

DECEMBER 21, 2008 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 22

6:30 AM Anne Fifick

8:00 AM Edward J. Bendekovitz

Tuesday, December 23/John of Kanty, priest

6:30 AM Anthony Fasching

8:00 AM Gwendolyn Goehring

Wednesday, December 24/Vigil of Christmas

6:30 AM Eleanor Fox

8:00 AM Edward Pudleiner

See Christmas Schedule

Thursday, December 25/Nativity of the Lord

See Christmas Schedule

Friday, December 26/Stephen, first martyr

6:30 AM NO MASS

8:00 AM Pauline Simon

Saturday, December 27/John, apostle & evangelist

9:00 AM Rita Kulhamer

Vigil: Holy Family Sunday

4:30 PM Paul Bonenberger

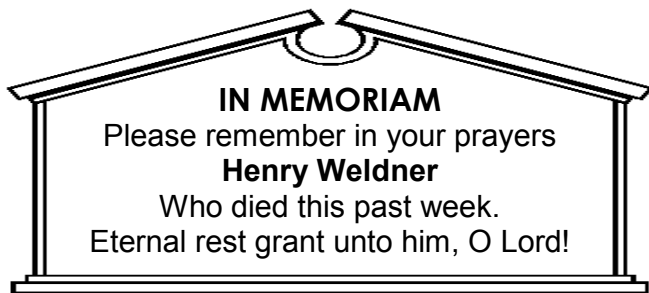
Sunday, December 28

7:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of
our Parish Family

9:00 AM Jordan Fekete, 2nd Anniversary

10:30 AM Henry Steffens

12:00 PM Anita Molinatti



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please remember to ask God's blessing and gift of good health for members of our parish family and friends who are in nursing homes, or in the hospital. Also, those confined to their homes with an illness or disability, sick or in the hospital: Joan Arner, Wilfred Bair, Dominic Bellucci, Sr., Rudolph Brem, Joann Castle, Lorraine Corso, Veronica DeLucas Ryan Glose, Andrew Hein, Elizabeth Holubowsky, Bernadine Lobb, Carol Reed, Luke Ronco, Hilda Sarka, Cecelia Stengel, Rosemarie Toronto, Timothy Yankowky and Doris Zibura.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Dec 24 – 4:30 and 9 PM
(No Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day, Dec. 25 – 7:30, 9:00,
10:30 AM and 12:00 Noon

SOLEMNITY OF MARY NEW YEARS DAY

New Year's Eve, Dec. 31 – 4:30 PM Only

New Year's Day, Jan. 1 – 9:00 and 12:00 Noon

A CHRISTMAS WELCOME

We joyfully welcome all that have come to celebrate God's best gift to all of humanity, Jesus the Christ, our Lord and Savior. Let every voice be lifted up in singing and praying as we focus upon the Prince of Peace, the Light of the World. And let every hand be extended in fellowship and good will as we greet and share with one another. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19)

On behalf of all of us, your priests and parish staff, we wish you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas! May the Christ Child bless you and your family abundantly.

GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS

The 2009 Entertainment Books are available in the Parish Office, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 4 PM. The books can be used immediately through November 1, 2009. The price of the book is only \$20.

SAINT ELIZABETH MUSIC MINISTRY

Just a reminder to those who purchased nutrolls; you can pick your order up after all Masses this weekend in the Parish Hall. We'd like to thank all those who supported us in this fundraiser - we netted \$750. We hope you enjoy them and wish all a very Merry Christmas!

ST. ELIZABETH REGIONAL SCHOOL

▪ Congratulations to Alex Kerezsi, John Laky, Dona Oressie, Jenelle Olsovsky, Helen Romano and Jeff Scheuren who were winners in the Vacation Sweepstakes Lottery for the 2nd week of December. \$2400 in prize money was given out. Thanks to all for your support!

▪ Don't forget to visit our website at www.sercc.org/school to view current school events, pictures, calendars, newsletter, etc. Please let us know what you think!!

PEACE ON EARTH, SILENT NIGHT, AND GIVING

Don't let the frenzy of the season take away from what is really important about Christmas. Use Shopping Certificates for your entire gift giving needs. Giant, Weis and Redner cards make great gift ideas for hard to buy for people. You can also use the Shopping Certificates to buy other gift cards for national chain department/specialty stores and restaurants. Want to do you shopping on line? Use Giant, Weis and Redner's cards to buy Amazon gift cards. Shopping Certificates for grocery stores also make excellent gifts for charities. Each time you purchase shopping certificates, you provide financial support to our school. So give St. Elizabeth Regional School a special Christmas Gift, use Shopping Certificates for all of your holiday needs. Simplify your shopping, support our school and spend your time enjoying the magnificence of this Holy Season. Thank you for your continued support and God Bless you.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKY)

Christmas wafers are available at the Parish Office, 8 AM- 4 PM for \$2.00 per pack. If this is part of your family tradition, we encourage you to continue it. For those who are not familiar with the custom and wish to start this tradition in your own home, there is an explanation of the custom on the packet.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

On behalf of the Breakfast Club and all the Parishioners of St. Elizabeth's we would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Gilbert Funeral Home** for sponsoring our Parish Breakfast this past Sunday. Because of their generosity, we made an 100% profit for our parish. We would also like to thank all those who patronized our breakfast, without you it would not have been a success.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Eighth grade parishioners attending Catholic, public or private elementary or middle schools are invited to apply for a one-year \$1,000 scholarship to attend one of the eight Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Allentown. Scholarships will be rewarded on the basis of academic achievement; involvement in extracurricular activities; service to school, parish and community; and pastor, principal and teacher recommendations. Application forms are available at the parish or school office. Completed applications must be submitted to the student's school by January 5, 2009.

PARISH NURSING NEWS

Christmas and Advent Songs: Residents at Strawberry Patch and Whitehall Manor were entertained by 2nd, 6th & 7th grade students from St. Elizabeth Regional School. The children, teachers and parents brought the true meaning of Christmas to our grateful "seniors". More pictures on the parish bulletin board to "tell the story"! Secret Santa & Mrs. Claus surprised the residents in the Sunshine Unit at Whitehall Manor for their annual Christmas party on Dec. 15th. They loved dancing with Santa and singing old time favorite carols. Thank you to Margaret Bonenberger for "driving our sleigh".

Next Blood Drive: Please circle Sunday, Feb. 1st (8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.) in the parish hall.

"We the Living" Support Group – Understanding the grief process and receiving support from those experiencing the same are integral to working through grief. Please call Carol Crugnale @ 610-439-4932 or Marie Signarovitz @ 610-434-7009 to register or ask questions. The 12 week support group begins Wednesday, January 21st (1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.) in the parish center.

"Repair With Care" Support Group – Are you a separated or divorced person who is experiencing the pains of grief and grieving? This group places special emphasis on recovery "principles" and "ten essential touchstones" for finding hope and healing your heart! Jim Seng, M.S., LCADC, will facilitate a 12-week support group beginning Monday, January 19th (7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) in our parish center. Please call Jim @ 610-746-9940 to register or to ask any questions.

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LECTOR WORKBOOKS

Lectors please pick up your 2009 workbooks in the sacristy after Mass. Please take the workbook with your name on it so we are able to see who did not receive their book.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

The "Giving Tree" is an opportunity to celebrate the Birth of Jesus by giving gifts of baby items to the babies who will be born this coming year. Please choose a gift tag from the tree in the vestibule, purchase the needed item and bring the **UNWRAPPED** gift to Church by December 22.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Starting at 8:30 on Christmas Eve, the choir will be presenting musical selections featuring the organ, keyboard, flute and bells. This will lead up to the 9:00 PM Mass.



SAFETY

Whitehall Township Police Department wants us to remember that at this time of year crime increases. Please remember to lock your car and maintain control over your purses and wallets. Please enjoy the holiday season and remember to take these important measures to minimize risks and vulnerabilities and call the police department if you do have problems.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, Thursday, Dec. 25, and Thursday, Jan. 1.

POINSETTIAS

The Poinsettias that were ordered can be picked up in the social hall after the Masses today. There are some extra Poinsettias in case you forgot to order yours.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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