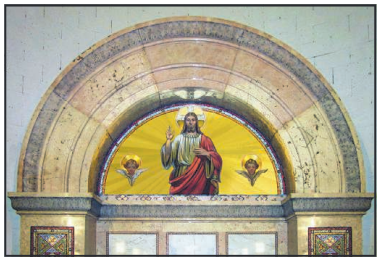
The Catholic Community of Rankin and Swissvale

MADONNA DEL CASTELLO PARISH

2021 S. Braddock Avenue • Swissvale, PA 15218

December 10, 2017



Word of God Catholic Parish

7446 McClure Avenue • Swissvale, PA 15218

Administrative Office: 2021 S. Braddock Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15218

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily:	**Monday** *(Madonna)*	**7:00 P.M.**
	Tuesday *(Word of God)*	**9:30 A.M.**
	Wednesday *(Madonna)*	**8:00 A.M.**
	Thursday *(Word of God)*	**9:30 A.M.**
	Friday *(Madonna)*	**8:00 A.M.**
	Saturday *(Word of God)*	**9:30 A.M.**
Saturday Vigil *(Madonna)*		**4:00 P.M.**
Saturday Vigil *(Word of God)*		**6:00 P.M.**
Sunday *(Word of God)*		**9:00 A.M.**
Sunday *(Madonna)*		**11:00 A.M.**

Consult the bulletin for Holy Day and Holiday Mass schedule

PARISH STAFF

Fr. John Lynam ..... *Pastor*
Keith Kondrich ..... *Deacon*
Ron Demblowski ..... *Deacon/Pastoral Associate*
Edward Kapsha ..... *Madonna Music Director*
Michael Burke ..... *Word of God Music Director*
Kelly James ..... *Madonna Parish Secretary*
Karen Flynn ..... *Word of God Parish Secretary*
Marcia Murello ..... *Coordinator of Religious Ed.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 12:00 Noon
(Word of God church)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact the Parish Office
for an appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Contact the Parish Office
for an appointment at least
6 months before the wedding

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Available after Mass
and upon request

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office *(Madonna)* 412-271-5666
Parish Office *(Word of God)* 412-241-1372
Parish Office Fax 412-271-2335
Religious Education Office 412-271-5666
Music Ministry *(Madonna)* ..... EKAPD5965@gmail.com
Bp. Dattilo Social Hall 412-271-3959
Madonna Website ..... www.madonnadelcastello.org
Madonna Email ..... madonnadelcastello1920@gmail.com
Word of God Email ..... wordofgod1994@gmail.com
Church Street Convent 412-271-3346
Parish Prayer Line 412-804-8858

East Catholic School 412-351-5403
2001 Ardmore B1vd., Pgh., PA 15221
Sr. Judith Stojhovic, RSM ..... *Principal*
School Website ..... www.eastcatholicschool.org

A member of the East Catholic School Consortium

Bulletin Deadline Monday at Noon.

A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN

Dear John,

Please accept this little note as an expression of deep gratitude to you and your parishioners at Madonna del Castello and Word of God for the generous collections taken up on behalf of our parish to help us in the aftermath of hurricane Maria which devastated so much of our island.

To be honest we were surprised and moved by the size of the gifts you sent. Some of the stained glass in the church was damaged and we lost a significant portion of roof over the chapel in the rectory among other issues. Your gifts will be a tremendous help in our efforts to restore and rebuild. It was also a timely reminder of the truth of our faith which tells us that through our common baptism we are all brothers and sisters in Christ. As St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "...for the rendering of this service not only supplies the wants of the saints but also overflows in many thanksgivings to God."

May God bless and protect you and your parishioners.

Sincerely in Christ through Mary,

Fr. John K. Mark
Pastor
St. Joseph's Church
Kingshill, VI

A "two-fer"?: The Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas are two unique liturgical celebrations. One Mass on Sunday does not fulfill the obligation to celebrate both. Note the Mass schedule for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Solemnity of Christmas in the bulletin. You may receive Communion at the Fourth Sunday Advent Masses and also at the Christmas Vigil. May God bless you.

† † † †

Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayers-Tues., Dec. 12, 8:30 a.m., Word of God Church. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Litany of the Blessed Virgin, Prayer to the Virgin of Guadalupe, and Benediction. **Mass follows at 9:30 a.m.**

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe-Tues., Dec. 12, St. Paul Cathedral. Ceremonies will begin at 5:30 p.m. with Eucharistic Adoration, followed by the Rosary at 6:30 p.m., and then singing of Las Mananitas. A procession into the Cathedral will follow with a color guard of flags of many nations. Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m., and a reception will follow. All are invited. For more info. call 412-337-7268.

Festival of Carols & Praise-Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30p.m.-9:00p.m., St. Paul Cathedral, 108 N. Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Join the choirs from throughout the diocese to fill the Cathedral with joyful song. Hosted by Holy Apostles Parish. Presider: Bishop Zubik, Witness Speaker: Michael Woshner. Hosted by Holy Apostles Parish. For info. email praise@holyapostlesparish.org, call 412-884-7744, or check www.holyapostlesparish.org, If you are in need of a ride, contact Peggy Evans at 412-398-0776.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday Vigil - December 9
4:00 PM For the People
6:00 PM Audrey Morgan (Colleen Redinger & Family)

Second Sunday of Advent - December 10
9:00 AM Margaret Rengers (Library & Gift Shop Committee)
11:00 AM John & Stella King (Daughter, Miriam King)

Monday - December 11 - St. Damasus I
7:00 PM Mary Villiotti (Family)

Tuesday - December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
9:30 AM Gwen Poland (Library/Gift Shop Committee)

Wednesday - December 13 - St. Lucy
8:00 AM Parents (Joe Sepesy)

Thursday - December 14 - St. John of the Cross
9:30 AM Lucia Zaccardi (Dtr., Amantina Mariani)

Friday - December 15
8:00 AM Chase Wright (Ruth "Nana" Shaffer)

Saturday - December 16
9:30 AM Fred Voelker (Word of God Money Counters)

Saturday Vigil - December 16
4:00 PM Eleanor Dankovcik (Ruth Polasko)
6:00 PM Betty Norlander (Swissvale Rosary Club)

Third Sunday of Advent - December 17
9:00 AM For the People
11:00 AM Frank Palangio (Vera Palangio & Family)

THIS WEEK

Saturday
5:00 PM to 7:30 PM - Gift Shop open - Parish Center

Sunday - Utilities Collection
9:00 AM to 12:30 AM - Gift Shop open - Parish Center

Monday
6:30 PM Word of God Choir Rehearsal - Word of God

Tuesday
8:30 AM Holy Hour—Our Lady of Guadalupe Word of God Church

Wednesday
10:30 AM Legion of Mary—Swissvale Towers
5:30 PM to 8:30 PM - Reconciliation Madonna & Word of God
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM - Sunday Scripture Sharing Madonna

Thursday
7:00 PM Prayer & Praise Group - Madonna

Saturday
12:00 PM Reconciliation - Word of God Parish
5:00 PM to 7:30 PM - Gift Shop open - Parish Center

Next Sunday
9:00 AM to 12:30 PM - Gift Shop open

Authentic Happiness: A High School Silent Retreat-Feb. 3-4, Martina Spiritual Renewal Center. Fr. Mike Ackerman will lead this retreat for high school men. It will include Mass, adoration, dynamic talks, and solid brotherhood. There is no cost. To register, visit PGHPriest.com by Jan. 22.

LOOK FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA

As we begin the season, we reflect on words from the pope about the joy of Advent and Christmas. Pope Francis sums up the heart of Christian joy in three actions: "Pray, give thanks, help others." If we take these words to heart and bring them to life in our everyday lives, we, too, will discover the joy of Advent, a joy that we can take with us through the new year.

"The joy of Christmas is a special joy; but it is a joy that isn't just for the day of Christmas, it is for the entire life of a Christian. It is a serene and tranquil joy, a joy that forever accompanies the Christian. Even in difficult moments, in moments of difficulty, this joy becomes peace."

—from *The Joy of Advent: Daily Reflections from Pope Francis by Diane M. Houdek*

Please be sure to place your suggested donation in the money slot on the display so the ministry can be self-supporting.

St. Vincent de Paul second collection on the weekend of December 30th and 31st. This collection permits our parish conference to provide comfort and financial assistance to our friends and neighbors in Swissvale and surrounding communities. Funds are used to provide vouchers for necessary furniture and clothing at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shop as well as one-time assistance with utility bills. In addition to our participation in the Swissvale Food Pantry, St. Vincent de Paul is a part of our charitable outreach to our community. For more information on our parish conference, please call 412.519.3675.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY: Collection of food is taken the **last Sunday of each month** at **Word of God Parish & Madonna** (leave donations inside the entrances of the church). Checks should be made out to "Swissvale Cares" and memo "Food Pantry." The Food Pantry is located in the Living Spirit Ministry building on 2011 Noble Street. Food distributions are made the first & third Thursday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers welcome.

THE LIGHT IS STILL ON FOR YOU! Wed., Dec. 14, 5:30p.m.-8:30p.m., the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at Madonna and Word of God. Now is the time. God is waiting to offer you forgiveness, healing and peace. The light is on and the confessional door will be open. Please share this news with others, and invite those who may not have gone to confession in awhile to come back to the Sacrament.

Mary's Corner

What are we missing? The 100th Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions is winding down, and the consecration of Russia has been done as Sr. Lucia instructed St. John Paul II on March 25th, 1984. Then why don't we have peace? TUNE IN NEXT WEEK. For more information contact the Word of God Parish Office.

PRAYER AND PRAISE GROUP meets at 7:00p.m. the 2nd & 4th Thursdays each month at Madonna. For info. call Mike, 412-241-1254.

Sunday Scripture Sharing on readings for the upcoming Sunday will be **Wednesdays, Nov. 29-Dec. 27, 7:00p.m.-8:00p.m**., Madonna. Attend when you can. This informal sharing can deepen your faith and prayer life. Bible suggested. Facilitated by the Bible Study leaders. The regular Bible Study returns in January.

TUESDAY & FRIDAY EVENING HOLY HOURS SUSPENDED until Fri., Feb. 16, 2018. This will save on utilities and snow removal expenses as well as the effort to host them in the cold and snowy winter months.

The *Pittsburgh Catholic Christmas Traditions Magazine* featuring unique stories, a faith-centered trip to Downtown Pittsburgh, a chance to win 4 tickets to Kennywood Holiday Lights and more is now available. Look for your copy in the racks/on the tables.

Keep Christ in Christmas Car Magnets are available for $5 from the Swissvale Knights of Columbus. To purchase contact Dan Pulcini, 412-351-5575. Proceeds benefit the special needs adults.

Ecumenical Carol Festival: Sun., Dec. 10th, 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m., City Reach Church, 7327 McClure Ave, Swissvale. Carols sung by the audience will be interspersed with music, readings, storytelling, etc. from members of area churches. A money offering will be taken for the local food pantries. A reception will follow. If you can provide cookies or wish to perform, please contact Deacon Ron Demblowski at 241.1372 or wordofgodpa@gmail.com. Sponsored by the Swissvale Ministerial Association.

CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING-Madonna & Word of God: *Giving Tree*--Deadline for gifts (wrapped with ornament tag attached)-Sun., Dec. 10th. **P.O.W.E.R.**-Small items for women ages 20-50 such as wallets, purses, pens, pencils, stamps, dusting powder, socks, hair accessories, body lotions, toothpaste, slippers, jewelry, and hand cream/lotion. Deadline-Sun., Dec. 17th. **Angel's Corner-**Collecting new and gently used infant & toddler clothes. Disposable diapers are of great need. Donations can be placed in baskets in the back of churches through Sun. Dec. 10th.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

[Note: There will be no adoration before the Christmas Masses.]

Sun., Dec. 24 4:00 p.m. - Madonna
6:00 p.m. - Word of God
Midnight - Word of God
Mon., Dec. 25 10:00 a.m. - Madonna
[There is no 7:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas.]

MARY MOTHER OF GOD: [Not a Holy Day of Obligation]
Mon., Jan. 1 7:00 p.m. - Madonna

Madonna del Castello

The Altar Candles are in memory of M/M WILLIAM BURKHARDT from Karen & Vince Balistreri.

The Tabernacle Lamp is in memory of M/M WILLIAM BURKHARDT from Karen & Vince Balistreri.

PSP Donation: In memory of MARY VENTURA from Ann Hopwood.

Development Fund: In memory of GENNARO DONOFRIO from Stan & Lauren Cheyne.

Rest in Peace: VIRGINIA "BABE" CAPASSO, wife of the late Armand.
MAGDALENE "PEGGY" GUARINO, wife of the late Guy J.

MADONNA COLLECTION

December 3……..$4,361.00
PSP
Total - $37,909.00
Amount owed as of 12/3 - $2,737.00

Cookies for Christmas can be bought in Dattilo Hall after weekend Masses. There will be no pre-orders. **Tues., Dec. 19, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. will be the last day to purchase cookies for Christmas.**

Anyone who would like to have any or all of the gifts celebrated in memory of or tribute to a loved one(s) at **Madonna del Castello Parish,** should complete the form below, place information and money in a plain envelope and deposit the sealed envelope in the collection basket, mail it to the parish office or deposit in mail slot.

Madonna del Castello Memorial/Living Tribute Request

I would like to offer:

Altar Flowers	($50) _____	Altar Candles	($10)_____
Altar Bread	($25) _____	Tabernacle Lamp	($10)_____
Altar Wine	($25) _____	Complete Offering	($120)_____

In Memory of _____

In Tribute to _____

From_____

Phone_____

Child Protective Services Law: Report any acts of child abuse to Commonwealth of PA Hotline 1-800-932-0313.
Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline: 1-888-808-1235.
Diocesan website, www.diopitt.org, under "Protecting God's Children." Sessions available on-line.
Diocesan Safe Environment Certification: Contact Kelly James at the parish office.

WORD OF GOD

Throughout This Week in Word of God Parish Masses, we will use the Altar Bread, Wine, Candles & Sanctuary Lamp in memory of MIKE LIMBACHER from Lucy & Family.

IN YOUR CHARITY, please pray for the soul of ANN DeZORT, wife of the late Donald, who was buried recently from Word of God Parish. May her soul rest in peace with Christ.

WORD OF GOD COLLECTION

December 3……..$7,096.00
PSP
Total—$67,386.00
Amount owed as of 12/3 - $4,365.00

WORD OF GOD CHOIR NEWS: The Word of God Choir has started rehearsing for the Christmas season and particularly for the Christmas Mass at Midnight. New members are ALWAYS welcome and it is not too late to join! Please consider participating in the choir to sing just for this joyous time of the year, especially if a weekly Sunday commitment may not be possible right now. Choir rehearsals are held on Monday evenings at 6:30p.m. in the choir gallery at Word of God Church.

Gift Shop and Parish Library News: Be sure to stop in the Gift Shop for boxed Christmas cards from Abbey Press and Printery House. Also featured are special Christmas greeting cards to send to those who have lost a loved one. Traditional **Christmas Oplatki** wafers are available for an offering of $2.00 for an envelope of 4 wafers. **Special Raffle**: There is still time to purchase tickets from the Gift Shop for a beautiful Nativity set or a Steelers-themed baby/lap quilt! Drawings will be held on December 17. Stop in the Library to view the **Fontanini Nativity** display with over 200 sculpted figures depicting the daily life of the townspeople at the time of Christ's birth.

Additional Special Saturday/Sunday Hours at the Library/Gift Shop in December:
Dec. 9 & Dec. 16: 5:00a.m.-7:30p.m.
Dec. 10 & Dec. 17: 9:00a.m.-12:30p.m.
The Library and Gift Shop will be closed Dec. 24 & Dec. 31 and will re-open on the weekend of Jan. 6-7.

Readings for Third Sunday of Advent, December 17

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11…The Lord's salvation will be made known to the poor and oppressed.
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24…Paul encourages the Thessalonians to rejoice and pray always.
Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28…John gives testimony that he is preaching and baptizing in order to prepare the way for the one who is coming after him.
Question for reflection: What are you doing this Advent that shows Christ's presence in your life?

PRO LIFE CORNER:
For a Christian to speak or act publicly in a pro-choice manner is a scandal to the Gospel and Name of Jesus Christ, the Creator of all life. Join pro-life today.

EAST CATHOLIC

Music Classes will be performing Christmas Programs during December under the direction of Ms. Mary Beth Koontz.
Tuesday, December 12 (Gr. 4 & 5)
Christmas Musical—Keane Hall, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 19 (Gr. 6- 8)
Living Nativity-St. Maurice Church
1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Catholic Schools Week Open House
Sunday, January 28, 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Walking Tours
Is your child ready to start Preschool or Kindergarten? Please join us at East Catholic School for a tour and see firsthand what we have to offer from pre-K through 8th grade. Registration is required for the walking tours. Call the school office at 412-351-5403.
Current scheduled tours
Wednesday, January 10 —9:30 a.m.
Thursday, February 15—9:30 a.m.

Drive-Thru Christmas Light Show-Big Butler Fairgrounds, through Jan. 7, 1127 New Castle Rd., Prospect, PA 16052**.** Sponsored by Shadrack's Christmas Wonderland. Coupons are available in the churches. For each coupon redeemed $1.00 will be donated to help families stay warm this winter. Additionally, Shadrack's will make a $20,000 donation directly to Dollar Energy Fund. For more information email jkearns@dollarenergy.org.

SAM - Substance Addiction Ministry: The next Substance Addiction Ministry Rosary for Recovery will be **Wed., Dec. 20th,** at St. John the Baptist Church, 444 St. John Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15239. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. for the Rosary followed by an informal gathering for all who are afflicted or affected by addition. It will be a safe, confidential place for people to seek education, referral and support. For more information please contact Noreen at 412-296-1709.

Divorced & Separated Support Group-Meetings start Jan. 8, Sts. John & Paul Parish, 2586 Wexford Bayne Rd., Sewickley, PA (located approximately 1/2 mile west of the I-79 Wexford exit). The group will meet for 13 weeks Monday evenings 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m. in the lower level of the Cardinal DiNardo (Social) Center. You will find support, comfort, and healing; info. contact Ralph Joy, 412-741-5456, or email ralph.r.joy@gmail.com.

DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K)-starting Jan. 8, 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m., Sts. John & Paul Church, Room 1, Parish, Lower Cardinal DiNardo (Social) Center. Meetings are for 13 weeks. This is a special group to help children heal from hurt caused by the separation or divorce of their parents. For more info. contact Erik Palmer, 412-491-5511 or rerikpalmer@gmail.com.

Prepare the Way of the Lord – Advent is our annual time of anticipation and expectation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and, ultimately, at the end of time. During this season we make many preparations so that we can be ready to meet the Lord. We prepare our hearts through prayer and reconciliation to be a fitting place of welcome for Jesus to dwell. We also prepare our homes as places of warm hospitality to welcome neighbors and strangers alike with a loving and generous heart. This Advent, we also find ourselves anticipating the changes that will soon be upon as part of the On Mission for The Church Alive! initiative. How are you preparing for the new realities in our parishes? Will your heart meet these changes with resistance or with the resolve to do what it takes to foster new life in your community and help grow the Church? Take some time this Advent to prepare the way of the Lord as he comes to make us and our Church ever more alive! Visit onmissionchurchalive.org to learn more and to stay informed.

BINGO: Good Shepherd Social Club will sponsor their next Bingo **Sunday, December 10th** starting at 1:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Hall, 1600 Brinton Road, Braddock Hills, PA 15221. Admission is $20.00 paid at the door (no ticket pre sale); 16 regular games and 4 specials. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more info. please call Peg at 412-824-2588.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR-Christmas Card Sale: Cards sketched by Sr. Martha. This year's card is cream with a green sketch of Mary holding baby Jesus. The previous year's cards are also available.
Cost: 7/$10, ($2 shipping), 12/$15 ($3 shipping) or 30/$25 ($6 shipping). Check online at www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.or call 412-307-1100, or send a check made payable to Little Sisters of the Poor, 1028 Benton Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212 or stop at the main entrance of the home. All proceeds help to support the elderly poor residents at the home.

ENJOY 2018 Coupon Books are available from the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill through Dec. 30 for $30**.** Included are hundreds of half-off and two-for-one coupons for travel, dining, shopping, sporting events, and regional attractions in Allegheny, Westmoreland, Washington, and Fayette Counties. To order call Sr. Agnes Steedle, 724-836-0406, ext. 6646, or Sr. Patrice Hughes, Elizabeth Seton Convent in Brookline, 412-343-1382.

NEW YEAR'S EVE OLDIES DANCE & DINNER-Sun., Dec. 31st, Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish school hall, 1515 Tinsbury Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Doors open 7:30 p.m.; dancing 8:00 p.m.—1:00 a.m. Tickets $40/person (includes full hot dinner buffet, party favors, beer, mixers and bottled water). A snow date of Sat., Jan. 6th is set. For information/reservations call 412-231-2994, ext. 0, or visit www.mostholynameofjesusparish15212.org.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD weekend retreat for post-abortion healing-March 2-4 at Tabor House, 146 Hawthorne Rd., Pittsburgh (Millvale), PA 15209. To register or for more information, call Toni Jester at 412-352-5348 or email toniafj1@comcast.net.

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

—1 Corinthians 9:10-11

GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

As you plan your giving for 2017 consider that there are ways to make revocable or irrevocable planned and deferred gifts to the parish in addition to outright cash. Here are some options to consider.

October – December 2017 Issue

Gifts of Stock Eliminate Capital Gains Tax

A gift of appreciated securities (stock) can provide you with a significant income tax deduction. You may receive an income tax deduction of up to 30% of your adjusted gross income, and will not be required to pay capital gains tax in the process. Larger deductions may be carried over for five additional years.

Easy to make a Bequest in your Will

Instruct your attorney to make a provision in your will or living trust using this language: "I give, devise and bequeath $ ____ [specify dollar amount] [or % ____ percentage of my estate] [or _____% percentage of the remainder of my estate or property] to _____ Parish at [include legal address of your parish or school].

How to Initiate a Tax Free Gift from your IRA if you are Over 70½ Years of Age

- Call your IRA fund custodian/investor/broker.
- He/she may have a form for you to sign giving instructions regarding the charity(s) you wish to receive gifts and when you wish to make these donations from your IRA.
- The fund custodian will then send a check made payable to the charity from your IRA minimum distribution or principal. (If requested, the check can be mailed to you to send out personally.) To avoid declaring that amount as taxable income, the check must be made payable to your parish/school/diocese(or other charity).
- It is helpful to have the check sent directly to you. You can then send it (with your name and address) to the charity, as many IRA custodians do not identify the donor's name and address when they send the check directly to the charity.
- The charity/parish/diocese will send a special letter of acknowledgement to the donor indicating that the gift from the IRA was received and the date it was received. This will verify that the gift should not be claimed as taxable income.

Interested in Helping Our Catholic Schools? And Helping Families Afford an Excellent Education?

Learn how PA tax dollars can be redirected by businesses to provide tuition assistance for qualified needy students, please visit:
http://www.diopitt.plannedgiving.org/diopitt/giving/5.html?section=1
Questions? Contact Deacon Jack Miller at (412) 456-3000, ext. 3262 or Jmiller@diopitt.org

Compare: A Bequest through your Will vs. a Charitable Gift Annuity

Say you make a provision in your Will to benefit your parish. But if you use up your assets (nursing home, etc.) there may be nothing remaining to benefit anyone, including your parish. One option is to create a Charitable Gift Annuity now. These funds will be immediately removed from your estate. The annuity will guarantee mostly tax-free income for you (and possibly a second annuitant) for as long as you live. You will also receive an immediate income tax deduction. Capital gains tax savings result if you use appreciated securities to fund the gift annuity. After your death, the remainder of your gift annuity will go to help your parish. 50% of the value of your gift annuity may count toward a pledge made to "Our Campaign for the Church Alive!" For a free prospectus, call (412) 456-3055.

10 Ways to use planned gifts for Our Campaign for the Church Alive! pledge payments or new gifts

1. Use **cash**; 2. Use an **IRA charitable rollover.** Have check made payable to Our Campaign for the Church Alive! (see above); 3. Appreciated securities (**stock**) (see above); 4. Make a charitable provision in your **Will** (see above) (cannot be credited toward your parish goal); 5. A **Charitable Gift Annuity** helps the campaign and provides you with income for life; 6. A **Charitable Lead Trust** may be ideal for six figure gifts, helping the Church now, and your family later; 7. **Charitable Remainder Trusts** are also great possibilities; 8. Don't forget about using a **life insurance policy**; 9. Your **retirement fund** may generate a gift, either during life or after your lifetime; 10. With the **Gift Annuity Enhancement** program you can make an immediate gift and receive income for life in the process.

Please remember your parish as you plan your estate. Consult your attorney or tax advisor for more specific advice. For information on any current or deferred gift option, such as a trust, insurance policy, will, retirement fund, endowed fund, stock transfer, charitable gift annuity, or bequest intention document, please contact Paul Stabile, Director of Planned Giving, Office for Stewardship at 412-456-3055 or pstabile@diopitt.org.

Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh • 111 Boulevard of the Allies • Pittsburgh, PA 15222

More than a gift … Your Catholic Legacy

DISCOVER THE RICHES OF
THE MASS

A Five-Part Bible Study Featuring Edward Sri

Dates, Times, Location

Five Lessons - January 3 to January 31, 2018
Wednesday 7-9 PM
Madonna del Castello Bishop Dattillo Hall

Questions: Deacon Ron Demblowski 241-1372
or Wordofgodpa@gmail.com

Cost/Registration

Suggested offering $25 for participant pack
Registration and payment due Monday December 25
Checks payable to "Word of God"
Complete and mail (2021 S Braddock Ave, 15218)
or drop in the collection basket

Registration

Name(s)_____
Address_____
Phone _____
Email _____

In ***A Biblical Walk Through the Mass,*** you will come to know and understand the Mass like never before. You will discover the rich meanings behind why we say what we say and do during the Liturgy. The words and gestures of the Mass will be seen in a new light, leading you to a more meaningful, more fruitful worship experience.

"... in all our standing and kneeling, silent attentiveness and responses: there really is 'something deeper going on there.'"

—Dr. Anthony Lilles

Visit BibleStudyforCatholics.com to learn more!

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