December 25, 2022 Established 1876

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

PA Charitable Trust
337 Center Street - St. Marys, PA 15857
Sacred Heart Parish Office: 814-834-7861 Fax: 814-834-1376 • Sacred Heart Parish Center: 814-834-4017 e-mail: sacredheartparish@windstream.net • Website: www.sacredheartparish.us Parish Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



May your Christmas be filled with the joy and love that only the Christ Child can give. Many blessings to all of you in the coming year! Please continue to join in Mass each weekend and week days. **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**





December 24(S): Vigil of The Nativity of the Lord

Intention of Celebrant 4:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. Patients & Staff of Pinecrest.

Elk Haven & Silver Creek

December 25: The Nativity of the Lord For Sacred Heart Parishioners 7:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Intention of Volunteers of

Sacred Heart Parish

December 26(M): St. Stephen, First Martyr 6:15 a.m. †† Frank & Rose Mary Kneidel

December 27(T): St. John, Apostle, Evangelist

6:15 a.m. † Rose Mayer

December 28(W): The Holy Innocents, Martyrs 6:15 a.m. †† Joseph & Angela (An.) Lynch December 29(Th): Fifth Day in the Octave of

Christmas

6:15 a.m. † Don Baumgratz (An.)

December 30(F): Holy Family

L/D of Clonan Family 6:15 a.m.

December 31(S): Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00 p.m. † Micki Pfingstler

January 1: The Epiphany of the Lord 7:00 a.m. For Sacred Heart Parishioners

9:00 a.m. † Steve Lion (An.)

11:00 a.m. † Fr. Vernon A. Holtz, OSB

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

will be held in Sacred Heart Church on Friday from 7:00 a.m. until closing with Benediction at 4:00 p.m. On January 13, 2023 Adoration will be 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and then from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be a Wedding at Noon. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Jeanne Klaiber and John Murone (Brother of Rosemary Carnovale). May God grant them eternal rest and comfort all those who mourn them.

PRAYER LIST - Let us remember all the sick especially Chrissy Aikens, Sharon Boylan, Carol Bullers, Dennis J. Cunningham, Henry James Farkas, Alice Feldbauer, Michael Gary, Don Geci, Louise Georgevich, Kathleen Glatfelter, Miranda J. Halpin, "Puggie" Iorfida, Beula Kestler, Anita Kosmowski, Dennis Maffei, Darlene Nappe, Tom Nellis Jr., Tammy Pearsall, Asher Quinn, Kathleen (Daisy) Rowley, William "Bill" Schatz, Dave Schneider, Keith Schreiber, Matthew Sharrow, Eileen Spence & Mary Jo Wheeler. We pray in hope that God's healing power may touch all those who are sick.

FATIMA PRAYER GROUP

Monday Night Apostolate of Fatima Rosary at Sacred Heart Church will be NOW held at 4:00 p.m. instead of at 6:00 p.m. effective on Mon., Jan., 2, 2023. It's our hope that this earlier time will be more convenient due to the darkness & weather conditions. Won't you please join us for the Rosary as we heed Our Ladies request at Fatima?

"Pray the Rosary everyday for Peace in the World".



The week of December 25, 2022 the Angel Lamps in the Sanctuary burn for the following intentions:

† Linda Gies

† Robert Hasselman

PARENTING POINTERS

Christmas is here. We've all been waiting. What was the hardest part of waiting for your family?

WORD OF LIFE!!

The wait is over. Presumably the family has gathered, gifts shared, food eaten together. What remains? To carry the Spirit of Christmas beyond one day, ponder what new might be born into your marriage. If your nerves have been frazzled during the run up to Christmas, relax, slow down, forgive any hurts that may linger.

PRE-CANA SESSIONS

Place: Time: Date: Sat., Jan., 28, 2023 8:00 to Sacred Heart 5:15 p.m. 814-834-7861 Mass included



"Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross." -Ordination Rite of Priests-

"31 DAY" VOCATION CALENDAR - Please consider joining the Parish "31 Club" for Vocations to the Religious Life. Try to attend a Mass, Holy Hour, Pray a Rosary **OR** pray on your chosen date and offer it for:

- Priests/religious who have served our parish in the past.
- For those priests, religious and deacons serving now.
- To ask the Lord of the harvest for future vocations.

A.J. Feidler, Amy Gorman Pamela Hunt, Marge Gerg 27th Patsy McAllister, Mark Bauer 28th 29th Myra Trgovac, John Kosco 30th Jeanne Dippold, Gary Lang

31st The Steve Fritz Family, Leona Fritz

1st Rose Johnston, Terri Bish Page Three December 25, 2022



A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE ~

Some would say that the measure of a successful event comes down to bottom line. Over 28,000 cookies were baked and sold, 500 quarts of spätzle soup gone, and so many breads and cinnamon rolls it's almost too hard to count. All of these things, plus sandwiches, fruit cakes and so many sweet treats were practically gone by the end of the day. However, what wasn't, were the volunteers. Countless hours, were spent baking, cooking and setting up for this annual event; and to all of those that helped we say **THANK YOU!** These two simple words don't seem big enough to express all the meaning behind them. Thank you for your time, your hard work, your dedication, and most of all your friendship. We hope you know how much we value each and every one of you and all that you do for Sacred Heart. Thank you to our vendors, we hope your day was as successful as ours. A huge thank you to those donated baskets to enhance the Bah Humbug. And most of all thank you to all of you who patronized it as well. Sacred Heart is truly blessed with those that give their time, talents and treasures.

BINGO

May you all have a Merry Christmas! Helene and Linda

Sacred Heart Parish Center Center St. St. Marys -- 814-834-7861 Friday, January 6, 2023

Doors open at 4:00 p.m.
FREE Delicious Lunch at 5:30 p.m.
Early Birds 6:30 p.m. Regular Games 6:45 p.m.

4 Early Bird Starburst Games @ 50
Double on Starburst
16 Regular Games @ 100
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HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! Benefit: Sacred Heart Parish Gift Certificates Available

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mondays Praying the Rosary in Church
Effective Jan., 2, 2023 the time will change
Fridays Rosary in Church
Jan., 06 SH Super Bingo Doors Open at
Jan., 10 Elk County Right to Life Meeting
Jan., 17 Parish Council Meeting
Saint Anne Society Meetings See you in March

AREA NEWS

ADORATION AT QUEEN of the WORLD every Thursday following the 7:00 am Mass. Closing: Prayer and Benediction: 5:00 p.m.



BENEDICTINE GIFT SHOP

Gift Shop Hours: Tues-Fri 9:30 A.M.-5:00 p.m. Sat 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Closed Sunday & Monday, & Holy Days



PHE PEPPERMINT STICK GIFT SHOP~

Starting **Dec. 5th-29th**, will be having all Christmas items 25% off. **Shop hours: Monday thru Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**



THE MATERNITY CLOSET is located at 139 Church St. It is open to Elk County mothers, who have children from birth 3yrs. They are eligible to come once a month to receive diapers, wipes, lotion, onesies and an outfit.

Hours: the 1st three weeks on Wednesdays & Thursdays of each month. Babies and children up to 3 years. Wed's 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. & Thurs's 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. 4th Thurs., 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Questions: Call Theresa at 814-781-1137.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP -

ST. MARYS Penn Highlands Community Nurses 757 Johnsonburg Road, Suite 200 No reservations are needed.



Questions? Call Mary Lou, Bereavement Coordinator @ 814-788-8002

ECCSS PTO Holiday Club Tickets on Sale \$35,000 given away a year.



Tickets \$60 now through 12/31/22 Contact: Becky Gabler @ 814-335-3034

LUCKY LION LOTTO CALENDAR

Sale started 11/25/22 Based on PA Pick 3 **Evening Number Drawing starts 1/1/23-12/31/23**

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php? id=100086166265237

St. Leo Rectory and Ridgway Record.

FINANCE REPORT for NOVEMBER, 2022	
Weekly Offering (4 Sundays)	\$36,858
Other Income	\$1,023
Monthly Expenses	\$59,203
Weekly Offering (4 Sundays) Other Income Monthly Expenses Short	\$21,322

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL (CSA) Update	
Parish Assessment	\$44,718
Amount Pledged	\$42,644
Received as of 12/07/2022	\$40,559



St. Marys Inter-Parish



OLIFE TEEN

All classes are held at the St. Mary's Church Parish Center 325 Church Street, unless otherwise noted. Schedule changes as the school calendar changes because of CDC guidelines.



Sun., Dec. 25 No Faith Formation Christmas Break

Wed., Dec. 28 No Elementary Faith Formation Christmas Break



Sun., Jan. 1 No Faith Formation Christmas Break

Wed., Jan. 4 Elementary Faith Formation (grade 1-5) 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 8 First Grade Sacred Heart Session 10:45 a.m. - Noon at Sacred Heart Parish Center Atrium Middle School Class 6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Life Teen (Grade 9) 6:00 p.m.- 7:45 p.m.

Tues.. Jan. 10 Confirmation Class for SMS students only after 3rd period

Wed., Jan. 11 Elementary Faith Formation (grade 1-5) 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. 4th and 5th grade Family Night

Sun., Jan. 15 First Grade Sacred Heart Session 10:45 a.m. - Noon at Sacred heart Parish Center Atrium No Class for Middle School or Life Teen

Wed., Jan. 18 Elementary Faith Formation (grade 1-5) 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



It comes with much gratitude and many thanks to each of our advertisers that appears on the back of the weekly bulletin. If it were not for each of you the bulletin would not be possible.

Thank you from Fr. Tom and the Parish Staff

From the Pastor's Desk 🖎



To The Sacred Heart Parishioners

Merry Christmas to you and all of your families. When I reflect on Christmas I think of these three words, "love and service".

Out of great love for us, Jesus became one of us. When we can truly experience God's love for us; it becomes second nature for us to want to be of service to God, our parish, and others. This is my Christmas wish for each of the parishioners: That you experience in a special but profound way how much God loves you!! Welcome home, my brothers and sisters!!

Christmas Peace, Fr. Thomas, O.S.B.



Christmas Note from Senior Priest, Fr. Eric Vogt O.S.B

The dark of night is broken by the multitude of Angels proclaiming that Jesus Christ is born. God has come to his people and brought them salvation. May the New Born Savior give you peace and happiness in this Holy Season and coming New Year. God Bless you now and always.

PONDERING

I wonder what You thought, sweet Lord, As You stepped off Your throne, Agreeing to the Father's wish, To assume a human form. Did You hear the angels sing, As in Mary's womb You grew, Did You marvel at her touch, As she took care of You. Your little family thrived on love, Bound by sacrifice and Faith, With thankfulness I honor Y0U, For assuring all a place... With You ...if we believe.

Poem by: Susan Kneidel Werner



THANK YOU FROM THE ECCSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

I would love to take a moment to thank everyone who helped with the Christmas store, donated items, and helped put time in wherever it was needed. I can't thank you ALL enough for the generosity you showed. I am so humbled and grateful for how it all turned out. I truly love and enjoy putting on the Christmas store and I always want to make the store as special as possible for all the children.

I hope everyone has a Blessed and Merry Christmas! Thank you! Jessica Bolden





CHRISTMAS

Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lighted four candles these past four weeks and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.

Let us pray...

God.

you became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary.
Mary is our model of faith.
May we be faithful to your word as Mary was.
Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you.
We ask this through the incarnate God, who comes to us again during this Christmas season.
Amen

December 25, 2022 The Nativity of the Lord

As we age, time seems to pass more quickly. Years seemingly fly by as one holiday flows into the next, January quickly becomes December and life maintains its hectic pace. What do we accomplish in all of that busyness? Perhaps technology is responsible for some of the frenzy, keeping us isolated in our social media worlds, communicating through texts rather than in person, and always connected to world events. We're over stimulated in many ways by information, noise, opinions, and ideologies. Yet, we still find the time to decorate our homes, purchase gifts, and plan Christmas gatherings. We know, however, that the true meaning of Christmas is not found in twinkling lights, beautifully adorned trees, perfectly set tables or exchanged gifts. We are being called to something deeper and more authentic.

Christmas reminds us to look for God along the way of our lives and not get distracted by the illusions around us. Our world's complexity can leave us feeling displaced,



desperate, alone, neglected, and unimportant. Joseph and Mary felt that way too. In the midst of all that captures and intrigues us in our self-created virtual worlds, is this longing for the anchor of faith to keep us grounded and make sense of it all. Only faith can give us the perspective to see what truly matters in life. We discover our divinely blessed humanity. The uncertain and challenging journey to Bethlehem gives way to the tender moments of birth and its embrace. Christmas softens us and slows us down a bit. It shows us Jesus as the light who enlightens everyone. It shows us the truth.

The faith that comes from Christmas calms our fears and allows us to go into the nighttime of our lives courageously. We are never lost or alone. We need to stop and savor more of life's moments before they slip away in time. God is with us, loving us, and leading us where we need to be. God is born again and again in every soul willing to give birth to His presence. God connects us and provides us with a place where we feel safe and welcome: home. ©LPi

The Parish Staff of Sacred Heart wishes each of you a Very Merry Christmas & Blessings in the New Year. Father Tom



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