

**Saint Anne Church**

400 Hoodridge Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15234  
412-531-5964



**Saint Winifred Church**

550 Sleepy Hollow Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
412-531-5964

# SAINT PAUL OF THE CROSS

PARISH

[www.stpaulofthecross.com](http://www.stpaulofthecross.com)

**Sunday, December 22**

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Artwork: *The Adoration of the Shepherds*, by Anton Raphael Mengs



**Father Michael Caridi,**

*Pastor*

*mcaridi@stpaulofthecross.com*

**Father Richard Infante,**

*Retired-In Residence*

**Deacon Victor DeFazio**

*vdefazio@stpaulofthecross.com*

**Deacon Joe Kosko**

*jkosko@stpaulofthecross.com*

**Deacon Philip Martorano**

*pmartorano@stpaulofthecross.com*

**Mass Schedule:**

Saint Anne Church

Every day: 8:00 AM

Tuesdays: 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM

Saturdays (Vigil): 4:00 PM

Sundays: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM,  
and 6:00 PM

Saint Winifred Church

M, W, F : 8:45 AM

Saturdays (Vigil): 5:30 PM

Sundays: 11:30 AM

**Confessions:**

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays: 5:15 - 6:15 PM

Saturdays: 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

Saint Winifred Church

Saturdays: 4:45 PM - 5:15 PM

**Eucharistic Adoration:**

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays, after the 8:00 AM mass,  
with Benediction at 6:15 PM.

**Divine Mercy Holy Hour:**

Saint Anne Church

Tuesdays, at 3:00 PM



*When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." -Lk 1:41-42*

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, December 23, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Andrew C. Kosmach, Jr., *requested by his family*

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Margaret Massicci, *requested by Jonilee Matragas*

4:00 PM (St. A) Marlene C. Wehar, *requested by Louis B. Wehar*

5:30 PM (St. W) For the People of the Parish

Midnight (St. A) Cynthia J. Lowery, *requested by Brendan Lowery*

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Margaret Massicci, *requested by her sister, Pam and brother, Ray*

10:00 AM (St. A) Guido Folino, *requested by Emilia Folino and family*

11:30 AM (St.W) Teresa A. Ryden, *requested by The Ryden Family*

**Thursday, December 26, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Frank Tarwacki, *requested by Brian & Linda Murphy*

**Friday, December 27, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Edward Aschley (AD), *requested by Lucille Aschley*

**Saturday, December 28, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Virginia Goldaine (BR), *requested by The Rehabilitation Institute at Mercy Pavillion*

4:00 PM (St. A) Anita Zonca (AD), *requested by Pete & Rita*

5:30 PM (St. W) Jan Roach, *requested by her neighbors*

**Sunday, December 29, 2024**

8:00 AM (St. A) Al Muehlbauer, *requested by his family*

10:00 AM (St. A) Julia Creehan (AD), *requested by The Creehan Family*

11:30 AM (St. W) For the People of the Parish

6:00 PM (St. A) Brian Thane Doll, *requested by Diane Weidner*

# From the Pastor

## *Mary and Joseph*

In these final hours of Advent, our thoughts naturally turn to Mary and Joseph, both so generous and open to carrying out God's will, but on that first Christmas discovering that doing so isn't necessarily all that easy.

In Mary's final days of pregnancy they were forced to make the arduous 90 mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, so that God's plan would come to fruition. To think about it another way, decades before their unborn son would declare that, "*if anyone wishes to come after me, he must take up his cross and follow me!*" Mary and Joseph were already doing it and exemplifying how sacrifice for God can yield beauty beyond belief.

## *How about us?*

How often do we feel exhausted by our journeys: the mountains and hills we have to climb - the rough terrain we have to negotiate - the obstacles we have to surmount? Like Mary and Joseph we may be wondering, waiting, puzzled and even afraid, as we cope with illness, loss and disappointment.

But the parents of Jesus also show us that even though these and other tough issues will always be a part of the journey, it is possible to do what God asks and to remain faithful through difficult times. And that if we do, our lives will also have the potential to produce something wonderful - something whose splendor is a bright and clear reflection of our beautiful Savior, born on Christmas in Bethlehem.

*Merry Christmas!*

*Fr. Mike*

## *Prayer for the 4th Sunday of Advent*

Jesus, You are constantly coming to Your people, even when we fail to see You. In each and every moment that we are blessed to recognize You here and now, give us the courage to leap with joy at Your coming. Amen.

## *Advent Confessions*

Advent is a time to prepare for the birth of our Lord, and confession is one of the many ways to prepare our hearts and souls for this Christmas.

Your last opportunity to go to confession during Advent is Monday, December 23rd, at 6:00 PM. Several priests will be on hand to hear confessions in Saint Anne church..

We encourage all adults, high school and grade school students to take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Confession during Advent.



## *Christmas Mass Times*

*Tuesday, December 24*  
4:00 PM St. Anne Church  
5:30 PM St. Winifred Church  
Midnight St. Anne Church  
(Choral Prelude to begin at 11:30 p.m.)

*Wednesday, December 25*  
8:00 AM St. Anne Church  
10:00 AM St. Anne Church  
11:30 AM St. Winifred Church

## **Epiphany House Blessing Kits**    *20 + C + M + B + 25*

Traditionally, on or around the Feast of the Epiphany, Catholics have their houses blessed. Please be sure to take home an Epiphany House Blessing Kit the weekend of January 5th. The kit contains directions, prayers, holy water and blessed chalk. This annual blessing is a powerful one and a sign to God that He is always welcome in our homes - and a sign to Satan that he is not!



# Parish News



## *Parish Office Hours*

December 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, & 31 the parish office will be open from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

December 24, 25 & January 1 the parish office will be CLOSED

## *Other Scheduling Notes*

There will not be Eucharistic Adoration or Divine Mercy Holy Hour on December 24 and 31.



## ***That Maketh The Seven Stars***

**An Epiphany Concert for Organ and Choir  
Sunday, January 5, 2025  
3:00 P.M.**

Please join us for an Epiphany Choral Concert featuring the original compositions of our Director of Music Brendan Lowery and award-winning composer Luke Wenceslas Mayernik.

In addition to their original compositions, the concert will feature Jonathan Dove's "Seek Him That Maketh The Seven Stars", and Will Todd's "Angels From The Realms of Glory".

A free-will offering will be taken to help offset expenses of the concert (suggested offering is \$20 per person)

## **The Giving Trees Thank You**

Saint Paul of the Cross Parishioners once again displayed tremendous generosity this year! Your participation in the Annual "Giving Tree" event allowed for nearly 500 gifts to be distributed to service organizations in our parish and our local community. Your generosity and kindness provided happiness to many individuals. On behalf of those who received these special gifts, and the staff at Saint Paul of the Cross Parish, we thank you for opening your heart this Christmas and helping others feel special. Please keep the recipients of those gifts and their benefactors in your prayers.

## **Oplatki**

Envelopes of Oplatki can be purchased in the Parish Office during regular office hours while supplies last. The cost is \$3.00 per envelope containing for four pieces.



## **Harkins Hall Construction**

The restrooms adjoining Harkins hall are closed for renovations. However, please note that in order to accommodate the Christmas (Eve) crowds, two temporary and heated portable restrooms will be positioned outside near the belltower.

## **End of Year Gift Giving**

All registered families are asked to please prayerfully consider giving to this annual collection.

Many non-parishioners regularly choose to attend weekday and Sunday Masses in our parish because they appreciate our style of worship. If you'd like to make an end of the year gift to Saint Paul of the Cross Parish you can simply send a check, to Fr. Mike's attention, to the parish office, or contribute online by selecting the "Support" button at the top of our home page on our website, [www.stpaulofthecross.com](http://www.stpaulofthecross.com). Thank you for your consideration.

## **Parish Offertory December 9, 2024**

Immaculate Conception: \$2240

Due to early bulletin submission deadlines during the holidays, offertory figures for the week of December 15th will be available in the December 29th publication.



# Ministry Announcements



## St. Vincent DePaul 5th Sunday Collection Sunday, December 29

*"For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord."*

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

During October and November 2024, your generous gifts enabled Saint Paul of the Cross's Saint Vincent de Paul Conference to assist 32 families (76 individuals) in our parish community, restoring hope in the form of \$5,477 for food and \$12,953 for utilities and rents, etc. The "Fifth Sunday" next weekend is an opportunity to give witness to Christ's Light, the light of loving compassion, mercy, and hope, which brightens the dark places of those suffering in our community. Please remember all the families we serve in your prayers.

*Merry Christmas!  
May God bless you and your families.*

Members of St. Paul of the Cross' St. Vincent de Paul Society

## Respect Life News- 2025 March for Life Jan. 24, 2025 Washington, D.C.

Saint Paul of the Cross parish will not charter a bus for this year's march. However, you are invited to join Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish to travel to our nation's capital to peacefully pray and protest for the protection and dignity of our unborn brothers and sisters. This year's theme is "Life: Why We March"

Schedule:

- 6:00 AM Luxury bus departs from St. Elizabeth of Hungary church
- 11:00 AM Arrive Washington, DC
- 4:00 PM Bus pick up home rest stop for food
- 10:00 PM Approximate arrival back at St Elizabeth church

- COST: is \$30 for Adults and \$20 for Students
- water and bus snacks are provided
- bring a small lunch including small cooler if desired
- CONTACT: Mary Pat Swauger (412) 651-3093

## Adult Ed Upcoming Schedule:

**The Tuesday Series** - January 7, February 4, March 4 and May 6, all from 8:45-10:00 AM in the Convent Dining Rm. **Hope in the Lord** is an EWTN series hosted by Fr. Benedict Groeschel. Questions answered and topics discussed in this video presentation are those we turn over in our minds at least a dozen times a day. What is Hope? Why hope, in the face of disappointment and sorrow? Can we honestly replace pain of dashed hopes, with the Hope that never fades? Priceless reflections gleaned from decades of service in the field of ministry to encourage us.

**The Sunday Series** - January 12, February 9, March 2 and May 4, all from 7:00-8:00 PM in the DePalma Room **From Nothing to Cosmos** is a FORMED presentation in which Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D., dispenses with the contemporary statement, "Science has proven God does not exist," and then goes on to demonstrate God's existence from science, philosophy, medicine, the transcendentals, and metaphysical proofs. Fr. Spitzer is at once, entertaining and overflowing with pertinent information.

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### Mon. December 23

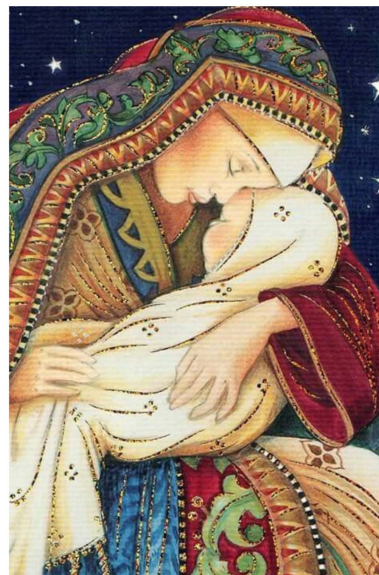
6:00 PM Confessions in St. Anne church

### Sat. December 28

11:00 AM Confessions in St. Anne church

4:45 PM Confessions in St. Winifred church

9:30 PM NA in the Convent Dining Rm



The Solemnity of

Mary

Mother  
of God

Mass times:

Dec. 31 at 4PM,  
Jan. 1 at 8AM & 10 AM  
in St Anne church

Jan. 1 at 11:30 AM  
in St. Winifred church



## Christmas Prayer

*"O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts  
in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of men and women this peace  
for which they sometimes seek so desperately  
and which you alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better,  
and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also your beauty,  
holiness and purity.  
Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude  
for your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in your love.  
And give us your heavenly peace. Amen."  
— Pope John XXIII*

## Discover the Power of Praying Before The Cross

Parishioners and parish families are invited to bring our parish "Traveling Crucifix" into their homes for a week of prayer. It is a replica of the very cross from which Jesus spoke to Saint Francis in the church at San Damiano. The Cross is the principal symbol of the Catholic faith and the instrument of Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. The power of praying before a Crucifix was a lesson learned by Saint Francis of Assisi, perhaps our most known and loved saint. Worship aids, with daily prayers and thoughtful reflections, will travel with the Crucifix. Everything you need to complete this devotion as a family will be there.



To register your family to participate in this week long devotion find the sign up link associated with this devotion in the news section of our website, or scan this QR code.

Questions? Please contact Don Fontana, Adult Faith Formation Coordinator at [dfontana@stpaulofthecross.com](mailto:dfontana@stpaulofthecross.com)



'Nativity,' Jean-Baptiste Marie Pierre

*Merry Christmas  
from  
South Hills  
Catholic Academy*

**"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High."**

**Luke 1:30-32**





**Laughlin Cremation & Funeral Tributes**  
 Mount Lebanon (412) 531-5100 Castle Shannon  
 Kurt J. Warmbein, Jr. • Michael J. Englert  
 Katelyn Bartus • Leah M. Kane  
 Peter A. Santore • Shannon Long Barrett

# Admiral

## Heating & Cooling Co.

3333 Library Road • Pittsburgh  
 412-885-1700 • [www.admiralhvac.com](http://www.admiralhvac.com)

## Pawlak Plumbing, LLC.

412-341-2815 • [www.pawlakplumbing.com](http://www.pawlakplumbing.com)  
 Residential • Commercial • Repair and Remodel Work • Gas and Water Lines  
 Drain Cleaning Tankless Water Heaters • Backflow Testing  
  
**Registered Master Plumber**  
 2601 McNeilly Road • Pittsburgh, PA 15226

**vca** animal hospitals  
[www.vcahospitals.com](http://www.vcahospitals.com)

Now Accepting  
 New Patients!

3610 Library Rd.  
 Pittsburgh 15234  
 412-885-2500

**NRM**  
**NANCY RUSSELL MCKENNA**  
 c: 412-551-6118 o: 412-561-7400  
[nmckenna@howardhanna.com](mailto:nmckenna@howardhanna.com)



An Oakdale Seniors Alliance Supported Community

412-341-1030 • [asburyheights.org](http://asburyheights.org)

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
 Place Your Ad Here  
 and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME**  
**Mike McAleer**

[MMcAleer@4LPi.com](mailto:MMcAleer@4LPi.com)  
 (800) 477-4574 x6307



**Howard  
 Hanna**  
 Real Estate Services  
 Mt. Lebanon Office  
 701 Washington Rd  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15228

[nancymckenna.howardhanna.com](http://nancymckenna.howardhanna.com)

**WE'RE HIRING!**  
 AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.  
 BRING YOUR PASSION.  
 WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at  
[careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) or  
[www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

### ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



ADT Authorized Provider | **SafeStreets**

833-287-3502



[thewillowstation.com](http://thewillowstation.com)  
 3841 Willow Ave.  
 (724) 902-3182

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION NEED  
 A NEWSLETTER?**

Engaging, ad-supported  
 print and digital  
 newsletters to reach  
 your community.

Visit [lpicommunities.com](http://lpicommunities.com)



Scan to  
 contact us!



**FREE**  
 AD  
 DESIGN

with  
 purchase  
 of this  
 space

CALL  
 800-477-4574

**Place Your Ad Here and  
 Support our Parish!**

Instantly create and  
 purchase an ad with

**AD CREATOR STUDIO**



[4lpi.com/adcreator](http://4lpi.com/adcreator)

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • [www.4lpi.com](http://www.4lpi.com)

14-1799





Seamless Gutter Install  
 Gutter Guards - Leaf Protection  
 Repairs & Cleaning  
 Fascia & Soffit

*Parishioner Owned*

**Free Estimates**

724-271-8014  
[www.brothersgutters.com](http://www.brothersgutters.com)

### Tom Kaercher Automotive

699 Castle Shannon Blvd.  
**412-563-2827**  
 ASE Certified Technicians



**(724) 554-6224**  
[www.buccosroofing.com](http://www.buccosroofing.com)

**MKM**  
 Tax & Accounting  
 TAX PREPARATION  
 TAX PLANNING

300 Mt. Lebanon Blvd. Ste. 230  
 (2nd FL.-Lebanon Shops)  
 PGH, PA 15234  
**412-343-6247**  
[mkmtax.com](http://mkmtax.com)



### Craft Your Dream Kitchen

- Parishioners for over 50 years -



Exceptional Brands and Service Since 1971

[donsappliances.com](http://donsappliances.com)

### A-Boss OPTICIANS

Serving Pittsburgh Since 1971  
 ~We Repair~  
[www.abossopticians.com](http://www.abossopticians.com)

634 Braddock Ave. 938 Brookline Blvd. 5071 W. Library Ave.  
 412-271-4424 412-561-0811 412-854-5838



**Robert J. Winters, Esq.**  
 Attorney At Law  
 Wills & Trusts + Estate Planning  
 Business Law  
 Will Make House Calls

**412-281-0587 + [rwinters@grblaw.com](mailto:rwinters@grblaw.com)**

Enhanced Personal Care  
 Our commitment is to provide a vibrant lifestyle and personalized care catering to your unique needs and well-being.

**CELEBRATION VILLA**  
 CALL NOW  
 412-884-1200



**Frank Delvaux**  
 AVP, Residential Lending  
 NMLS: 580226  
 412-596-9893  
[fdelvaux128@dollarbank.com](mailto:fdelvaux128@dollarbank.com)

Equal Housing Lender Member FDIC. Copyright © 2023, Dollar Bank, Federal Savings Bank.



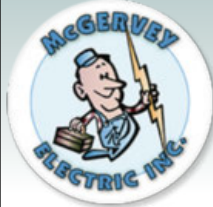
### Janet W. Hensler

REALTOR®  
 #1 Real Estate Company in PA, OH, WV, and NY  
 180 Fort Couch Rd.,  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15241  
**Cell: (412) 491-2741**  
[janethensler@howardhanna.com](mailto:janethensler@howardhanna.com)  
[www.howardhanna.com](http://www.howardhanna.com)



### Hall Rentals

THE CASTLE SHANNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS HALLS FOR MOST OCCASIONS  
 Visit our website for more information:  
**[www.csvfd.org](http://www.csvfd.org)**  
**412-884-7913**



**RESIDENTIAL and Commercial Electrical Service**  
**McGERVEY ELECTRIC INC.**  
 412-854-4436  
 Servicing Western PA Since 1978  
[www.mcgerveyelectric.com](http://www.mcgerveyelectric.com)

EST. 1905  
**KURTZ**  
 MONUMENT COMPANY

Serving Washington and the surrounding areas  
**WHEN YOU'RE READY. 724-225-3940**  
 WE WOULD BE HONORED TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CRAFT THE PERFECT MEMORIAL.  
[www.kurtzmonumentco.com](http://www.kurtzmonumentco.com)



**Concordia of the South Hills**  
 We put our Faith in Caring Retirement Living  
 412-278-1300  
[www.Concordia-SouthHills.org](http://www.Concordia-SouthHills.org)

**McDonald's**  
 Proudly owned and operated by John & Kathy Santonastasso  
 225 Mt Lebanon Blvd,  
 Castle Shannon, PA 15234  
**(412) 561-5150**

**Park Avenue Salon**  
 935 Park Ave • Castle Shannon  
**(412) 531-7275**  
 Haircare for the entire family  
 ~ FULL SERVICE SALON ~

**PITTSBURGH GASTROENTEROLOGY ASSOCIATES** **SOUTH HILLS ENDOSCOPY CENTER**

2589 Boyce Plaza, Ste. 5 Pittsburgh, PA 15241  
 Satellite Office in Monongahela, PA  
**412.232.8104**

2589 Boyce Plaza Rd. Upper St. Clair, PA 15241  
**412.838.0400**

David L. Limauro, M.D.  
 Mark A. Cedar, D.O.  
 Nicholas A. Bellicini, D.O.  
 Xuong Lu, M.D.  
 Jungmin Leo Lee, M.D.

Lisa A. Oliva, D.O.  
 Theresa Schuerle, D.O.  
 Bridger Clarke, M.D.

**Colon Cancer Screenings Available**  
 Your insurance will cover a routine colon cancer screening at age 45  
[www.pghgastro.com](http://www.pghgastro.com)

**FREE HOME WARRANTY FOR CHURCH SELLERS**

**ROXANECAN REAL ESTATE GROUP**  
 BUY • SELL • INVEST

**KELLERWILLIAMS**  
 #1 REAL ESTATE COMPANY GLOBALLY  
 WE SELL 1 BILLION DOLLARS A DAY WORLDWIDE!

**PARISHIONER & REALTOR FOR OVER 20 YEARS!**  
**CALL OR TEXT TODAY @ 412-901-4073**

**Seniors Helping Seniors** **412.944.2470**  
[Info@swpaSeniorCare.com](mailto:Info@swpaSeniorCare.com)  
[www.swpaSeniorCare.com](http://www.swpaSeniorCare.com)

Compassionate services provided by friendly, mature, dependable, and attentive caregivers and companions.

- Companionship
- Transportation
- Homemaker
- Respite care
- Personal care
- And more!

**NOW HIRING!**

- Flexible hours
- Meaningful work!

**GOOD ORTHODONTICS**  
 Robert F. Good II, D.M.D., M.D.S.  
 Ronald S. Good, D.M.D., M.S.

"We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do." Mother Teresa

WASHINGTON 724-225-1114 PLEASANT HILLS 412-655-4660 MOUNT LEBANON 412-344-4663