



"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:11-12

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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December 25, 2011
Nativity of the Lord
(CHRISTMAS)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

100 Good Shepherd Drive - P.O. Box 99

Kent, Pennsylvania 15752-0099

www.goodshepherdkent.org

goodshepherd@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Phone: (724) 479-3881 Fax: (724) 479-3882

Pastor:

Rev. Charles P. Esposito, S.T.L., M.S.Ed.
cesposito@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Pastoral Associate:

Sr. Maria Goretti Zamberlan, R.S.M.
mzamberlan@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Administrative Assistant/Choir Director:

Mrs. Carol Pike
cpike@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation:

Mrs. Denise Pencola
dpencola@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Maintenance:

Mr. Paul Romanchick

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 6:00pm
 Sunday: 9:00am

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Anyone interested in inquiring about RCIA should contact Denise Pencola or call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00pm Monday 6:15pm during Parish Holy Hour
 Other times by appointment

Sacrament of Infant Baptism

Contact the Parish Office

Ministry to the Homebound

Contact the Parish Office

St. Bernard School, Indiana, PA 15701

Our Regional Catholic School – (724) 465-7139

Weekday Masses & Devotions

See inside of bulletin



SCHEDULE OF MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

[8PM Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25]
[9AM Mass: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1-6; Hebrew 1:1-6; John 1: 1-18]

Saturday, December 24

8:00PM Intention of the Celebrant

Sunday, December 25

9:00AM All the People of Good Shepherd Parish

Monday, December 26, St. Stephen, first martyr

[Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22]

6:15PM Parish Holy Hour (No Sacrament of Reconciliation)

7:00PM Josephine Savage by Father Chuck & Parishioners

Tuesday, December 27, St. John, apostle and evangelist

[1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a,2-8]

8:30AM Ruth Ann Shrokman by Mary Ann & Betty Sabol

Wednesday, December 28, The Holy Innocents, martyrs

[1 John 1:5C2:2; Matthew 2:13-18]

8:30AM Bruno J. Petricig by Sister-In-Law, Rose Rocco

Thursday, December 29, St. Thomas Becket, bishop and martyr

[1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35]

8:30AM Betty Stewart by Marie Colosi

Friday, December 30, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

[1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40]

NO MASS TODAY

Saturday, December 31 St. Sylvester I, pope

[1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18]

(No Sacrament of Reconciliation)

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

[Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7/Luke 2:16-21]

6:00PM Deceased of Fedoruk & Grenier Families by Sam

Sunday, January 1

9:00AM All the People of Good Shepherd Parish

The first collection at our Christmas Masses this weekend will be your Christmas gift to Church of the Good Shepherd. Your continued and increased generosity at this special time of year will help us keep our parish's financial affairs in order. The second collection is for the Children & Family Services Appeal. This collection is forwarded to our diocesan Catholic Charities to provide for those in need all year long. "Poverty never takes a holiday. In a much more critical way than ever before on this Christmas, families in your community will be hungry, children will go to bed cold or without shelter, or an elderly person will be in need of a helping hand. Please give generously to Catholic Charities through the Children and Family Services collection and help those in need to have a happier holiday and a more hopeful new year". May we be generous, as God is generous with us!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS' SCHEDULE - DEC 31-JAN 1

Lectors

6:00PM-M. Veshinfsky 9:00AM-D. Hill

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

6:00PM-F. Burhenne, J. Johns, G. Gabriel

9:00AM-C. Davis, V. Gordish, L. Pisch

Altar Servers

6:00PM-S. Hefferin, S. Hefferin

9:00AM-M. Hill, J. Hill

Cantors

6:00PM-C. Pike 9:00AM-TBA

Ushers

6:00PM-VOLUNTEERS

9:00AM-VOLUNTEERS

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 17-18, 2011

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Weekly, Monthly, Loose, Children, TOTAL, Needed for Budget, and Difference.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Christmas Offering and Additional Immaculate Conception.

FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Collected, Needed, and Difference.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Children & Family Services Appeal, Additional Christmas Flowers, and For Improvements to Our Parish.

Sunday Counters—Jan. 1, 2012: Volunteers (see Carol for day & time)

The Sanctuary Candle, The Good Shepherd Candle, The Good Shepherd Garden Candle and The Blessed Mother Candle are lit in memory of All Deceased of the Parish Family.

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

- This Sunday - No Faith Formation / No CGS I
Monday - OFFICE CLOSED
Thursday - Choir Practice, Church, 5PM No CGS II
Next Sunday - No Faith Formation / No CGS I

WELCOME BACK - We welcome back to the Catholic Church and our parish, any in attendance today who have been away from the Church for a while. We have missed you! Many of you may have "come home" because of the commercials being aired by Catholics Come Home. Catholics Come Home is running commercials on major television networks from December 16 through January 9, encouraging people to "come home". The goal of this advertising effort is to bring a message of hope and invitation. It is the desire of our parish that you also have heard this message at today's Mass and through the welcome of our parishioners. We encourage you to contact the parish office to schedule an appointment with Fr. Chuck or a parish staff member if you have questions or would like to discuss further "coming home".

CHRISTMAS COLOR - What are the colors for Christmas? In the stores we see lots of red and green. But what are the church (liturgical) colors? White is the color that festoons the church building, and the color of the vestments that the priest wears. Gold is sometimes used with it to augment the feeling of joy and celebration for the feast.

Holy Day Modification 7:00 PM Regional Mass at Saint Thomas More - There will be no 7:00 PM Regional Mass on Christmas (Sunday, December 25, 2011) or on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Sunday, January 1, 2012) at Saint Thomas More Parish, Indiana. The 7:00 PM Regional Mass will return to its normal schedule on The Epiphany of the Lord (Sunday, January 8, 2012).

From Father Chuck's Desk...The Church set the date of the celebration of Jesus' birth to supersede the extremely popular pagan holiday of "Sol Invictus," meaning the "unconquerable sun." Pagan fears of the darkest time of the year in the Northern Hemisphere brought devotional attention to the sun god. It seems that the wisdom of the Church, clarifying the teaching that Jesus, as the Word of God, is the Light of the World, has kept Christian faith strong at this time of the year ever since. Just as it was for the first Christians, the world today fills this time with pagan, faithless rituals, yet our message of our Savior's birth still breaks through. Signs of God's providence continue to emerge in our lives, as they did for the Holy Family. The way that the census brings Mary and Joseph to the town and the details about the shepherds tending their flocks has new "proof." Although the visitation of the angels that inspire Mary, Joseph, and the Magi cannot be proven, the Holy Family and the Magi somehow survive Herod's organized plot to destroy the New Born King of Israel without any political help defies logic. You have to believe, and even though we can have better reasons to believe, science will never replace faith as part of how we live our lives in response to Christ's gift to us.

We celebrate another Christmas Season together in the cold, bleak winter. We join with many others, praying for an increase of peace and love in the world. We are likely to see significant improvements in our economy in the New Year. We are also even more likely to see other economic volatility here and there over the next few decades. We have a responsibility to seek new ways to do our part in working for justice in our families, our communities and in the whole world so that lasting peace will have the best possible chance to grow. We have the sacred task of deepening our prayer life so that the Holy Spirit and the sacraments of the Church can strengthen us for the works of charity and lead us forward on our journey of faith.

May the light and peace of Christ fill our hearts in this holy season. May others experience the blessings we share and may the whole world resound with Christ's love because of how others see Him in us. We must continue to do the "impossible" and be vessels of Christmas joy. Thanks be to God that we have access in the Church to the grace necessary to shine with the light of Christ.

2012 CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY ENVELOPES (GRADES 1-12) are available in the church vestibule. Please be sure to provide the information requested on the registration sheet so that the children can receive proper credit for their offerings.



SEWAGE/PAVING FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

To make a contribution, simply put your donation in a plain envelope marked "Sewage/Paving Fund" and put it in the Sunday collection or mail it to the parish office. Please indicate if you wish to remain anonymous.

Most Recently Received Gifts:	\$ 350
Gifts Previously Received:	\$ 4000
Total to Date:	\$ 4350
Balance Needed for Fund	\$ 7600

Thank You for your contributions. We gratefully acknowledge receipt of these most recent donations:
Anonymous (2)

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday (12/26) — CLOSED
 Tuesday—Thursday (12/27-12/29) — 9am to 3pm
 Friday (12/30) — 9am to 12 Noon
 Monday (January 2, 2012) — CLOSED
 Tuesday (January 3, 2012) — Resume Regular Hours

GREENSBURG CENTRAL CATHOLIC PLACEMENT TESTING — 8th Grade Students interested in attending Greensburg Central Catholic High School are required to participate in placement testing. Testing will take place on Saturday, January 14, 2012 and Monday, January 16, 2012 from 8am-11:30am at the High School for placement in the Class of 2016. An application can be downloaded at www.gcchs.org and then submitted with a \$25 fee for testing. Contact Mrs. Sherman at (724) 834-0310, x205 or send an email to: csherman@gcchs.org if you have questions.

SINGLE, 21 & OVER (or know someone who is) — Looking for a new way to meet people, make friends, and share good times with others? Check out the Catholic Alumni Club. The group offers a variety of different activities including parties, picnics, hiking, sports leagues, dinners, trips, community service, and many other great events. For more information, call (412) 341-4070, visit our website www.cacpittsburgh.org, or check out our Facebook page. Give yourself a Christmas present and join before January 1st to receive a \$5 discount on your membership.

IS SOMEONE YOU LOVE IN A TROUBLED MARRIAGE? If someone you love is in a troubled marriage, you might suggest that they consider Retrouvaille. Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands — it can help them. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 13, 2012, contact Retrouvaille at (412) 277-3434 or email 3041@retrouvaille.org. More information is available at www.helpourmarriage.com.



If you know of someone who is in need of prayer, or if you would like to join the parish prayer chain, please call Thelma Fabin at (724) 479-0103 or the parish office. Please pray for the wholeness and healing of:

In Critical Need: John Bencic; Jake H. Chronoski; Edward Chronosky, Sr.; Sam Fedoruk; Patty Galley; Ruthie Henigin; Anna Katusa; Lori Krug; Marie-Madelein; Karen Markel; Gloria Prymak; Debbie Smuro; Kathy Tarr.

On-Going Prayer: Cecilia Anderson; Frank Ballas; Patricia Bash; Marie Benton; Angela Bish; Lois Bish; Barb Black; Nancy Black; Sam Bonnoni; Carrie Bryson; Ann Burtick; Elia Calvetti; Millie Caratelli; Leona Cavalier; Marie Colosi; Allison Marie Compardo; Brandon Davis; Richard DeLuca; Theresa DeLuca; Joan Demich; Chris Earhart; Linda Exler; Robert Exler; Linda Franco; Grace Gaydosh; Carmella Gary; Leland Gordon; Tina Keilbania; P. J. Lanich; Martha Lux; Barb Marker; Jason Maudie; Mike Mikita; Trevor Minich; Paula Montez; Gloria Payntex; Lilia Perotti; James Pike, Sr.; Rose Rocco; Robert Romance; Alex Semuskie; Mabel Setlock; Joseph Spellane; Catherine Stercho; Wanda Weston; Donna Williams; Darlene Woodrow; Jack & Kathy Yard; Connie Zagurskie; Katrina Zuchelli.

ATTENTION: If you know of someone who has recovered from his/her illness, or perhaps has passed away, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.