

DECEMBER 6, 2009

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 7/Ambrose, bishop & doctor

6:30 AM Frank Schmaldestin

8:00 AM Mary E. Linnon

6:00 PM Theresa Yurasits

Tuesday, December 8/Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6:30 AM Stephen Grabarits

9:00 AM Anthony Cappellini

12:15 PM Ann Oscipok

Wednesday, December 9/Saint Juan Diego, hermit

6:30 AM William Wolf

8:00 AM Lila Smith

Thursday, December 10

6:30 AM John Taus

8:00 AM Frank Fasching

Friday, December 11/Damasus I, pope

6:30 AM Wilfred Bair

8:00 AM Emma DeLucia

Saturday, December 12/Our Lady of Guadalupe

9:00 AM Anthony Marzano

Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

4:30 PM Dolores Seng

Sunday, December 13

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

9:00 AM Inge Schiller

10:30 AM James Alfano

12:00 PM Bishop Thomas J. Welsh

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: Dominic Bellucci, Sr., Rose Bellucci, Joanne Castle, Carol Crugnale, Anne Fox, Michael Fried, Stephen Gasdik, Ryan Glose, Kay Gober, Andrew Hein, Marie Janenko, Frances Kaminski, Anna Kaufmann, June Kilhefner, Cecilia Kraynek, Joan Marks, Robert Marzano, Carol Reed, Luke Ronco, Catherine Sinkovits and Colleen Tomline.

APPRECIATION DINNER

St. Elizabeth's Parish is blessed with dozens of volunteers who generously contribute their time and talent toward the enrichment of the life of our Parish. If you belong to any of the following groups: *Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Cantor, Usher, Choir, School Volunteer, Collection Counters, Altar Guild, Bulletin Folder, Office Receptionist, Liturgy of the Word for Children, Hand Bell Choir, Decorating the Church, CCD Teachers, RCIA Team, Pro-Life, Baptismal Hospitality Team, Bereavement Group, Breakfast Club, Parish Nurse Program* or if you render any other similar volunteer service to the Parish, we would like to show our appreciation by inviting you to a dinner on Sunday, Dec. 13 after Vespers. **Call the Parish Office by Dec. 8 to reserve a place. We will not be able to accept reservations after Dec. 8.**

ADVENT PRAYER BOOKS

Advent Prayer Books were distributed after the Masses last weekend. If you did not receive one, or if you know someone who would like one, there are books available at all the exits of the church.

GOLDEN AGERS

2010 dues (\$5) are payable to Joan Geiger (610-434-5642). You can mail your dues to Joan at 415 Windsor St, Whitehall, PA 18052. There is no meeting in January. The February meeting is on the 5th with John Bauer entertaining.

VESPER SERVICE

Our Advent Vesper Service will take place Sun. Dec 13th at 5 p.m. It offers the opportunity to step back from the distractions of this busy time into the peace of some beautiful music and prayer intended to help us be truly prepared for Christmas. Please come.

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 8, 2010.

ST. ELIZABETH REGIONAL SCHOOL

- All are welcome to join the students of Saint Elizabeth Regional School as they present the school's annual Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 10th at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. Students in 7th and 8th grade will present "On Our Way to Bethlehem". Music will be provided by 5th and 6th grade students and students in grades K – 4 will sing Christmas songs before the play begins. Snow date is Wednesday, December 16th.
- The December school newsletter is available on line @ www.sercc.org/school along with other pertinent information. You can reach us at 610-264-0143 during school office hours 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The 2010 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, 2010. The price of the book is still only \$20.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS!

Do you love working with and teaching children? Have you thought of volunteering as an instructor for our Liturgy of the Word Program during the 10:30 Mass on Sundays? Fear not! We would love to have you join us and will help you get started. If you are interested, please call the parish office at 610-266-0695. God bless you!

PARISH NURSING NEWS

100th Birthday Surprise Card Shower – Hilda Sarka, a parishioner of more than 50 years, will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on December 8, 2009! She is a permanent resident of Phoebe Home, Trexler Room 1125A, 1925 Turner St, Allentown, PA 18102. Please consider showing your love and prayers for Hilda with a greeting card and honor her long life as a parish family member!

Caregiver Hospitality Ministry Meeting – Thursday, Dec. 17, 7:30-9 pm. If you care for the needs of a loved one, plan on attending this nurturing, confidential and non-judgmental gathering. Brochures explaining this ministry are available in the rectory (610-266-0695).

Monthly Visits to Assisted Living & Skilled Nursing Facilities Parishioners – Please consider sharing a few hours to cheer and “connect” with fellow parishioners who deeply appreciate your kindly visit to represent the parish family. Call Bernadette Marushak, RN to schedule a 1-1/2 hour training session. Call 610-266-0695 to register or for more information.

Friendly Meals Ministry – Continues to need volunteers to cook 1-2 meals every 1-2 months for parishioners living alone and recovering from an illness. Please call the Elaine Richmond, coordinator (610-435-8907) to register.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 10th at 7 pm in the parish center. **545** shawls, etc. have been given to grateful parishioners or their loved ones! If you are unable to attend the meeting, please drop off completed items at the rectory, M-F, 8 am – 4 pm. Many thanks to all who contribute generously to this rewarding ministry and make every occasion a joyous holiday!

Christmas Caroling: Today, Sunday, Dec. 6th @ 1 p.m. Please meet at the parking lot entrance at Whitehall Manor. We will then proceed to the “Florida Room”.

Christmas Angels: Our **75** fellow parishioners and shut-ins extend their deepest gratitude for the Christmas Cards, poinsettias and cranberry nut loaf. Deliveries by: Karen Alkhal, Mike Baran, Margaret Bonenberger, Dorothy Delbertis, Nancy Gigler, Joe Kucharik, Bob and Maryann Kulhamer Claire Levandusky, Carol Manning, Bernadette Marushak, Pat Meleski, Ken & Frieda Mertz, Ed & Linda Perenyi, Russell Platak, Jacquelyn Resch, Jan Rossetti, Fritz & Angie Sauerzopf, Agnes Steffens, Maria Sweeney, Rose Tauber and Anna Wiggins.

STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

We wish to thank all of our parishioners who made a commitment to our stewardship program. If you have not yet turned in your stewardship commitment, please do so this week. Through stewardship, we have an opportunity to express our own faith in God in a way more meaningful than words. Through our offerings, we help ourselves as well as our brothers and sisters in the mission of the church, thus doing the Lord's will.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The St. Elizabeth Daycare is a drop off for Toys for Tots. Please donate a new unwrapped toy for our local children. They can be dropped off between the hours of 7 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

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 20.

BREAKFAST BUFFET

We will serve our monthly Breakfast Buffet Sun, Dec. 13 after the 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 Masses. Bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, home fries, pancakes, French toast sticks, Danish, juice & coffee – all for only \$5.50/adult, \$2.50/children, children 3 and under are free. You are getting a good meal, and helping your Parish! This month's sponsor is **Gilbert Funeral Home**.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Christmas ornaments are on sale in the school and church office for \$5. There is a sample hanging on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI)

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.

ALTAR SERVERS-CANTOR-LECTORS-EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please check your calendars for **January and February** and call the parish office by **December 14**, for the dates you will be unavailable to serve. Since Mrs. Carol O'Connor has retired, please call Lisa (610-266-0695) or email her at lbucklin@sercc.org. If you do not notify the office before Dec. 14, and you are shown on the schedule, remember it is your responsibility to find someone to substitute for you.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

There will be a special Mass on Sunday, December 13 at 3 pm to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas and Pro-Life at Immaculate Conception Church in Allentown. Confessions will be 1-2 pm and Rosary 2-2:15 pm.

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Hair Designs by Donna



Donna Isapa, Parishioner
Hair Color Specialty
1974 Linden Lane, Whitehall, PA.
Hours by Appointment
Call 610-799-4746

Please keep **Hair Designs by Donna** and all those who advertise on our bulletin in mind when you are in need of their services.