



# Good Shepherd Church

*Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**November 18 & 19, 2017**



## † MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK †

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 18</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	John & Angeline Yancus ~ Family
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 19</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Biaggio Roselle ~ Wife & Children
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Burton Balliet (6 <sup>th</sup> -Year Anniversary) & Michael Balliet ~ Wife & Grandmother, Carol Balliet
<b>Monday</b>	<b>November 20</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Parishioners of Good Shepherd
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>November 21</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Frank MacFarland ~ Patricia DiProspero
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>November 22</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Angelo Spadell ~ Eddie & Linda Awdakimow
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 23 – Thanksgiving Day</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Thomas Randall ~ Lindsay Family
<b>Friday</b>	<b>November 24</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Marian Matusick Chavez ~ Sophia Scatton
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 25</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	John & Pearl Sipple ~ Joe, Judi, & Katie Yamulla
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 26</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Parishioners of Good Shepherd
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Donna Generose ~ Larry & Gary Generose and Heather Generose Busch

**First Friday:** December 1<sup>st</sup> is the first Friday of the month. Following the 8:00 AM Mass, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Morning Prayer, Divine Mercy Devotion and closing Benediction. Please join us if you are free.



November is the month of praying for the departed. During this month, we are especially encouraged to pray for the departed. The custom of praying for the faithful departed is based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Maccabees, chapter 12, verses 43 and following. This book was one of the first to express belief in the resurrection of the dead. It was written in the second century. The early Christians prayed for the departed, though we do not have explicit passages in the New Testament. Christians believed that, somehow, our prayers hastened the eternal union of their loved ones with God. St. Augustine especially urged people to pray for the faithful departed. Masses were viewed as another way to hasten loved ones' union with God. Purgatory is the condition or state of a person who, while not rejecting God, is partially alienated from Him. The official teaching of the Church does not specifically teach that Purgatory is a place or process. The idea of Purgatory as a place comes from medieval art, not Church teaching. The Reformers completely rejected Purgatory. The indulgences that were sometimes related to Purgatory also turned Protestants off. The idea of Purgatory as a "penal colony" also came from the Middle Ages. The worst way we can view Purgatory is as a "short term hell." Most moderns reject the material fire associated with Purgatory and think of Purgatory as a burning desire for union with God and a recognition that we are responsible for not being united with God at the time of our biological death. Protestants, for the most part, believe that Christ's redeeming death is sufficient for cleansing all sin and that Purgatory is superfluous.

## Stewardship

680 families received envelopes.

Offertory Envelopes for the weekend 11/11:

MASS TIME	NUMBER OF FAMILIES OFFERING	AMOUNT OF OFFERING	ATTENDANCE AT MASS
4:00 PM	92	\$1,029.00	237
8:00 AM	73	\$1,029.00	164
10:00 AM	67	\$ 895.00	202
	Loose	\$ 250.51	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,203.51</b>	<b>603</b>

## Worship

*The Tabernacle Candle* burns this week in memory of John & Angeline Yancus by family.

*The Rose for Life* this week is in memory of Jean Mayton by Marsha and Kevin Kringle and family. The *second Rose for Life* this week is in memory of Frank J. Carlin by John and Karen Grandzol.

**Thanksgiving Mass:** This will be offered at 9:00 AM on Thursday morning, Thanksgiving Day. Certainly, it is appropriate to begin the day by returning thanks to God for all He has done for us. The first reading of the day from Sirach urges us to bless God for the wonderful things He has done for us. St. Paul, in the second reading from his first Letter to the Corinthians, as he often does at the beginning of his letters, thanks God for the blessings He has bestowed on us through Jesus Christ. The Gospel for Thanksgiving is the familiar story of the ten lepers from Luke, which is frequently employed at both ecumenical services on Thanksgiving Eve and Masses of Thanksgiving Day.

**Breakfast:** The next breakfast will be held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hopefully, our attendance will be similar to our November 5<sup>th</sup> one, which 298 patronized.

**Advent Commences:** Advent always begins on the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Andrew, which is November 30<sup>th</sup>. The first Sunday of Advent occurs on December 3<sup>rd</sup> this year.

## **Word**

**Using What God Entrusts to You:** Today is the Sunday before the feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the liturgical year, after which we begin the season of Advent. The Gospel for today is the Parable of the Talents. A similar parable, that of The Pounds, is found in Luke's Gospel. The Gospel relates that God expects us to use what he has given to us. Talents were huge amounts of money. A talent was equal to about 6,000 denarii. A denarius was a day's wage. The Gospel for today instructs us to be industrious with what God has given to us. The second reading is taken from St. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Letter to the Thessalonians and emphasizes the unexpected return of the Lord. 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians was the first epistle Paul wrote. He originally believed that the second coming of Christ would take place in his lifetime, but he had to revise his thinking in later epistles. Paul stressed that the return of the Lord would come like a thief in the night. He counsels preparedness for the Lord's return. The first reading from Proverbs is about the qualities of a worthy wife and may seem out of place with today's readings. However, the wife is a fine example of a person who responds faithfully to the gifts God entrusted to her. The Parable of the Talents emphasizes that God fully expects us to use the gifts He gave to us.

### **Praying With Scripture:**

1. How do you use what God has entrusted to you? Do you make the best of your talents?
2. Prayerfully evaluate the gifts God has given to you.
3. Do you encourage other people to develop their talents?

**Diocesan Annual Appeal:** Thanks to those who have donated to the Annual Appeal. To date, 204 families or individuals have contributed to the Appeal. We have attained 83.8% of our \$26,000 goal. This past year, we received a \$4,000 grant from the Appeal that benefited our Shepherd's Hands group. \$16,728.33 has been contributed outright and another \$5,084.67 pledged.

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:** This occurs on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. This, of course is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass on the vigil will be offered at 4:00 PM, and on the day itself at 12:00 Noon and 5:00 PM. The Immaculate Conception is the patron feast of the United States.

**The Christmas Play:** This will take place on Friday, December 8, at 6:00 PM, following the 5:00 PM Mass of the Immaculate Conception.

**Congratulations** to Gretchen and Annelise Darr who served their first Mass on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Parish Delegates:** The opening Mass for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Scranton Diocese will take place on Sunday, December 3, at 12:15PM at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton. The Diocese would like four parish delegates to attend. This could be from different ministry areas, different age groups, a family of four, etc. Notify me if you would like to be a delegate or have your family of four represent our parish. The event will especially reflect the legacy of those in our diocese who have gone before us.

**Volunteer & Staff Christmas Party:** This will be held on Wednesday, December 6, at The Pines in Hazleton, located on the corner of Broad and Wyoming Streets. There will be a cash bar from 5:00 to 6:00 PM and dinner at 6:00 PM. The entertainment will be by the Scranton duo "The Frost," who will perform music from the '60s, '70s, etc. They especially have a nice selection of Fleetwood Mac songs and also will have Christmas songs. "The Frost" duo consists of Christian Gratz and Leah Beth Evans. Volunteers and staff are free. The cost for non-volunteers and guests is \$25 per person. Please turn in the coupon by Tuesday, November 28, if you plan to attend. Specify volunteer, non-volunteer, or guest.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Volunteer or Guest \_\_\_\_\_

## FR. CONNELL'S TRIVIA

1. On the 1956 Topps Dodgers' team card, this player from Shamokin is referred to as one of the great players in Dodgers history. Can you name him?
2. What was the main source of top sports players being called "superstars?"

### Last Week's Answers:

1. All-American football player Herman Wedemeyer, the original "Flying Hawaiian," played Duke on the original *Hawaii Five-O* from 1972-80.
2. All-star defensive end Fred Dryer played Hunter on the successful show of the same name.

## The Shepherd's Hands

Fellow parishioners - your generous donations to the Sock Drives these past two years have been VERY appreciated by so many people in need! It is time for the **2017 Sock Drive**. New socks, especially for men, are now being collected in the bins located in the church vestibule. The sock collection will continue **through Sunday, December 3**. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity!  
- Submitted by Janet Krings



## The Women of Good Shepherd

We thank Joann and Bill from The Next Picasso. We stenciled wood plaques that we were "Thankful" for. It was a fun evening.

The Women of Good Shepherd will be attending the PTPA production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. The play is **Thursday, December 7**, at 7:00 PM. The cost of dinner and the show is \$35.00. If you would like to join us, please call 570-401-5092. Please reserve your seat by Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Thanksgiving Raffle:** A turkey wall hanging adorned with \$150 worth of gift cards and lottery tickets will be chanced off this **Sunday, November 19**, after the 10:00 AM Mass. Tickets are being sold in the church vestibule. Chances are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds will benefit The Women of Good Shepherd Scholarship fund.

## Community

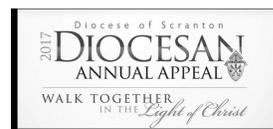


**The Valley Food Pantry** will be making Christmas boxes for needy families in the area. Good Shepherd has been asked to contribute cake mix and frosting for 58 boxes. The local churches have also been asked to help with coffee, flour, and sugar. If you cannot get out shopping and wish to help, checks payable to the "Valley Food Pantry" will also be accepted. **The deadline for contributions is Wednesday, December 13**. Thank you for your generosity!

**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).



**Keep Christ in Christmas:** The Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Fatima Council 8613, Conyngham-Drums, will be selling **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS** car magnets, bumper stickers, and Catholic Christmas cards **in the library** after the 4:00 PM Mass this **Saturday, November 18**, and the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses this **Sunday, November 19**. They will also be selling their Chance of a Lifetime raffle tickets for 16 prizes worth \$62,000. The profits will benefit local charities, the Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas program, and the upkeep of the Knights' nativity set at the monastery along Route 93.



### Next Weekend is the Annual Appeal Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Peter's Cathedral

You are invited to attend an "Annual Appeal Mass of Thanksgiving" to be held at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Sunday, November 26, at 10:00 AM. The Mass will be celebrated by Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera and followed by a reception in the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 330 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton. Your intention, as you expressed on pledge envelopes during In-Pew Weekend, will be remembered at this Mass. This Mass also marks the Liturgical Solemnity of Christ the King, and the conclusion of the Extraordinary Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis.

### **Nothing Left To Give**

The awkward frightening feeling  
Of standing center stage  
With so many dependents  
Hoping for some new program  
Some new idea, some new creation  
And realizing you are empty.

Psychologically exhausted  
Your creativity drained  
Your struggling mind  
Searching for one more hat trick  
Certain the show cannot stop  
Certain something must win the day.

Rev. Connell A. McHugh

### **A Thanksgiving Day Prayer**

Lord, we thank you  
For the goodness of our people  
And for the spirit of justice  
That fills this nation.  
We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the  
Land and the challenge of the cities.  
We thank you for our work and our rest,  
For one another, and for our homes.  
We thank you, Lord:  
Accept our thanksgiving on this day.  
We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ  
Our Lord.  
Amen.