

All Saints PNC Church

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15106

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Very Rev. Richard R. Seiler, Jr.....Pastor
Kurt Niedzwiecki.....Chairperson
Rick Ruffennach.....Co-Chairperson
Kody Niedzwiecki.....Recording Secretary
Melanie LaSota.....Financial Secretary
Louise Bugna.....Treasurer
Madeline Fotovich.....Choir Director/Organist

*All Saints Polish National Catholic Church carries the light
of Christ to all people.*

December 10, 2017

2nd Sunday of Advent

Theme: The Mighty One Is Coming

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

God brings comfort to those who have toiled in work and felt burdened by sin. Nothing will stop the advent of this mighty God. No rugged pathway, no plunging valley, no unsurmountable height will keep God from coming to a beloved people who prepare the earth – and themselves – to meet him. The same passage portrays God as a loving shepherd who feeds the hungry flock and scoops into his arms those who crave a gentle sign of his love.

The tenderness and unmitigated joy of this prophecy shows why Advent is beloved by many Christians. As the calendar year draws to its close and the pressures of the holidays are heaped upon the usual burdens and demands of life, the faithful hear prodigious words of consolation. God knows of their struggles and rushes to lift their burdens.

2 Peter 3:8-14

In contrast to the messages of comfort emanating from the First Reading and the psalm, the Second Letter of Peter carries a more disturbing message: the day of the Lord is coming like a thief. The heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and elements will be dissolved in fire. To drive home this harrowing message, the writer asks, "What sort of person ought you to be?" (v. 11).

This passage explores the moral implications of the anticipated return of Christ. Echoing Jesus' own admonition in last Sunday's Gospel, this reading aims to put the reader on notice. Advent serves as a kind of alarm clock for the faithful. It disturbs the restful sleep of complacent people.

At first, it may seem that this passage belongs better with the themes of last Sunday. It prepares worshipers, however, for the introduction of one of the most important Advent figures: John the Baptist.

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist makes his Advent entrance in the proclamation of today's Gospel. St. Mark quotes the prophecy of Isaiah that served as today's First Reading. It was not just any voice encouraging people to prepare the way for the Lord. That voice was fulfilled on the lips of John.

John proclaims "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (v. 4). He is asking people to make themselves ready for the appearance of Jesus. If they wish to hear his message and follow after him, it will take some preparation on their part.

John's clothing and diet also place him in the ambit of the prophets. He bridges the Old and New Testaments – the last of the great prophets, appearing a step ahead of the sacred feet of Jesus.

As the First Sunday of Advent prepares the faithful for the Second Coming of the glorified Christ, the Second Sunday recalls how John prepared the people for the first coming of the adult Christ. This basic theme will occur next week. The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent tells of the events leading up to the birth of the infant Christ. The message this week helps us to see how people in Jesus' own day prepared for his coming. The readings encourage us to reform our lives while maintaining the joyful expectation that Christ will bring the salvation for which we long. Whatever our struggles, his coming brings peace.

Saturday, December 9

2nd Sunday of Advent

4:30 PM + **Dec'd Anterock & Bugna Families**

Of. Dolores & Louise

Lector: Diane Popek

Ushers: Jeff Popek & Bill Kramer

Sunday, December 10, 2017

2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM + **Deceased of the Conrad and**

Lottie Miller Family

Of. Ed & Charlotte Ratajack

9:30 AM Coffee Social – Church Undercroft

9:30 AM Pre-School SOCL Class

Lector: Donna McGregor

Ushers: Bob McGregor & Don Kleer

Church Lock-up: Kody Niedzwiecki

Monday, December 11

Advent Weekday

Tuesday, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Wednesday, December 13

Advent Weekday

8:30 AM + **Rorate Mass in Honor of the B V M**

Thursday, December 14

Advent Weekday

Friday, December 15

Advent Weekday

8:30 AM + **Sick & Infirm**

Saturday, December 16

3rd Sunday of Advent

4:30 PM + **Mass for the Parishioners of All Saints**

Lector: Karen Seiler

Ushers: Jack & Mary Cay Dunmyer

Sunday, December 17, 2017

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM + **Edward Ruffennach**

Of. Parish Committee

9:30 AM Coffee Social – Church Undercroft

9:30 AM Pre-School SOCL Class

Lector: Maria Koter

Ushers: Ed Ratajack & Chuck Ratajack

Church Lock-up: Melanie LaSota

Readings for December 17, 2017

Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Prayers for the Sick

We pray for the members of our parish and its extended family: Bishop Thaddeus Peplowski, Pastor Stewart Bair, Pastor Dan Pastorius, Sherry Mack, Dan Fotovich, Mary Cay Dunmyer, Maureen Sekercak, Stella Millantz, Bob McGregor, Thomas Lill, Mike Sydlowski, Stella Trillow, Roberta Cholewinski, Jim Robinson, Ron Dzikowski, Gregory Berger, Amy Fleck, Billy O'Leary, Jay Lobdell, Helen Lobdell, Dean Williams, Stella Starczewski, Shirley Fisher, & Marianne Fairs.

Christmas Nut Roll Sale

Pre-Paid Orders Only

Orders can be placed through **December 10, 2017.**

Cost: \$12.00 each.

Please complete an order form & make you check payable to All Saints PNCC and give to Stella Millantz or Sheryl Green or drop it in the collection basket.

Pick up dates in the church undercroft:

Saturday, December 16, 2017 after Mass

Sunday, December 17, 2017 after Mass

Oplatek

Will be blessed at all Masses this weekend and will be available after Mass. The cost is \$2.00 per package. We will have a Polish version (1 wafer) and an English version (3white & 1 pink wafer). Parishioners are encouraged to share the Oplatki at their Wigilia Dinner on Christmas Eve.

Oplatek Is a central European Christian tradition celebrated in Poland, Lithuania and in some parts of Slovakia during the Wigilia, Christmas Eve Dinner. The Oplatki (plural) are embossed with Christmas related religious images, varying from the Nativity Scene, especially with baby Jesus, to the Star of Bethlehem.

2018 Memorial Mass Intentions

Parishioners can still request 2018 Memorial Mass Intentions. Please follow the instructions when completing the Memorial Mass Intention Form available in the vestibule of the church and place it in the collection basket.

Cemetery Gates

The cemetery gates are officially closed for the winter season. Please consult the bulletin for the dates they will be re-opened for the Christmas Season. If you are interested in tending to the Cemetery Gates over the Christmas holidays please contact Fr. Sr. Rick by Sunday, **December 10, 2017.**

	Actual	Budget	+/-
Dec. 3 rd	\$2,573.00	\$2,000.00	\$573.00
Envelopes Used: 55 of 115			

2017 Mandated Obligation

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	+/-
CHAS	\$19,225.00		\$23,100.00
(\$3,875.00)			
Envelopes Used: 82 of 115			
Cemetery	\$4,635.00		\$6,600.00
(\$1,965.00)			
Envelopes Used 66 of 115			
CIRF	\$2,265.00	\$2,475.00	(\$210.00)
Envelopes Used: 68 of 115			
SOCL	\$1,360.00		\$1,650.00
(\$290.00)			
Envelopes Used: 77 of 115			

Church Renovation Pledges

We have received pledges from 73 parishioners or **44.6** % of our membership for our church renovation project for our 100th Anniversary Celebration. Our pledge total: **\$30,492.00** per year. If you have not made a pledge prayerfully consider doing so in light of how God has blessed you and your love of his church. Please complete your pledge form as soon as possible and place it in an envelope and put it in the collection or mail it to the parish office. Fr. Sr. Rick.

Memorial Tree Leafs

As part of our church renovation project we are providing one leaf on our Memorial Tree for any parishioner who contributes \$500.00 or more to the project. Any parishioner who has paid \$500.00 toward their pledge can contact Fr. Sr. Rick who will order a leaf to be placed on the tree.

2018 PNCC Family Calendars

Thanks to the generosity of Paul and Diane Eberlein of Szafranski-Eberlein Funeral Home we have available to our parishioners 2018PNCC Family Calendars. You can obtain your calendar (one per family) in the vestibule or undercroft of the church. Our supply is limited and additional calendars are not available through the National Church.

Christmas Day Open House

Church of the Atonement
618 Washington Ave. Carnegie
Monday, December 25th from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Local delivery for **Shut-ins**
Delivery orders will be accepted by calling 412-276-0366 until Wednesday, December 20th.

United Y. M. S. of R. Winter Clothing Drive

The United Y. M. S. of R. Board is calling on all Branches and Polish National Catholic Churches to be Christ for your community!

NEEDED: Articles of clothing to help dull the winter chill.
YOUR REWARD: A good deed that reflects the love of Jesus.

Karen will coordinate our clothing drive. We will be seeking winter clothing items (**new underwear, socks, hats, gloves, pants, sweatshirts, & new or gently worn coats**). Please **no** used items mentioned above **except** for gently worn coats and **no** shoes. This will include items for infants, toddlers, young children, teen and adults. Items will be given to families participating in the Family Promise Program. Please bring items to the church undercroft.

Gift Cards for Christmas

Our Gift Card Program is back! Thanks to Bob Lauzonis for taking on this fund raising project. Order forms are available in the vestibule and undercroft of the church. Please complete your Gift Card Form and place it in the collection or give to Bob no later than **Sunday, December 10th**. Orders will be placed on December 11th/12th with our gift card vendor and the ordered cards will be distributed to parishioners after Mass on December 16th/17th.

The success of the gift card fund raising depends on YOU, our parishioner's willingness to participate in the program. This is an easy way to support your parish and to provide gift cards to your family and friends at Christmas.

Our Lady of Victory Cookie Walk

Walk your way through our selection of homemade Middle East pastries & specialty cookies that will make the holidays a bit sweeter.

Saturday, December 16, 2017

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Cookies sold individually or \$8.00 per pound.

Our Lady of Victory Maronite Catholic Church
100 Lindsay Road
Carnegie, PA 15106 (Scott Township)

Family Promise

Sign-up sheets for our first Family Promise of 2018 are located in the church undercroft. The dates for Family Promise: December 31, 2017 through January 7, 2018. Please consider volunteering for our parish outreach program.