

Jan 28 – Feb 10, 2019

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph • Rc: rectory chapel

Our bulletin covers several weeks!

Jan 29 6pm • M † Leo Kuzma r/o Aponick Family

Jan 30 9am • J Rc † Edward Wirth

Jan 31 9am • J Rc † Caroline Nicholas

Feb 1 9am • J Rc † Memorial Fund

*First Friday • 8am Adoration - 8:25am Rosary 8:45am – Benediction

Feb. 2nd /Feb. 3rd • 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time C •

3:30pm • J † Arlene Saurini r/o sister, Carol

5:15pm • M † John F. Washko r/o John J. Washko

8:15am • J Luke Porretti r/o Rose Mary Porretti

10:15am • M † Joseph & Bron Rejent
r/o son, Gene Rejent & family

Feb 5 6pm • M People of the Parish

Feb 6 9am • J Rc † Meg Britt

Feb 7 9am • J Rc People of the Parish


Feb 8 9am • J Rc † Donna Kramer

Feb. 9th/Feb. 10th • 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time C •

3:30pm • J † Philomenia & Simon Walaitis r/o Nahas Family

5:15pm • M † Sally McNamee r/o Stan & Marie Piaskowski

8:15am • J † Dec'd of the Soda Family r/o Donna & Jessica Gulash

10:15am • M † Joe Piampi & Edward McNamee 
r/o KofC #16072



❖ **STEWARDSHIP:** M: 1/13:S: 1135; 1/20:S: n/a; Dues: 335; Energy: 5; Christmas: 25; Solemnity of Mary: 55 •J:1/13:S: 1115; 1/20:S: 796; Dues: 384; Bldg Fund: 265; Christmas: 170; Solemnity of Mary: 75

❖ **Calendars:** for 2019 are here! Take one home. Thanks to Oravitz Home for Funeral Inc. for sponsoring our calendars!

❖ **2019 Mass Book is open!** There are forms in the back of the church to fill out or call the parish office \$10

❖ **2019 Envelopes:** will be at the office for any parishioner who did not pick up their contributions envelopes or were missed. Please call the office.

❖ **2018 Contributions:** if for tax purposes, you are in need of a report, contact the parish office.

❖ **Note:** At the direction of the diocese, due to the reported widespread flu outbreak, the greeting at the sign of peace and the ministry of the cup is suspended. Which leaves us to ask: why not assist at Holy Mass by serving/lecturing, ushering.

✠ Spiritual Corner

**APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION GAUDETE ET
EXSULTATE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS
ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD**

Chapter Two – Two Subtle Enemies of Holiness

35. Here I would like to mention two false forms of holiness that can lead us astray: gnosticism and pelagianism. They are two heresies from early Christian times, yet they continue to plague us. In our times too, many Christians, perhaps without realizing it, can be seduced by these deceptive ideas, which reflect an anthropocentric immanentism disguised as Catholic truth.^[33] Let us take a look at these two forms of doctrinal or disciplinary security that give rise “to a narcissistic and authoritarian elitism, whereby instead of evangelizing, one analyses and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying. In neither case is one really concerned about Jesus Christ or others”.^[34]

CONTEMPORARY GNOSTICISM

36. Gnosticism presumes “a purely subjective faith whose only interest is a certain experience or a set of ideas and bits of information which are meant to console and enlighten, but which ultimately keep one imprisoned in his or her own thoughts and feelings”.^[35] *An intellect without God and without flesh*

37. Thanks be to God, throughout the history of the Church it has always been clear that a person's perfection is measured not by the information or knowledge they possess, but by the depth of their charity. “Gnostics” do not understand this, because they judge others based on their ability to understand the complexity of certain doctrines. They think of the intellect as separate from the flesh, and thus become incapable of touching Christ's suffering flesh in others, locked up as they are in an encyclopaedia of abstractions. In the end, by disembodiment the mystery, they prefer “a God without Christ, a Christ without the Church, a Church without her people”.^[36]

38. Certainly this is a superficial conceit: there is much movement on the surface, but the mind is neither deeply moved nor affected. Still, gnosticism exercises a deceptive attraction for some people, since the gnostic approach is strict and allegedly pure, and can appear to possess a certain harmony or order that encompasses everything.

39. Here we have to be careful. I am not referring to a rationalism inimical to Christian faith. It can be present within the Church, both among the laity in parishes and teachers of philosophy and theology in centres of formation. Gnostics think that their explanations can make the entirety of the faith and the Gospel perfectly comprehensible. They absolutize their own theories and force others to submit to their way of thinking. A healthy and humble use of reason in order to reflect on the theological and moral teaching of the Gospel is one thing. It is another to reduce Jesus' teaching to a cold and harsh logic that seeks to dominate everything.^[37]

❖ **Prayer List Permission Form:**

Names are placed on the prayer list, unless otherwise notified, for 60 days. After that time, a permission form must be re-submitted.



Hear Our Prayer

❖ **Pray for:** Fill out the forms, even if you're healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of need!
•Victor Yanuskiewicz •Frank & Dorothy Hovanec •Joanne & Rose Aponick •Joe Tomtishen Sr. •Phil & Shirley Kennedy •John & Angie Ounfuer •Stan Piaskowski •Fr. Jim Torpey

❖ **St. Mary: Jan. 1st drawing: Winner: Leonard Price** from Durance, PA. Lottery ticket sold by: George Motil. Congratulations!! *Thank you to all that purchased and sold tickets.*

❖ **Birthday Blessings:** Robert Baranowsky: 1/29; Ed Krusinsky, Brian Schwalm: 1/31; Kathleen Richards, Judith Vasey, Ashley Yurcho, Cherise Yablonsky: 2/2; Michael Zubowicz: 2/3; Tracey Aponick: 2/5; Jonathan Biros, Dorothy Mattes: 2/6; Sara Osilka, Daniel Tomtishen, Megan Tomtishen: 2/8; Leo Flaim: 2/10; [We noted a number of birthdays listed for 1/1: if yours was missed, let us know]



❖ **Healing Our Church Discussion Groups Coming in Lent**

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. *Healing Our Church* is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions “an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith.” Discussions will take place during the six weeks of Lent. Watch for more information, including how to sign up, soon.

❖ **Memorials @ M: Rose Ann Aponick:** Theresa Schreffler, Debbie Colosimo: \$60

❖ **K of C Happenings:** next meeting Feb. 17th.

❖ **St. Joseph's 50/50:** has resumed. Extra tickets available.

❖ **Woman of Grace Happenings:**

▶ **HOPE Ministry:** If you or someone you know in our community could use some temporary help with meals, errands, rides to church or appointments HOPE Ministry can help. HOPE Ministry is also seeking volunteers to help serve those in need. Call Nancy 215-801-5797 or Arlene 570-590-5810

❖ **PREP/CONFIRMATION NEWS:** For students currently in St Joseph's 7th grade PREP class: A Confirming Faithful Families Mandatory Confirmation Rally Saturday 2/2/19 at St Ambrose, Schuylkill Haven (302 Randel Street). Registration is 9:45am. Parents or guardians please gather in St Ambrose church for a presentation that will begin promptly at 2:30pm. Please fill out/sign/return the Diocese of Allentown Youth Ministry Activity form that your child brought home before Christmas. Please submit the \$10 Registration fee to Mike Kosciuk or Lynn Kuzmitsky as soon as possible.

➡ **Alpha for Teens: New Teen Ministry for Schuylkill County Schuylkill Catholic Young Church** is the new Schuylkill County regional youth ministry of the Diocese of Allentown. Teens are invited to participate in the upcoming “Alpha” series, which includes free dinner. Have questions about faith? Want to discuss the meaning of life, Jesus, spirituality and so much more? Want to plug into a community? Then you should check out ALPHA Youth, starting Sunday, January 27th at St Clare of Assisi Church! We will eat dinner, watch an ALPHA video, and have small group discussion each night in a fun and engaging way for youth. See you there! Please RSVP: annie@allentowndiocese.org. Alpha will be held on Sundays from 6-8pm at **St. Clare Parish Hall in St. Clair** (change of location) from January 27 through March 24.

Mission Trip: Support is sought for.

Sara Osilka, a parishioner from St. Mary's and a current student at University of Pittsburgh, will be going on her third mission trip to the Dominican Republic this May. She will be traveling to the small town of El Factor and will be there for a little less than two weeks. Last summer, she and her fellow missionaries brought the Word of God to Dominican children through song, dance and crafts. A typical day will consist of morning prayer, breakfast, going to a small nearby parish to work with the children, lunch, traveling to

another parish, going to Mass, dinner, preparing for the next day, and finally night prayer. Monetary donations would be appreciated to support her in this endeavor. **Checks made payable to: St. Mary's Church, in the memo Mission trip Sara Osilka.** Donations can be put in the collection basket. Physical donations will also be greatly appreciated. Sara will be speaking at masses to explain how we can help.

▶ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

FEB 3rd – VALENTINE'S DAY IS COMING! DO YOU HAVE A “HEART” FOR ROMANCE? A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend provides a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one you've decided to spend your life with! **For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org**

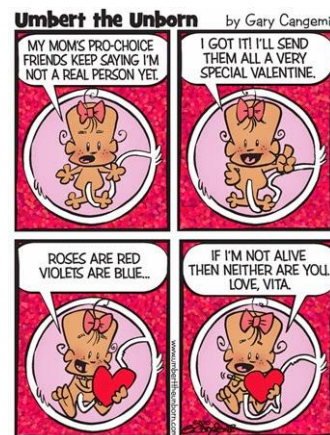
FEB 10th – Today we CELEBRATE WORLD MARRIAGE DAY honoring the lifelong commitment of husbands and wives to each other. **MAKE YOUR MARRIAGE A PRIORITY** by attending a **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** weekend. **For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org**

▶ **2019 Catholic Charities Gala! Sunday, March 3rd** DeSales University Cocktails at 5:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Don't miss out! Get your Catholic Charities Tickets: \$175 – includes open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, sit down dinner, dessert and your support of the crucial programs and services of Catholic Charities. **For more information, please contact Julie Scheck at 610-871-5200, ext. 2216, or jscheck@allentowndiocese.org**

GALA RAFFLE TICKETS! First Prize: An evening in Manhattan! Includes 2 tickets to “TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD” on Broadway, dinner for two at Sardi's restaurant and roundtrip limo service. (Provided by Joseph Benincasa, President, *The Actor's Fund; and Corporate Limousine*) Second prize: Apple iPad Pro valued at \$1,000! (Provided by Gary Iacocca, *Yocco's*) Third prize: Pair of tickets to a 2019 Musikfest show of your choice at the Sand Steel Stage, admission for 2 to The Oasis bar, and parking at the Sands Steel Stage lot. Also included: 2 Musikfest Mugs, official 2019 Musikfest poster, one-year Silver ArtsQuest membership and \$100 in food and beverage tickets which can be used anywhere throughout the festival during 2019. (Provided by *ArtsQuest*) Ticket cost: \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Contact Sister Janice Marie Johnson (Gala Committee Member) at 610-871-5200, ext. 2280 to purchase.

▶ **Spiritual Training: Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving** – The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's Lenten morning of reflection on **Saturday, March 9, 2019**, at the **Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena** in Allentown. Refreshments will be offered beginning at 8:30 AM in the Parish Activity Center. Presentations by the **Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert** and **Rev. Bernard Ezaki** will begin in the Cathedral at 9:15 AM, ending by 11:30 AM. The Sacrament of Confession will be offered as well. **To register for this free offering visit www.allentowndiocese.org/cfm-spirituality**

❖ **SCRIP:** We've: \$25 & \$100 Amazon, \$25 Applebee's, \$10 Bath & Body Works, \$25 Bed Bath & Beyond, \$25 Boscov's, \$25 Cabela's, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$25 Dunham's, \$25 & 10 Dunkin' Donuts, \$25 Gap/Old Navy, \$25 & \$50 Giant Foods, \$25 Home Depot, \$10 Long John Silvers, \$25 & \$100 Lowes, \$25 Macy's, \$25 Olive Garden, \$10 & \$25 Panera Bread \$25 PetSmart, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$25 Regal Cinema, \$10 Regal Cinema (Admit one), \$25 Sheetz, \$50 Sunoco, \$25 TJ Maxx/Marshall's, \$25 Walmart/Sam's, \$100 Walmart/Sam's, \$25 Weis, \$100 Weis. *We're taking orders/sell @ St Joseph's after mass. Contact the parish office to place an order!*



❖ **Redner's Save-A-Tape:** Save your receipts, put them in SundayStewardship. (M) benefit 1%. **For your receipts to count toward the church you must sign up at Redners service desk!**

❖ **Outside Events: •Marian Catholic High School** - will be hosting an open house on Sunday, 1/27. Registration begins at 12:30 pm and the program runs from 1-3pm. Tours of the school will be given which will include our new STEM Labs. Registration is now open for the 2019-2020 School year. The registration fee is \$100.00 if paid by 2/1. After 2/1 the registration fee will be \$150.00 • **KoFC # 0431: Foul Shooting Contest** for

boys/girls ages 9-14. Sun, 1/27 @ Nativity BVM HS. Registration begins at 3:30pm, shooting begins at 4pm sharp. Awards ceremony and pizza party to follow. **Questions call: Tom Kurtek @ 570-617-1714 or M. McFadden 570-622-3960**