

Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish

Reverend Father Aron M. Maghsoudi – Pastor

Rectory Office

738 Sunshine Avenue
Central City, PA 15926
814-754-5224

January 6, 2019

Epiphany

Worship Sites

Church (Sacred Heart)

738 Sunshine Avenue

Chapel (St. John)

162 Wheeler Street

Holy Masses:

Daily

Church (Sacred Heart) 8:00AM

Saturday Vigil

Church (Sacred Heart) 4:00PM

Sunday Morning

Church (Sacred Heart) 8:00 AM

Chapel (St. John) 10:30 AM

Confessions

Church (Sacred Heart)

Saturday 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

Chapel (St. John)

Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Anytime upon Request

Mass Intentions

January 7	<i>St. Raymond of Penyafort</i>
8:00 AM	Anna Ferko, 30 Day Remembrance, Month's Mind (Req. Parish Family) - Chapel
January 8	<i>Christmas Weekday</i>
	NO MASS
January 9	<i>Christmas Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	Walter Adomnik (Req. Family and Friends) - Chapel
January 10	<i>Christmas Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	Helen Gruber (Req. Gloviak Family) - Chapel
January 11	<i>Christmas Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	Poor Souls in Purgatory (Req. John Eger Family) - Chapel
January 12	<i>Vigil - The Baptism of the Lord</i>
4:00 PM	Michael Bednar (Req. Society of Angels) - Church
January 13	<i>Baptism of the Lord</i>
8:00 AM	Thomas J. Schall (Req. Uncle Toffy & Aunt Julie) - Church
10:30 AM	For the Parish (Missa Pro Populo) - Chapel

TROUBLE WITH THE IN-LAWS? - This past week we celebrated the feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first American-born person to be canonized. Among her many notable qualities is one that you may not be aware of - she is the patron saint of in-law problems. While some couples seem to have no trouble in this area, other struggle, sometimes most notably in the relationship between a wife and her mother-in-law. Anyone who has ever seen an episode of *Everybody Loves Raymond* can attest to the somewhat complex relationship that can exist between one's husband and his mother. In light of this I (Fr. Aron) found an interesting article that provides some food for thought about this perplexing issue. The article follows - Of all the relationships in family life, the one between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law is often the most tenuous one. While it's possible for these two women to share close bonds, it's common for it to be tense (or worse), with shaky truces being silently negotiated every couple of months. To use the word "truce" might make you think of a war, and it's true; sometimes this relationship gets downright embattled. But why? If there's a battle, where and why do a mother-in-law and daughter-in-law draw lines? What is the point of tension? From my perspective, that's an easy one to answer: the battle is for the

husband/son. To better understanding this, we should first note the unique bond between mother and son. For the son's part, studies have shown definitively that without the proper attachment to his mother, a male's chances of being violent or showing other instabilities grow noticeably. The same is not true of girls. (Girls and women, in general, do not tend toward physical violence like boys and men.) So, while it is often emphasized how often boys need a father to raise them into a man, this is true *when it is time*, but in the earlier years it is through the motherly bond that a boy learns lessons he will need as a man. He learns the truth of love through her gaze and care first. In other words, a man makes a man, but we want more than a man – we want Christian gentlemen – and it is the mother that puts the gentle in a gentleman. For the mother's part, attachment to her son is also uniquely strong compared to mothers and daughters. A daughter grows *more like the mother* as she becomes a woman. But a boy grows more *unlike her*. He clings more and more to the men and friends that he will be like. He especially clings to the father during adolescence. So, the relation becomes more distant even if the bond is unbreakable (think of Jesus "leaving" Mary during his public ministry to do His "Father's business"). This does not mean it grows less loving or close. But at some point they begin to know each other as man and mother and not boy and mother. There's a difference. Yet, as special as the bond is, a boy must have the "apron strings cut" or he risks being what we might call a "mama's boy." The reason we call a grown male with an unhealthy attachment to his mother a "mama's *boy*" is that part of the process of becoming a man is an appropriate separation from the mother's oversight. When the separation does not occur, an element of boyhood remains. This can be hard for mothers, because they have a special place for their boys in their hearts. In fact, mothers have been found to have the DNA of their sons forever "stored" in their brains, hearts, and other organs. "Mary kept these things in her heart ..." We already knew that the bond between a mother and a son is uniquely deep, but this confirms that a mother's son is *literally* kept inside her body! The reason the separation is necessary is that a man leaves the feminine represented by the mother to be re-integrated into the feminine through his wife. Marriage requires the total self-gift, so he cannot retain a boy-like affection for his mother while giving himself totally to his wife. "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be in one flesh" (Matthew 19:5). This separation is hard for mothers. The sense of rejection, however, is often not felt until the time of the wedding, when the mother is finally and fully "replaced" as the primary feminine love in a man's life. This moment can be the moment everything changes in a relationship between a man's mother and his bride, because it has. This is also why and when the tension builds: the mother, perhaps unconsciously, blames the new wife for her feelings of rejection, and if there is any pattern or history of betrayal from other men, those feelings can emerge and lead to seeming unreasonable anger toward the new couple. The new wife, for her part, can at times feel like her husband's mother exercises too much influence on her son and can feel a weird sort of jealousy or sense of betrayal – she wants his whole heart! This becomes a greater problem if the son does in fact remain overly attached to his mother. One time, my wife and I saw our neighbor at the mailbox and we were discussing the neighbor's newly married son. "I really like her," the neighbor kept saying, "but I just feel so sad." We had not asked what she thought about the bride of her son – we had only asked how she was doing. She felt sad because the wedding ceremony had made her realize that she had been "replaced," in a way, as the most important woman in her son's life. Naturally, she had strange feelings toward the new young bride that had displaced her. This is why she kept assuring us that she liked the new bride, even though it was her that was "making her feel this way." Another married couple I know described the new reality of a marriage this way: "Leading up to the wedding, we [the daughter-in-law and mother-in-law] were like best friends. But then after the wedding – *the very day of the wedding* – everything seemed to change and now everything is drama. I don't know what happened!" So what can we do? Well, as you know, interpersonal tensions and family wounds can be hard to navigate, but the greatest way we can lessen potential tension (whether "we" are brides, sons or mothers) is to acknowledge the truth

and ask for grace. Mothers must accept that their sons are men and husbands, meaning mom must, in a sense, submit to his authority in his home and not ever seek to influence the choices and directions of the family. She no longer has authority over him. She had her chance, and now he is grown. She must *never* speak ill of his new wife as a way to re-create a bond with the son, and she should not use guilt to try to coax him back in close to her or to do what she thinks is right. Sons should cleave to their wives, and not sow unnecessary tension by, for example, discussing things with their mothers that they do not discuss with their wives, or seeking motherly advice or approval in ways that a boy would. They should reverence their mothers and honor them as they are commanded by God to do, while doing so as men. They must give themselves totally and fully to their wives. Wives should reverence their mother-in-law as well, with proper respect and gratitude for the gift of the husband. They should seek them out as mentors and, in the best case, develop friendships with the mother, united by their common love. While they may feel the tension at times, they have still married into a family and respect is important. If the mother is incapable of such a relationship and won't "let go" of the son, a wife can have sympathy and focus on mutual trust with her husband so that the tension does not infiltrate and weaken marital unity. And in all of this, we can know that it is God's will that men and women join together in holy matrimony. We know that the fruit of that union is children, and that all of these relationships *are good and capable of being holy and life giving*. Even if tense and difficult, I think that the potential barriers also provide the opportunity for a closer union and greater love, if we allow truth and grace to give us light to see each other by.

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS - The Sanctuary Candle burns at the St. John's site in loving memory of Helen Nussrallah by Karen and Steph and at the Sacred Heart site for Dan Dabbs for progress and blessings as he continues recovering to restore health, by The Breakfast Club.

WELCOME - Welcome to Fr. Alfred Patterson O.S.B. who is covering the 10:30 AM Mass this weekend while Fr. Aron covers the 10:30 AM Mass in Boswell.

PRAYER LIST - Jennie Sielczak, Constance Gruca, Marie Metsker, Sandy Wechtenhiser, Ethan Rohlf, Rachel Moslak, Ann Guyer, Alice Zelenski, Shirley Taylor, Kay Hintosh, Charlie Field Jr., David P. Bonus, Andrew Straka, Fern Lasut, Agnes Palya, Stanley Carl Tomaszewski, Patrick Munro, Quincy Oglie, Charles Field Sr., Mike Dixon, Mya Polito, Madelain Mauger, Caroline Amato, Shirley Roman, Mary Ethel Sanzo, Larry Krestar, Andrea Sesack, Ricky Gerena, Lionel Berkebile, Mary-Ann Sgavoo, John Harchick Jr., Izzy Bihun, Jeff Yanosky, Mary Clark, Rhonda Bittner, Lauren Barnes, Dave Andolina, Mary Ann Stavlo, Jeff Naugle, Debra Farley, Eugene Topka, Carla Ayres, Zoe Taylor, Rodney Shaffer, Casey Duffield, Mike Stefanik, Georgianne Matava, Michelle Moore, William Sunderhaus, Dale Berkey Jr., Allen S. Berkey, Danielle Christopher, Nancy McClellan, Tony Beltz, Betty Zubek, Catherine Mihelic, Elizabeth Blackburn, Helen Elko, Vince Skimski, Jennifer Jarvis, Betty Lou Miller, Catherine Kosnosky, Deborah Knapp, Lavonne Ross, Patty Foltz, Butchie Navalaney, Amy Zimmerman, Dave Kurtz, Ian Rosenbaum, Easton Pritts, Joyce Reitz, Stanley Tomaszewski, Cindy Hillegass

WEEKLY OFFERING - December 29th & December 30th Adults - \$2,909.50; Loose - \$390.55 Student - \$29.50; Fuel - \$55; Christmas - \$385; Student Christmas - \$10; Immaculate Conception - \$25; Initial Payment; - \$14; Solemnity of Mary - \$112.50; Miscellaneous - \$250.00 Total - \$4,181.05 Thank You!

A NIGHT AT THE RACES - Tickets are on sale for our Night at the Races event on January 19th. If you have never been to a Night at the Races you don't know what you are missing. Patrons will be treated to a catered dinner of Chicken Cordon-Bleu and Roast Beef. Following dinner (soft drinks and beer included) the excitement commences as the horse race portion of the evening begins. Each ticket entitles the bearer to name their horse. A video horse race is played where a race track announcer reads the name of the horses as they run the track. If your horse wins, you win money. If the horse you bet on wins, you win money. It can be a very profitable evening and a celebration of food, drink and gaming. The event begins at the activity center with dinner at 6:00 PM with the races starting at 7:00 PM. Tickets are on sale now at the rectory and are \$50 for a 2 person ticket (straightforward, this means the ticket is good for 2 people, you and a friend), or \$30 for a single ticket. Each ticket gets to name a thoroughbred and win cash if the horse bests his opponents.

PORKETTES FOR THE SUPERBOWL - In keeping with their Italian heritage, St. Anthony parish in Windber is selling porkettes on Saturday February 2nd from 9:00 AM until Noon in their church hall. The porkettes are \$4.00 each and must be ordered by January 25th. To order call 467-7292.

SPORTSMEN RAFFLE - The tickets for the Sportsmen Raffle (to be held on 2/10/19) are now on sale to parishioners (before the general public); please don't complain if you don't get a ticket.

CCD CLASSES - Please remember that CCD classes resume on January 13th. Enjoy your time off.

SERVER SCHEDULE -

January 12 - 4:00 PM	T. & M. Mabon, J. Bihun
January 13- 8:00 AM	A. Deneen, R. & C. Pongrac
January 13- 10:30 AM	A. Mauger, J. Hammer, M. Moslak

WISEMEN BEARING GOLD, FRANKENSENSE AND RIDDLES? - ASK FOR ANSWERS

1. A father and his son are in a terrible accident. The father dies at the scene. The son is rushed to the hospital in critical care. The surgeon looks at the boy, gasps, and exclaims "Oh my, I'm too shaken, I can't operate on this boy, he's my son!" How could this be? (NOTE: this riddle does not involve a priest, a step-father, Godfather, or adopted father).
2. Two fathers and two sons go fishing together in the same boat. They all catch a fish but the total catch for the day is three fish. How is this possible?