

Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish

Reverend Father Aron M. Maghsoudi – Pastor

Rectory Office

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

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of
Advent

Worship Sites

Church (Sacred Heart)

738 Sunshine Avenue

Chapel (St. John)

162 Wheeler Street

Confessions

Church (Sacred Heart)

Saturday 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

Chapel (St. John)

Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Anytime upon Request

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

Mass Intentions

December 18	<i>Late Advent Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	John Lorenzon (Req. Pasierb family) - Chapel
December 19	<i>Late Advent Weekday</i>
	NO MASS
December 20	<i>Late Advent Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	George W. Ferko, Anniversary of Death, (Req. Vivian and family) - Chapel
December 21	<i>Saint Peter Canisius</i>
8:00 AM	John Kotus (Req. Estate of John Kotus) - Chapel
December 22	<i>Late Advent Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	Thomas Murin (Req. Rick and Ruthie Stiffler) - Chapel
December 23	<i>Vigil Third Sunday of Advent</i>
4:00 PM	Ray and Tillie Pasierb (Req. Pysnik Family) - Church
December 24	<i>Forth Sunday of Advent</i>
8:00 AM	Stanley, Pierre, & Rose Pasierb (Req.- Family) - Church
10:30 AM	For the Parish (Missa Populo) - Chapel

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY –Our parish invites any and all to join us in ringing in 2018 at evening of horse racing, epic food, good drinks, dancing, and other games of chance (all at church and for a good cause). Dinner, consisting of chicken cordon bleu, roast beef au jus, red skin potatoes, and more will be served at 6:00 PM. Following dinner all guests will have an opportunity to place bets on the horses featured in our Night at the Races event. After several hours of betting on 12 races the evening will conclude with dancing from 10:30 PM until 12:30 AM. To insure good luck, an additional meal of pork and sauerkraut will be served at 10:30 PM. Beer, mint juleps, champagne, and soft drinks will be available at an open bar throughout the duration of the event. All proceeds benefit the CCD fund that helps our parish students enjoy quality activities. Tickets are now on sale - the cost is \$50.00 per COUPLE. Additionally all couples

will be able to name their own horse (owners and names will be published in the evening's race guide). A horse owner whose horse wins will receive a \$50 prize. The crazier the name the better (a track style announcer will be present to call the horse names during the races). In addition to winning real money during the races, the calling of the ridiculous horse names (chosen by their owners) is an unforgettable experience. Any individual who wishes to attend is welcome to do so - individual tickets are \$30.00 each (individual tickets do not include a "horse"). If you haven't been to a Night at the Races, it isn't something you want to miss. The event will be held the activity center - doors open at 5:30 PM. The event is semi-formal (however you define semi-formal). In addition to the drinks provided, patrons are welcome to bring their own refreshments. Over 21 years old only. If you wish to buy a ticket please phone the rectory.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE -

December 23	Church	4:00 PM	E. & M. Rapsky, C. Mauger
December 24	Church	8:00 AM	R. & C. Pongrac, A. Deneen
December 24	Chapel	10:30 AM	A. Dabbs, C. Coleman, E. Spinelli
December 24	Church	4:00 PM	T. & M. Mabon, K. Koleszarik, D. Zelinski, A. Mauger L. & L. Mincek, T. Tomlinson
December 24	Chapel	12:00 AM	J. Hammer, M. Moslak
December 25	Church	10:30 AM	No Servers Scheduled

PRAYER LIST - Jennie Sielczak, Frank Murawski, Constance Gruca, Lillian Koleszarik, Marie Metsker, Sandy Wechtenhiser, Ethan Rohlf, Rachel Moslak, Ann Guyer, Alice Zelenski, Shirley Taylor, Carol Hancharik, Kay Hintosh, Charlie Field Jr., David P. Bonus, Lauren Barnes, Andrew Straka, Fern Lasut, Agnes Palya, Trish Rullo, Mike Stefanik, Stanley Carl Tomaszewski, Patrick Munro, Tom Hudak, Quincy Oglie, Charles Field Sr., Ron Delasko, Mike Dixon, Mya Polito, Madelain Mauger, Sue Frank, Caroline Amato, Joseph Shelko, Shirley Roman, Mary Ethel Sanzo, Leon Bonus, Joyce Delasko, Larry Krestar, Harriet Konitsky, Andrew Muha, Andrea Sesack, Ricky Gerena, Shelly Delasko, Lionel Berkebile, Mary-Ann Sgavoo, Mary Ann Naret, Barry Stuft, Mary Ann Lasut, John Harchick Jr., Vincent Bestvina, Izzy Bihun, Jeff Yanosky, Mary Clark, Brie Purdy, Rhonda Bittner, Kara Palumbo, Dave Andolina, Mary Ann Stavlo, Jeff Naugle, Debra Farley, Eugene Topka, Michael Bednar, Carla Ayres, Zoe Taylor, Rodney Shaffer, Adrian Popig, Casey Duffield

ADVENT CONFESSIONS - In lieu of a penance service, Fr. Aron will be having additional confession times as a way to be spiritually prepared for Christmas. Please note the following times for confession. In addition to these times confession can be arranged anytime by request. At Sacred Heart - December 23, 1:30 PM - 3:45 PM - At St. John - December 24, 11 PM - 11:45 PM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

December 17 - All You Can Eat Breakfast - St. John's - 9:00 AM - Noon
 December 21 - Christmas CCD Social - St. John's, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 December 21 - Pierogi Sale - St. John's - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 December 22 - Visits to Homebound Parishioners
 December 22 - Decorating Sacred Heart Site - 6:00 PM
 December 24 - NO CCD
 December 24 - Christmas Eve Mass - Sacred Heart - 4:00 PM
 December 25 - Christmas Midnight Mass - St. John's - Midnight
 December 25 - Christmas Day Mass - Sacred Heart 10:30 AM
 December 27 - Knights of Columbus Meeting - St. John's - 7:00 PM
 December 31 - NO CCD
 December 31 - New Year's Eve Party - Activity Center - 6:00 PM (Doors Open at 5:30) - 12:30 AM

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS - The Sanctuary Candle, at the Sacred Heart site, burns in loving memory of Kathryn Yatta (1 year anniversary of death), by loving daughter Alice Zelenski, Ed and Eddie Jr. The Sanctuary Candle burns at the St. John's site in loving memory of Mike Mauger Sr., by Mike and Kathy Mauger and family.

WEEKLY OFFERING December 9th and December 10th - Adult Envelopes - \$4,795.25; Loose - \$276; Fuel - \$65; Student Offering - \$35.25; All Saints - \$5; Thanksgiving - \$5; Immaculate Conception - \$847; Christmas - \$35; Thanksgiving - \$5; Student Immaculate Conception - \$17 Total - 6,080.50- Thank You!

YEAR IN REVIEW - All parishioners, friends of the parish, and many non-practicing Catholics in our area, received a Year in Review newsletter in the mail this week. If you didn't receive one (oversights may have happened), would like to have more, or would know someone who would be interested in reading the recap of the last year, please take as many as you wish home with you (they are located at the doors of the church).

CALENDARS - Catholic calendars are available at the church entrance. Please take as many as you need with you. There are 5 Polish calendars available at the Sacred Heart site - first come first served.

FINANCIAL MEETING - As part of showing financial transparency the parish will have a meeting to go over the financial status of the parish, open to any parishioners, on Wednesday of this week at the Activity Center at 7:00 PM. The annual report will be presented by the Wessel Company of Johnstown, an outside accounting firm that completed the review. If you have questions about the parish financial status you are welcome to attend the meeting.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES DRIVE - In this season of giving please consider supporting the new Catholic Ministries Drive. This drive, which replaced the Annual Catholic Appeal, is different in that it is truly an appeal (not an assessment) that funds the most compelling ministries in our diocese. Aside from minimal campaign expenses, all funds collected go to things such as caring for the poor through Catholic Charities, Campus Ministry on our college campuses, and the formation of new priests for our diocese. If you wish to help support the work of the Church, please join in supporting this appeal by placing a donation envelope found in the back of the church and drop it in the mail by December 31st. Thank you for your generosity.

OPLATKI - Oplatki are available for your Holy Supper on Christmas Eve. If you wish to celebrate this old ethnic custom they are available for \$3.00 a pack.

SPEAKING OF OPLATKI - Nothing says "I love you," at least in a Polish-American family, quite like the sharing of a thin, flat, tasteless wafer called an *oplatek* at Christmas. Before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner, many families with roots in Poland and other Eastern European countries will take part in this tradition, which has roots dating back hundreds of years. "For us, Polish Americans, the *oplatek*, that wafer, is Christmas Eve," says Sophie Hodorowicz Knab, author of the [book *Polish Customs, Traditions and Folklore*](#). "It defines people's heritage." Christmas Eve marks the end of Advent. Traditionally, that meant the last day of fasting, so in mostly Catholic Poland, the dinner was typically meatless. The menu might have included items such as pea soup, boiled potatoes, fried fish and stewed fruits, Knab notes in *The Polish Country Kitchen Cookbook*. Before the meal, though, came a small, informal ceremony - one that is still carried out in many homes, including in the U.S. At the start of dinner, just after grace, the male head of the household takes the wafer and expresses his hopes for his wife in the New Year. He might wish her good health, or ask for forgiveness for some fault. "My father used to say, 'OK, I'm not the best, but I'll try harder,'" Knab says. "My mother would always say, 'You work so hard and I appreciate you for that.'" The wife breaks off a piece of the *oplatek* and eats it. She then reciprocates the good wishes and shares the wafer with her husband. And the ceremonial sharing of wafer and good wishes continues with older relatives, guests and children, starting with the oldest. "The sharing of this unleavened bread with another person is sharing all that is good with life," says Knab. "It's a time to tell each other, 'I love you, I care about you.' And you do it in an open area, where everyone else can see you." The wafer is typically a rectangle about the size of a hand and embossed with a Christmas scene, such as the Nativity. It is made of flour and water pressed between two engraved pieces of metal and is similar to the bread wafer used in Holy Communion. To be frank, it can be pretty dry and tasteless (my family struggled to finish our wafer last year), but the sentiment is so sweet that it's worth the effort. Ethnographers believe that the tradition may have gotten its start with the sharing of a ritual flatbread called *podplomyk*, Knab says. Pieces of the thin bread, usually baked before other loaves of dough were placed in the oven, were shared with members of the household, and with neighbors, as a gesture of goodwill. "Bread was very hard to come by" in the Middle Ages, Knab says. "Sharing of this bread was a caring kind of exchange." That bread eventually morphed into the flat wafer,

says Knab, and the sharing continued. During World War II, with families scattered all over the world, people would send pieces of *oplatek* to remind them of each other. And some continue to include the wafers in their mailings. "I still get letters from Poland with pieces," she says. The *oplatek* tradition spread among Lithuanians, Czechs and Slovaks. And even families decades removed from their Eastern European roots share the wafers. "It has just continued down through the generations," Knab says, "because it's such a beautiful tradition."

SUPPORT OUR SISTER CHURCH - Holy Assumption Orthodox Church (St. Mary's) is sponsoring a "Holliday Raffle" ticket. To the winner goes \$700 and seven meats - bacon, ham, turkey, chicken, pork, steak, and shrimp (not technically meat). The drawing will be on Old Calendar Christmas, January 7th (based on the PA Daily number). For tickets please see Father Aron or Maryann Zubek.
