

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

FR. BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

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OFFICE HOURS-(Mon-Fri)
9:00AM to 2:00PM

December 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today's Scripture Readings

FIRST READING: You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

PSALM: The king of glory shall come in (Psalm 24).

SECOND READING: God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

GOSPEL: The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION: GOD WANTS TO BE ONE WITH US

What great lengths God will go to in loving and saving us! Think of the most outlandish circumstance you might conceive. That seems to be what the Lord is saying to Ahaz in today's first reading. "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Not only is the idea of a virgin conceiving beyond comprehension in Ahaz's time, so would the concept of God wanting to be with us be, as the name Emmanuel indicates. And yet, this is what we celebrate in the Incarnation—God wants so completely to be one with us that God came to be with us in a son born to a virgin, the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is more to this story than even these amazing and outlandish occurrences, however. God wants to be one with us so deeply that God partners with us to make God's presence known.. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR LECTORS AND ALTAR SERVERS

5:30PM	Saturday, Dec 24th	9:00 AM	Sunday, Dec 25th
Lector:	Rick Maser	Lector:	Denise Lakatos

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK -- (Dec 19th - Dec 25th)

MON	12/19	7:00AM. . . +. (A) David Ferg, Jr. - (Aunt Barbara Voci)
TUES	12/20	7:00AM. . . +. Dennis Borsuk - (Beltz Family)
WED	12/21	7:00AM. . . +. For Living & Deceased Members of the Kamnikar/Gardill Family - (Family)
THURS	12/22	NO MASS
FRI	12/23	7:00AM. . . +. Ruth Labarko - (Mike & Trish)
		CHRISTMAS EVE
SAT	12/24	5:30PM . . . +. June Bestvina - (Husband, Paul & Daughter, Lisa)
		CHRISTMAS DAY
SUN	12/25	9:00AM. . . +. Kenneth & Mary Jane Ferg - (Daughter, Barbara)



December 18, 2022

Stewardship Reflections: As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do but offer our lives as a gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call. Though we do not hear any words from St. Joseph, his actions clearly show that he offered himself, his whole life, as a gift to his family through his strong guidance, protection, and service.

Let us imitate St. Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ. We will no doubt find that the more we give ourselves away, the more our generous Father will fill us with His grace and peace.

Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2019/7/05)

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
Dec 10th & 11th, 2022

Collection:

Weekly	\$ 1,299.40
Monthly	\$ 175.00
Flowers	\$ 108.00
Fuel	\$ 85.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 218.00
Christmas	\$ 70.00
Retirement Fund for Rel	\$ 65.00

*Thank you for your continued support of St. Anne's Parish!
Please remember in your prayers the deceased parishioners
and benefactors of our parish. God Bless!*



Sincere Condolences – The St. Anne Community would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family of **Paul Bestvina**, who was called to his eternal reward this week. May God grant His eternal rest to **Paul** and peace and consolation to his family.



ADVENT WREATH PRAYER
Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Light the all purple candles & the rose candle)

Prayer: Pour forth thy power, O Lord, and come:
Assist us by that mighty power,
so that by thy grace and merciful kindness we may
swiftly receive the salvation that our sins impede
who livest and reignest with thee
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
ever one God, world without end.
Amen



Birthday Cake & Coffee --and will be served **this weekend (Dec 17 & 18)** after each Mass in the Church Hall! Be sure to stop down to enjoy a sweet treat.
Everyone is cordially invited to join us!



Mass Schedule for Christmas Weekend

Saturday, Dec 24th Christmas Eve Mass 5:30 PM,

**Sunday, Dec 25th Christmas Day
Mass will be held at 9:00AM.**

Christmas Oplatki is available in the back of the church for **\$1 per packet.**



Our Catholic Ministries Drive -Forward In Faith-
As of November 30th, we have collected **\$6,560 of our \$7,698 Goal** leaving a balance of \$1,138. Please consider making a pledge to the Ministries Drive. You have until Dec 31st 2022 to pay your pledge in full.

Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "We remember the many people who believe in the Retirement Fund for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion." God bless you for donating to last week's collection.

2023 Envelopes – Adult & Children's envelopes are ready for pick up in the back of church.

PLEASE NOTE BOXES ARE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER AND YOUR BOX NUMBER MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR.

2023 Church Calendars have arrived and may be picked up along with your envelopes.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! -- We would once again like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Moskal/Kennedy Funeral Home for providing the beautiful calendars for our parish. May God Bless them for their generous support of St. Anne's.

Have you moved or had a change to your phone number (adding a cell/removing you landline). Please notify us so we can update our records and notify the Diocese of the changes. Please call the rectory office at 814-539-7633, Mon-Fri 9-2PM or update your information on your first envelope of 2023. Thank you.



Area Penance Services

Dec 18	St. Benedict	5:00 PM
Dec 19	Visitation of BVM	5:30 PM
Dec 21	St. Patrick	6:00 PM



Community News & Events

Pittsburgh Pirates great Neil Walker will be visiting Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg on Saturday, Feb 4, 2023 from Noon to 2PM. He will be giving a talk about his Catholic Faith and will be available for a meet and greet. There is no registration or tickets to be purchased. No cost to attend; donations will be taken to help support Holy Name School. All are welcome to attend; pray for good weather.

Echoes of a Polish Christmas – All Saints Parish in Boswell will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas Carols (known as Kolędy) on Sunday January 8th at 2:00 PM at their church in Boswell. Following the singing of hymns by the parish's Polish choir, there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament as well as refreshments. Kolędy help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience these time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ.



The Catholic Daughter of the America
Court of Our Lady #647,
Johnstown, Pa.

Invite Catholic women 18 and older to consider attending one of our meetings.

When: the third Tuesday of the month
Jan 17th & Feb 21st, 2023

Where: St John Gualbert Activity Center

Time: Rosary begins at 5:30PM, meeting at 6PM,
followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Contacts- Tina Frank – 814-615-3238
Patti Brylsky – 814-619-9692

Winter dates weather permitting!!

Please RSVP to cawatson911@gmail.com

Families and the Gospel (Matthew: 1:18-24)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child is EMMANUEL, reminding us "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.

ABORTION:

Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstance claim for himself the right directly to destroy an innocent human being

"Some of the littlest things take up the most room in your heart"

Making the Family Crib

Small children have a hard time waiting for Christmas. Families can set up the crib in stages and help children learn the Christmas story. Say a short prayer with each addition. Some families have a different person place the additions each day.

1. **Crib itself**—Thank God for shelter, warmth, all that makes a home.
2. **Animals**—Thank God for all animals, wild and tame, pets and those animals that provide our food.
3. **Shepherds**—Thank God for the work that means a livelihood for the family, for the health and strength to do work, and for the chance to use the talents He gives.
4. **Star**—Thank God for the wonders of the universe and ask for the wisdom to use them well.
5. **Angels**—Thank God for his care for us, the message he sends us through his ministers and all who serve him, and for the opportunity to praise him.
6. **A family photo**—A special addition to the crib that symbolizes your desire to be a part of the family of God and witness to his presence. Thank God for being a family and all the family means.
7. **Holy Family**—Thank God for the gift of a Savior and the grace to believe in him.
8. **Wise Men**—Thank God for all the peoples of the earth and the richness of their cultures that we enjoy: music, art, literature, language.

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