



NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH, DURYEA

127 Stephenson Street Tel: 570-457-3502

Fax: 570-451-3341 Office Hours: M-F, 8:30-4:30 unless otherwise noted in bulletin

E-mail: rectory@nativityduryea.org

Web: www.nativityduryea.org



Nativity of Our Lord Duryea

Rev. John V. Polednak, V.E., Pastor

Deacon André Kabacinski, Parish Deacon

Masses: Daily, M-F – 7:00 am • Saturday (Vigil)- 4:00 pm • Sunday- 8:00 am, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

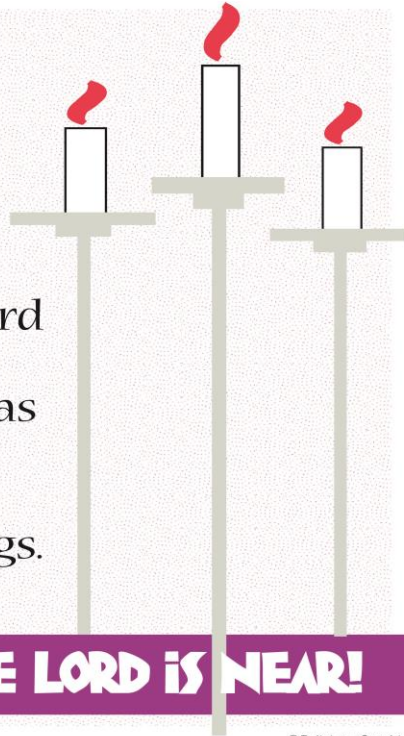
Confession: Daily, M-F~6:40-6:55 am • Saturday- 3:15-3:45 pm, and anytime upon request.



Third Sunday of Advent ❖ December 17, 2017



The Spirit of the Lord
is upon me
because the Lord has
annointed me.
He has sent me
to bring glad tidings.



REJOICE, FOR THE LORD IS NEAR!

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Questions for personal reflection
based on
this Sunday's Readings...

Bringing Joy Through Justice

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole
being shall exult in my God; for he has
clothed me with the garments of salvation.
(Isaiah 61:10)

What work of justice could you do this
week to bring someone joy?

What could you do for someone this week
to make them happy?

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

In the past few weeks, much has been asked of you, parishioners, and a mighty thank you is in order. A very warm thank you to our parishioners who have made so many generous donations to the Tree of Hope, the Memorial Tree



Ornaments; the Women's Society members' donations for the Christmas bags for homebound and nursing home parishioners; those who worked at and supported the Men's Society Breakfast, and as of this weekend, to all those who baked for the Cookie Sale. The generosity shown by so many in the last few weeks is beautiful, and on behalf of all who benefit from this "faith and love in action" we say Thank You. Pictured are members of the Women's Society organizing some of the gifts from the Tree of Hope.

For those of you who have been calling the rectory asking for addresses for Father Sinnott and Father Elston, they are:

Rev. Andrew Sinnott
400 N. Gates Ave. Apt. 2
Kingston, PA 18704

Rev. Joseph Elston
St. Joseph Mareello / St. John the Evangelist Parish
237 William St.
Pittston, PA 18640

**LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND INTENTIONS
FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18-24, 2017**

Mon	18	7:00am 1:00pm	Bernardine Skurla (30-Day--by Family) Advent Prayer Service
Tue	19	7:00am	Madeline Branas (30-Day--by Family)
Wed	20	7:00am	Servie and Michael Squirlock (by Marlene Wodosky)
Thu	21	7:00am	Antoline, Joseph and Regis Duszak (by Family)
Fri	22	7:00am	Frank Kremitske (by Mark and Diane Kremitske)
Sat	23	4:00pm	Florence Skowronski (by Daughter, Joyce and Husband, Ed Jones)
Sunday	24	8:00am	Irene Rostkowski (by Children)
		11:00am	For the Intentions of Our Parishioners
		4:00pm	For the Christmas Intentions of Our Parishioners
		Midnight	For the Christmas Intentions of Our Parishioners
VOTIVE CANDLE OFFERINGS			
Sacred Heart of Jesus		George Cavanaugh (by Wife, Mary Lou and Family)	
Blessed Virgin Mary		Helen and Adam Zuro (by Mary Ann Krenitsky)	
St. Joseph		Tom Skowronski (by Daughter, Joyce and Husband, Ed Jones)	

Other Activities/Events

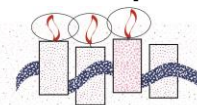
This Week:

Saturday December 16 -
Cookie Sale

Sunday December 17 -
Cookie Sale
CCD Christmas Pageant, 9:45 am
Christmas Caroling~~~
Meet at 3:30 in the Sacred Heart Lot
Confessions: 5:45-6:45pm

Tuesday December 19 -
Lenten Food Sale Meeting, 7:00pm(SHH)

Wednesday -
Confessions: 3:30-4:30 pm
Children's Choir 5:15pm
Senior Choir, 6:30 pm
Confessions: 6:30-7:30 pm



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~ FINANCES AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP ~

for the weekend of December 9-10, 2017

\$3,283.25 Sunday; \$666 Secondary; \$213 Loose; \$791 Immaculate Conception; \$195.02 ICC Loose;
\$563.50 Retirement Fund for Religious/Diocesan Priests

Online Giving: \$225 Sunday; \$3 Secondary; \$50 Immaculate Conception; \$3 Sol. Of Mary; \$40 Retirement Fund for Religious;
\$10 Cemetery



LOAVES AND FISHES December: Non-Dairy Creamer

PARISH CAMPAIGN - Please consider making your gift today! Thank you to those parishioners who have responded so far to the next phase of work here at Nativity.

BLESSING OF HOMES

Father Polednak is continuing the custom of the Blessing of Homes after Christmas. Consider making this custom a part of your January to start the year off right, especially those in new or remodeled homes. If you wish a home visit, please indicate such on the reply form below and return it by December 25. The Blessing of a Home is a blessing for the structure, but more importantly for those who dwell there. Ideally, everyone is home when the blessing takes place, though this is sometimes impossible. Please indicate what a good time for the visit is – this will be taken into account as Father is making the schedule.

BLESSING OF HOMES 2018

Name _____ Phone _____ or _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Day/Times that might work best: Weekdays AM or PM _____

Saturday Morning

Sunday Afternoon



PARISH CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE after all the Masses this weekend in the church hall. Homemade cookies of all varieties will be available for purchase right in time for the Christmas holidays.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM We welcome to the Church Ruby Jae Romanczuk who is being baptized Saturday, December 16. As she receives her new life in Christ in the Sacrament of Baptism, may the Lord Jesus fill her with many graces and blessings all through her Christian life. We extend our parish best wishes and congratulations to her, her parents and family on this happy occasion!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS--All parishioners are invited to the Religious Education Christmas Show today (Sunday) in the School Auditorium starting at 9:55 am. Light refreshments will be served afterward in the school cafeteria. Today is the final class until Sunday, January 7.

There will be a **MEETING** to plan for the **LENTEN FOOD SALE** on Tuesday at 7:00 pm in Sacred Heart Hall. All those interested in lending a hand are invited to attend.

The **GIFT CERTIFICATES** that support Holy Rosary and our other Diocesan schools will be available on Thursday from 8:00-10:00 a.m. in the Holy Rosary Church Hall.

BOLD CHOICES RETREAT (*Finding Your Passion and Living It Fully*) Join us for a young adult (18-35) retreat at Saint Gabriel's Retreat Center, Clarks Summit January 5-6. The 24-hour retreat will include presentations and interactive sessions on prayer, making choices based in faith, finding your passion, the art of discernment, small group discussion & more. Cost is \$65.00. For more information and/or to register, visit vocations.dioceseofscranton.org or call 570-207-1452.

SPONSORSHIP REQUESTED If you are in a financial position to sponsor the tickets for our Spring Raffle, by name or anonymously, please see Father or Mr. Tighe.

'Tis the Season...

You Are Cordially Invited to come Christmas Carolling!!!

For the past few years, members of our parish music ministry have gone Christmas Caroling to spread Christmas Cheer at a few area retirement and nursing homes. This year, as requested, we invite any individuals or families interested to come along. Taking a Sunday afternoon, and visiting with residents, singing, and enjoying each other's company is a great way to add to your holiday season. Carollers will meet today (Sunday) at 3:30 pm in the Sacred Heart parking lot. Songbooks will be provided, and no experience is necessary. We hope to see you there!



ITEMS FOR THE END OF 2017... AND BEGINNING OF 2018

- **BLESSED CHRISTMAS WAFERS (Opłatek)** for use at your Christmas dinners and celebrations are available after Masses throughout the Advent season. We hope you can keep this tradition alive in your homes. A donation of at least \$2 is asked to cover the cost of the wafers, and shipping and handling.
- **CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS** There are Confessions today (Sunday) 5:45-6:45pm and Wednesday, December 20, 3:30-4:30 pm and 6:30-7:30 pm. A complete Christmas and New Year's Schedule was included in your Christmas letter - see below.
- **2018 PARISH CALENDARS** are available. Please take one calendar per home; additional calendars may be taken after New Year's. Thank you very much to the Piontek Funeral Home for their donation of the calendars!
- A **PARISH LETTER** with the Christmas/New Year's Schedule has been mailed. Please read it carefully for the times in which Masses will be celebrated and confessions heard. If you did not receive a letter, your census information may not be up to date. Please call the office to make adjustments.
- **CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES FOR 2018**—Children's boxed sets are available for pick-up in Church.

Children who have been using their envelopes will receive them again this year (2018). Children whose parents give for the family, or those children who haven't used their envelopes, will not be provided with envelopes for 2018, so as not to be wasteful and provide envelopes to children who are not in a habit of using them. We understand that some families have begun adding their child's offering to their own adult contribution, and to be sure, each and every gift to the parish is appreciated, yet there is cause for a little concern. The practice of providing a child with a few quarters or dollar or so to place in their own envelope, and then place it in the basket seems to be declining. Please remember, the purpose for providing children's envelopes is not necessarily to bolster our parish income, but rather to teach children in a real way the need to provide for the church. Anyone who wishes to begin anew with your child and the use of offertory envelopes may call the office anytime. Thank you.



STORY HOUR at the Duryea Borough Building on Wednesday, January 3, at 6:30 pm. The January "celebrity" reader will be the students of Rothrock's Kung Fu and Tai Chi. The students will also give a short demonstration. My Little Library can be found in front of the borough building on Main Street and in front of the Community Park on Stephenson Street. It is a "take a book - give a book" for children up to 8th grade reading level.



This Bulletin is printed in Loving Memory of...



John A., Theresa and John Adamiak Jr.	Alfred & Judith Akulonis, Sr.	Frank and Helen Amantea	Jean Marie Ambrosavage Mary Louise Bomber	Peter and Victoria Biga	Thomas and Stella Blasco
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