

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)

Nov 27, 2016

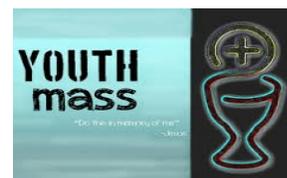


**SACRAMENT OF  
RECONCILIATION  
IS HEARD EVERY  
SATURDAY FROM  
4 P.M. TO 4:45 P.M.  
BEFORE THE  
SATURDAY  
EVENING VIGIL  
MASS**

### ST. COLUMBKILLE PARISHIONERS

Our first Sunday  
6pm Youth Mass will be  
held  
December 11th with our  
new teen group leading  
song.

Come and join us!



**Upcoming Holy Days:  
December 8  
Immaculate Conception**

A Regular Holy Day  
of Obligation  
Click calendar on  
Home Page of our  
Website for Masses.

**“For you do  
not know on  
which day  
your Lord  
will come.”**



**Matt  
24:  
37-44**

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

### **Extended Adoration at St. Columbkille begins Nov. 28th**

Will be for approx. 100 hours per week using the following schedule in Holy Family Chapel.

Mondays 10:00 a.m. to Midnight

Tuesdays Midnight to Midnight

Wednesdays Midnight to Midnight

Thursdays Midnight to Midnight

Fridays Midnight to 6 p.m. (Followed by Benediction)

**WE STILL NEED 67 DEDICATED  
ADORERS!!**

**WE CAN'T LEAVE JESUS ALONE!  
PLEASE SIGN UP ON LINE!**

SEE “LINK” ON OUR HOME PAGE!

Fr. Marty thought it appropriate to begin in the Season of Advent. This is a NEW beginning for us as a parish and Advent is the beginning of the Church Liturgical Year.

Our over-riding theme is "*O Come Let Us Adore Him!*"

**PLEASE NOTE: When you sign up, you are committing to that day and hour of adoration week after week. What an awesome opportunity!**

***That hour is your reserved time with Christ!***



# PRA YFUL INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY: November 28**  
9:00 am-Jack Hagan by Jack & Linda Lignelli

**TUESDAY: November 29**  
9:00am— Theresa Torak by Beverly Smith

**WEDNESDAY: November 30**  
9:00am-Isabella Howell by the Stoudt Family

**THURSDAY: December 1**  
9:00am-Zigmont & Edith Fisherowski by son, David

**FRIDAY: December 2**  
9:00am-Joseph O'Brien Jr. by Mom & Dad

**SATURDAY: December 3**  
5:00pm—Jerome Cohrac by Roseanne Sassaman

**SUNDAY: December 4**  
7:30am-Those Enrolled in the Iona Memorial Fund  
9:00am-Lillian Tait by Mike & Angie Di Giacomo &  
Family  
11:00am -Joseph Deklinski by Lisa De Simone

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased Members of our  
Parish

**Mary Ceil Landry & Roberta Sarro**

Please Pray for the Recently Deceased who  
are Relatives of Parishioners  
**Maryann Droege mother of Thomas Droege**

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

Mon: November 28 Father Dominik Kalata  
Tue: November 29 Father Kiaieta Kanimea  
Wed: November 30 Father David Karns  
Thu: December 1 His Holiness Pope Francis  
Fri: December 2 Pope Emeritus Benedict  
Sat: December 3 Bishop John Barres-Allentown  
Sun: December 4 Bsh. Emeritus Edward Cullen

## ***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

*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.*

## ***Altar Flowers***

Last weekend the Flowers were in honor of  
Herbert and Johanna Engel by  
Ingeborg and Family

## ***Sanctuary Candle***

In Loving Memory of Dominick and Caroline  
Di Guglielmo by grandchildren and  
great grandchildren

## ***Bread and Wine***

In Honor of Joanne Psota by Fr. Martin Kern

## Apologetics-Defending the Faith

A Jehovah's Witness commented that the veneration of relics is superstitious and condemned by the Bible. I had no idea how to respond.

### ANSWER

You might start by saying that although the ancient Christian practice of venerating the relics of saints, especially martyrs, can be abused in a superstitious way by some who misunderstand the purpose of relics, it is not itself in any way superstitious.

A relic is an object, such as a piece of clothing or, more commonly, a piece of bone from a saint's body, which has spiritual value because it belonged to one of God's saints. The Bible records many accounts of the value of relics and even episodes of miraculous events connected with them. "People brought to [Jesus] all who were sick and begged him that they might only touch the tassel on his cloak, and as many as touched it were healed" (Mt 14:35-36; cf. Mk 6:56; Lk 8:43-44). It was not uncommon for ordinary objects, like the tassel on the Lord's cloak, to have miraculous characteristics. Look also at Acts 5:15, where even Peter's shadow could cause miraculous healings.

Regarding the relics of saints, especially martyrs (about whom the Bible says, "Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his holy ones" [Ps 116:15]), look at 2 Kings 13:21:

Elisha died and was buried. At the time, bands of Moabites used to raid the land each year. Once some people were burying a man, when suddenly they spied such a raiding band. So they cast the dead man into the grave of Elisha and everyone went off. But when the man came in contact with the bones of Elisha, he came back to life and rose to his feet.

CATHOLIC ANSWERS STAFF: 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!

**Our Lord needs 198 Adorers by Nov 28th.  
As of Nov 21st we have 131 adorers signed up!  
Still needed 67 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

#### #1 KEEP YOUR BRAIN HEALTHY

It's one thing to want to pray more. It's another thing to sit down and do it. And even when you do, there are an endless number of obstacles and distractions. So often I walk into the chapel and sit there with my brain scrambled. When there are 10,000 things going on at the same time it's easy to get overwhelmed in prayer but if I write my prayer — things are different.

Writing down my thoughts and prayers force me to focus on one thing at a time. My brain automatically tries to process a bazillion things at a time but working through my thoughts slowly on paper puts my soul at rest.

### 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 Logos and Lagers Bible Study is on Thursday, December 1st from 7-8:30pm. This event will be held at St. Ignatius Parish in Reading, PA.

Thank you to everyone who came out to the November monthly meeting. 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 11 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.

### Thank you!

...to everyone who came out to our first annual Friendsgiving! We gave thanks for the friendships we have in our lives, the ones we have created through Youth Group and for everything God has given us. A HUGE thank you to all those that brought donations for Birthright. A great way to show thanks to God is by giving to those in need. If you forgot to bring your donation to our meeting, let Heather know. You can still donate!

**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.

Nov. 28 – No School

Nov. 29 – Classes Resume. *No School Liturgy*

Confession Gr. 3-8 10:00

Don't forget Plastic Cash for the holidays.



***Calling all 2nd to 6th graders*** who love to sing!! Our Children's choir sings at the 11 am Mass on the second Sunday of each month. Practices are Wednesday's from 5:30pm to 6 pm in the Ebst Room.

#### ***YOUTH JOKE-OF-THE-WEEK***

Did you hear about the teen who was pulled over for speeding on his way to the Youth Group meeting because he was running late?

The cop got out of his car and the young teen rolled down his window.

"I've been waiting for you all day," the cop sarcastically said.

The teen then sarcastically replied, "Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could!"

When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the teen on his way without a ticket.

And even God 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

By Deacon Jim Kochu

When I awoke this morning at 4:18 a.m., I realized it was way too early to start my day so I WAITED in bed as I said my morning prayers of thankfulness for being given another opportunity to serve the Lord and His people under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

After my daily walk and recitation of the rosary, I WAITED as the Keurig brewed my first cup of coffee for the day. I WAITED as the water filled the laundry machine to clean my clothes. I WAITED for my laptop to fire up so I could begin this reflection. It appears that I spend a lot of time each day in WAITING, eh? The question I pose to myself and to all of you, "What is it that we are truly WAITING for?"

For our young people it could be that great day of surprise and gift giving. For those a bit older in their teens, it could be for the day to come when we get our driver's permit or our first job so we'll have our own money to buy "things." I know that these three events were always near and dear to my heart, thus, I'm not so different than everyone else.

Today the Church's liturgical year begins with Advent, the four week period of WAITING and preparation that has been observed since the 4th century. Initially this preparatory time was used for new believers to be baptized and for all believers to look forward to Jesus' return in glory. As time progressed, the emphasis on the Second Coming and baptism remained, while a new emphasis on Jesus' FIRST COMING as a baby grew.

With this double goal of celebration and anticipation in mind, let us view Advent as a season of *hope*, hope that the baby born in Bethlehem, in that stable to Mary, will indeed return one day and usher in God's Kingdom here on earth. Hope helps us step out and believe in what is not visible. Hope is God's grace to accept that there is a certain amount of mystery to our faith, while allowing us to be confident that God is ever present and actively at work in our lives and in our world.

In today's Gospel, Matthew tells us to "stay awake...you must also be prepared...for at an hour...the Son of Man will come." As we WAIT throughout these next four weeks in anticipation of His Second Coming as well as for the Christmas miracle to once again unveil itself upon our world with all its magic, glitter and wonder, may we keep in touch with the true "GIFT" that we will be awarded upon our completion of our personal WAITING, the gift of seeing Jesus face to face. BLESSINGS TO ALL!!!

## First Sunday of Advent—Gospel Matthew 24: 37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into.

So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

# 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 12 & 13

Wkly. offering necessary for Budget.....	\$13,750.00
Actual Weekly Offering .....	\$14,334.91
Net Weekly Overage.....	\$584.91
YTD Budget Offering.....	\$275,000.00
YTD Actual Offering Income.....	\$274,152.54
YTD Shortage.....	-\$847.46

### All Saints collection amount of \$2,063

### 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 November 10, 2016

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

April 27-30, 2017  
Azalea Festival & Tatum 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)

### Did you know?

Advent is the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus and its name comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming"? You can look it up!

**QUESTION?** Who were the parents of John the Baptist?

**Last Week's Answer:** When Jesus was brought to the Temple on the 8th day after birth, what name was he given? (Hint...it wasn't Jesus!) ANSWER: In Hebrew, Jesus' name is "Yeshua"

### NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL (PLACE IN COLLECTION BASKET OR DROP OFF @ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Wedding Announcement!



CONGRATULATIONS....  
and Prayerful Best Wishes to  
**Carissa Slawecki and Stephen Campbell** who were made one in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at a Nuptial Mass celebrated by Fr. Marty Kern

### *"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.

### *Widows & Widowers Support Group*

The next "REACH OUT" session meeting will be on November 27<sup>th</sup> at MBS, Fr Schneider Hall. Those who have lost a loved one know that other losses are apt to re-engage, especially those that were unresolved or recent. The support of those who understand is most needed.

For more information and for **anyone** who has suffered a loss of **any one** close to them, please call Deacon 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 each Tuesday evening beginning **November 29<sup>th</sup>**, the 1st week of Advent, 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. 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**

**Nov 27:** There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one longing, of yearning for a fulfillment, for we long for the coming of the Lord. **As you put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry Box, located on the column in the Narthex, your heart will discover the true meaning of Christmas as you help those who are suffering to long for the coming of the Lord.**

### **PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE**

Parish Advent Celebration  
Save the date! - **December 10th 6 PM (after 5 pm Mass)**  
Food...Activities for the kids...A special guest.

### **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 27<sup>th</sup>. 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.



## ***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

## ***Christmas Craft & Food Festival***

Dec 3 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Quinn Hall

Dec 4 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Quinn Hall

Fill your Christmas shopping list with unique items from our crafters. Purchase cookies and food specialty items.

For more info call Leona at 484-529-5423

## ***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.