

December 30, 2018

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

A special remembrance will be made at Mass for:

Monday, December 31	
8:00 AM	Pauline & John Simon
<i>New Year's Eve</i>	
7:00 PM	Julia Krempasky
Tuesday, January 1	<i>Solemnity</i>
8:30 AM	Novena to Our Lady Undoer of Knots
9:00 AM	John Bryk Sr.
12:15 PM	Joseph Perinotti
Wednesday, Jan 2	
Chapel 9:00 AM	People of the Parish
Thursday, January 3	
7:00 PM	Margaret & Steve Kratzer
Friday, January 4	
8:00 AM	Enrollees of the Memorial Fund
8:30 AM	Divine Mercy
Saturday, January 5	
8:30 AM	Lillian Sonsini
4:30 PM	Margaret Martin
Sunday, January 6	<i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>
8:00 AM	Patricia Dougherty Vollmer
10:00 AM	Deceased Members of the Choir

REMINDER:

Beginning January 2019 St. Elizabeth new weekend Mass times will be:

Saturday	4:30 pm
Sunday	8:00 am and 10:00 am

Beginning the first week of January 2019:

The daily Mass will be celebrated:

Monday 8 am	Thursday 7 pm
Tuesday 8 am	Friday 8 am
Wednesday 9 am	(during school year – 8 am the rest of the year)

Prayer Intentions

Personal intentions may be recorded in the Intention binder in the church foyer. These intentions will be prayed for at each Mass.

Pray For Our Intentions

Please remember in your prayers all our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, or spiritually, especially: *Bill Anderson, Edith Garcia-Ascencio, Marge Boccardi, Alex Bonnell, Robert Brubaker, Millie Buchman, Hailey Diefenbach, David Faust, Dorothy Folajtar, Dona Hahn, Bob Hartzell, Catherine Kozlusky, Skye Kremsner, Marie LoCicero, Rozanne Lota, Carmen Martucci, Alice Meder, Lucy Mellinger, Phyllis Mizgerd, Stephen O'Connor, Cathy Pappalardo, David Perenyi, Sue Podlesny, Janine Sponsel, Carmela Stephenson, Rick Stoudt*

If you are admitted to a hospital, please remember to inform the parish office. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of St Elizabeth, Whitehall at the time of your admission.

Readings for the Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading:	Isaiah 60: 1 – 6
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 72
Second Reading:	Ephesians 3: 2 – 6
Gospel:	Matthew 2: 1 – 12

The Sanctuary Candle, Ringing of the Bells, or Flowers on the Altar may be sponsored in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. Contact the parish office for available dates.



The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **Julia Krempasky**, requested by *Joan Glover*.

The Church Bells will ring this week for **Richard Kline**, requested by the *Kline family*



Low Gluten Communion Hosts

St. Elizabeth has low gluten hosts. If there is a medical need and you would like to receive the Eucharist in low gluten form please come to the sacristy fifteen minutes prior to Mass so that the celebrant is aware and arrangements can be made for distribution.

To Our Parishioners with a Disability

We welcome you to Mass each weekend. If you wish to receive Holy Communion and find it difficult to join the Communion line, please let the ushers know so that Communion can be brought to you.



RCIA & RCIT Classes

Adult RCIA's topic this week will be Epiphany party & Vocations on Jan 8th; class time is 7 pm. For information, please call Mary Spieker at 610-266-0695 ext 208. Teen RCIT's class will be held on Tuesday from 6 – 7 pm.



Diocesan Services

For information on healing services offered by the Allentown Diocese visit <https://sp.allentowndiocese.org> or call 1-800-791-9209 or email victimsassistance@allentowndiocese.org

Godparents & Confirmation Sponsors Info

You must be registered with the parish, be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, must attend Mass regularly and, if married, the marriage must be recognized by the church. These requirements are the universal law of the church. All requests for 'Letters of Good Standing' are to be made well in advance to the rectory office.

PASTOR'S CORNER

We know little about Jesus' early life at home in Nazareth. Luke in his Gospel account gives us a glimpse of Jesus' growth as a boy into young manhood. Luke tells us that Jesus was obedient to his parents - Mary, his mother and Joseph, his foster father. As devout and God-fearing Jews, Joseph and Mary raised the boy Jesus according to the Scriptures and Jewish customs. It was the duty of all Jewish parents to raise their children in the instruction and wisdom of God's word in the Scriptures.

"Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching" (Proverbs 1:8). "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

Jewish home life was centered on daily family prayers, including the singing of the Psalms and the reading of the Scriptures. Every Friday evening, the family gathered for a festive meal with the lighting of the Sabbath candle and prayers of blessing over the bread and wine to open the celebration of the Sabbath holy day. Each Saturday morning the family attended the Sabbath service which includes a reading from the Torah (five books of Moses) and chanting the psalms at the local community synagogue. Older boys were sent to school on weekday mornings, called the "house of the book" (either at the synagogue or the rabbi's house), where they were given further instruction in the reading and study of the Jewish Scriptures. Every Jewish boy was required to memorize the first five books of the Jewish Scriptures (the Torah or Books of Moses) by the age of 13. They also learned to memorize and put into practice the wise counsels found in the Book of Proverbs (Wisdom of Solomon) and the Book of Sirach (Ecclesiasticus) which was another common book of instruction for Jews living throughout the Greek-speaking world.

Jews were expected to travel to Jerusalem for the high feasts each year (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles). Jesus undoubtedly traveled with his parents every year from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. This eighty mile journey normally took three days. So families often traveled in large groups, for safety and comfort.

Luke records a remarkable incident which happened when Jesus went up to the temple at Jerusalem for his first Passover at the dawn of his manhood (usually the age of twelve for Jewish males). It was at this key turning point in his earthly life that Jesus took the name "father" from Joseph and addressed it to God his Father in heaven. His answer to his mother's anxious inquiry reveals his confident determination to pursue his heavenly Father's will. Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?

While Jesus identified himself as Son of the eternal Father in heaven, he, nonetheless, submitted himself with love and obedience to Mary and Joseph. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear (Godly respect) and wisdom of God. Luke tells us that Jesus grew as a man in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and with the people of Nazareth, his home town. He remained at Nazareth until the age of 30 when he was baptized by John at the River Jordan

and anointed by the Spirit for his mission as the Messiah and Savior of the world. (Thirty was the traditional age when a Jewish man could become a rabbi who taught and formed disciples in the knowledge and wisdom of God's word.) Do you seek to love and serve your family and to pursue peace and harmony in your home, neighborhood, and community? The Lord Jesus came to show us the way to our Father's house and family in heaven. Listen to his word and obey him and you will find great peace, joy, and favor in serving him now and forever.

God Bless You! - Fr. Pendzick

Parish Office Holidays

The parish office will be closed
until Wednesday January 2nd

PARISH NEWS

The Epiphany of the Lord House Blessing

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that the feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. — *Pius Parsch*

The blessing of homes, on whose lintels are inscribed the Cross of salvation, together with the indication of the year and the initials of the three wise men (C+M+B), which can also be interpreted to mean *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, written in blessed chalk; this custom, often accompanied by processions of children accompanied by their parents, expresses the blessing of Christ through

the intercession of the three wise men and is an occasion for gathering offerings for charitable and missionary purposes.

St. Elizabeth's will have house blessing packets available at all the exits of the church on the weekend of the Epiphany. <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicallyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2017-01-08>



New Year's Masses

New Year's Eve

Monday, Dec 31st, 7:00 pm

New Year's Day

Tuesday, Jan 1st, 9:00 am

Tuesday, Jan 1st, 12:15 pm

GOLDEN AGERS

Next meeting is February 1st.

The following are the Golden Agers planned excursions: 2019 Trips

March 14th Silver Birches “Irish Festival: \$82

June 13th Fulton Theatre, Lancaster: \$99

December 11th American Music Theatre “Joy to the World”

Casino Trips

January 16th Hollywood Casino; bus leaves at 11 am

Cost is \$30; call Irene at 610-264-3721 for more information.

February 20th Mohegan Sun

March 20th Hollywood Casino

April 17th Mohegan Sun

May 15th Hollywood Casino

June 19th Mohegan Sun

St. Elizabeth Church Calendars

2019 Church calendars are available courtesy of O'Donnell funeral home.



PREP CORNER

Meet Our Teachers

PREP – 2nd Grade Catechist: **Mrs. Teresa Mosser**

I have been a parishioner of St. Elizabeth's for over 20 years.



I am married and have two children, Kayla and Gabriel. I am a teacher in the Parkland School District and have been teaching PREP for 9 years at St. Elizabeth. I am honored to teach the 2nd graders and prepare them for receiving

Jesus both in Penance and First Holy Communion. Every May I look forward to seeing the angelic faces of our 2nd graders as they receive Jesus into their hearts for the very first time.

PREP – 3rd Grade Catechist: **Mrs. Connie Green**



Connie Green is currently teaching the third grade Prep and has been for six years. She is a stay at home mom of five and one granddaughter. Connie enjoys homeschooling her children. Her greatest wish is that by the end of the year her students are excited about their Catholic faith. She is very committed to spreading

the Blessed Mother's “Flame of Love” throughout the diocese, one parish at a time. Connie leads in adult and children's Holy Hours at St. Peter's in Coplay and other surrounding Catholic parishes.

PREP – 3rd Grade Aide: **Mrs. Jisha Jose**

I been a member of St. Elizabeth Parish since 2014. I have a



Masters in Computer Applications and taught computer science in college before getting married to my husband Denny. Currently, I am a home maker. Denny and I have one child, Giann Mary Denny who is in third grade at school and also in third grade PREP class here at St. Elizabeth. I am always excited to

share my love for Christ and our Catholic church especially with the young minds. I hope to help strengthen their relationship with God and also support their spiritual transformation and growth.

St. Elizabeth Athletic Association

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

Baseball and softball registrations are around the corner for spring 2019. Registrations will be sent home from school on Wednesday January 9th

Our boys and girls need parents or interested volunteers to coach!!!! All grade levels.

Please consider sharing your time with the boys and girls who would like to play. Without YOU there are no coaches. Without coaches there are no teams.

Please contact Tom Shak at tom.shak@hotmail.com or phone 484-632-9790.

Our next hoagie sale will be Wednesday, February 20th. Watch future bulletins for sales forms. You purchase is appreciated and our youth sport participants thank you!

Allentown Central Catholic Tuition Raffle!

Allentown Central Catholic is excited to announce our Class of 2023 Tuition Raffle. 1st Drawing December 21, 2nd Drawing January 21st Third & Final Drawing February 24th. Simply go to www.acchs.info/apply, fill out your class of 2023 application, and drop it off or mail it to Allentown Central Catholic. ALL students who have submitted an application by the dates above will be entered in that month's drawing. The earlier you apply the more chances you have!

Contact Mrs. Cara Meskill at cmeskill@acchs.info or (610) 437-4601 ext. 148 if you have any questions.

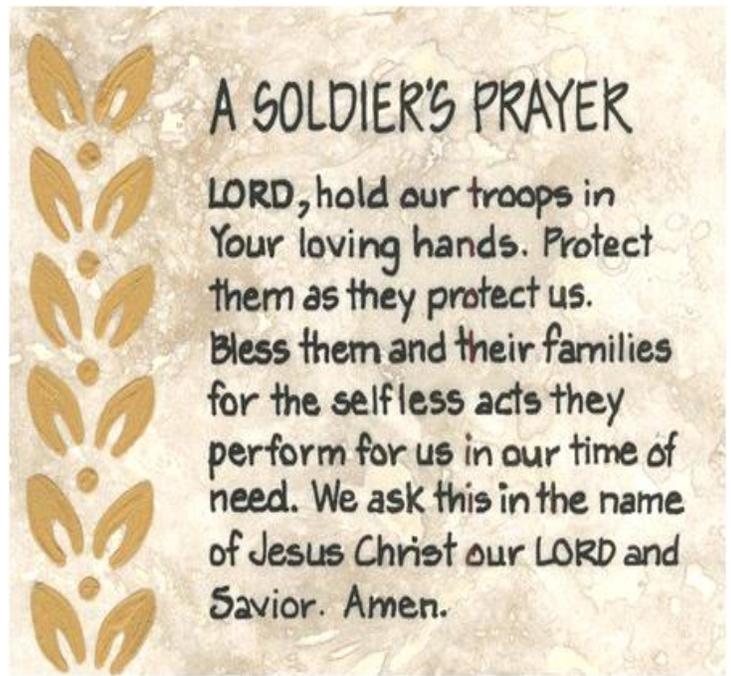
“The Master Craftsman: God's Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)” Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God's guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope. The event will take place on Friday, January 11th, at 7 pm, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103). This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided. To register for this event, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman. For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at Ffrias@allentowndiocese.org.

Please pray for our military:



Capt Christopher Bailey,	US Navy
2Lt Jared Blockus,	US Army
LCpl Alex Bonnell,	US Marine Corps
Cpl Jon Bonnell,	US Marine Corps
Sgt Darrell Bordner,	US Air Force
Pvt Alex Boty,	US Army
Cmdr John Cocca,	US Navy
SR Benjamin Fisher,	US Navy
Maj Julie Glover,	US Air Force
2Lt Ryan Gutshall,	US Army
PO2 Eric Knapp,	US Navy
Sgt Michael Merryman,	US Army
1Lt Luke Millan,	US Army
DCC (SW) Dan O'Connor,	US Navy
IT3 Daniel J. Peterson,	US Navy
SSgt Jim Peterson,	US Army
MN3 Cameron Rockwell,	US Navy
ABF3 Jonathon Russell,	US Navy
TSgt Ann Seng,	US Air Force
MGySgt Theresa Seng,	US Marine Corps
Pvt Christopher Sweeney,	US Army

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A Safe and Happy New Year to all!

