

# MADONNA DEL CASTELLO

2021 S. Braddock Avenue • Swissvale, PA 15218



## PARISH STAFF

**Father John Lynam, *Pastor***

**Keith Kondrich, *Deacon***

**Ron Demblowski, *Deacon***

**Kelly James, *Secretary***

**Edward Kapsha, *Music Director***

**Patricia Aducci, *Coordinator of Religious Ed.***

## PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office: ..... 412-271-5666

Fax Number: ..... 412-271-2335

Religious Education Office: ..... 412-271-5666

Music Ministry ..... 412-271-5666

Bp. Dattilo Social Hall ..... 412-271-3959

Website: [www.madonnadelcastello.org](http://www.madonnadelcastello.org)

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday at Noon

## RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

## MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Monday .....7:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday ..... 8:00 a.m.

Saturday (vigil mass) .....4:00 p.m.

Sunday .....11:00 a.m.

*Consult the bulletin for Holy Day and Holiday Mass schedule*

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

After Sunday Mass.

## RECONCILIATION

Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and by appointment.

## BAPTISMS

Call the office for an appointment.

## MARRIAGE

Contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

# Mass Schedule

<b>Monday, November 25</b>	7:00 P.M.
Thomas Coffee (Josephine Pulcini)	
<b>Tuesday, November 26</b>	9:30 A.M.
Word of God Mass	
<b>Tuesday, November 26</b>	7:00 P.M.
Holy Hour	
<b>Wednesday, November 27</b>	8:00 A.M.
M/M Paul Shandrick (M/M Thomas Dinardo)	
<b>Thursday, November 28</b>	9:30 A.M.
Word of God Mass	
<b>Friday, November 29</b>	8:00 A.M.
Golden Grachen (Cornelia Bloise Family)	
<b>Friday, November 29</b>	7:00 P.M.
Holy Hour	
<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	9:30 A.M.
Word of God Mass	
<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	4:00 P.M.
Mary Lou Murello (Patti Aducci)	
<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	6:00 P.M.
Word of God Mass	
<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	9:00 A.M.
Word of God Mass	
<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	11:00 A.M.
Robert Jennings (M/M John Buettner)	



<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	4:00 P.M.
Andrew Klabnik & Nicole O'Dell	
<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	11:00 A.M.
Maria Petrarca & Angela Petrarca	



<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	4:00 P.M.
Cathy Wreath, Ellie Yearsley, Al Haski, Marian Iovino	
<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	11:00 A.M.
Bill Pfoff, Jim Tomko, Mike Pascal	



<b>Saturday, November 30</b>	4:00 P.M.
Rose Pascal	
<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	11:00 A.M.
Janice Bonacci	



The Tabernacle Lamp is in memory of  
**PETE IANNUCCI**  
From Mary Iannucci.



The Altar Candles are in memory of  
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The Altar Bread & Wine is in memory of  
**ANDREW ORFITELLI**  
From Gilda Orfitelli.



The Altar Flowers are in memory of  
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### MONTHLY COLLECTION

September regular offertory ..... \$17,316.00  
September PSP collected ..... \$2,198.00  
PSP still owed ..... \$11,367.00

October regular offertory ..... \$12,314.00  
October PSP collected ..... \$3,694.00  
PSP still owed ..... \$7,673.00

### "THE LIGHT IS STILL ON FOR YOU!"

This year in every parish across the Diocese of Pittsburgh, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on Wednesday, December 11 from 6-9 pm. Consider making a commitment this Advent to experience the healing grace of God's forgiveness & love. Visit [www.diopitt.org/lightstillon](http://www.diopitt.org/lightstillon) for more information.

### PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Celebrate May, the month of Our Lady by being in the Grace-filled village of Medjugorje with a pilgrimage. In the words of Our Lady, "Thank you for responding to my call. If you knew how much I love you, you'd cry for joy." April 29-May 2014 with Spiritual Director Rev. Joseph Freedy. For more information, call Cathy Howe at 412-278-4673 or Chuck Wyssor at Ambassador Travel Service at 412-366-7200.



# THE EAGLE

CONSORTIUM OF 6 PARISHES WHICH INCLUDES GOOD SHEPHERD, MADONNA DEL CASTELLO, ST. COLMAN, ST. JOHN FISHER, ST. MAURICE AND WORD OF GOD

## A NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2013-2014

### East Catholic School

#### Mission Statement

East Catholic School was established in 2012 with the mergers of Good Shepherd, St. Maurice and Word of God Schools. The school is supported by a consortium of Parishes: Good Shepherd, Madonna del Castello, St. Colman, St. John Fisher, St. Maurice and Word of God.

Our mission is to provide our students with the skills to become responsible, educated, and faith-filled leaders of tomorrow in the way that Jesus intended them to be. The faculty and staff of East Catholic School strive to teach, nurture, and help each child develop a personal relationship with God in an educational system that is Christ-centered. We integrate Catholic instruction of the Gospel values across the curriculum in kindergarten through eighth grade. Pope John Paul II stated that, "Christian community is not merely a concept to be taught but a reality to be lived."

Welcome to the first edition of The Eagle for the 2013-2014 school year. The faculty, staff and students adapted to the new school year quickly. We welcomed a new Spanish Teacher, Mrs. Kimberly Moyer-Weiss. "Living God's Love" was chosen as our Gospel Value for the year and our prayer for the year is "Lord, open our hearts to your love". This prayer is said at each Mass as a response to our Prayers of the Faithful and daily in school. One of the ways that we show that we are "Living God's Love" is by performing Random Acts of Kindness. Not only have the students been doing this, but they are being recognized by the teachers and their peers.



We also began an anti-bullying program – The Olweus Program. The program was kicked off by an assembly about bullying by Josh and Gab. A few days later the students had an anti-bullying pep rally. The students also made posters which are displayed throughout the school. The students have a class meeting, on a regular basis, to discuss various bullying problems. The teachers and students have reacted positively to the program.

Our weekly school masses have been special this year. Each of the pastors is assigned a different week to celebrate the liturgy for the students. Often, even though not assigned, the pastor will come to concelebrate with us. On a few occasions we have been blessed to have Deacon Kondrich and Deacon Demblowski celebrate with us. Please join us each Friday at 9 a.m. and pray with us.

## EAST CATHOLIC SCHOOL TO SPONSOR FORENSIC TOURNAMENT

East Catholic School in Forest Hills is a member of the Southwestern PA Forensics League. The league is composed of approximately 27 schools from East Catholic in the south and stretching all the way north to Butler Catholic. Forensic tournaments are held 5 times a year at various school sites within the leagues jurisdiction. This includes the finals and the Best of the Best tournament at the end. Students compete in the categories of Drama, Prose, Poetry, Declamation, Impromptu and "Group". All are single performances except group (this allows 3 or more students to compete as a team). They must speak for a period of time no less than 5 minutes and no greater than 8 minutes. Time is critical. They are judged on diction, expression, projection, attitude, and the adherence to each specific category's rules. This year we have approximately 32 students who are vying for a position on the team. East Catholic will sponsor a tournament here on Saturday, January 11, 2014. We expect approximately 150 speakers along with parents and coaches.



# SCIENCE NEWS

Mr. Lamanti, our 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science teacher, was able to bring back the Pitt Mobile Science Laboratory to East Catholic School on October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2013. The University of Pittsburgh and the Clinical + Translational Science Institute is a Science Outreach Program that travels to various schools in Western Pennsylvania and parts of West Virginia. Mr. Lamanti has had an affiliation with the University of Pittsburgh and the Clinical + Translational Science Institute for over ten years and annually integrates this wonderful Science Outreach Program into the Science Curriculum. One hundred twenty-six students in grades 6, 7, and 8 were divided into six laboratory sessions in the two days that the Pitt Mobile Science Lab was on the East Catholic Campus. The Lab presented on the two days was titled, "Human Genetics". In preparation for the scientific inquiry lesson, Mr. Lamanti taught several science lessons in his classes on how genetic information influences the physical characteristics of organisms. On the Pitt Mobile Science Lab the students were given a brief introduction to a lab which identifies the components of the DNA molecule, how this molecule influences physical characteristics, and how molecular biologists use gel electrophoresis to identify people. The students were able to work in pairs on the mobile lab as molecular biologists to prepare an agarosae gel, learn how to use micro-pipets, and analyze the DNA banding pattern from a gel. Mr. Lamanti will continue to have his students be part of this Science Outreach program two more times during this academic school year as the Pitt Mobile Science Lab will return to East Catholic School in the Spring, sometime during the months of April and May, for students in the learning process.

## BRAIN IN THE BOX

The Department of Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh and the science teacher at East Catholic School, Mr. Angelo Lamanti, will continue the Science Outreach Program, "Brain in the Box". Several of the undergraduate students from the University of Pittsburgh are taking time off from applying to medical schools to come into Mr. Lamanti's Science classroom and teach the students about the human brain. On November 21st the first lecture will take place and the title will be, "Vision". It will involve the students learning about the basics of how vision works; how the eye and brain work together to allow sight; why we can see colors; why some colors are used when night vision is needed (such as on dashboards and alarm clocks); the spectrum of colors in white light; and the different frequencies of light in various types of light bulbs. The lessons will also include a number of hands-on activities to engage Mr. Lamanti's students in the learning process.

## KINDERGARTEN

East Catholic kindergarten students visited the Sarah Adult Day Center on Wednesday, October 30th. They entertained the clients with Halloween rhymes, songs and a spooky story.

The kindergarten children also are doing a pen-pal experience with their grandparents. They sent Fall leaf pictures and then Halloween greetings to their grandparents. In return they have received many wonderful cards, letters and notes from them. The first and second graders also are sending letters and cards to their grandparents. This project was begun last year by Mrs. Donna Chronowski, our First grade teacher at East Catholic, and expanded to the other grades this year.

## PROJECT LINUS

East Catholic's participation in the Project Linus blanket program got underway in October. For the past five years, students and faculty have prepared fleece blankets that are then given away to many organizations in our community and the Pittsburgh area. We have been fortunate to have such wonderful support from our student and parent body with this project. It is rewarding to know that the blankets we make and give away provide not just warmth for those in need, but also allows the recipient to know that others care.



## EAST CATHOLIC ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM

**"Bullying is when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself."** Olweus Bullying Prevention Program

The classroom meetings for our anti-bullying program, "Make a Splash; Wipe Out Bullying!" began in September and have been very successful. Meetings are held every other week in the students' homerooms. Students are now well established in the format of the meetings and have thoroughly discussed the benefits an anti-bullying program can have. They are actively participating in the discussions held at these important meetings.

The school rules against bullying have been discussed with the student body and are posted in each classroom and throughout the school.

**We will not bully others.**

**We will help students who are bullied.**

**We will include students who are left out.**

**If we know someone is being bullied, we will tell an adult.**

Parents should follow up with their children to learn what was discussed in the classrooms at each meeting. East Catholic School is committed to the long-term implementation of the Olweus Bullying Program. Empowering our students to stand up to bullying enforces our Christian values and creates a safer and happier environment for learning.

## VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a day designated to honor the men and women who have fought and died for our country. The freedom we have today was hard won by these soldiers who paid the ultimate price. They are the reason that we are free today. Veterans Day is a time for giving thanks and reflecting on what has been sacrificed for our freedom.

East Catholic School held a special Veterans Day Prayer Service on Friday November 8, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in St. Maurice Church. The Prayer Service was to honor all veterans who have served and are continuing to serve our country. This year veterans were asked to be an integral part of the Prayer Service. The veterans received a blessing during the prayer service. All veterans from our surrounding communities, school and Consortium parishes were invited to attend. Boy and Girl Scouts from the school were involved in the service. Veterans and their families were invited to attend a special reception after the service in the school cafeteria.

Other activities to honor of the veterans were:

\*students created a "Wall of Remembrance" containing photos and stories that honor family members and friends who are veterans or currently serving in the military. The "Wall of Remembrance" was displayed in the Church vestibule.

\*and the Boy and Girl Scouts wore their uniforms and served the guests after the service.



# SHAKESPEARE MONOLOGUE AND SCENE CONTEST

East Catholic will be sending two teams of students to the 20<sup>th</sup> Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest hosted by the Pittsburgh Public Theater. Seventh graders: Michael Byrne, Bella Enfield, and Owen Fink and 8<sup>th</sup> grader Claire Biertempfel will perform a comic scene from Act I of the The Merry Wives of Windsor. Bea Duffus and Julianne Sorek, both in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, will perform another scene from Act II of the same play. The preliminary round of the competition is slated for Feb. 6 - 14, 2014. The Showcase of Finalists will be seen on Feb. 17, 2014. We enjoy our weekly practices and look forward to the competition.



Here at East Catholic the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Shakespearean Play will be Macbeth which is scheduled for Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3. The reading of the play and rehearsals will begin during the last week in January. This activity is open to all students in grades 6 through 8 who earn a "C" or better in all subjects. Mark your calendars for our 7:30 performances!

## THE SOUNDS OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

Music is in the air as the students at East Catholic School prepare for a variety of musical performances in December.



### Kennywood Park Holiday Lights

Once again this year, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are working on putting together a special Christmas program with singing and playing the recorder as part of Kennywood Parks' Holiday Lights. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders will perform on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. This program is sure to put everyone in the holiday spirit!

### Barnes & Noble at the Waterfront

The primary students will be filling the Barnes & Noble store at the Waterfront in Homestead, PA with the carols of Christmas on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Come hear some of your childhood favorites as the students' singing will be sure to put a smile on your face! Also, East Catholic School will receive a percentage of the sales that evening. So come support our great school.

### The Living Nativity

The beauty of the Christmas season will come alive on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with "The Living Nativity" at St. Maurice Church, 2001 Ardmore Blvd. in Forest Hills, PA.

The 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders of East Catholic School will tell the story of Jesus' birth through narration, song and liturgical dance.

## 3RD GRADE GINGERBREAD HOUSE AT PPG PLACE

Miss Breitreutz's 3rd grade class made a gingerbread house that can be seen at PPG Place from Light-Up Night through the holiday season. The display of houses are used to raise money for Children's Hospital's Free Care Fund. We will also be making care packages and gingerbread ornaments for nursing home residents for Christmas, and possibly singing carols at a nursing home.





**HOW TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION**

**It never hurts to review: How to receive Holy Communion**

**Approach the sacred minister with hands folded & bow from the waist acknowledging the Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Respond "Amen" when the sacred minister says "the Body of Christ" or "The Blood of Christ."**

You may receive the Sacred Host **on the tongue** or in the hand. Receiving the Sacred Host on the tongue may be a preference if you're experiencing arthritis, using a cane or carrying a baby. If receiving on the tongue, tilt your head back slightly & open your mouth wide, extending your tongue so that it rests on your lower lip. When you have received the Sacred Host, close your mouth & consume the Sacred Host as you continue on.

If receiving the Sacred Host **in the hand**, please be sure your hands are clean, take the hand you eat with & place it under your other hand & extend both hands. Take the Sacred Host with the hand you eat with & place the Sacred Host in your mouth in front of the sacred minister. Consume the Sacred Host as you continue on.

If you choose to receive the **Precious Blood**, approach the sacred minister as noted above, take the chalice in both hands & drink a small amount, return the chalice to the sacred minister, then return reverently, with hands folded, to your place.



Thursday of this week, November 28 is Thanksgiving Day. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. at Word of God Parish for Mass. The best way of expressing our gratitude is by participating in the Eucharist. Also, the office will be closed on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29.

**GIVING TREE**

Our Annual Giving Tree is set up in the back of the church. Take one of the decorations, upon which are printed the gifts needed. Return the gift to the church by December 15. **DO NOT GIFT WRAP.** Call the rectory with any questions.

**DIVINE HEALING MASS**

The Divine Healing Mass will be at Madonna del Castello Church on Wednesday, December 4 at 7 pm. Mark your calendars for this beautiful, prayerful Mass. All are invited. Individual prayer will be available after mass from the several priests celebrating.

**School News**

**Sarris Candy:** East Catholic is selling Sarris candy for Christmas. Please pick up an order form in the church or at the parish office. Orders are due in by Monday, November 25. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Pekor at 412-417-5731. All purchases benefit East Catholic School.

**ECUMENICAL CAROL FESTIVAL**

Sunday, December 15, 6-7 pm., Swissvale Presbyterian Church, 1825 Monongahela Ave. Carols sung by the audience will be interspersed with music, readings, etc. from members of the area churches. A money offering will be taken for the local Food Cupboards. A reception will follow. If you can provide cookies or wish to perform, call Ron Demblowski at 412-241-1372 or wordofgodpa@gmail.com. Sponsored by the Swissvale Ministerial Association.

**COOKIES FOR CHRISTMAS**

Orders for cookies are being taken through December 13th. Slips will be available in the back of church to place orders. If you have any questions, call Lois Petrarca at 412-646-2344

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER**

Once again the First Presbyterian Church, 120 E. Swissvale Ave., is having its Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day from 10 am to noon for take-out. Deadline for reservations due by Friday, November 22. Also, donations of Turkeys, potatoes, yams, vegetables, salads, rolls, pies or your own favorite holiday dish would be appreciated as well as volunteers. Call 412-241-4613 for more information.

**PROLIFE CORNER**

What can I do to help stop abortion? Pray daily. Read! Be more informed about abortion. Wear the precious feet pins, use pro-life bumper stickers, decals, use stickers on envelopes, wear pro-life T-shirts, take part in Life Chains, conduct prayer vigils, distribute pro-life literature in church and elsewhere, picket an abortuary, get involved in sidewalk counseling.

Protecting God's Children sessions are listed on the Diocesan website, diopitt.org, under "Protecting God's Children." You may also contact the parish office.

**DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH ABUSE HOTLINE 1-888-808-1235.**

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**Madonna del Castello Membership Form**



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 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Want envelopes

*Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to rectory.*

Note: Use of this form does not automatically register you with the church. You will be contacted to arrange an appointment. Thank You.