6:15 Christopher DeAndrea (Mark Schnieder)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

- 6:45 Coleman Joyce (Marie Donohue)
- 9:00 Dorothy Hovanic (Bob Pegritz)
- 7:00 Jeannine Mongelli (OLG Faculty)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17**

- 6:45 Giovanni Rao (Giselle Pietropaolo)
- 9:00 Roland Yorke (Norma)

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18**

- 6:45 Kathleen A. Neumont (Family)
- 9:00 Nicholas Vansach (Family)

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19**

- 9:00 Tony Notaro (John Stawiarski)
- 12:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 6:00 Adeline and Vincent Calfo (Thomas Family)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

- 8:00 Dorothy and Mark Horan (Family)
- 9:30 Joseph and Stella Changle and Laurabelle Kletzli (Family)
- 11:30 Our Lady of Grace Parish



**MONEY COUNTERS**

This week: D. Kohser, J. Thieman

Next week: J. Lanz, J. Riley, B. McGervey

**ALTAR SOCIETY SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 18**

T. Rogers



**CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS** - In the past, the parishioners of Our Lady of Grace have made memorial contributions to the **Christmas Flower Fund**. This has become one of our loveliest traditions. Your contributions help defray the cost of the flowers and in a special way, present a beautiful, living memorial to your deceased loved ones. Please put your name, those to be remembered, and your donation in an envelope marked "**Christmas Flowers**" and place it in the collection basket.

**CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S MASS**—Our Lady of Grace will again have a children's liturgy at the 4:00 p.m. Mass on December 24. Deacon Larry will include a storybook as part of his sermon which will feature Baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Angels, Shepherds and possibly other biblical characters involved in the Nativity. All children are invited to attend our Mass in costume as one of these important characters. Everyone is welcome to attend.

*Activities Schedule*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13**

- Women's Guild Bake Sale, Keefer Hall after Masses
- 10:45 Religious Ed., School, Conroy Hall, Library
- 7:00 Youth Group Meeting, Church Upper Room
- 7:30 AA, Conroy Hall

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14**

- Christmas Sharing Project, Keefer Hall
- 10:00 St. Vincent DePaul, Staff Center
- 8:00 Catholic Men's Fellowship, Church Upper Room

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15**

- Christmas Sharing Project, Keefer Hall
- 6:15 Catholic Men's Fellowship, Church Upper Room
- 6:00 Religious Ed., School, Conroy Hall, Library
- 7:00 Rosary, Church
- 7:30 Pgh. Civ. Orch. Mtg., Conroy Hall
- 8:00 Choir, Church

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

- 9:30 Ladies of Charity, Keefer Hall
- 6:30 Religious Ed., School, Conroy Hall, Library
- 7:30 Fish Fry Meeting, Rectory

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17**

- 6:00 Yoga, Church Upper Room
- 7:00 Boy Scouts, Conroy Hall
- 7:00 8th Grade School Play, Miller Pavilion
- 7:30 RCIA, Staff Center

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18**

- 9:30 Ladies of Charity, Staff Center
- 1:45 2nd Grade School Play, Miller Pavilion

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19**

Luminaria Sale, Keefer Hall, Vestibule after Mass

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20**

Luminaria Sale, Keefer Hall, Vestibule after Mass  
No Religious Ed.

- 7:30 AA, Conroy Hall



**Stewardship**

**Treasure** - Last Week's Collection - \$12,967



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

those who are sick especially Bill Krobot, Mildred Adams, Owen Cernetic, Minnie Barkley, Sue Segeleon, Donna Poplowski, Joseph J. Bachurski, Reed and Liam DeLange, Sarah Kleifgen, Margaret Hoffman, Daniel Turkall, Joanna Dorio, Julia Zombek, Sadie Pizzuto, Jack Corton, Paul Walsh, Dennis Hough, Dolly Erny, Bill Kelly, Helen Knuth, Charlie Scarvace, Bill Snyder, Karlie, Mary Weidl, Carl Rupperecht, Marge Wallace, Glenn Mamula, Alberta Taylor, Rosemary Serowik, Ron Morris, Paul Weinheimer, Carl Apone.

**CHRISTMAS WAFERS** - One of our Christmas traditions is the sharing of oplatki (Christmas wafers) at our family tables. This year Christmas wafers are available at the parish office Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS? MOVING OUT OF THE PARISH?** Please let the parish office (412-279-7070) know so we can update our records. Thank you

**NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45.



This Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as “Gaudete Sunday,” in Latin, or Sunday of Joy and Rejoicing. In anticipation of the celebration of the Lord’s coming to us, the Word made flesh, today we are filled to overflowing with joy at the prospect of Christmas. You can almost begin to feel it in the air of our community as the children grow excited and anxious. Even the priest’s and deacon’s vestments suggest this joy and excitement in the brighter rose color we wear and the pink candle we light on our Advent Wreath.

Our scripture readings today are also full of this joy and rejoicing. Joy is the fruit of the Holy Spirit alive in us. Joy is much more than mere enthusiasm or excitement, though. Rather it is the confident assurance of God’s favor, the faithful experience of our deliverance at the hands of the Lord. In Paul’s letter to the Philippians, he encourages them to rejoice always in the Lord and to live out the unselfish love we have been given by God by sharing this love with each other in a life of virtue. St. Paul teaches the Philippians, and us, that our joy comes from the Holy Spirit bringing peace that is so deep and mysterious that it is beyond our understanding. In Luke’s gospel, John the Baptist, ragged and rough in the Judean desert, was bursting with just such joy as he preached the good news of the coming of the Messiah. John was joyful because he was free, truly free. He knew who he was and what God wanted of him. His exultant joy was a direct expression of the freedom in the Spirit that he lived out along the banks of the River Jordan.

Are we free like John the Baptist this Advent season? Are we full of expectant joy as the celebration of Christ’s birth draws near? Or are we full of ourselves? Held captive by our fears and anxieties? Prisoners of our repeated sins, locked in the darkness of selfishness, hatred, revenge, greed, dishonesty, lust and pride. Like those baptized in the Jordan River by John, we too should be preparing ourselves this Advent by humbly admitting our sins before God and seeking reconciliation in the Sacrament of Penance. Such humility and trust in God’s loving mercy frees us from the guilt and influence of sin, and finds expression in that joy and rejoicing born of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Richard A. Infante  
Pastor

**YOUTH GROUP REMINDER**—There is a meeting of the Youth Group tonight, Sunday, December 13, in the Church Upper Room at 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY** - Pvt. John Gallagher, Spc. Brendan Gallagher, SO2 David Balistreri, Sgt. Michael Gangone, SFC Richard F. Lawrence, Spc.4 Nicholas Talarico, Lt. Michael Makrucki, Cpl. Ronald S. Strang, II, Lnc. Cpl. Gregory Halloran, 2nd Lt. Adam Ewoldsen, Adam Ginter U.S. Army, 1st Lt. Kendall Seli, Lnc. Cpl. Daniel Mulvihill, Master Sgt. Daniel Mulvihill, Sr., Airman 1st Class Tim and Kate Mulvihill, Capt. William J. Shields, Sgt. Anthony J. Laitta, Pvt. 1st Class Angelo Morasca, Capt. Kelsey Rousey, 2nd Lt. Christopher Lauff, 1st Sgt. Rick Oddi, Sr. Airman Dion Julian, Capt. Aaron L. B. Cox, Maj. Steven Tingley, Lt. Steve Fichter, Capt. Sam Gazzo, Lnc. Cpl. Ryan Kelsey, Sgt. Dustin Huff, 2nd Lt. Meghan Cumpston, Gnr Sgt. Stephen Lorenzetty, Lt. Jason Simon, Maj. J. J. Serowik, Sgt. Matthew Tardio, PV2 Erik Lind, Maj. Thomas H. Huzzard, Lnc. Cpl. Mark Grosso.

**RAISING CHILDREN IN A CATHOLIC HOME**—Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh Speaker Series presents Rev. Francis J. Hoffman, JCD, on Wednesday, December 16, from 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the new Rhodora J. Donahue Bldg. of Aquinas Academy. Since September 2009, Fr. Frank Hoffman “Fr. Rocky” has been Senior Director of Mission, Programming, and Development of Relevant Radio. For the previous eleven years, Fr. Hoffman served as Chaplain of Northridge Preparatory School in Niles, Illinois, a college prep school for boys in grades 6-12. Ordained as a priest for Opus Dei in 1992 by John Paul II, he holds a doctorate in Canon Law from the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Rome), a B.A. from Northwestern in History and an M.B.A. from Notre Dame. Fr. Hoffman’s column appears regularly in the *The Catholic Answer* (Our Sunday Visitor) and *The Catholic New World*. Fr. Hoffman is heard weekly on the *Relevant Radio Network* and has appeared on other radio and television networks, including ABC, CBS, NBC and BBC.

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAKE SALE**—Don’t forget to stop today and pick up your holiday goodies! The Women’s Guild is holding their annual **BAKE SALE TODAY** in Keefer Hall after all Masses. Your participation is greatly appreciated!

**CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE STILL AVAILABLE—HELP SUPPORT THE MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP**—Buy your Christmas cards from the O.L.G. Respect Life Committee and help support our parish bus trip to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 22, 2010! Beautiful, glossy cards, a variety of designs; only \$5 per pack of 10 cards. Cards can be purchased at the rectory office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Thanks for your help!

**TWAS ONLY A FEW WEEKS BEFORE CHRISTMAS**, and all through the town, OLG parishioners were wondering where Christmas gifts could be found! **Shopping Gift Cards** are a great idea and they’re easy and quick! Shopping Gift Cards are sold at the rectory, school and after Masses on the weekend. Don’t shop without them



**ENJOYMENT BOOKS** (\$27) can still be obtained by calling Charlie Scarvace (412-429-1771). The Knights of Columbus thank all those who help make this fund drive a success.

**Single, 21 & Over (or know someone who is)** - Looking for a new way to meet people, make friends, and share good times with others? Check out the Catholic Alumni Club. The group offers parties, picnics, hiking, volleyball, tennis, softball, dinners, trips, scripture study, community service, bowling, cultural and many other great events. For more information, visit our website: [www.cacpittsburgh.org](http://www.cacpittsburgh.org), or call 412-341-4070.

**REST IN PEACE**  
Sarah Babcheck