

# St. Patrick

## Roman Catholic Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

317 West Pike Street Canonsburg, PA 15317

Rev. John J. Batykefer, Pastor  
Rev. Richard S. Jones, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Mr. Joseph Cerenzia, Deacon

### Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Ph: 724-745-6560 Fax: 724-746-1112

Email: [stpatparish@verizon.net](mailto:stpatparish@verizon.net)

Website: [www.stpatrickparish.net](http://www.stpatrickparish.net)

## December 23, 2007



### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sunday (SP) 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.  
12:00 Noon and 5:00 p.m.

Mon. - Fri. (SP) 7:00 a.m.

Wed. (SP) 9:00 a.m.

Mon., Tues., Thurs., and Fri. (SG) 8:00 a.m.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and anytime by request

### BAPTISM

First time parents should contact the Parish Office well in advance of an expected Baptism, before birth when possible, to prepare for and to schedule the Baptism. Baptisms during Mass are held the 1st Sunday of the month and Baptisms after Mass at 1:15 p.m. are held the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month.

### BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Instructions to prepare adults for reception into the Catholic Faith or for any of the Sacraments are offered by our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Program. Please call 724-745-3787 for more information.

### BIBLE STUDY

Meet every Monday in Church, 7:00-8:15 p.m. Bring a Bible, invite a friend. All are welcome!

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 724-745-3787

Carol Serbak, Catechetical Administrator  
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.  
Pre-school - 8th Grade

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Contact a Priest 6 months before intended date of marriage. Pre-marriage preparation is required. Call the Rectory - 724-745-6560.

### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL 724-745-7977

Mr. Stanley Mozina, Principal  
Pre-school - 8th Grade

### COMMUNION CALLS

Any homebound member or shut-in may receive Holy Communion in their home. A Eucharistic Minister, Deacon or Priest will visit.

### COUNSELING SERVICES

Catholic Charities 724-228-7722

CRISIS PREGNANCY 1-888-543-3243

POST ABORTION 1-800-593-2273

### CHAPLAIN

**Fr. Gabriel Badurina, TOR**

Serving Canonsburg General Hospital and area Nursing Facilities. Fr. Badurina can be reached by calling 724-745-6560, Ext. 21.



## Christmas Schedule

### CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 pm (SP), 9:00 pm (SG), 12:00 am (SP)

### CHRISTMAS DAY

7:30 am (SP), 10:00 am (SP), 12:00 noon (SP)

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE:** All parishioners are cordially invited to an Open House at the rectory on Thursday, December 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Plan to stop for a visit some time that evening and feel free to bring an appetizer or favorite treat. However, it is not necessary.

**VOCATION AWARENESS:** A vocation must be nurtured for a lifetime, not just until ordination or the taking of vows. You can help nurture the vocations of priests, sisters and brothers, married and single life by praying, listening, and expressing appreciation. A life of service needs support from those served.

**BAPTISM INSTRUCTION PROGRAM** will be offered for PARENTS and GODPARENTS in preparation for the Baptism of their child on **Thursday, January 10, 2008 at 7:00 pm.** In the rectory. Note: If you plan to attend this session, please call the rectory office (724.745.6560) to register for this program. The next Baptism Instruction Program will be held in March.

 **WE WELCOME** into our parish family the following children who were baptized here in October & November: Ruby Malia Smith, Alivia Marie Schaner, Drew Welhorsky, Laney Stefanyak, Zayne Jastrzebski, Derek Andrew Karolak, Jack Henry Harris, Gabriella Rose DeLuca, Amelia Claire Brose, Britney Marie Snyder, & Eva Grace Conner. May God bless them and their families.

**Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day, as well as New Year's Eve & New Year's Day.**

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT

*Third Sunday of Advent  
December 16, 2007*

Will be published in next week's bulletin, as this was sent for publication on Friday, December 14.

**Weekly Budgeted Expenses ..... \$13,980.67**

**YOUR SACRIFICE IS APPRECIATED!**

### PARKING LOT RESURFACING

Total cost: \$178,000.00\*

\*This includes the added cost for the new parking areas of \$28,000.00.

Amount in savings to date: \$132,615.06

Including \$57,245.06 in individual donations

Amount still needed: \$45,384.94

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT !**

**A SECOND COLLECTION** will be taken on Christmas Day for Christmas Charities (*Children & Youth Envelope*).

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**December 23 - High School YM Advent Session**

1:30 - 3:00 Center: Teen Room

**December 24 - NO RCIA**

**- NO BIBLE STUDY**

**December 26 - Pray the Rosary- 6:30 pm: Church**

**December 27- Open House Christmas Party -**

6:30 - 10:00 pm: Rectory

**December 31 - NO BIBLE STUDY**

**- NO RCIA**

**BULLETIN** Due to the Christmas and New Year's holiday, the bulletin deadline has been moved from Tuesday to Friday for two more weeks. The new deadlines are as follows:

☞ Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> for the Dec. 30, 2007 Publication

☞ Friday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> for the Jan. 6, 2008 Publication

*Schedule  
Change*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 (SP) (P.M.— VIGIL for Fourth Sunday of Advent)  
Stanley & Mary Soberl by Daughters, Martha & Marie

7:30 (SP) Patrick & Porcaro Families by Ed Patrick

10:00 (SP) Anthony, Adeline & John Giacobbe by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Gump & Family

12:00 (SP) Virginia & Ed Yorke by Gloria & Dick Sarlo-Yorke

5:00 (SP) (P.M.) FOR THE PEOPLE

Months Mind: **Kenneth Reinehr**

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

7:00 (SP) Steve Kulakowski by Wife, Loretta  
(CHILDREN'S MASS)

5:00 (SP) Joseph Patrick by Wife, Lamese & Family

9:00 (SG) Pete Filius by Wife, Dolly  
(MIDNIGHT MASS)

12:00 (SP) Brandon Lanzy by Mom, Dad, and Sisters

Months Mind: **Joseph D'Amico**

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

7:30 (SP) John A. Pape by Mr. & Mrs. David P. Seamon

10:00 (SP) Katherine E. Novotny by Husband, Frank & Family

12:00 (SP) (Noon) Harmuth & Cwynarski Families by  
Caroline Harmuth

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26 - St. Stephen

7:00 (SP) Irene Schildkamp by Mary Smith

9:00 (SP) Carmella Del Bene by Pierogi Ladies

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27 - St. John

7:00 (SP) Bob Freno, Delmont & Ethel Phillips by June  
Freno & Family

8:00 (SG) John Mroz by Louise & Family

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28 - The Holy Innocents

7:00 (SP) John P. & Dorothy Fartro by Lucy Cannon

8:00 (SG) Karen and Dr. Sam Tirimacco by Eleanor &  
Family

Months Mind: **Dorothy Chesnik & James Orsini**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29 - St. Thomas Becket

7:30 (SP) Florence & Fred Costanzo by Fred Costanzo

#### 11:30 to 12:30 (P.M.) – RECONCILIATION

5:00 (SP) (P.M.— VIGIL for Feast of the Holy Family)  
Relatives of Mr. & Mrs. Gary J. Edell

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

#### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

##### JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

7:30 (SP) FOR THE PEOPLE

10:00 (SP) Mascetta & Verrone Families by Mr. &  
Mrs. Joseph Mascetta Family

12:00 (SP) Antosh & Jacobs Families by Mr. & Mrs.  
Joseph Jacobs

5:00 (SP) (P.M.) Mary Schnore by Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Illig

## This Week's Altar Server Schedule

### Saturday, December 22

5:00 pm - G. Burke, J. & M. Illig

### Sunday, December 23

7:30 am - A. Boni, M. Cushma, & L. Thompson

10:00 am - E. Regoli, J. Cavallo, P. Gent

12:00 pm - M. & T. Costantino, L. Law

## Next Week's Altar Server Schedule

### Saturday, December 29

5:00 pm - B. & M. Illig, A. Lochran

### Sunday, December 30

7:30 am - P. Tordella, A. Boni

10:00 am - C. Tarnick, C. & J. Helinski

12:00 pm - M. & J. Costantino, E. Collins

5:00 pm - M. & A. Broglia, L. Sollon

## PITTSBURGH DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN DECEMBER PRAYER FOR PRIEST'S LIST:

Dec. 23 Rev. Miroslaus A. Wojcicki  
Rev. Mark A. Thomas

Dec. 24 Rev. Paul J. Zywan

Dec. 25 Rev. Joseph M. Mele

Dec. 26 Rev. Robert J. Zajdel  
Mr. Preston Huck

Dec. 27 Rev. Clinton P. Zadroga  
Rev. Ward Stakem

Dec. 28 Rev. James G. Young

Dec. 29 Rev. James M. Bachner

Dec. 30 Rev. Thomas R. Wilson  
Deacon G. Gregory Jelinek

Dec. 31 Rev. James R. Torquanto

May God's abiding presence nourish and sustain them each day  
as they boldly proclaim His Kingdom of mercy and justice.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;  
Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18  
[1-5, 9-14] 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21 [12-17];  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## FR RICH REFLECTIONS

“**God loves you, so don’t let anything worry you or frighten you.**” Daniel 10:19

I begin each new day praying **The Angelus**. I invite you as well to pray this simple, yet beautiful prayer daily, most especially this week of Christmas.

### The Angelus

V. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. **Hail Mary.**

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done to me according to your word. **Hail Mary.**

V. And the word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. **Hail Mary.**

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**LET US PRAY** Pour forth; we beseech You, O Lord. Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross, be brought to the glory of His resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christmas is born in **silence**. Christmas is God’s gift to **everyone**, His only-begotten Son. Christmas is sharing His **light, life, and love** with others every day of our lives. As the greetings and cries of “**Merry Christmas!**” echo everywhere today and throughout the New Year 2008, I pledge and promise my prayers for you every day of the year, **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**—I also offer this reflection I gave at the Advent Bible study on Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

### A Christmas Meditation

‘It is a good thing to observe Christmas Day, but it is better to hold the spirit of Christmas throughout the year. To hold it helps one to

feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch now and then by the great clock of humanity which runs on sun time. There is a better thing than the observance of Christmas Day and this is keeping Christmas. Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people and to remember what other people have done for you? Are you willing to ignore what the world owes to you and to think of what you owe to the world? To put your rights in the background and your duties in the middle distance and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground? Are you willing to see that your fellowmen are just as real as you are and try to look beyond their faces into their hearts, hungry for joy?

Are you willing to admit that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life but what you are going to put into it? To close your book of complaints against the management of the Universe and to look around for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness? Are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children, to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old, to stop asking how much your friends love you and ask yourself whether you love them or not? Are you willing to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts? To try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you? Are you willing to trim your lamp so that your shadow will fall behind you? Are you willing to make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for your kindly feelings with the gates wide open? Are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world, stronger than evil, stronger than death? And that the Blessed Life which began in Bethlehem over [two thousand] years ago is the image and brightness of **Eternal Love**? Then you can keep Christmas. And if you keep it for a day, why not keep it always?’

- by Dr. Tom Dooley from *The Night They Burned the Mountain* (12.23.07)



### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

Please note that "School News" will resume in January, after the Christmas holiday

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 21, 2007 Christmas Break begins at 12:30 P.M.  
December 24, 2007 St. Patrick Children's Choir at the 5:00 P.M. Liturgy  
January 3, 2008 Classes resume  
January 3, 2008 Education Commission of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting 4:15  
January 4, 2008 Intramural Sports Program begins at South Central School

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Just in time for Christmas!!! **WALMART** certificates are here!!! Stop by the **SCRIP** table and purchase your certificates for all your holiday needs. Available every morning in the school cafeteria from 8:15 am—9:30 am, and after Sunday masses from 8:30—11:45 am. You may also order online at [www.saintpatsschool.org](http://www.saintpatsschool.org) and pick up your order on Sunday. Questions, call Kristie at 724.969.1069.

The very popular **ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** are still available at the school for \$20.00 each.

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**MEMORIALS** were received for the following:

**My Father's House:** In loving memory of **Joseph D'Amico** by Phillip G. Guyton; **Ann Koziel** by Daniel & Marian Plovic, Violet & Greg Zerox, Rena Castelli.

**Parking Lot Fund:** In loving memory of **Mary 'Mae' Holland** by John & Mary Imperatore; **Ann Koziel** by Angelo & Eileen Cianelli, Helen Jacoby, ,

**MASSES** were received in loving memory of:

**John Walleck** by Franny Conta; **Ann Koziel** by Dolly & Sam Mazza, Trudy Fittro & Family, Bob & Lauren Bradley.

**Stress in Your Marriage** - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue...or have you just stopped talking to each other? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriage. It is a program for married couples who feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriages. Most don't know how to change the situation or communicate with their spouses about it. For confidential information about or to register for the winter program beginning with a weekend on January 11-13, 2008, call 1-800-470-2230 or send an email to [3041@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3041@retrouvaille.org), or visit the web site at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com)



### ST. PATRICK RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**NO Religious Education** classes on Sunday, December 23rd and 30th. Classes resume on January 6, 2008. Have a Blessed Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**THANK YOU** to all Religious Education students who brought in items for the shoeboxes for Samaritan Purse. We were able to fill 36 shoeboxes for the needy children. You made some child's Christmas a little brighter.

**STUDENT CHURCH ENVELOPES** - Students in grades Pre-School through 12th grade who would like to receive Church Offertory Envelopes for the 2008 year, please call the Religious Education Office at 724.745.3787.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TOY AND CLOTHING DRIVE** was a huge success thanks to all of you. We were able to help families in our parish, Catholic Charities and the Washington Women's Shelter. Since Jesus is the reason for the season, you shared the gifts of love, hope, charity, faith, peace and joy with all the members of God's family. **Thank You** and God Bless you for your generosity.

**ANGEL TREE** was a huge success. St. Patrick Parish helped over 200 individuals. Thank you to all who took an Angel and purchased items. You made a needy person a little bit happier this Christmas season.



**This Sunday & Every Sunday in Advent**, High School Youth Ministry will be **meeting from 1:30 to 3:00 pm**. All members are encouraged to bring both a friend and a Christmas ornament or decoration each week as the anticipation of the Advent season both builds and ushers us into Christmas joy.

*Advertiser of the Week*

**SLUCIAK CONTRACTING, INC.**

724.745.2841