

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 18, 2016
4th 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

EUCHARIST:

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 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm Bill Alex by Mel & Jackie Weinstein
 8:00 am People of the Parish
 11:00 am Stephen Celich by Family

Monday, December 19

7:15 am James Puff by Puff Family

Tuesday, December 20

7:15 am M/M Wolf & M/M McClelland
 by Bob & Charlotte

Wednesday, December 21 - St. Peter Canisius

7:15 am Vera & John Augustine by Darlene Augustine

Thursday, December 22

7:15 am George Gleason by Wife & Family

Friday, December 23

7:15 am Arthur Vergenese by Wife & Graul Family

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Children of the Parish
 6:30 pm Poor of the World
 10:00 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am St. Malachy Benefactors
 11:00 am People of the Parish

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 Gance, 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: Karen Lamping, Jennifer LePore, Sam Lewis, Patricia Leyda, Irene List, Mariyanna McCarthy, Marla McKnight, Frieda (Streiner) Mandus, Charlotte Markle, Patricia Martin, Mary Mazzocco, Johnny Mucha, Patrick Murphy, Tim Nolan, Keith O'Donnell, Mali Olivani, Jim Olszewski, Emil Parent, Sr., Dean Parente, Esther Perri, Kathy Pfeuffer, Shirley Pioto, Margaret Porter, Shannon Preininger, Aaron Prosperini, Alice Rhoades, Lois Schipani, Lou Schohn, Joe Sedlak, David Shankin, Joanna Simmons, Carol Sinatra, Frank Sinatra, Marianne, Raymond Soffa, Jessica Soliz, Addie Sorokis, Anna Spezialetti, Shirley Stephenson, Jessica A. Stevenson, Bob Streiner, Ron Thoma, Elizabeth Vein, Barb West, Marci Williams, Cecelia Zacccone, Mike Zadrzny, Rocco Zagari

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 19**

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

1:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration - Church
 6:30 pm Benediction - Church
 6:30 pm Daisy Troop - Cafeteria

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Noon Card Party - Father Weirauch Hall
 7:00 pm Cub Scouts - Classroom

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

No Catholic Scripture Study

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:00 am Marian Prayer Group - Church

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mon	Dec	26	6:30 pm - Emmanuel Prayer Group - Church
Mon	Dec	26	No Bingo
Mon	Dec	26	No RCIA
Wed	Dec	28	Noon - Card Party - Father Weirauch Hall
Wed	Dec	28	7:00 pm - Cub Scouts - Classroom

WEDDING BANNS

The couple below intends to be united
 In the Holy Sacrament of Marriage:
I Matthew Romano & Ashley Marks

REST IN PEACE

We remember our beloved dead who recently passed from this earthly life to eternal glory, especially
David Majeski
 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:
In Honor of the Infant Jesus
 by Rosemarie

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. We will also close at Noon on December 30 and be closed all day January 2.

Diocese Victim Assistance Hotline 1-888-808-1235
www.thecatholicviewforwomen.com
www.diopitt.org
www.priestsforlife.org catholicscomehome.org
www.womenofgrace.com www.rachelsvineyard.org.org
www.helpourmarriage.com

REMEMBER ST. MALACHY IN YOUR WILL!

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Over the first three weeks of Advent, I have dedicated this space to looking at some of the major biblical figures of the season. As I wrote about the prophet Isaiah, St. John the Baptist and St. Joseph, I have tried to take an objective look at each figure as found in Sacred Scripture. Today I will look at the most obvious figure of this season, the Blessed Virgin Mary. There is so much to say about Mary's role in Scripture and in popular devotion that I would like to take just a few images, particularly from the infancy narratives.

In Luke's gospel, we "meet" Mary when the Archangel Gabriel announces to Mary that she is to be the Mother of God. One of the key lessons here is Mary's trust in God. First she admitted that she did not understand how Gabriel's words could be true. Yet while she had no problem questioning how the message could be true, she still accepted God's will. Mary knew and trusted that God would only ask of her what was best for her as well as for all humanity.

There is another image that I have always found helpful to meditation, but it does not occur in the Gospel. Have you ever thought of what Mary told her parents after the Annunciation? What parents, when finding their daughter pregnant, would believe a story of an angel? That situation was covered very nicely in the movie *The Nativity Story* that came out a few years ago. In addition to her trust, such an image can show us the courage that Mary must have had once she accepted God's will. Becoming the Mother of God would change all of Mary's plans, but she was ready.

After the angel left, Mary traveled into the hill country to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist. That would not have been an easy journey, particularly for a young pregnant girl. But for Mary, the presence of Christ led her to service. She would not sit back and wait for the Lord's coming. Rather, she put Christ's presence into action for the good of others. In her service, as in her trust and her courage, Mary is an image of what Advent should mean to us.

Finally, as we celebrated the Immaculate Conception earlier this month, we remember that Mary was without sin. The same cannot be said for any of us. So in final preparation for Christmas, we will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 (after our monthly Benediction), and from 6:00 to 7:00 (or later as needed) on Wednesday and Friday evenings. We will not have our regularly scheduled Saturday Confessions on Christmas Eve.

Father H

ALL DAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Begins at 1:00 p.m.

Closes with Benediction at 6:30 p.m.

Please come and spend some prayer time
with our Blessed Lord!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COLLECTION

There will be a second collection on Christmas Day for our diocese's youth and children programs. This is one of the collections whose total is applied to our parish's Parish Share balance. Please be generous.

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

During this holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported our parish this past year with their time, talent, and financial contributions. The parish looks forward to the support from all of our parishioners in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit www.stmalachypgh.org or contact the Parish Office at 412-771-5483 for more information.

NEW YEAR'S EVE HOLY HOUR

Would you like to end 2016 and begin 2017 with our Lord? This is a perfect opportunity on ***Saturday, December 31*** to thank God for His many Blessings this past year and to beg His assistance and His grace for the coming year. Come to the church on ***New Year's Eve at 11:30 p.m.*** to spend a ***Holy Hour with Jesus*** in the most Blessed Sacrament.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

On Sunday, January 1 our parish will celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. This solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are Saturday, December 31 at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 1 at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please join us as we begin the new year!

PARISH SHARE FIGURES

2016 Parish Share Assessment	\$ 99,907
Amount pledged as of 12/9/16	\$ 97,700
Gifts received as of 12/9/16	\$ 97,700

ST. MALACHY CHURCH

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25; Luke 1:5-25
 Tuesday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38
 Wednesday: Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45
 Thursday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56
 Friday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66
 Saturday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Luke 1:67-79
 Sunday: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6;
 John 1:1-18

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.

ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

As we prepare for the coming of our Savior, let us also continue to get ready for the changes and growth ahead as we journey **ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!** The more than 27,000 faithful who recently attended parish consultation meetings are a testament to your commitment to your parish and our baptismal call to follow Jesus and bring others to Him. As the consultation process continues, stay involved and sign up for e-mail updates at OnMissionChurchAlive.org. A link to that site is also available on our parish website.

KENNEDY TOWNSHIP, PA

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



The last class sessions for this catechetical term will be held this Sunday, December 18 and Monday, December 19. Students will receive their semester evaluations at these class sessions. Classes will not be in session on December 25 and 26 or January 1 and 2. Religious Education will resume on Sunday, January 8 and Monday, January 9, 2017.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Confessions for Advent 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.

PARISH OFFICE CALENDAR

Calling all parish groups, please call the Parish Office to schedule your events for 2017. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion			Lectors	Altar Servers
Sat. Dec. 24 4:00 PM	Ann Kachmar Mike Athanas-W Nancy Athanas	Peg Spisak Bill Worms-W Lisa Worms	Mary Ann Fenio-W Regina Osman	Rosemary Corsetti Tom Fenio	Chapel Fauser Heather Stephenson Heidi Stephenson
Sat. Dec. 24 6:30 PM	Mary Lou Kost Ken Dorman Karl Foerster	Tim Davis-W Mel Weinstein-W Gary Harbaugh-W		Richard Parrish Luann Richardson	
Sat. Dec. 24 10:00 PM	Ann Jozwiak-W Patty Beasock-W Karen Fiola-W	Wayne Madden Carol Chambers Mimi Schneider		Randy Lowden	Brigham Karlik Andrew Polar Elena Polar
Sunday Dec. 25 8:00 AM	Dan Beyer-E Za Beyer-W Peg Collins-W	Jean Formosa Regina Mell Linda Hoffman-W	Lori Knudsen-W/CH	Marie Incorvati Cindy Laquinta	Lucas Impavido Michal Ondercin
Sunday Dec. 25 11:00 AM	Sandy Vaught Sue Ondo-W Pat Kulak-W	David Kozy Barbara Marshall-W Sara Lyons		Melissa Kehl	Blaise Kehl

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

All teens in grades 8-12 are invited to attend the Silver Ring Thing: New Standard Tour on Friday, January 13 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Seton LaSalle High School. Silver Ring Thing is a radical response to culture's view of love and relationships. Silver Ring Thing defies the meet-up, hook-up, break-up culture of today and inspires teens to a pure life centered in a relationship with Jesus Christ. Tickets are \$6 online (www.silverringthing.com) or \$8 at the door. For more information, contact Steven Swank at 412-771-7480 or swankymca@gmail.com.

VATICAN CRECHE SCENE

The world's only replica of the Vatican crèche is in the plaza of the USX Tower on Grant Street in downtown Pittsburgh. You and your family are encouraged to visit it so that it might help you to recapture some of the true spirit of Christmas which urges us to draw closer to Christ.

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"!

<p>Electronic Giving is NOW available! A convenient way to give To enroll 412-771-5483</p>		
<p>CHRISTIAN SHARING</p>		
Sunday Collection	12-11-16	\$ 8,352.00
Children Collection	12-11-16	\$ 13.75
Votive Candles	12-11-16	\$ 410.00
Immaculate Conception	12-11-16	\$ 2,358.00
Christmas Flowers	12-11-16	\$ 1,081.00
Angel Fund	12-11-16	\$ 852.00
<p><i>Thank You for your generosity!</i></p>		

<p>ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK TRUE VALUE HARDWARE Kenmawr Plaza - 412-771-6260 <i>Please support our advertisers! Thank You!</i></p>

SCHOOL NEWS



Our Advent journey, "Preparing for Jesus, Lighting His Path," ends this week with the students sending Christmas cards to the local nursing homes. The students have truly been "lights" to Jesus' path this Advent Season.

We have three busy days of school before Christmas break begins on Thursday. The students will be visiting with buddies, caroling and ending their week with an all school Mass on Wednesday at 8:45 a.m.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

It is hard to believe that we are almost halfway through our second grade year! We have been working hard in Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, and Religion! We are excited to start Science in January!

As we prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we have been talking about all the ways we can ask for forgiveness and show how to be forgiving. Please continue to pray for our class, and for all that will be making this sacrament.

Our class has an elf named Frosty. He has been observing how hard we work, how well we follow directions, and if we are behaving. Frosty reports back to Santa Claus each afternoon. So far, we have been doing nothing but showing him our very best!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas!

OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD – OLSH

Open application period is now underway for Class of 2021! OLSH's open application period began December 1 and runs through April 30, 2017. Prospective ninth grade students should submit an application as soon as possible for consideration. Visit www.ols.org/admissions/apply. The class is limited to 100 students and is filled on a first-com, first-served basis.

UPPERCLASSMEN TRANSFERS

OLSH accepts transfer students to grades nine, ten and eleven who are seeking an alternative to their current school or environment. If you have a high school student who desires an academically-focused, structured school environment and would benefit from a transfer this year or next, please contact Jessica Sellman '02, Director of Admissions and Enrollment at 412-262-3300 or jsellman@ols.org.

910048

12-18-16

St. Malachy Church
343 Forest Grove Road
Coraopolis, PA 15108

We WELCOME all those who enter this Holy place to worship