

Mission Statement: *We are a Catholic community drawing people to follow Jesus and His message of love.*



## St. Columbkille Parish

200 Indian Spring Rd, Boyertown, PA 19512  
Phone: 610-367-2371 • Fax: 610-369-0242

Web: [www.stcolumbkille.org](http://www.stcolumbkille.org)

Diocese Victim Assistant Coordinator,  
Wendy Krisak—(800)791-9209

[www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org)

Dec 4, 2016



**SACRAMENT OF  
RECONCILIATION  
IS HEARD EVERY  
SATURDAY FROM  
4 P.M. TO 4:45 P.M.  
BEFORE THE  
SATURDAY  
EVENING VIGIL  
MASS**

### **ST. COLUMBKILL PARISHIONERS**

Thursday, December 8th  
is the feast of the  
Immaculate Conception

This is a Holy Day of  
Obligation where all  
Catholics are obligated  
to participate in the  
Sacrifice of the Mass,  
beginning with Vigil  
Mass on Dec 7 at 7PM  
See Mass Schedule on  
page 2 of this bulletin

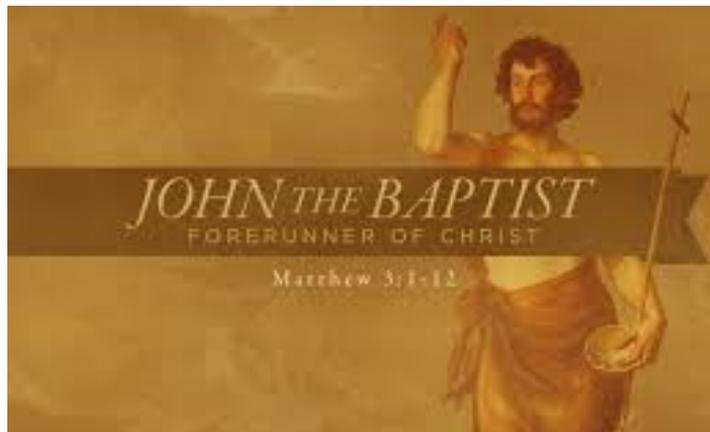
#### **Upcoming Holy Days:**

**December 25  
Christmas Day**

**January 1  
Solemnity of Mary  
Mother of God**

Both Holy Days fall on  
Sundays so obligation is  
taken care of with  
Sunday Mass attendance

**“Repent, for  
the kingdom  
of heaven is  
at hand!”**



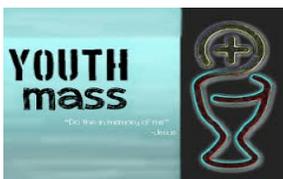
**Matt  
3:  
1-12**

**New parishioners & Guests at St. Columbkille  
You are MOST WELCOME!!  
You can register on our website or at the Parish Office**

### **Our First Sunday Night Mass December 11th at 6 p.m. ALL PARISHIONERS WELCOME!**

Beginning on December 11th we will have one Mass each month that  
will be held at 6 p.m.

The Schedule will be out shortly. We will be  
doing this through the month of April.



**The music for this Mass will be provided  
by our  
Youth Music Ministry.**

So...if Christmas shopping and the rest of this hectic season  
confiscates your time on both Saturday and Sunday, find solace and  
peace with Our Lord in the Eucharist and come to this 6 p.m. Mass.

Please spread the word to your fellow friends and parishioners!  
**The Lord is always calling. We need only say “Yes”!**

# ***PRA YFUL INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK***

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY: DECEMBER 5**

9:00 am-Zigmont & Edith Fisherowski by son, David

**TUESDAY: DECEMBER 6**

9:00am-Theresa M.Torak by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Kalejta

**WEDNESDAY: DECEMBER 7**

9:00am-Bob Conard by Brian Sullivan

7 pm-John Lepo by the McDermott Family (**Vigil Mass**)

**THURSDAY: DECEMBER 8 (HOLY DAY)**

9:00am-Jim Vargo by wife, Pam

4:30pm-John McDermott by the McDermott Family

7:00 pm-Joseph Klepacki by Dorothy Cooper

**FRIDAY: DECEMBER 9**

9:00am-Christopher A. Collier by the Murphy Family

**SATURDAY: DECEMBER 10**

5:00pm--For the Intentions of Dorothy Cooper by  
Ginger Yanick

**SUNDAY: DECEMBER 11**

7:30am-For the Intentions of Dorothy Cooper by  
Ginger Yanick

9:00am-Charles McNeill by daughter Monica &  
Family on 10th anniversary of death.

11:00am -Jared Pishock by parents, Michael and  
Corky Pishock

6:00 pm-Helen M. Walborn by Trish & Pat Walborn  
& Family

*Please Pray*

*For the following Intentions...*

***For Our Family Members in the Military***

*SPC Jeremy Larson*

*Jonathan Taylor*

*Staff Sgt. Robert Preston*

*USN Petty Officer Joseph Scarberry, Jr.*

*Lance Corporal David Vogler*

*Sergeant Brian Weber*

*Sergeant Jason Emerich*

*Sergeant David O'Brien*

*LCDR Brian Blair*

*Sergeant Steve Lafond*

*USN Petty Officer Jennifer McBride*

*Lt. Steve Rohe*

*Sergeant Jesse Miele*

*USN Petty Officer Stephanie McBride*

*SPC Kyle Laskoskie*

*1st Lieutenant Eric Antonucci*

*Lt. Andrew Moyer, USN*

*Airman Josh Bartman*

*Airman Morghan Poitras*

*Corporal Joshua Taylor*

*Matthew R. Goldschmidt, USN*

*2nd Lieutenant Dana DeMartino*

*Senior Airman Corey Kelch*

*2nd Lieutenant Zachary Bregovi*

*Lance Corporal Andrew J. Carpenter*

*Prayer:*

*“*

*Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands.*

*Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and  
their families for the selfless acts that they perform  
for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of  
Jesus, our Lord & Savior. Amen.*

## ***PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS***

Mon: December 5 Father Venantius Karobo  
Tue: December 6 Father Richard Kennedy  
Wed: December 7 Father Martin Kern  
Thu: December 8 Father Wayne Killian  
Fri: December 9 Msgr. Nevin Klinger  
Sat: December 10 Father Jose Kochuparambil  
Sun: December 11 Msgr. Thomas Koons

## ***Sanctuary Candle***

In Loving Memory of Brian Scioli by  
Antonette and Joe Frabrizio

## ***Bread and Wine***

: In Loving Memory of Allan Reid by  
Fr. Martin Kern

## Apologetics-Defending the Faith

Protestants do not believe in apostolic succession. Even granting that Jesus chose Peter as earthly head of the Church, and the apostles as its leaders, what evidence is there that their successors assumed their power?

### ANSWER

This is the real issue that separates Catholics from other Christians. I doubt very much that anybody, Fundamentalist or mainline Protestant, denies the authority of the apostles. The very fact that there were apostles and that Christ explicitly commanded them to "go forth and teach whatsoever I have commanded you" is too powerful to ignore or deny. The real problem is in the question of their transferring that mission to others who decidedly were not apostles.

That this teaching authority can reside elsewhere than solely among the apostles, is amply demonstrated. Of the four Gospels, two were written by men who were *not* apostles, and yet their writings bear the stamp of divine inspiration and authentic teaching. There is no record anywhere of Luke's ever having met Christ, and he was certainly not one of the Twelve. Mark *may* have seen Christ in the flesh and indeed may have been the young man in the garden who fled naked when someone tore from his back the sheet he'd wrapped himself in. Matthias was chosen as apostle *by the other apostles* to replace Judas Iscariot. This choice was, according to the Acts of the Apostles, made directly under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Once elected, he was treated exactly as one of the original Twelve.

**In other words, the Bible itself shows that Jesus gave the apostles the power to appoint successors.**

Answered by: [Fr. Hal Stockert](mailto:Fr. Hal Stockert (catholic.com)) (catholic.com)

### ***Extended Eucharistic Adoration***

This space will be updated each week. Please search your hearts and answer Our Lord's call to you. He is calling you by name! Thanks for signing up!

As of Nov 28st we have 142 adorers signed up!  
**Still needed 56 adorers!**

**\*You can sign up from Our Parish Website. Check out our Home Page for instructions or stop in the Parish office and see Lisa.**

## Christmas Crèche Memorial

***An Opportunity to Perpetually Remember a Loved One***

### ***A MESSAGE FROM FR. MARTY***

You may have noticed that last year we were able to acquire a Nativity Set made by the Dolfi Studio in Italy. It was in our diocesan warehouse where sacred objects are stored after parishes are closed.

This Nativity set had been in Saint Joseph Church in Girardville, PA. I would like to memorialize the set (or figures in groups or individually).

We will have a plaque made and placed near the Nativity each Christmas season. **Since Christmas is coming quickly if anyone is interested in this loving memorial, please let me know as soon as possible. It is a very fitting way to remember our loved ones.**

I know that personally, every time I take the ciboria out of the tabernacle, I am comforted knowing that my family donated that in honor of my father. His name is inscribed on the lid. He is still close and remembered on the altar.  
**Call Lisa at Parish Office for details!**

***Fr. Marty***

### **CHRISTMAS WAFERS**

Christmas wafers are imprinted with a religious design of the Christmas season.

These are traditionally shared at the main Christmas meal are available in the Parish Office.

**A small donation Requested.**

## Youth Group

### Letters to God: 5 Reasons to keep a journal by JURELL SISON

#### #2 FIND PEACE & CLARITY

Journaling might be weird and even painful at first but the fruit of that struggle is peace and clarity. Writing my thoughts slow me down enough to remember that God is with me through it all. Moreover, it reminds me that God's plan is bigger than the one I've drawn up in my head.

Journaling always seems like a burden but every time I begin my prayer this way, I **find myself more peaceful** with a greater sense of clarity and direction.

#### ***Praise and Worship opportunity***

There is a Praise and Worship opportunity called iWorship at Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Reading, PA. "Gathering around our Eucharistic Lord in Adoration to pray with other young people in our area. Worship led by talented musicians who draw young people deeper into the Eucharist. Local priests leading us in prayer and reflection offering the opportunity to go to confession." The next iWorship night is Sunday, December 18th from 6:30-8:30pm at Holy Guardian Angels Parish. If any student is interested in participating and needs a ride, please let Heather know! Plans to carpool can be arranged if needed. Families can go on their own as well. This is not Youth Group sponsored event, however if you have been to Steubenville, this is a similar event!

### Young Adult Group (ages 18 to 35)

The next monthly meeting will be **Tuesday, December 20th at 6:00pm** in the St. Columbkil Parish conference room. We will be making Christmas cards for the residents at Chestnut Knoll and Walnut Woods.

Bring a small treat or drink to share with everyone. We invite ALL Young Adults who have been away at college to this meeting. We would love to have you!

## Youth Group Events



#### ***Mission Trip/Steubenville***

There are still spots left for our Mission Trip to Dover, DE from **June 18th-June 24th**. There are also spots available for our Steubenville trip from July **14th-July 16th**. FRIENDS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR THESE TRIPS!!!! If interested, please contact Heather. A \$25.00 deposit is needed to hold your spot for one OR both trips.

#### ***Poinsettia Sale/Fundraiser***

**December 3rd 10:00am to 6:00pm**

**December 4th 7:30am to 12:00pm**

Please sign up to help sell poinsettias for our annual fundraiser at St. Columbkil's Winter Craft Fest. The money raised from this fundraiser will go to help offset the costs of our Mission trip and Steubenville trip. **Sign ups are in the Narthex**. You can also email Heather at [youthgroup@stcolumbkil.org](mailto:youthgroup@stcolumbkil.org) if you are interested in helping out.

#### ***Monthly Meeting***

Our December meeting will be on **Sunday, December 11th from 12:00-2:00pm**. A light lunch will be provided. Please let Heather know if you will be attending.

#### ***Wrapping for God***

The fundraiser "Wrapping for God" originally planned for Saturday, December 17th is **CANCELLED**. Thank you for understanding.

**Heather Shainline**, our Youth Group & Young Adult Group Director can be reached via email at: [youthgroup@stcolumbkil.org](mailto:youthgroup@stcolumbkil.org)

## Message from St. Francis Academy Our Parish Elementary School



### *St. Francis Academy*

610 Pine Road  
Bally, PA

**Parish School News: St. Francis Academy.**  
**Dec. 6 – No 10:45 Liturgy**

**Dec. 8 – Mass Immaculate Conception**  
Please join us for our annual Tree Lighting ceremony after Mass.

**Dec. 9 – Dance for Gr. 6, 7, 8, SFA Cafeteria**  
7:00-9:00 PM  
Remember Plastic Cash for the holidays.

### *Calling all 2nd to 6th graders*

If you love to sing!! Our Children's choir sings at the 11 am Mass on the second Sunday of each month. Practices are on Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Ehst Room.

### *Youth Joke of the Week!*

#### **The Hand of God**

Little Johnny was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a particularly trying week in his religious education class. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful.

His grandmother commented, 'Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?'

'Yes,' replied Johnny, 'God did it and he did it left handed.'

This confused his grandmother so she asked him, 'What makes you say God did this with his left hand?' 'Well,' said Johnny 'we learned in Religious Education class last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand.'

An the Holy Spirit was smiling!

## *St. Francis Academy & Middle States*

**Middle States Evaluation** – During the week of Oct. 16-19, our school was visited by three educational professionals to determine our re-accreditation. On Wednesday, after the noon dismissal, the entire staff met with the team for the "Oral Report". This is a preliminary report before the final written report is evaluated and sent to our school. The Middle States team described our school as "a little piece of heaven". Their report was glowing! The chairwoman stated she had visited over 50 schools and has never been so complimentary in her reports and observations. She described the teacher and student interviews (from grades pre-k – 8<sup>th</sup>) as a consistent love for our school. She stated that SFA is truly a "family".

As I stated at the opening dinner, I am in complete "awe" of the dedication of all the teachers, staff, and volunteers at our school. I am afraid to thank the numerous parents who volunteered during those three days for fear of leaving someone out. Our Lord knows who you are.

We all pay school taxes and sending your child to a Catholic school is a great sacrifice. Why are we paying extra money for education when we don't have to? Why are we doing this? **Because** in our school, we pray every day ...**Because** in our school, we teach religion...**Because** in our school, there is nothing more important than God and how we treat each other...**Because** our school is priceless and we want the best for our kids!

**God bless you and your families...**  
**Deacon Murphy**

## **PRESCHOOL RELIGIOUS ED!**

### *Attention Parents of Preschoolers*

Are you aware that we have a Sunday morning preschool class for our 3, 4 and 5 year-olds? It meets during the 11:00 mass in room 101 every Sunday except the second Sunday of the month when we have the Children's Mass.

We have wonderful dedicated catechists waiting to share their love of God with your children. To register go to our website and find the form under "Religious Education" or contact our DRE Connie Boyer with any questions you might have. Your little ones will enjoy the interactive and fun program and you will enjoy peace and quiet at mass. Give it a try!

**Email Connie at: [connieb@stcolumbkill.org](mailto:connieb@stcolumbkill.org)**

## Father Marty's Corner

It is indeed the Second Sunday of Advent. John the Baptist takes center stage and proclaims "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Saint Matthew proceeds to tell us that John the Baptist was the one that the Prophet Isaiah was speaking about when he said: "A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." These are classic Advent lines. They remind us that John the Baptist was predicted from of old to be the one to point to Jesus. Once focused on Jesus, we necessarily begin the work of repentance because our salvation is at hand. These images provide hope for us. In the spirit of John the Baptist, we are called to be prophetic in our own particular lives. We are able to be prophets by our generosity of spirit and our humble giving. The Greek word for *prophet* is *proclaim*. The reflection for me and for you is how am I able to best proclaim the message of John the Baptist in my life? There was no mistaking what John the Baptist wanted people to know about Jesus. Are we able to be that clear in our proclamation of the gospel? Remember it does not have to be done with words...actions work as well if not better!



I also draw your attention to the fact that our First Reading from Isaiah contains what would become for us the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Initially, these attributes were what the hoped-for king of Israel would reflect in his rule. I think it is good to make the connection that what we believe to be these essential gifts come from the Old Testament. Our scripture and tradition meet.

Finally, I am going on my annual retreat this week to Saint Joseph Abbey in Spencer, MA. Please know that I will pray for you and I ask you to pray for me as well.

## Second Sunday of Advent—Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

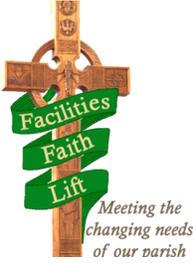
When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

# STEWARDSHIP

## Facilities Faith Lift

Thank you for your continued support of our Facilities Faith Lift Campaign. Your support and prayers have been and continue to be vitally important to the success of our three year campaign.



### July 1st marked our one year anniversary.

We will continue to accept new pledges at any time during our campaign. Please contact Gayle at the parish office if you wish to fill out a commitment card to pledge. We have reached our \$1,000,000 goal in pledges received... **we are still accepting pledges!!** Your continued generous support is appreciated.

Please don't forget your pennies for our Penny Pledge. There is a container in the Narthex to accept your pennies as you come for weekly Mass. Our next goal is \$7,500 and we are well on our way with total deposits to date of **\$7,074.47!** At this rate we are on track to exceed our \$10,000 goal.

Please contact **Gayle Fontaine** at the parish office if you have any questions at all concerning your pledge payment.

Thank you for your continued support of our Facilities Faith Lift Campaign!

### What does Scripture say about Stewardship?

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.*

—1 Peter 4:10

*You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.*

—Micah 6:8

*But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be given you besides.*

—Matthew 6:33

## Weekly Collections

### Fiscal Year July 2016 to June 2017

#### Weekend of November 26 & 27

Wkly. offering necessary for Budget.....	\$13,750.00
Actual Weekly Offering .....	\$13,034.66
Net Weekly Overage.....	\$715.34
YTD Budget Offering.....	\$302,500.00
YTD Actual Offering Income.....	\$300,452.86
YTD Shortage.....	-\$2047.14

### THANK YOU CHILDREN!!

We want to THANK all the children of our parish for their “stewardship” in saving their pennies and donating them to our Facilities Faith Lift. When Jesus said in the Gospel, “Let the Children come to me” He was talking about all of you! Through your efforts we have passed the \$7,000 mark in pennies donated. The actual total is **\$7,074.47** You are all truly doing His work here at our parish in Boyertown.

### Facilities Faith Lift Prayer

Thank you, Father, for every blessing comes from you. You gifted us with time, talent and treasure. Teach us to give time first to You. Teach us how to pray. You bestowed on us unique talents. By unifying our gifts, You connect us as one body. Teach us how to serve. Time and talent together create our treasures. Teach us how to glorify YOU with every breath of our lives. Amen!

## Parish News and Information

### OUR SENIORS GROUP

Monday, December 12, 2016  
Rainbow Comedy Playhouse  
"Green Holly & Gray Potatoes"  
\$60/group member \$65/guest



Payment due Now

Tuesday, January 10, 2017  
Sands Casino Bethlehem  
\$20/group member \$25/guest

April 27-30, 2017  
Azalea Festival & Tatroo Show - Norfolk, Virginia  
\$550/double \$718/single  
\$100 due at sign up, balance due 3/1/17

For information about trips or to sign up  
Contact Peg Bryan at 610 754-7516 or email at  
[stcolumbseniortrips@comcast.net](mailto:stcolumbseniortrips@comcast.net)

### "Love Lights"

The Human Concerns Ministry will be selling "Love Lights" after all masses on the weekends of **November 27 through December 11** for \$4.00 each. Love Lights may be purchased "In Memory of a Special Loved One" or "In Honor of Someone Special."

The love light dove is placed on the tree in the Narthex from the fourth Sunday of Advent through Epiphany Sunday. The person purchasing the love light receives a beautiful Christmas card that may be sent to the person they are honoring or shared with others commemorating the memory of their loved one. Proceeds from the love light sales will benefit the John Paul II Center for Special Learning.

### NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL DUE BY DEC 5TH. (PLACE IN COLLECTION BASKET OR DROP OFF AT PARISH OFFICE)

Each year at this time we approach our parish family seeking nominations for Parish Council. The Parish Council is the administrative arm of our parish and spearheads all our ministries. It is the clearing house for all parish activities. The Council is composed of 9 elected members plus 5 staff members (including the Finance Officer). Members are elected for a three-year term, renewable once. Parish Council meets monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to nominate yourself and/or other parishioners by using the ballot below.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

### *Did you know?*

**That Saint Nicholas** (15 March 270 – 6 December 343), also called **Nikolaos of Myra**, was a historic 4th-century Christian saint and Greek Bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor (modern-day Demre, Turkey). Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as **Nikolaos the Wonderworker**. His reputation evolved among the faithful, as was common for early Christian saints, and his legendary habit of secret gift-giving gave rise to the traditional model of Santa Claus through Sinterklaas. (And you can look it up!)

**QUESTION?** What is the Third Sunday of Advent called? What makes it different?

**Last Week's Answer:** Who were the parents of John the Baptist? Usually everyone knows John's mother, **St. Elizabeth**. Both Elizabeth and her husband are mentioned in Luke 1: v5-25. His name is **Zechariah** and he was John's Dad.

### *Widows & Widowers Support Group*

The next "REACH OUT" session will be on **December 11<sup>th</sup> at St Columbkil's Church in the Office Meeting Room at 1 PM**. All are welcome. We ask for prayers for the families who are searching for the meaning of the Holidays without their loved ones. All come to recognize that Grief has a voice and when it is your voice, what you are hearing is the worst grief of all. The support of those who understand is most needed. The Reach Out sessions can help sort out and validate these complicated issues.

**For more information and for anyone who has suffered a loss of any one close to them, please call Dn. Mike Boyle at 484-336-9849.**



## Other Information and News

**MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**--All men (and their sons) are invited to join Deacon Jim on **the first Tuesday of each month beginning on December 6, 2016 and each first Tuesday thereafter**, to pray and share their concerns about our world's future, the future of our Church and the continuing formation of our faith in our lives. **Prayer meeting begins at 7 p.m. and will last approximately an hour.** We should always remember the words of Our Lord to his apostles who were also concerned about the future, "Be not afraid"!

### **Christmas Caroling**

All are welcome to join us as the "Columbkill Carolers" take to the hallways of Pennsburg Manor on Thursday evening, **December 15<sup>th</sup>**. No singing experience is required, just the desire to bring cheer to the residents. We will meet in the lobby of Pennsburg Manor at 6:30pm. *B.Y.O.V. Bring Your Own Voice!* Questions? Contact Candee Holzman at 484-431-2085 or email her at: [candeeh@stcolumbkill.org](mailto:candeeh@stcolumbkill.org)

### **Greeters, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Server**

The next Ministry Schedule will begin the weekend of December 10, 2016 and run through Sunday, March 12, 2017. Please submit any unavailable dates to Lisa DeSimone at [lisad@stcolumbkill.org](mailto:lisad@stcolumbkill.org), or drop a note in the collection basket, or call the church office at 610-367-2371 no later than Monday, November 21, 2016. ***There will be sign up sheets in the Narthex for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Thanks for your wonderful support!!!***

### **St. Vincent DePaul—The First Sunday of Advent**

**Dec 4:** In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord." This is what Advent is all about, for we are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. **Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry at our Parish office, so we can help them to celebrate Christmas this year.**

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** Come strengthen your faith on **Wednesday at 7:00 PM** in the Hall downstairs. We are open to gifts of the Holy Spirit, scripture, music joyfully praising the Lord. Scripture based teaching given each week. Let us intercede for you. For more info call Sue T. at: 610.367.4711 or email at: [dondenick@comcast.net](mailto:dondenick@comcast.net)

**March for Life 2017** Now is the time to schedule your vacation day from work if necessary, so you can join us for this incredible pep rally for LIFE! The 2017 March for Life is being held on Friday, January 27th. The day begins in our church with Mass for the Unborn at 6:30am before boarding the bus to Washington, DC. The program on the National Mall begins at 12 noon and the March immediately follows. Cost is \$50 per person which includes morning refreshments, bus transportation and buffet dinner on the return trip. To reserve a seat, please contact Lisa in the parish office at 610-367-2371 or Candee Holzman at 610-369-9887 or [candeeh@stcolumbkill.org](mailto:candeeh@stcolumbkill.org). Reservation is confirmed when your payment is received.

**LOOK on our Home Page to pay online!**



## ***Staff Directory***

**Pastor** - Father Martin F. Kern

**Deacons** - James Kochu, Joseph L. Paschall, Joseph Petrauskas, Michael V. Woodall, Emeritus

**Administrative Assistants** - Lisa De Simone:  
lisad@stcolumbkill.org

Along with: Mary Lou Heisler, and Joann Rivera

**Chief Financial Officer/Campaign Coordinator** -  
Gayle B. Fontaine

**Parish Visitor** - Sister Jean Wickenheiser OSF

**Parish School, St. Francis Academy** -

Deacon Thomas J. Murphy, Headmaster

**Director of Preschool**—Adriana Segaline;  
preschool@stcolumbkill.org

**Director of Religious Education** - Constance J. Boyer:  
connieb@stcolumbkill.org

**Coordinators of Religious Education**

Patricia & Joseph Petrauskas

**Directors of Youth Ministry** - Heather Shainline:

youthgroup@stcolumbkill.org

**Director of Music** - Deborah Maskrey

**Director Communications/Marketing** -

George A. DeFrehn, OFS: georged@stcolumbkill.org

**RCIA Coordinator**—Margaret Chovanes 610-248-2171

**Volunteer Coordinators**—Mary Snyder & Robert Chisholm

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Coord.** - Wendy S Krisak,  
MA, NCC, LPC Direct Line 800-791-9209

**Diocesan Safe Environment Coord.** - Sr. Meg Cole,  
SSJ,MS,LMFT, 610-332-0442, ext. 19

## ***Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist***

*Kathleen McCarthy.*

**Tuesday, December 6, 2016** Morning Session: 9:00  
AM - Noon *Morning Session* will include Conference, Exposition of the Eucharist, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

To register for this event contact: Our Lady's Missionaries of the Eucharist, 640 E. Main St., Birdsboro, PA 19508 [olme@olme.org](mailto:olme@olme.org) or 610-582-3333 or [www.olme.org](http://www.olme.org). All are Welcome! Bring a Friend! Your generous donation will be deeply appreciated.

## ***Warming Tree & Gifts for AIDS Patients***

**The Human Concerns Ministry is again sponsoring the annual "Warming Tree" November 26 through December 11.**

You may help to keep our neighbors warm this winter by bringing new, unwrapped gifts to put on or under the tree in the Narthex. The items will be distributed to area families in need by the Boyertown Area Multi-Service. Items needed include baby sleepers, pajamas, mittens, gloves, socks, blankets, sweatshirts, sweatpants, or other warm clothing. There will also be baskets for donations to the Berks AIDS Network. Items that are needed by the Berks AIDS Network include toiletries such as deodorant, soap, body wash, shampoo, lotions, toothbrushes, toothpaste shaving cream, razors, mouthwash, combs, tissues, etc., Thank you for sharing your love with your neighbor!

## **Sacramental Life**

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession**

- Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. or any time by contacting the Parish Office

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

- 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:15 p.m.

- Baptism Prep Classes for parents and godparents are held the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m. in the EHST Room.

### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

- Arrangements must be made a minimum of 6 months in advance.  
All Couples must participate in the Marriage Prep Program.