

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

Sun Dec 17	Third Sunday of Advent
	9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
	6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 10 & 11
Mon Dec 18	7:00 PM Penance Service
Tues Dec 19	6:10 PM Bingo
	7:00 PM Legion of Mary
Wed Dec 20	5:00-6:00 PM Pro-Life Rosary
Thurs Dec 21	9:00-11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration
Fri Dec 22	6:10 PM Bingo
Sun Dec 24	Fourth Sunday of Advent



Monday, Dec. 18

8:30 a.m.

†Clair J. Lockard (*Tab & Julia Scarfone*)

Tuesday, Dec. 19

8:30 a.m.

†Mary Jo Sutton (*Sue & Ray Askey*)

Wednesday, Dec. 20

8:30 a.m.

†Eleanor Watters (*Carolyn Sylvester*)

Thursday, Dec. 21 St. Peter Canisius

8:30 a.m.

†Lisa Shank (*Cousin, Pamela*)

Friday, Dec. 22

8:30 a.m.

†Duane Eichenlaub (*Patty & Jerry Martini*)

Saturday, Dec. 23 St. John of Kanty

4:00p.m.

†Mary Merlini (*M/M Robert Aprile*)

Sunday, Dec. 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. †Brenda Parrish

10:30 a.m. †Michael McGraw (*Wife & Sons*)

12 Noon Mass For the People

MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 23, 2017

4:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: Elizabeth Yahner, Abby Yahner, Erin Yahner

Eucharistic Ministers: Viola Bettwy, Bernice Shoenfelt, James Shoenfelt, Nikki Solimando, Matthew Yahner

Readers: John Donley, Ellen Rahm

Sunday, December 24, 2017

8:00 a.m.

Servers: Marin Cooney, Matthew Neumeyer, Elias Wesner

Eucharistic Ministers: Delores Cree, Mary Engelman, Mary Lou Horton, James Trexler, Linda Zakrzwski

Readers: Paul Cooney, Shawn Wesner

10:30 a.m.

Servers: Allison Bagley, Eva Bagley, Volunteer

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Woomer, Gina Goss, Thomas Goss, Kimberly Irwin, Kathryn Nazaruk

Readers: Patrick Irwin, Michael Nazaruk

12:00 Noon

Servers: Kaytlin Jones, Noah Trexler, Caleb Trexler

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Woomer, Johnine Mueller, Ronald Skupien

Readers: Volunteers

PASTOR'S CORNER

CHRISTMAS MASS

The Combined Adult Choir will offer a music prelude beginning at 11:30 p.m. for the Christmas Midnight Mass. Selections will be accompanied by brass, woodwinds, and percussion.

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS:

Christmas Eve-5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve-7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve-Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.

Ministers are still needed for several of our Christmas Masses. If you know you are going to be at a particular Mass, please consider volunteering on the sheet on the foyer table.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING-DEC. 9-10, 2017

Regular	\$8234.54	Christmas	\$ 98.00
Capital Campaign	\$ 21.00	Immac.Concep.	\$ 847.00
Religions Retire.	\$ 673.00	Christmas Flow	\$ 559.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 188.70	Total	\$10626.24

OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 23	4:00 p.m.	Volunteers
Dec. 24	8:00 a.m.	Mary Engelman
	10:30 a.m.	Tom & Gina Goss
	Noon	Volunteers

Deacon Jim's "A Moment with Our Lady"

In the sixteenth century, the bishop of Lamego, of Portugal, commissioned from Rome an image of The Virgin who remedies all evils. He placed it in a chapel he had built over an older chapel dedicated to Saint Stephen, which is gone today. The devotion to "Our Lady of Remedies" kept growing, and in the 18th century a majestic church was dedicated to her.

Every year, from late August to mid-September, the city of Lamego holds a festival combining the feast of the city and the "Pilgrimage of Portugal" in honor of its patron saint. On the days that precede the pilgrimage, there is a show of lights with grand floral parade floats.

The Procession of Triumph is the most symbolic moment of the entire festival. With the Holy See's special permission, a large float carrying the image of Our Lady of Remedies is transported on a cart pulled by oxen, making Lamego the only place in the Catholic world where an image of the Virgin is conveyed by animals.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Any parishioner that would like a Christmas Flower on the altar dedicated for a loved one is asked to use your Christmas Flower Envelope or use a plain envelope. Kindly drop the envelope in the collection basket by December 17. Please print your remembrances.

CANDLES: Special Intention by Jeanne Traficante, Cindy Lascoli-Speedy Recovery by Jeanne Traficante,

AREA RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Sun. Dec 17 4:00 p.m. St. Mary's, Hollidaysburg
Wed. Dec. 20 6:30 p.m. Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament
Thurs. Dec. 21 5:30 p.m. Sacred Heart

Our Parish Reconciliation Service is Monday, December 18, 7:00 p.m. The priests also will hear individual confessions following the 8:30 a.m. Mass Tuesday, December 19 and Wednesday, December 20.

THERE WILL BE NO CCD CLASSES ON DECEMBER 24 AND DECEMBER 31. CLASSES WILL RESUME ON JANUARY 7.

CHURCH DECORATING

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Saturday, December 23 at 10:00 a.m.

End-of-the-Year Charitable Giving-Ease your tax burden while benefitting St. Rose of Lima!

In a year when the investment markets have helped to grow investment portfolios, please consider the benefits of charitable giving to St. Rose of Lima.

Here are two important ways to help your church:

1. **Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA:**

If you are over age 70½, you may transfer, tax-free, up to \$100,000 from your IRAs to St. Rose of Lima. The gift can satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) each year, but does not count as income to you! This can be a great way to make a gift to St. Rose of Lima, and enjoy the tax benefits. When the transfer is processed directly to St. Rose of Lima, you do not pay taxes on the distribution. The requirements are relatively simple. The charitable distribution must be:

- A distribution from a traditional IRA
- Paid directly from the IRA trustee/custodian to St. Rose of Lima. Contact your IRA Trustee or Custodian for paperwork to process this distribution directly to St. Rose of Lima.
- The IRA owner must be age 70½ or older.
- Must be completed now to qualify for 2017 tax benefits for the donor.

If you already taken your RMD for this year, keep this gifting strategy in mind for next year!

2. **Donation of Appreciated stock or mutual funds:**

If you have shares of stock or mutual funds that have grown in value over the years, or low basis stock, consider gifting the shares to St. Rose, rather than giving cash. At the time of the donation you get a tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the stock, and avoid paying the capital gains on the shares donation.

To get the process started, please contact Fr. Brian.

ADVENT TREE

The ornaments on our Advent Tree, located in the foyer of the church remind us of our homebound parishioners. We have tied with each ornament a card that has the name, address and phone number of a homebound parishioner. Untie the card and arrange an “Advent through Christmas time” visit with the named person. You may want to learn whether having a green thumb or being free of diet restrictions is a consideration for your gift. Friendly conversations grow friendship and have zero calories and are specially enriched with the love-the-Spirit that brought Jesus to visit all of us.

ANGEL TREE

You are invited to take one of the angels from the table next to the tree in the foyer and write your own petition on it. The angel can be placed on the tree so that we can pray for you.

FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL

December 17

John 1:6-8,19-28

Today’s gospel reports “there is one among you whom you do not recognize.” It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don’t start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, “The Lord is with you,” are not a hope, they are a fact.

The Friar’s Nook Gift Shop—Christmas Happenings

Celebrate the Christmas season by receiving 20% off your entire purchase at The Friar’s Nook Gift Shop December 17th-23rd. The Friar’s Nook is located across from St. Bernadine Monastery at 793 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg.

Take the stress out of your Christmas cookie prep work by stopping at The Friar’s Nook Gift Shop on Wednesday, December 20th to purchase home-made Christmas cookie trays! There will be a variety of both traditional and ethnic cookies, so stop out early.

ANTIPHONS

The final seven days before Christmas Eve, the church calls us to cry for the coming of Jesus with special poems for each day. These poems may be said with our meal prayer or as part of our night prayer.

Dec. 17—O Wisdom, who issued from the mouth of the Most High reaching from beginning to end. Ordering all things mightily but tenderly, Come teach us the way of prudence.

Dec. 18—O Lord of Lords and leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the bush's flaming fire and give to him the Law of Sinai, Come to redeem us with stretched-out arms.

Dec. 19—O Root of Jesse, a standard to the peoples before whom all kings are made, to whom all nations shall appeal, Come to deliver us; delay, please, no longer.

Dec. 20—O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one dares shut, you shut and no one dares open, Come deliver those who are imprisoned in darkness.

Dec. 21— O Rising Dawn, redeem of eternal light and Son of Justice, Come, enlighten those sitting in darkness.

Dec. 22— O King of Nations and our deserved one, you the cornerstone, Come and save us whom you created.

Dec. 23—O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver. You are the one for whom we wait. Come to save us, O Lord, our God

LITURGICAL REFLECTION...

We await the coming of the eternal Word of God. When a believer dies we find comfort and consolation in the word of God, the Holy Scriptures. Death may fill the Christian with fears and questions. Scripture firmly grounds us in the faith that death is not the end, that the promise made at baptism assures us that we who have died with Christ in the waters of baptism remain with the Lord into eternal life. The word of God assures us that death, a result of sin, does not have power over one claimed for Christ.

Order of Christian Funerals, 1998-1989, General Introduction, Numbers 2 and 4.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL EVENTS

Holy Trinity Catholic School-Hollidaysburg Campus-will visit St. Leonard's on Monday, December 18th to share the joy of Christmas in song to the residents.

Join Holy Trinity for our weekly student Mass. Location and times are as follows: Altoona Campus every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Hollidaysburg Campus, Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. Middle School Campus on Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

Calling all BINGO players-St. Rose has a Bingo program that supports Holy Trinity Students! Please come and support a good cause and try your luck! Bingo nights are Tuesday and Friday. Doors open at 5 p.m. with early bird games at 6:10 p.m. -regular games start 7 p.m.

For more information about Holy Trinity Catholic School please visit: www.holytrinitycatholic.school. For up-to-date information and to see what our school has been doing-check us out and like us on Facebook!

Week 3—JOY

Shepherd's Candle

Verse: Luke 2: 7-15

Reminds us of the joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

Prayer:

O Lord, we beg you, incline your ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of your visitation. Who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

