

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 30, 2018

Holy Family

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

December 31	<i>St. Sylvester</i>
8:00 AM	Mike Knapp (Req. John & Michelle Krebs) - Chapel
January 1	<i>Mary, Mother of God</i>
NOON	For the Parish (Missa Pro Populo) - Church
7:00 PM	Ray McGreehan (Req. Paul and Sally Harris) - Chapel
January 2	<i>Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen</i>
8:00 AM	Stanley, Rose, and Pierre Pasierb (Req. Family) - Chapel
January 3	<i>Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>
8:00 AM	Helen Gruber (Req. Gloviak Family) - Chapel
January 4	<i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</i>
8:00 AM	Leon Bonus (Req. Sister - in-Law Patty and Family) - Chapel
January 5	<i>Vigil - Epiphany of the Lord</i>
4:00 PM	Helen Yantus (Req. Patty Bonus and Family) - Church
January 6	<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>
8:00 AM	Mike Knapp (Req. George Bestvina Family) - Church
10:30 AM	For the Parish (Missa Pro Populo) - Chapel

SUSPENDING THE CHALICE - As is apparent to anyone who has been out of the house in the last week weeks, the cold and flu season has set in. In light of this the chalice will be suspended until further notice at all Masses. Thank you for your consideration with this matter.

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS - The Sanctuary Candle burns at the St. John's site in loving memory of John and Angela Satkovich by Family. The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Sacred Heart site in loving memory of Kathleen Yatta, on the second year of her death, by loving daughter Alice and Ed Zelenski and Family.

POLISH KOLEDY SING - The Polish Choir of All Saints Parish in Boswell will have an afternoon program of Polish Koledy (Christmas hymns) TODAY (Sunday December 30th) at 2:30 PM at their church in Boswell (325 Quemahoning Street). The program will last a little under an hour and is followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

A NIGHT AT THE RACES - Winter is a long season and undoubtedly seasonal depression sets in because of cold weather and a certain level of stagnation. Well, the doctor has just found the cure - a ticket 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 two person ticket (straightforward, this means the ticket is good for two people, you and a friend), or \$30 for a single ticket. Each ticket will get to name a thoroughbred and win cash if the horse bests his opponents. Get your ticket at the rectory this week!

FATHER ARON AWAY - Next weekend Fr. Alfred Patterson, O.S.B. will cover the 10:30 AM Mass only while Fr. Aron covers the 10:30 AM Mass in Boswell. Please offer Fr. Alfred a warm welcome.

SPORTSMEN RAFFLE - The tickets for the Sportsmen Raffle (to be held on February 10th) will go on sale to parishioners next week. Since the tickets sell quickly parishioners will be given first chance on the tickets; additional tickets will be offered to the general public later in the week. If you wish to get your ticket early please call the rectory and reserve your tickets now. As always the cost is \$25.00 and includes the prizes on the ticket as well as entrance to the event and food and drink.

HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION - January 1st the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be on January 1st at Noon at the Sacred Heart site and 7:00 PM at the St. John site. Please come and start 2019 by going to Mass and asking Mary for her intercession.

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

SERVER SCHEDULE -

January 5 - 4:00 PM	E. & M. Rapsky, C. Mauger
January 6 - 8:00 AM	L., L., & L. Mincek
January 6 - 10:30 AM	J. Eger, C. & L. Galish

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS - Since Christmas is a season (you cannot contain the joy of this event to just one day), the following is a prayer for all of us as we enjoy this Christmas season. - Dear God, I know that it is Christmas and I am supposed to be focused on the birth of Jesus, but once again Advent came and went and all I did was focus on so many other things. So, this Christmas, please help me remember a few simple things, even if I am stressed from shopping and travel, lonely from a lack of friends and family, sick from a difficult illness or poor from the lack of work or a living wage. Help me remember that when you became human, you came into the world in the most vulnerable way possible—as an infant. That meant that you were totally dependent on Mary and Joseph to care for you. And when you left this world, naked on a cross, you were vulnerable, too. That shows what you were willing to do just to love me. You were vulnerable for me. Help me remember that when you came into this world, it was not into some powerful clan in Galilee, not into some great ruling family of Judea and not into a royal dynasty in Rome. You could have come in power and exercised that power as a scholar, a soldier, a king or an emperor. Instead, you came with no earthly power at all. You were powerless for me. Help me remember that you could have entered the world in a wealthy family. There was no need for you to be born to a young woman who was married to a simple carpenter and who lived in a town so insignificant that one of your disciples would make a joke about it. But you chose not only to enter a poor family but to toil for many years as a laborer yourself. You were poor for me. Help me remember that you spent most of your life in obscurity in Nazareth, living an everyday life and working as a carpenter alongside Joseph. You were not well known. You did not set out to make a big name for yourself. In fact, the Gospels barely mention your hidden life in Nazareth, the place you spent your first 30 years. That is how simple and uneventful most of your life was. You were unknown for me. Help me remember that when you became human you took on a human body. That means that you experienced everything that anybody does. You had stomachaches and headaches, got colds and the flu, experienced hunger and thirst, and grew weary at the end of a long day. It also means that you experienced joy and sadness, frustration and anger, and all the emotions that any human being does,

even in your divinity. You were human for me. Help me remember that your entire life, from your birth to your death on a cross, was spent in love. You loved Mary and Joseph and your whole extended family. Later, you loved your friends, disciples and followers. You loved even your enemies and persecutors. And you had a special love for anyone who was poor, sick, lonely, misunderstood or marginalized in any way. Your entire life was poured out as one great offering of love. You were love for me. Help me remember that you offered yourself without counting the cost. You preached the good news to the poor, healed the sick and shared the coming of the reign of God with everyone. Not everyone wanted to hear your message, but you kept proclaiming it until your death. You gave your whole self for humanity, even when we rejected you. You gave up even your body and spirit on the cross. You were everything for me. Help me remember that Christmas is only the beginning of the story. After your death, you returned as the Risen One, never again to die, offering hope in the face of despair, love in the face of hate and life in the face of death. Your rising on Easter Sunday revealed the same message that the angel told your mother when he announced the coming Christmas: Nothing is impossible with God! You are life for me. Dear God, I know that I don't always remember these things at Christmas. There are so many emotions swirling in my head this time of year. But I want to remember them. And I trust that the desire to remember them is itself a good thing and comes from you. This Christmas, give me the gift of memory, and I will remember that you became love for me, so that I can become love for others. – Amen.

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

WHY DO WE SAY “MERRY” CHRISTMAS – Since Christmas is a season it is still most appropriate to say Merry Christmas. That being said, how did it come to be that holidays are merely happy, but Christmas is supposed to be merry? The phrase “Merry Christmas” can be traced back several hundred years, to the 16th century. The earliest known reference to the greeting is found in the letters of an English Catholic bishop, John Fisher (a martyr and saint), who wrote in his correspondence to Thomas Cromwell: “And this our Lord God send you a merry Christmas, and a comfortable, to your heart’s desire.” In the same time period, the carol “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” was written, although it was not published in the modern form until the 18th century. In those days the English language looked very different and the line “rest ye merry” did not mean to relax and be happy. The word “rest” meant “to keep, cause to continue to remain,” and merry could mean happy, but also “bountiful” and “prosperous”. The opening line could also be translated to, “[May] God keep you and continue to make you successful and prosperous, Gentlemen.” This definition of “merry” makes sense in regards to the Nativity, which brought great prosperity to the world through its salvation. It should be noted that the comma should always come after the word “merry” in the carol, as it would change the meaning if it were placed before. With the comma after “merry” is saying, “God keep you prosperous, gentlemen,” but when it comes before it looks more like, “God keep you, prosperous gentlemen.” It is a common mistake to misplace the comma, which may explain where “Merry Christmas” came from, since it’s only a little jump from “Merry Gentlemen” to the seasonal greeting. There were two sources in the 19th century which helped popularize “Merry Christmas,” both of which come from 1843. One was the very first Christmas card, sent by Sir Henry Cole, with the words “A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You”. The very same year Charles Dickens published *A Christmas Carol*, in which the phrase “Merry Christmas” appears 21 times. Dickens also quoted “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen,” however he changed it to, “God bless you, merry gentleman! May nothing you dismay!” Note he moved the comma. It would appear that the phrase developed over several hundred years. What we find to be a greater mystery than where the greeting came from is that it is no longer what people say in the UK, where they tend to wish each other a “Happy Christmas.” The term was developed in England and

cemented into the vernacular by arguably the greatest English author of the 19th century, so how did it fall out of fashion in its country of origin?⁹ From a writer's perspective, it would be best not to say "Happy Christmas and a Happy New year" because the repetition makes the phrase seem lazy and feel dull. Adding a unique descriptive term, one which we only tend to use for Christmas, gives it a certain special feeling and helps get us in gear for the Christmas season.

WEEKLY OFFERING - December 22nd & December 23rd Adults - \$3,756.50; Loose - \$718; Student -\$28.50; Fuel - \$5; Christmas - \$5,467.25; Student Christmas - \$47.50; Immaculate Conception - \$25; Initial Payment - \$15; Miscellaneous - \$170.00 Total - \$10,232.25 Thank You!