

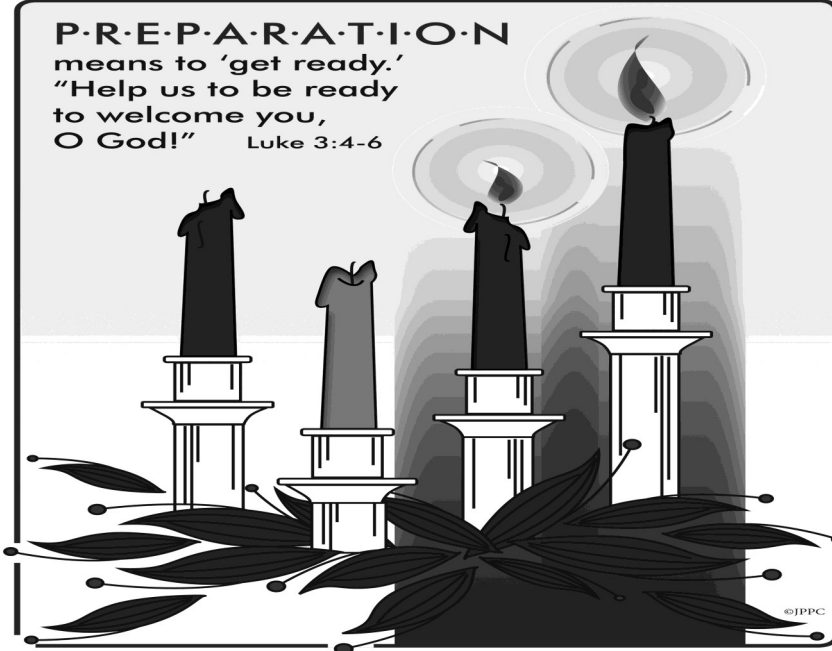
2nd Sunday of Advent



December 9th

P·R·E·P·A·R·A·T·I·O·N

means to 'get ready.'
"Help us to be ready
to welcome you,
O God!" Luke 3:4-6



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, Home for the "holidays"! I'll be home for Christmas. Aren't these our fondest wish? Nostalgia and home sickness are often a part of these December days of spiritual preparation. We want to go back home. Not to our family in 1963, but to our true home where Jesus lives.



Today's first reading speaks of a glorious return from exile. Jesus came to restore us to our former dignity. As children of God we belong with him. God came down to live in our world and raised us up to live with God. Many will come from the north and the south, from all over to climb the mountain of the Lord. Those coming from a great distance like the centurion in today's Gospel reading are especially welcome.



Let us invite many who have been distant for a while to return to home and family for Christmas; to our spiritual home, to our parish. Through the sacrament of Penance they can have a new start as our

sisters and our brothers.

Pray that the family will be complete around the Christmas dinner this year. That is a parents' fondest wish and prayer. Mine too!

God bless you in this season of joyful anticipation!

"Praying for a joyous and fruitful Advent for you and your family,

Fr. David J. Kozak

HEARTFELT

"Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others.

—St. Peter Julian Eymard

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!

"Bambinelli Sunday"

A journey from Advent to Christmas at ALL of the Weekend Masses at both Parishes the weekend of December 15th and 16th we encourage ALL to bring the Infant or any piece of your own personal nativity scene from home to church to have them blessed. This is a beautiful



custom we do annually to help us prepare spiritually for the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas as we journey from darkness to the light of Christmas in the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

"There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind."

—St. Bernard: Third Sermon for Advent

ST. VINCENT DePaul SOCIETY

News and Upcoming Events:

Food Pantry Update: On November 24th we served 29 guest families of which five were new. In addition to the regular staples, guests were able to choose from a variety Christmas gifts including hats, scarves, socks, toys and books.

Our next pantry will be held on 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 12/2 \$1,132.00

Number of envelopes used = 64

Can you do more for God ?

Annual Christmas Ham Drawing

NEXT Sunday, December 16th after the 8am Mass in Msgr. LaBuda Hall with PARISH Coffee Hour. 10 Holiday Hams will be drawn. Tickets may be returned via the Mail or the Offertory Collection at Sunday Mass anytime. Extra Tickets at the Church Entrances.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16,
18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7;
Lk 3:10-18

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 – Saturday, 12/15/18, 9am. Please join us if you can, as many hands make light work! Refreshments will be provided.

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. Congratulations to our October winners - Barbara Shook (\$146.25), Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vidumsky, (\$87.75), and Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kerekes (\$58.50).

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 -

THIS Wednesday December 12th

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.

Tuesday, December 18th, Leave Holy Ghost 11am,

Lunch, Show at 3pm and Return 7pm Price \$87.00

includes, Bus, Lunch Buffet, Show and Gratuity.

Reservation and payment now being accepted. Call

"Boots" Horwath - 610-867-4839

Holy Ghost Financials

Weekly collection for 12 / 2 = \$2,346.00

Number of envelopes used = 101

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—THIS MONDAY Dec 10, 2018, Jan 14, 2019, Jan 28, 2019 All weather permitting. after the 8am Mass. Volunteers always welcome. Donations of Eggs and Flour always graciously Accepted.

Holy Ghost "MOVIE SERIES"

Presents the Movie "A Walk in my Shoes" THIS Wednesday, December 12th @ 7pm in Billinger Hall . WEATHER PERMITTING.

Stressed out high school teacher TRISH FAHEY cant understand her students lack of effort and why their parents don't seem to care . But this perspective dramatically changes when Trish wrecks her car.

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

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.

Annual Christmas Ham Drawing

NEXT Sunday, December 16th after the 10am Mass in Msgr. Billinger Hall with Coffee and Donuts. 10 Holiday Hams will be drawn. Tickets may be returned via the Mail or the Offertory Collection at Sunday Mass anytime. Extra Tickets at



✠ **OUR WEEK OF GRACE AND PRAYER** ✠
December 8th Vigil Mass

Vigil Mass 3:35pm—Rosary for World Peace, Vocations
(HG) 4:00pm ✠ Health & Blessings on “Boots” Horwath
(INC) 5:30pm ✠ Harry Herman by Eleanor Mesko

SUN. Dec. 9th **2nd Sunday of Advent**

(INC) 8:00AM ✠ Veronica Bacak by Daughters
Roberta , Dorothy and Daughter in Law Nancy

(HG) 10:00am ✠ Living & Deceased of Holy Ghost

LU 12:10pm Mass @ Holy Ghost w Coffee & Donuts

4pm & 8pm Christmas Vespers Packer Memorial Church

Mon. Dec. 10th — Advent Weekday

(HG) 8AM—✠Living & Deceased Incarnation Parish

Tues. Dec.. 11th— St. Damasus I

(HG) 8AM- ✠Agnes Stephan by Cynthis Workman

Thurs. Dec. 13th— St. Lucy

(HG) 8AM ✠ Joseph Kutzera by Wife Sophie & Family

Fri. Dec. 14th St. John of the Cross

(HG) 12 Noon ✠ Rose & William Dresen
by Maureen Dresen

SAT. December 15th **Vigil Mass**

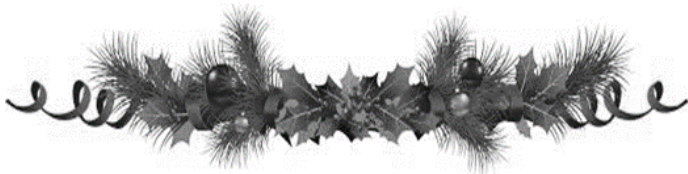
3:35pm—Rosary for World Peace, Vocations
(HG) 4:00pm ✠ Michael Heyer by the Family

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

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

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

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



✠ **DEVOTIONAL LAMPS** ✠
\$10 PER WEEK PLEASE CALL EITHER RECTORY

Devotional Lamps @ Holy Ghost Church
Sanctuary -

In Memory of ✠ Rudy Damhosl

St. John the Hermit -

In Memory of ✠ Vincent “Jimmy” Buragino

B.V.M. -

Health & Blessings on Mary Margaret Koach

St. Joseph—

Special Intention—R. Koach

Sacred Heart

In Memory of ✠ Linda Miller

St. Theresa

Prayer Intentions

Tabernacle-

In Memory of ✠ Rose & William Dresen

St. (Padre) Pio - Our Lady of Pompeii

In Memory of ✠ Russell Bender

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

Living & Deceased Members of
Assembly #78 of the Slovak Cath-
olic Sokols

Blessed Virgin Mary Lamp

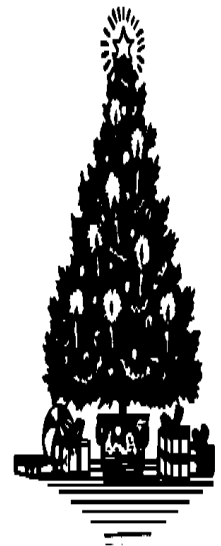
In Memory of ✠ Fr. Bill Reisteter

St. Joseph Lamp

Health & Blessings on
Laura & Erick Macek
on their Mariage

Infant of Prague Lamp-

✠ Special Intention



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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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