

St. Malachy Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

343 Forest Grove Road
(Kennedy Township)
Coraopolis, PA 15108

*“Serving the People of God in Kennedy Township
and surrounding communities Since 1947”*

December 11, 2016
3rd Sunday of Advent



Parish Mission Statement

We, the Parish Family of St. Malachy, guided by the Holy Spirit are committed to continuing the works for Jesus Christ through worship, education and service thereby building the Body of Christ as a community of compassion and love.

REV. JOHN E. HISSRICH
Pastor

REV. RUSSELL J. MAURER
In Residence

LISA DAVIS
Business Manager

LAURIE LANZ
Director of Music

CATHERINE MILITZER
School Principal

JENIFER O'SHEA
School Secretary

STEVEN SWANK
Coordinator of Religious Education
Youth Minister
Safe Environment Coordinator

CAROL PFEUFFER
Religious Education Secretary

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:
Monday thru Friday - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday thru Thursday - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
and during Religious Education times

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TIMES:

Sunday K-7 9:15 am - 10:30 am
Sunday 8 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm
Monday 1-7 4:30 pm - 5:45 pm

ADULT CHOIR:

Wednesday - 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

HOLY SACRAMENTS

EUCCHARIST:

Mass Schedule:

Monday - Friday 7:15 am Mass
Saturday 4:00 pm (Saturday Evening Vigil)
Sunday 8:00 am and 11:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration (3rd Tuesday) - 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm

RECONCILIATION: Saturday - 3:00 - 3:45 pm and the
First Friday of the Month after 7:15 am Mass.

BAPTISM:

Second and Fourth Sunday each month after 11:00 Mass.

INFANTS:

Please contact the Parish Office three (3) months before the expected birth. First time parents are required to attend Pre-Baptismal instructions.

ADULTS:

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Those adults desiring to become a Catholic who have never been baptized or were baptized in another faith are invited to the sessions on Mondays in the rectory from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

MARRIAGE:

By policy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, couples wishing to marry must contact the parish at least six months before the date of the wedding. No date may be set until the couple meets with the priest.

PARISH PHONE - 412-771-5483 / FAX - 412-331-7312
Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am to 8 pm; Friday 8 am-4 pm
PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.stmalachypgh.org>
E-Mail Address: parish@stmalachypgh.org
Father Hissrich Email: FatherH@comcast.net

PARISH SCHOOL.....412-771-4545
RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE..... 412-771-7480
MUSIC DIRECTOR..... 412-331-4664
CAFETERIA..... 412-771-0848
CHURCH HALL..... 412-331-9037

Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm Al & Mary Toma by Karen, Paul & Janet
 8:00 am People of the Parish
 11:00 am Kathy Masi by Lorraine Melville

Monday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:15 am Audrey Seibel by Joseph Prince

Tuesday, December 13 - St. Lucy

7:15 am Mary & Frank Schweinberg by Family

Wed., December 14 - St. John of the Cross

7:15 am Michael T. Sabol by Daughter: Kathy Cheski & Family

Thursday, December 15

7:15 am Maria Gieri by Al & Lina Gieri

Friday, December 16

7:15 am Catherine Bujaky by Martin & Family
 8:45 am Stanley Stavish - Remembered John & Kathryn Poslawski by Hil, Don, Dana & Nick

Saturday, December 17

4:00 pm Bill Alex by Mel & Jackie Weinstein

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am People of the Parish
 11:00 am Stephen Celich by Family

We WELCOME all those who enter this Holy place to worship!

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Please pray for: Lisa Aburaad, Brian Breland, James Breslin, Josh Bruchwajski, Ian Donovan, Eric Dudash, William Duffy, Travis Dunham, Mark Finnegan, Edward Glance, Lewis Hess, Chris Holton, Matthew Kost, Spencer Lindsay, Christopher McDermott, James McGregor, Benjamin Macek, Jacob Mammay, Steven Marshall, Jake Mathews, Jeremiah Murphy, Kevin Murphy, Michael Murphy, Nick Obusek, Nicholas Rymniak, C.J. Stangl, Chris Straw, Jeffrey Vittorio, Chris Wasek, Joseph Wasek III, Matthew Zivic

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for: Joanie, Patrick Alex, Vincent Barbera, Rita Battaglini, John Bedmar, Ann Borden, Joe Bowler, Esther Burik, Janet Cain, Nancy Calhoon, Charles Campbell, Betty Campalong, Lucia Catanza, Earl Cetto, Margaret Coppler, Ryan Costa, Bev Cummins, Alice Curtolo, Stella Cusano, Jane Davis, Judy Deczkowski, Madeline Deluca, Anya DeFeo, Rene Dewine, Gil Diетeman, Connie Dovich, Tom Drost, Rocky Esposito, Marge Ferraro, Helena Ferro, Jim Finn, Taylor Finn, John & Bonnie Gallagher, Cynthia Gilchrist, Frank Gracy, Georgiana Guerra, Bruce Gutt, John Gutt, Lizzie Guzman, Brenna Halbedl, Robert Hodgkiss, John Hopay, Justine Hudak, Elizabeth Jakiel, Victoria M. Jeffrey, Louise Jones, Melissa Jones, Sean Jones, Sue Joseck, Alberta Kale, Ann Kane, Stella Karg, Wasil Karobski, Bonnie Kempton, Fred Komernitski, Ed Krall Sr., Penny Kramer, Sue Kyle

And for those who request prayers anonymously

Please pray for those who are in the hospitals, nursing homes and the homebound. May they continue to receive the Lord's blessings.

ST. MALACHY PRAY FOR US!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MALACHY**MONDAY, DECEMBER 12**

6:30 pm Emmanuel Prayer Group - Church
 7:00 pm Bingo - Fr. Weirauch Hall
 7:00 pm RCIA - Parish Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Noon Card Party - Father Weirauch Hall
 6:00 pm The Light is On For You! - Church
 7:00 pm Cub Scouts - Classroom

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mon	Dec	19	6:30 pm - Emmanuel Prayer Group - Church
Mon	Dec	19	7:00 pm - Bingo - Father Weirauch Hall
Mon	Dec	19	7:00 pm - RCIA - Parish Meeting Room
Tue	Dec	20	1:00 pm - Eucharistic Adoration - Church
Tue	Dec	20	6:30 pm - Benediction - Church
Tue	Dec	20	6:30 pm - Daisy Troop - Cafeteria
Wed	Dec	21	Noon - Card Party - Father Weirauch Hall
Wed	Dec	21	7:00 pm - Cub Scouts - Classroom
Fri	Dec	23	No Catholic Scripture Study
Sat	Dec	24	9:00 am - Marian Prayer Group - Church

REST IN PEACE

We remember our beloved dead who recently passed from this earthly life to eternal glory, especially

Michael Sklarsky

May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. AMEN.

FLOWERS

The flowers at the Holy Family niche this week are in memory of:

Ronald Victorelli

by Wife & Family

PARISH OFFICE CALENDAR

Calling all parish groups, please call the Parish Office to schedule your events for 2017.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closing at Noon on December 23 and all day December 26 so that our staff may celebrate Christmas with their families.

Diocese Victim Assistance Hotline 1-888-808-1235

www.thecatholicviewforwomen.com

www.diopitt.org

www.priestsforlife.org

catholicshome.com

www.womenofgrace.com

www.rachelsvineyard.org.org

www.helpourmarriage.com

REMEMBER ST. MALACHY IN YOUR WILL!

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Through this Advent season, I have been using this column to look at some of the scriptural figures who are important to this season. Today, we take a look at St. Joseph, who is featured prominently in Matthew's gospel. We will hear of St. Joseph next Sunday.

Joseph was most likely a young man just coming into his own when Christ was born, but there is a legend which says that he was an old man. There are several likely reasons why that legend grew up. For one thing, it is easier for some to believe that an older man could respect Mary's virginity. As one living a celibate life, however, I find it much more helpful to believe that the Holy Spirit helped Joseph to remain chaste. The legend of Joseph as an old man also could be a way of explaining the places in scripture where they refer to Jesus' brothers and sisters. Our insistence on Mary's virginity made some people think that these were Joseph's children by a wife who had died. But in their culture, the word for "brothers and sisters" also referred to cousins, as extended families were quite important at the time.

Setting aside that legend, we can look at Joseph as he appears in the gospel. First of all, we can see Joseph's role in the Holy Family. As husband of the Blessed Mother, Joseph was legally recognized as Jesus' father. It is through that relationship that Jesus was recognized as a descendant of King David. More importantly, at the time of Jesus' conception, Joseph was betrothed to the Blessed Mother. We think of that relationship as an engagement, but betrothal was a step beyond engagement. Joseph had all the legal rights of a husband except for living with Mary. So if she was found to be pregnant, then the logical conclusion was that she had committed adultery, which was a capital crime. But Joseph was merciful, wanting to divorce her quietly, and that mercy left him open to the message of the angel that this child was the Son of God. So Joseph is a sign that we are called to trust God and to be open to His will.

Joseph is also given to us as a protector. When King Herod called for the Messiah's death, Joseph took Mary and Jesus into safety in Egypt. Throughout the early years of Jesus' life, we see Joseph as a provider for the Holy Family. We know him as a carpenter, but that probably does not mean that he made a living making fine furniture. The Greek word for carpenter in the gospels is *tekton*, which is a carpenter who would do all kinds of woodwork, including buildings and other big projects. We might think of a *tekton* as a construction worker. Joseph was a hard worker who did whatever he needed to do to provide for his family. So while we see Joseph as a man of faith, we do not see that faith as an idle quality. Joseph's faith was active, affecting everything he did every day of his life.

We often call St. Joseph "a just man." Justice, in this sense, means that he always sought to do the will of God. As he did so, he not only helped carry forward the mission of our salvation, he also became an excellent example for us. St. Joseph teaches us to live our faith as if Christ were living in our own homes.

Father H

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Confessions for Advent include "The Light is On For You" this Wednesday, December 14, 6:00-9:00 PM. Other times for Confessions will be:

- Tuesday, December 20, 7:00 (after Benediction)
- Wednesday, December 21, 6:00
- Friday, December 23, 6:00

We will not have regularly scheduled Confessions on Saturday, December 24 or Saturday, December 31.

REGULAR CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Beginning on Saturday, January 7, our Confessions will be scheduled from Noon to 1:00 PM each week. We will no longer schedule our Confessions from 3:00 to 3:45. As always, anyone who wants to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a time outside the scheduled time is welcome to contact Fr. Hissrich or Fr. Russell for an appointment.

CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE STUDY

Due to the inclement weather during winter months, St. Malachy's Adult Catholic Scripture Study will have a temporary break. We will be off starting the week of Christmas and resume again in March. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your special dedication and devotion to the Word! God bless and keep you! See you in March!

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU THIS WEEK!

This Wednesday, December 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available in every parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. 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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

It's that time of the year when we are accepting donations for the Flower Fund. The Flower Fund is not only used for Christmas but Easter, and throughout the year keeping our church environment beautiful. Please use the envelope in your packet or with online giving. The last day to get donations and memorials into the Christmas bulletin will be December 16. All donations and memorials that come in after December 16 will be listed in future bulletins. We are very grateful for your generosity.

ST. MALACHY CHURCH

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32
 Wednesday: Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Luke 7:18-23
 Thursday: Isaiah 54:1-10; Luke 7:24-30
 Friday: Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8; John 5:33-36
 Saturday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
 Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

With Parish Consultation Sessions now completed, all the proposed models for **ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!** are available online. Watch the videos, download the presentations and give feedback. You can also provide your email address to stay connected for future updates, including survey results. Learn more at OnMissionChurchAlive.org. A link to that site is available on our parish web site.

OPLATKI—CHRISTMAS WAFER

The Christmas wafer honors a custom which is many centuries old. It is sometimes referred to as the Bread of Angels. Our Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means "House of Bread." Jesus Christ is the Bread of Life. By breaking and sharing the Christmas Wafer, prayers for health and happiness are offered for the family as well as prayers for unity. Donation is \$2.00 for Oplatki wafers and they are available in the church vestibule.

RETRouvaille

This program has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. The next weekend begins January 13, 2017. Call 412-277-3434 or visit <http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org> for more information.

KENNEDY TOWNSHIP, PA

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



The last class sessions for this catechetical term will be held next Sunday, December 18 and Monday, December 19. Students will receive their semester evaluations at these class sessions.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

"Be patient, brothers and sisters...Do not complain about one another." (James 5:7-9). Preparation for Christmas can strain even the best relationships. Be gentle and patient with each other as you do the many tasks to prepare for Christmas.

PARENTING POINTERS

As Christmas approaches help your children prepare by urging them to choose at least one of their possessions to give away to someone who needs it more than they do.

ADVENT ONE-NIGHT RETREAT

Join Holy Trinity Church on December 20 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. for an evening of prayer, worship, Eucharistic Adoration, confession, and a talk by Fr. Nicholas Vaskov. Fr. Vaskov is the Administrator of St. Mary of Mercy Parish in Downtown Pittsburgh, as well as Executive Director of Communications for the Diocese. Take time to prepare your hearts for Christmas in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the season! For more information or questions contact Erin Stuvek at estuvek@holyltrinityrobinson.org.

"All the good works of the world are not equal to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because they are the works of men. But the Mass is the work of God."

- St. John Vianney

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion			Lectors	Altar Servers
Saturday Dec. 17 4:00 PM	Mike Athanas Nancy Athanas Bill Worms-W	Lisa Worms-W Mel Weinstein Val Pietracatello-W	Sharon Cercone	Dan Gallagher Melissa Kehl	Nicholas Mosur Julia Mosur McKenna Chestnut
Sunday Dec. 18 8:00 AM	Peg Collins-W Linda Hoffman Regina Mell-W	Cindy Laquinta-E Joan Kuzel-W/CH Jean Formosa-W	Janet Oakes	Michael Phillips Dell Oakes	Lucas Impavido Chapel Fauser
Sunday Dec. 18 11:00 AM	Sandy Vaught-W Wayne Madden Gary Harbaugh	Pat Kulak-W Sara Lyons Peg Spisak	Mary Lou Kost-W	Randy Lowden	Elizabeth Cross Natasha Karlik Ryan Kozy

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

High School Guys: Are you up to the challenge of giving God the time and space to speak to your heart? If so, then join Fr. Mike Ackerman and Fr. Joe Freedy for a FREE silent retreat being held at *The Ark and The Dove* Retreat House from 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 14 until 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 15. To register, visit www.PGHPriest.com. For more information contact Mr. Swank at 412-771-7480 or swankymca@gmail.com.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS

All are invited to join Bishop David Zubik and Latino Catholics for the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Cathedral. The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m. with the Arrival of the Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe from Saint Regis Church, followed by the celebration of the Holy Mass.

CHRISTMAS DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Fr. Joe Freedy, Fr. Mike Ackerman, Fr. Brian Welding and Fr. Brian Noel will be leading a retreat for men who are seeking to know their vocation and to learn more about discerning a vocation to the Priesthood, from Friday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m. through Sunday, December 18 at 11:00 a.m. at Gilmary Retreat Center. The weekend will include Mass with Bishop Zubik, Adoration, opportunities for Confession, conferences, and solid brotherhood. No cost. Must be 18 or older. Visit www.pghpriest.com to register.

SCHOOL NEWS



Our Advent journey, "Preparing for Jesus, Lighting His Path," continues with our service project benefiting the F.O.R. food bank. The students have been "lights" to Jesus' path by doing many acts of kindness this month!

The sounds of the season will be all around St. Malachy's on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. during our annual Christmas Program. All the students will perform along with performances from the bell choir, choir, and band. All are invited to attend. Thank you Mrs. Lanz, Mr. Sperry, and Mrs. Fisher for preparing the students for this program.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First grade has been having a lot of fun with something new to their classroom called mystery readers. Each week someone new comes in and they get three clues and have to guess who they are. They get to bring any book in to read and sometimes they even bring in treats! Most of the time they are a parent, and they are pretty good at surprising them! We have only been able to guess one or two. First grade also had a mystery reader that they see every day, our principal, Mrs. Militzer! She read the class an Arthur book and brought in her Arthur characters that the students were able to hold while she read. What a nice surprise! First grade wishes you a blessed Advent season!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Do you want to "Keep Christ in Christmas" and help support St. Malachy School? Why not purchase a Nativity Tree to display in your yard this Christmas? There are three choices of displays. See the flyer on display in the back of the church for more information. This is a great way to celebrate the "reason for the season"!

Electronic Giving is NOW available!
A convenient way to give
To enroll 412-771-5483

CHRISTIAN SHARING

Sunday Collection	12-4-16	\$11,043.00
Children Collection	12-4-16	\$ 15.00
Votive Candles	12-4-16	\$ 341.00
St. Vincent de Paul	12-4-16	\$ 558.00
Religious Retirement	12-4-16	\$ 39.00
Christmas Flowers	12-4-16	\$ 1,908.00
School	12-4-16	\$ 643.00
Electronic Giving	Nov 2016	\$ 5,656.88

Thank You for your generosity!

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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12-11-16

St. Malachy Church
343 Forest Grove Road
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We WELCOME all those who enter this Holy place to worship