

3rd Sunday of Advent



December 16th



Holy Ghost Church
A Roman Catholic Parish of the
Diocese of Allentown
Founded in 1871 as a
German Ethnic Parish

Rectory: 417 Carlton Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18015 -1535
Phone: 610-867-9382
Fax: 610-867-6839
Billinger Hall 610-691-0210

Email: hghostchurch@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.holyghost-church.org/>
Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/hghostchurch

Incarnation of Our Lord
A Roman Catholic Parish of the
Diocese of Allentown
Founded in 2008 as a merger of Slovak,
Hungarian, Windish, Polish and
Italian Parishes

Rectory: 617 Pierce St
Bethlehem, PA 18015 -3427
Phone: 610-866-3391
Fax: 610-866-6490
LaBuda Hall: 610-866-3644

Email: iparish@ptd.net
Website: Incarnationofourlord.com
Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/IncarnationParish



Rev. David J. Kozak, Administrator

Email: dkozak@allentowndiocese.org

Deacon Steve Gorbos

Ronald J. Koach, Jr. - Parish Life Collaborator

Mrs. Elizabeth Perkins—Secretary

Mr. Dennis Reichard—Finance

Mrs. Lisa Benedek—Safe Environment Coordinator, Office Assistant

Lehigh University - Catholic Campus Ministry

The Newman Center Located at the Holy Ghost Parish Complex
Phone 610-758-4148 ✕ Mass Hotline 610-758-4659 ✕ E-mail innew@lehigh.edu
Ronald J. Koach, Jr., Coordinator, Catholic Campus Ministry— rjk5@lehigh.edu
Rev. Eugene P. Ritz, J.C.L. & Rev. Daniel E. Kravatz, Pastoral Assistance



FROM THE DESK OF Fr. Dave

**My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
My dear people,**

Are you really rejoicing at the coming of Jesus, or are you filled with anxiety and apprehension? The answer depends on our attitude toward Christmas; and more deeply, on our view of Jesus and our relationship to Him. If the celebration of the birth of Christ is only a set of tasks to be done and obligations to fulfill; no wonder we are anxious! How often do we say "What time is Mass for the holiday? I would like to find a convenient time, to get it over with, to get my obligation completed.



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That way of thinking exposes the roots of why many of us do not enjoy this season if the year. Today is Gaudete! or Rejoice! Sunday.

We can only rejoice in the cold and dark of winter if we see a Light that is tiny and flickering, but growing stronger to bring us Joy and Peace. That Light is not found strung on trees or on our front porch. It comes in the birth of a tiny Child born accompanying us in the gloom of our struggling world. He is with us always. That is REALLY something in which we can rejoice!

Happy Gaudete Sunday!

Fr. David J. Kozak

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Giving Tree Items.....

Thank you for your willingness to support the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program at Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown through the annual Giving Tree collection. As you may know the Catholic Charities office location has moved, and the new location has significantly less space to store items throughout the year. With this in mind, we are asking for gift cards to places that sell baby items (i.e.: Walmart, Target, Giant, Weis, Redner's, Costco, Sam's Club,). These gift cards will not be distributed directly to clients, but will allow Catholic Charities to purchase larger items and items that are needed on a case by case basis like car seats, strollers, and coats, etc. It will also allow Catholic Charities to replenish other items as the needs arise. Gift cards may be dropped off anytime during December at the rectory or drop gift Cards in the Collection Basket on the weekends during December for that purpose!

Mass of the Holy Innocents



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Do you have a newborn in your family? Why not join the Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents? It is offered on December 28, the Feast of the Holy Innocents, at 7 PM in gratitude

for all the newborns of the year, and in reparation for all the year's unborn lives deliberately taken. Bring your newborn's blanket for a blanket blessing. Saint Stephen of Hungary Roman Catholic Church of the Tridentine Rite, located at 510 West Union Street, Allentown, PA 18102, offers this Latin Mass sung by the Mary Immaculate Choir. Join the following Respect Life Reception including the veneration of St. Gianna's relics. For information call (267)261-2122. All are welcome.

ST. VINCENT DePaul SOCIETY

News and Upcoming Events:

Our next pantry will be held NEXT Saturday, December 22nd at 10:00am. We continue to collect new and gently used toys, children's books, coloring books, crayons, hats, scarves, mittens and slipper socks for distribution to our guests. Donations can be dropped off at the Incarnation rectory or in the bins at the back of the church.

NOTE: If you are a parishioner who could use assistance due to infirmity or, if you find yourself in a difficult financial situation, please contact the rectory for referral to our **PARISHIONER PROGRAM**. All inquiries are confidential. Please call the Rectory.

Incarnation of Our Lord Financials

Weekly collection for 12/9—\$2,824.00

Number of envelopes used =125

Can you do more for God ?

REJOICE!

Today has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday." The Latin tag is derived from Paul's appeal in the second reading to "rejoice always in the Lord," and the Latin Mass text based on that reading. The irony and paradox of this Christian joy is underlined by the fact that Paul wrote those words in prison. But from there he could see the progress of God's work.

Is it obvious to us? We feel that this is not the time for joy when there is so much suffering and moral evil. It is interesting, then, that the first reading is from the prophet Zephaniah, who is almost exclusively concerned with gloomy visions of Judgment Day. Today the Church selects the only optimistic text in Zephaniah, in which the prophet has been touched by the spirit of joy.

Incarnation Parish Senior Group –

New members are invited to our join our Senior Group. Our meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month in LaBuda Hall at 12 noon. Finger foods are served and BINGO is played @ every meeting.

Next Meeting —

Wed. January 2nd—12noon .

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our **Officers:** **President Irene Vidumsky 610-530-1528,** **Vice President Rosemarie Csaszar @ 610-866-7927** **Secretary, Josephine Zavec @ 610-867-0260 .**

All Are Welcome!

(INC) Parish Activities Group

Christmas Decorating in Church – thank you to the many volunteers who helped to create such a beautiful environment to welcome the birth of Jesus our Savior!

Homemade Noodles – order forms can be found in the vestibules – a 16 ounce bag is \$4.00. Monetary donations will also be accepted to offset the cost of supplies.

Monthly 50/50 Drawing - Reminder - \$5 per entry, and since this drawing takes place electronically, just make your donation in multiples of \$5. Donation envelopes must be received by the last day of the month. Thank you for your support.

Save the date and stay tuned for more information about these other upcoming events:

- **Coffee & Donuts – Sundays 1/27/19, 2/24/19, 3/31/19, 4/28/19, 5/26/19 (after 8am Mass)**
- **Parish Feast Day Dinner – Saturday, 3/23/19, after special 4pm Mass**
- **Lenten Soup Supper – Friday, 4/12/19, 6pm before Stations**
- **Iron Pigs – Sunday, 6/30/19**



(H.G.) "Prime Time Seniors"

Meetings:

No Meeting December 17th

MONTHLY CASINO TRIPS -

Wednesday, January 9th

Leave HG Church 10:30am for Mohegan Sun.

Cost: \$25 — Slot Play \$25 and \$5 in Food Coupon.

For Casino info. & Reservations Call:

"Boots" Horwath - 610-867-4839

or Gloria Szakos - 610-868-7940.

Also, Mark your Calendars for the

Christmas Show at American Music Theatre.

THIS Tuesday, December 18th, Leave Holy Ghost

11am, Lunch, Show at 3pm and Return 7pm Price

\$87.00 includes, Bus, Lunch Buffet, Show and Gra-

tuity. Reservation and payment now being accept-

ed. Call

"Boots" Horwath - 610-867-4839

Holy Ghost Financials

Weekly collection for 12 / 9 = \$1994.00

Number of envelopes used = 108

Can you do more for God ?

As the Season of Advent approaches, Bishop of Allentown Alfred A. Schlert asks the clergy and faithful of the Diocese of Allentown to observe the Ember Days for the season.

Ember Days are quarterly observances with three days set aside (Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) to pray in gratitude for the blessings of the season and human labor, to thank God publicly. There are 12 Ember Days in all. Traditionally Embertide was also decided as a time to pray for priests. Ember Days are no longer included in the Universal Roman Calendar, but they are not abolished.

On these days, Bishop Schlert is asking for abstinence from all meat products, fasting and a Holy Hour by the clergy. The People of God of the Diocese of Allentown are encouraged to join in this practice as a sign of healing.

The Advent Ember Days are as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 19; Friday, Dec. 21; and

Saturday, Dec. 22.

H.G. Social Committee News

NOODLE MAKING

"Oodles of Noodles" will be made on the following dates—MONDAY Jan 14, 2019, Jan 28, 2019 All weather permitting. after the 8am Mass. Volunteers always welcome. Donations of Eggs and Flour always graciously Accepted.

Year -End Financial Statements

Envelope Contribution recording for the giving year 2018 will close on Wednesday, January 9th 2019! Parishioners have until this time to make up on back contributions for 2018. Please drop a Self-addressed stamped envelope via the collection or Mail if you wish to receive a contribution statement for the year 2018.

Holy Ghost "MOVIE SERIES"

Presents the Movie "GETTING GRACE"

Wednesday, January 16th @

7pm in Billinger Hall. WEATHER PERMITTING.

Grace, played by newcomer Madelyn Dundon in a breakout performance, is a teenage girl dying of cancer. She crashes a funeral home to find out what will happen after she dies, but ends up teaching the awkward funeral director Bill how to celebrate life. This award winning and critically acclaimed allegory for God's grace was co-written and directed by Daniel Roebuck(Matlock, Fugitive), Let there be light) who also plays Bill in the film.

Join us.

Admission Free Food and Beverages Available for purchase. All Are Welcome!

The Parish Pastoral Council

is forming a Liturgy Committee. If you are interested in learning more about what this committee will do, there will be an information meeting on Tuesday, January 15, at 7 PM, in Loeper Hall (former convent).

The Liturgy Committee's initial focus will be on planning 2019 Lenten activities and to provide support for all liturgical activities in the parish.

✠ **OUR WEEK OF GRACE AND PRAYER** ✠

December 15th Vigil Mass

3:35pm—Rosary for World Peace, Vocations
(HG) 4:00pm ✠ Michael Heyer by the Family

(INC) 5:30pm ✠ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Anthony
by Son Bernard

SUN. Dec. 16th **3rd Sunday of Advent**

(INC) 8:00AM ✠ John & Josephine Ezar & Deceased
Family by Daughter Anna & Family

(HG) 10:00am ✠ Deceased Members of the Blaukovitch
by Jean & Family

Mon. Dec. 17th — Late Advent Weekday

(HG) 8AM—✠Bernadine Bednar
by Raymond LaBuda & Family

Tues. Dec.. 18th— Late Advent Weekday

(HG) 8AM- ✠Pat Stegath by Raymond LaBuda Family

Thurs. Dec. 20th— Late Advent Weekday

(HG) 8AM ✠ Living & Deceased Holy Ghost

Fri. Dec. 21st St. Peter Canisius

(HG) 12 Noon ✠Louisa Check by Catherine Sterlein

SAT. December 22nd **Vigil Mass**

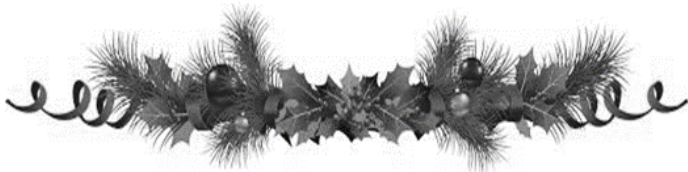
3:35pm—Rosary for World Peace, Vocations
(HG) 4:00pm ✠ Donald & Bernadine Knoblick, Sr.
by Don & Margo Knoblick, Jr.

(INC) 5:30pm ✠ John M. Zaun by Wife Anna & Family

SUN. Dec. 23rd **4th Sunday of Advent**

(INC) 8:00AM ✠ Joseph Ruch by Wife Nancy and Son
Joseph and Daughter in law Barbie

(HG) 10:00am ✠ Joseph & Elizabeth Molter



✠ **DEVOTIONAL LAMPS** ✠

\$10 PER WEEK PLEASE CALL EITHER RECTORY

Devotional Lamps @ Holy Ghost Church

Sanctuary -

In Memory of ✠ Msgr. Scott A. Fasig

St. John the Hermit -

In Memory of ✠ Buragino / Corroda Families

B.V.M. -

Health & Blessings on Mary Margaret Koach

St. Joseph—

Special Intention—R. Koach

Sacred Heart

In Memory of ✠ Catherine Dalpe

St. Theresa

Prayer Intentions

Tabernacle-

In Memory of ✠ Lorraine Finelli

St. (Padre) Pio - Our Lady of Pompeii

In Memory of ✠Joanne Kostecky Petit

Infant of Prague - St. John Capistrano

✠Deceased Boccardi / Bechdolt Families

Pieta—(2)

In Memory of ✠Alexander & Elizabeth Trotsky

St. Vincent DePaul Chapel / Tabernacle Lamp

In Memory of ✠George & Concetta Petito



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✠ **Devotional Lamps** ✠

@ Incarnation of Our Lord Church

Sanctuary Lamp

Deceased Members of the Ray-
kos Family by Brother Joseph
Raykos and wife Barbara

Blessed Virgin Mary Lamp

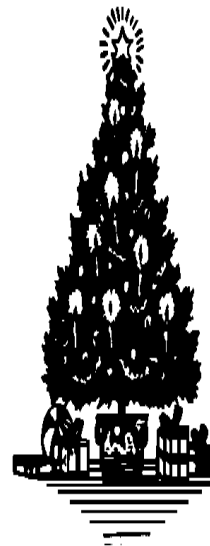
In Memory of ✠ Deceased
Fabian Family by Helen Fabian

St. Joseph Lamp

In Memory of ✠ "Gertie" Brita

Infant of Prague Lamp-

In Memory of ✠ Robert J. Sabo



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Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC

Direct Telephone: 1-800-791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J.

Telephone: 610-332-0442 ext.2019

#0227

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