

# The Catholic Community of Rankin and Swissvale

## MADONNA DEL CASTELLO PARISH

2021 S. Braddock Avenue • Swissvale, PA 15218



December 11, 2016



## Word of God Catholic Parish

7446 McClure Avenue • Swissvale, PA 15218

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

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

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.*

### 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@verizon.net  
 Church Street Convent ..... 412-271-3346  
 Parish Prayer Line ..... 412-371-3173

### 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

East Catholic School ..... 412-351-5403  
2001 Ardmore Blvd., 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.**

# Third Sunday of Advent

Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." — Mt 11:3-5



## A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN

**Thank you** to the Kutch and the Neid Funeral Homes for donating calendars.

**The Pictorial Directories are in:** We plan to have the directories available after Mass on the weekend of December 17th & 18th. Every household with a portrait in the directory receives a free book. Additional directories will be available as long as supplies last for a suggestion donation of \$5 at the parish office. You may also call to arrange a delivery option.

††††

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayers:** Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., Madonna parish. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Litany of the Blessed Virgin, Prayer to the Virgin of Guadalupe, Adoration and Benediction. Mass follows at 7:00 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

**Dec. 24** 4:00 p.m. - Madonna  
6:00 p.m. - Word of God  
Midnight - Word of God  
**Dec. 25** 9:00 a.m. - Word of God  
11:00 a.m. - Madonna



## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday Vigil - December 10

4:00 PM For the People  
6:00 PM James McClelland (John & Louis Chorba)

### Third Sunday of Advent - December 11

9:00 AM Barbara Burkovich (Karen & Michael Burke)  
11:00 AM Anthony Pallotta (Josephine Pallotta)

### Monday - December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 PM Honor, St. Lucy (Mafalda Zenone)

### Tuesday - December 13 - St. Lucy

9:30 AM Mom, Dad, Kathi & Peg (Koontz Family)

### Wednesday - December 14 - St. John of the Cross

8:00 AM Carmella & Carl Scaramucci (John Scaramucci, MD)

### Thursday - December 15

9:30 AM Ray Wheeler (Wheeler Family)

### Friday - December 16

8:00 AM Gene Bruce (Fr. John Lynam)

### Saturday - December 17

9:30 AM Charles Blazina, Elizabeth & Tom Antolcich  
(Nephew-Matthew, Nieces-Terri & Mary Lou)

### Saturday Vigil - December 17

4:00 PM Frank Palangio (Vera & Family)  
6:00 PM Dec. of Hyland & Rajakovich Families  
(Jim & Rita Hyland)

### Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 18

9:00 AM For the People  
11:00 AM Beloved Deceased of the Martin & Bonacci  
Families (John & Janice Bonacci)

## THIS WEEK

### Saturday

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM - Gift Shop & Library Open  
Parish Center

### Sunday - 2nd Collection - Utilities

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Gift Shop & Library Open

### Monday—Deadline - Christmas Flower Envelopes

6:00 PM Holy Hour/Rosary & Prayers before  
7:00 PM Mass [Our Lady of Guadalupe]  
Madonna

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

### Wednesday

10:30 AM Legion of Mary - Dattilo Hall  
5:30 PM to 8:30 PM - The Light is Still on For You  
Sacrament of Reconciliation - Madonna  
& Word of God

7:00 PM to 8:00 PM - Scripture Sharing - Dattilo Hall

### Thursday

1:30 PM Mass - Swissvale Hi Rise  
Community Room, 1st Floor

### Saturday

12:00 PM Reconciliation - Word of God Parish  
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM—Gift Shop & Library Open

### Next Sunday

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Gift Shop & Library Open

## Mass in Spanish for Feast of Our Lady of

**Guadalupe:** All are invited to celebrate with Bishop Zubik and the Hispanic/Latino Catholic Apostolate  
7:00 p.m. Mon., Dec. 12, St. Paul Cathedral. For info. contact Fr. Richard Ulam, St. Regis Parish, 412-681-9365.

**LOOK FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA**

All our Advent readings center around patiently waiting. And every year, many of us struggle to even find a moment to focus on this truth. Perhaps while we impatiently wait in a grocery line, at a red light, trying to fight the crowd to get the hottest Christmas item we can just find a moment to say "Jesus, I love you." All God asks for is a simple moment. He will fill the rest with His abounding love for us.

**Please be sure to place your suggested donation in the money slot on the display.**

**CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING: *Giving Tree***-For

Word of God-Deadline for gifts (wrapped with ornament tag attached) is Sun., Dec. 11th. **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 is Sun., Dec. 11th. **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 the church through Tues., Dec. 13th.

**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. Mark your calendars!



**MASS-Thurs., Dec. 15, 1:30p.m.,** Swissvale Towers, 1826 Monongahela Ave. in the Community Room, 1st Floor.



**LEGION OF MARY** assists people to grow in holiness. Working for and with others as disciples can give a new meaning to your life. "Lend a Hand" literature in church racks.



**THE ROSARY** is said at the Swissvale Towers, 1826 Monongahela Ave., Community Room, 1st floor, **every Mon., 3:30 p.m.**

**Sunday Scripture Sharing** on the readings for the upcoming Sunday. **Wednesdays, through December 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.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.



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



**TUESDAY & FRIDAY EVENING HOLY HOURS SUSPENDED** until Fri., March 3rd, 2017. This will save on utilities and snow removal expenses as well as the effort to host them in the cold and snowy winter months.

**MADONNA & WORD OF GOD'S MASS BOOKS** have opened. There are 2017 Mass intention forms in the literature racks. Please drop off forms at the parish office, mail, or put them in the offering basket.

**NURSING HOME, HOMEBOUND & HOSPITAL LISTS:**

Very often we are not aware of parishioners who are hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing homes. Please let the parish office know of any parishioners who would like to receive communion and/or a visit from a priest.

**To the faithful of Madonna del Castello and Word of God,**

In my own name as well as on behalf of the Red Door Ministry at St. Mary of Mercy Church, I want to thank you for your generosity in providing warm gloves, socks, hats, and blankets to our neighbors in need in downtown Pittsburgh through the Saint Vincent de Paul Winter Warming Collection. As one gentleman proclaimed as he received a new pair of gloves on one of our first chilly days, "bless your bones!" Words cannot express my gratitude to all of you for your wonderful contributions to warm the heads and hands of the homeless in the city, and in this, know too that you have warmed many hearts as well!

God bless you all,  
Heidi Potter

**Ecumenical Carol Festival: Sun., Dec. 11th, 6:30p.m. - 7:30p.m.,** Swisshelm Park Primitive Methodist Church, 241 Homestead St., 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 Cupboards. 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 Assn.



**Christmas Cards:** The Little Sisters of the Poor are once again offering cards sketched by Sr. Martha, Isp. This year's card is white with a red sketch of Mary holding baby Jesus. The previous year's cards are also available. Cost: 7/\$10 (plus \$2 shipping), 12/\$15 (plus \$3 shipping) or 30/\$25 (plus \$6 shipping). Call 412-307-1100 or order online at [www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorpittsburgh.org), sending 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 in the Little Sisters care.

# Madonna del Castello



The Altar Candles are in memory of ELEANOR STEIN from Margaret Verrico.



The Tabernacle Lamp is for the DeFRANK & CIAO FAMILIES from Josephine Ciao.

Rest in Peace: MARY VENTURA, wife of the late Armand.

## MADONNA COLLECTION

December 4.....\$3,930.00

### 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 the weekend of Dec. 10th & 11th. DO NOT WRAP GIFT. Call

The Giving Tree Joelle with any questions at 412-860-8548.

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 the 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 LITURGIES**, we will use the Altar Bread, Wine, Candles & Sanctuary Lamp in memory of **Sr. Jeanne Ellen Morris** from the Byrnes Family.



**IN YOUR CHARITY**, please pray for the soul of **Esther Churak**, wife of the late Joseph, who was buried recently. May her soul rest in peace with Christ.

## WORD OF GOD COLLECTION

December 4.....\$6,823.00

### Canterbury Corner Gift Shop News:

Special seasonal items available at the Gift Shop now:



Traditional Christmas wafers (Oplatki)—each envelope contains 4 wafers, boxed Christmas cards, and single Christmas cards for clergy, religious, and for those grieving the loss of a

loved one.

The **Parish Library** is now open! Make a visit to see the special display for Advent and Christmas! The Library and Gift Shop are located on the first floor of the Parish Center at Word of God.

**In addition to the regular Sunday hours of operation (9:00—11:00am), here are special extra Hours for the Library and Gift Shop in December:**

December 10 (6:30-7:30pm)

December 17 (6:30-7:30pm)

**The Parish Library and Gift Shop will be closed Dec. 24/25 and Dec. 31/January 1**

**MEMORIAL OFFERING:** Any or all of the gifts at **Word of God Parish** can be celebrated in memory of a loved one(s). Please fill out the form below and drop it off at the parish office, send through the mail or put it in the collection basket. You may request a particular week. Dates requested will be scheduled on a first-come/first served basis.



### WORD OF GOD PARISH MEMORIAL OFFERING REQUEST FORM

I would like to offer:

ALTAR BREADS \$30 _____	SANCTUARY LAMP \$5 _____
ALTAR WINE \$15 _____	COMPLETE OFFERING \$60 _____
ALTAR CANDLES \$10 _____	

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

WEEK \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



# GIVING TO YOUR PARISH

*As you plan your giving for 2016 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 2016 Issue

## **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.
- Your broker/fund custodian/investor may have other instructions for you. You may not claim an income tax deduction for this type of gift.

## **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 below); 4. Make a charitable provision in your **Will** (see below) (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.

## **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.

## **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]."

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 [pstable@diopitt.org](mailto:pstable@diopitt.org).



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

More than a gift ... Your Catholic Legacy



*"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



St. Benedict the Moor Church  
Hill District