



# Good Shepherd Church

## The Epiphany of the Lord

### January 6 & 7, 2018



#### † MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

- Saturday January 6**  
**4:00 PM** Margaret Petrovich ~ Son, Sonny & Frances Petrovich and Daughter, Patsy Rinehimer
- Sunday January 7**  
**8:00 AM** Parishioners of Good Shepherd  
**10:00 AM** James A. Hoffman ~ Wife, Claire & Family
- Monday January 8**  
**8:00 AM** Madeline Yannes ~ Ann Marie & Tony Masi
- Tuesday January 9**  
**8:00 AM** Craig Wallen ~ Dr. Mike & Nancy Washinsky
- Wednesday January 10**  
**8:00 AM** Neil Lamana ~ Jerry & Mary Lou
- Thursday January 11**  
**8:00 AM** Judith McGuinness ~ Karin, Dana, Ed & Family
- Friday January 12**  
**8:00 AM** Louis J. Beltrami ~ M/M John R. Kulig
- Saturday January 13**  
**4:00 PM** Rita Amerise ~ Children
- Sunday January 14**  
**8:00 AM** Parishioners of Good Shepherd  
**10:00 AM** Joseph Salkowski ~ Family



### FROM THE PASTOR... *Fr. McHugh*

**Calendar of Saints:** This year, our calendars are from the best-known producers of Catholic calendars, the Catholic Extension, which supports impoverished dioceses and mission activity in our own country. The saints included are interesting ones. I am familiar with all of the saints except Gianna Beretta Molla who was a very good role model for mothers. She gave up her life for her child. On the cover of the calendar is Mother Theresa, known for great concern for the poor and a strong prayer life. St. Pope Pius X is probably the most difficult person for me to accept as a saint. I certainly cannot comprehend how the man who did the most to hinder the advancement of Scripture studies in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, no matter what good he accomplished, could be honored as a saint. He was especially hard on Fr. Lagrange, one of the great pioneers of the Catholic Scripture movement and the École Biblique, the early Catholic center in Jerusalem where Fr. Lagrange labored. Blessed Oscar Romero of El Salvador was a defender of the poor and was shot and killed while offering Mass. Padre Pio is well known as a man who experienced the stigmata, or wounds, of Christ on his body and as a "reader of hearts" in the confessional. The saint from Down Under, Australian Mary McKillop, received rough treatment from local bishops. I am sure many of us can identify with her. St. Maria Goretti is one of the better known saints of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, resisting sexual advances. Sister Theresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) was an excellent philosopher who studied under Husserl, was a convert to Catholicism, was gassed at Auschwitz, and recently was named a Doctor of the Church. St. John Paul II was a courageous and kind man who had wonderful leadership to the Church and was respected by most everyone. Pope St. John XXIII is famous for initiating the Vatican II Council and for promoting ecumenism. St. Maximilian Kolbe gave up his life for another man and was also very active in promoting Catholic literature.

## Stewardship

680 families received envelopes.  
 Offertory Envelopes for the weekend 12/30:

| MASS TIME | NUMBER OF FAMILIES OFFERING | AMOUNT OF OFFERING | ATTENDANCE AT MASS |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 4:00 PM   | 66                          | \$ 818.00          | 151                |
| 8:00 AM   | 47                          | \$ 645.00          | 102                |
| 10:00 AM  | 61                          | \$2,202.00         | 188                |
|           | Loose                       | \$ 397.00          |                    |
|           | <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$4,062.00</b>  | <b>441</b>         |

## Worship

**The Tabernacle Candle** burns this week in memory of **Margaret Petrovich** by son, Sonny and Frances Petrovich and daughter, Patsy Rinehimer.

**The Rose for Life** this week is in memory of **Norbert and Lucy Corazza** by Judy Corazza.

Father Steven Brosk will be substituting for me this coming week.

**Parish Council Meeting:** This is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the St. Joseph Room.

Fr. McHugh will be offering Mass at Fritzingertown on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:15AM.

**YouTube Scripture:** Several presentations on the Infancy Narratives by Fr. McHugh are now on YouTube. On your computer, type in "Father Connell McHugh Biblical Narratives" to reach the site. After presentations are made on Catholicfmradio.com, they are transferred to YouTube within a week or so.

## Word

**Theme: Joy For All Peoples:** The Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentiles. The readings have themes of universality and all peoples worshipping the one God. The first reading, from 1<sup>st</sup> Isaiah, optimistically hopes for a pilgrimage of all nations to the God of Israel, while Ephesians refers to Jews and Gentiles as "coheirs, comembers, and copartners" in the promises of the Gospels. The Gospel of Matthew speaks of the benefits of the coming of the Messiah. Matthew's Gospel also introduces us to Herod the Great who was a truly ruthless man who employed any means to protect his own throne. He had no conscience in murdering anyone he felt was a threat to him. Herod killed his wife, and later her mother, who complained about what was done to her daughter. Herod also murdered three of his own sons. He was well aware that few would mourn his death, so he issued a warrant authorizing the deaths of the most prominent and beloved citizens of Jerusalem so the people of Jerusalem would seem to be mourning for Herod! Herod was also responsible for the deaths of the Holy Innocents. The Magi, who wish to visit the Christ Child, are important, for they represent Christ being revealed to the Gentile world. They also represent someone using nature to come to a deeper knowledge of God, since they followed the star. The gifts of the Magi were gold, frankincense, and myrrh, all of which were expensive at that time. Gold was a symbol of kingship, frankincense represented divinity, and myrrh was employed at funerals to overcome odors, and it was a symbol of Jesus' humanity. Matthew contrasts the welcoming Magi with the opposition to Jesus at His birth.

### **Praying With Scripture:**

1. Pray for openness to welcome God's light into your life.
2. Do you feel Matthew's account of Jesus' birth is less joyful than Luke's? Why?
3. Do you feel the Magi represent people who search for God in their lives?

**Shut-Ins:** I did make an effort to reach many of our shut-ins during December and will pick this up again when the weather allows. Call in the names of parishioners only if you want me to bring the sacraments to their home. With not being given any help, I cannot cover non-parishioners.

## FR. CONNELL'S TRIVIA

1. This famous Yankee hit the first homerun in an exhibition game in the Astrodome. Can you name him?
2. This famous Phillie hit the first homerun in a regular season game in the Astrodome. Can you name him? Hint – at present, he is not a Hall of Famer, although he could become one.

### **Last Week's Answers:**

1. Cy Young lost the most games in Major League history – 315. Young also won the most games – 511.
2. Rusty Staub, playing for Detroit in 1978, was the first player to appear as a designated hitter in all 162 games.

## Community

**Tuesday Night Bingo** at Good Shepherd Church starts with our Early Bird game at 6:00 PM. We play 22 games each week and payouts range from \$50 to over \$500. Our regular games pay \$100 each.



The kitchen opens at 5:00 PM with special soups, sandwiches, beverages, ethnic foods and a variety of other goodies including fries, pretzels, candy, chips, and more. We also provide complimentary coffee, tea, and cake to our players (and volunteers).

If *playing* Bingo is not your cup of tea, we encourage you to join the Bingo team as a volunteer. Our staff includes kitchen, admissions, sales, and floor workers. We can accommodate your schedule with as little as one hour in our sales room or admissions table, or up to three or four hours as kitchen staff. We have four teams of volunteers that rotate each week so that most volunteers only work once a month.

Bingo at Good Shepherd Church is an important source of income for our parish. Please call the parish office at 570-788-3141 or Bingo Coordinator Carol at 570-788-5891 if you can volunteer to help.



**The Valley Food Pantry** helps those in need of food, paper products, and hygienic articles. We have been asked to collect tissues, tuna, stewed tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, rice and pancake mix and syrup. Please check expiration dates.

**Salvation Army Soup Kitchen:** Good Shepherd Parish continues its mission to serve the needy in our area through our continued support of this parish project. On the first Wednesday of each month, our parish donates, prepares, and serves a hot meal at the Hazleton Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. We join in fellowship and prayer with others to put our Catholic faith into action. The December holiday meal was baked ham, sweet potatoes, potato salad, fresh cooked carrots, applesauce, bread, and ice cream sundaes for dessert. Each person was given a “take home bag” with peanut butter crackers, pudding, a personal tissue pack, a few chocolates, and a banana. Thanks to our parish annual sock drive, we distributed a new pair of socks to the 54 people attending the lunch.

Special blessings to Father McHugh, our friends at Providence Places who pack our “take home bags” each month, and our volunteers and parishioners who give of their resources, time, and talents. Please continue with your prayers of support for the less fortunate in our community as we move forward into 2018. Our next visit to the Soup Kitchen will be on Wednesday, February 7. Please contact the parish office for more information on how you can participate in this parish project.

*- Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Stoffa Beozzo,  
Chairperson*

## **The Women of Good Shepherd**

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday, January 8,** at **6:30 PM** in the St. Joseph Room.