

The Corporal Works of Mercy are drawn from the 25th Chapter of the gospel of Matthew. Feed the hungry, Give drink to the thirsty, Clothe the naked, Shelter the homeless, Visit the sick, Visit the imprisoned, Bury the dead. Each of us can consider how we wish to recommit ourselves to the merciful care of others.

#### PASTORAL STAFF:

- •Msgr. Michael Becker- mbecker253@aol.com
- •Deacon Gene Neral- gene@lifeinfocus.net
- •Ms. Tabatha Griffin- stjohnprincipal@atlanticbb.net
- •Mr. Mark Krepich-RCIA & Parish Council President-mark.krepich@gmail.com
- •Mrs. Deb Johnson-Music Director- dj219@msn.com
- •Mr. Bill & Mrs. Norma Foose-Stephen Ministrynorma.foose@yahoo.com
- •Mrs. Lindsay Reffner- Admin. Assistantstjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net
- •Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli- Business Managerstjohnchurch@atlanticbb.net
- Mrs. Mary Haenig- Religious Education Dirmshaenig@gmail.com
- •Mrs. Mary Petrak- Confirmationmfpetrak@hotmail.com
- •Mr. Ken Dunmire, Maintenance

## UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Dec. 27th- Brunch for feast of St. John the Evangelist February 6- Mardi Gras Party May 14th- Love Feast

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

309 LOTZ AVE

DECEMBER 20, 2015 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### ACOLYTES:

Sat. Dec. 26- 4:00PM– Julie Resick, Rachel Resick Sun. Dec. 27- 8:00AM– Nate Rudolph, Amber Yasolsky Sun. Dec. 27- 11:00AM– Patrick Donoughe, Matthew Woolridge Thurs. Dec. 31–4:00PM– Piper Brunhuber, Nick Rasmussen Fri Jan. 1– 10:00AM– Cassandra Crevecoeur

#### LECTORS:

Sat. Dec. 26-4:00PM– Matt Michelone, Maria Spayd Sun. Dec. 27-8:00AM– Ron Adams, Tom Robison Sun. Dec. 27-11:00AM– Richard Consiglio, Patrick Schurr Thurs. Dec. 31–4:00PM– Joe Klobuka, Heather Nackley Fri Jan. 1–10:00AM– Bob Olson, Susanna Tomlinson

#### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

Sat. Dec. 26-4:00PM- Connie Baker, Kathleen Heller, Not Filled, Not Filled

Sun. Dec. 27- 8:00AM- Cora Bacon, Francene Boland
Sun. Dec. 27- 11:00AM- Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom, Ginger Cooney, Ken Gorman, Bob Olson, Jo-Ann Semko
Thurs. Dec. 31-4:00PM- Not Filled, Francene Boland
Fri Jan. 1-10:00AM- Barb Bundy, Not Filled

#### **MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:**

Sat. Dec. 26-4:00PM-Peg Madden, Christine Stachmus, Denny Stachmus, Bill Sweet

Sun. Dec. 27- 8:00AM-John Becker, Jane Becker, Mary Grace Horton, Mike O'Neill

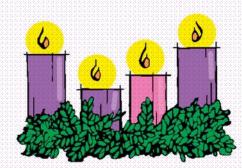
Sun. Dec. 27-11:00AM- Marilyn Bevan, Lou Ann Clark, Patrick Podoletz

Thurs. Dec. 31–4:00PM–Kathleen Heller, Fran Semelsberger, Wally Wargo, Dorothy Yingling

Fri Jan. 1–10:00AM-Gloria Banks, Daniel Roberts, Judy Roberts, Judy Sneath

#### Sacristan:

Sat. Dec. 26-4:00PM- Mary King, Ray King
Sun. Dec. 27-8:00AM- Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Dec. 27-11:00AM- Barb Bundy
Thurs. Dec. 31-4:00PM- Kathleen Heller
Fri Jan. 1-10:00AM- Michele DeFrancisco



Christmas Mass Schedule: Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at 4:00PM, Midnight Mass at 12:00AM, and our Christmas Morning Mass at 10:00AM.

#### **A Few Words from the Pastor:**

# Christmas Mass Schedule: Christmas Eve Mass will be celebrated at 4:00PM, Midnight Mass at 12:00AM, and our Christmas Morning Mass at 10:00AM.

**Family Life Calendars for 2015** - We are blessed to have such an active Family Life Office in our diocese, which has for many years made available a beautiful calendar. These are available now in the Gathering Space.

**Our Next Bus Trip: The Pennsylvania Farm Show** – We've all seen it on TV, but there is nothing like an actual visit to the PA Farm Show! Mark your calendars for **Thursday, January 14.** Pennsylvania hosts the largest indoor agricultural exposition in the nation, with nearly 6,000 animals, 10,000 competitive exhibits and 300 commercial exhibits. This will be the 100<sup>th</sup> annual Farm Show! There is no cost for admission, with an amazing food court to satisfy all your culinary desires! The cost for transportation is only \$40 for adults, and our school children will travel free. Sign up now in the Gathering Space!

Matching Grant of \$15,000 - Our parish has received a generous matching grant of \$15,000! To receive this grant, we must match it. All in the parish will receive a letter to this effect, inviting your response. Because this grant is earmarked for the 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal, all donations will be are exempt from the usual diocesan tax on income. Please be generous! When we reach \$15,000, our gifts double in value! This End of the Year Appeal will be most helpful in enabling us to keep a balanced budget! Our heartfelt gratitude for all that you are able to do! We have received \$10,564.00.

**Apostleship of Prayer** - We make available again this year the calendar of Papal Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer for 2016. With a vision of the church which is much broader than our own, Pope Francis invites us each month to pray for a General Intention and also for a Missionary Intention. We ask that you keep these special needs of our world in your daily prayer!

Confessions Wednesday - Confessions will be heard on Wednesday evening from 5:00 until 5:45. This will be the last opportunity for individual confessions before Christmas.

**Choir Concert an Amazing Witness** – Our annual Choir Concert was a great success, and a wonderful witness to the truest meaning of Christmas: God-With-Us, first heralded by the heavenly choirs of angels! Congratulations to Debbie Johnson and to the many instrumentalists and singers who made it such a glorious and inspiring evening!

**Christmas Flowers!** - Many thanks to all who donated for the beautiful poinsettias which adorn the sanctuary. Next week we will publish the complete listing of all who contributed, as well as their special intentions!

# December Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis

Experiencing God's Mercy
That all may experience the mercy
of God, who never tires of forgiving.

#### **Families**

That families, especially those who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

#### **Parish Pastoral Council**

Minutes-- Please note that the minutes from each parish council meeting are published for all parishioners to review. These are posted on the STJOHNSWEB.NET church website under Committees > Parish Council Minutes. Printed copies are available under the parish council member photos on the left kiosk in the gathering space. The minutes publication is delayed one month so that they may approved by the council at the following meeting before general distribution.

On *Sunday, December 27th* there will be a brunch served between the morning Masses in honor of our patron saint, St. John the Evangelist. Since the feast falls on a Sunday this year, the liturgy will reflect the Sunday worship. Watch for a sign-up sheet on a kiosk in the gathering space. Thank you

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Dec 20th K-8 grade religious ed 9:15-10:45am Dec 27-Jan3 NO CLASS- Merry Christmas

Congratulations to our 11 second graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this past Saturday!

# CONFIRMATION:

# All Confirmation Candidates: Sunday, Dec. 20th, 5:00-8:00

We will meet in the cafeteria for our group service project followed by a Christmas party. At 5:00 we will deliver cookies and fruit baskets, followed by food and fun in the cafeteria.

**Saturday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>:** 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and a parent will meet in the cafeteria from 9:00 – 1:00 for a Baptism Retreat.

**Sunday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>:** 10<sup>th</sup> grade students have a Confirmation session, 10:45 – 2:15

Take a Break from Winter: If you would like to enjoy Caribbean warmth for a week this winter, join us on a trip to Sts. Peter and Paul in Haiti. Approximate dates are January 27 to February 3, 2016. Accommodations are comfortable and the food is very good. No special skills are required; just a willingness to be present to our Haitian brothers and sisters, but if you have some sewing, knitting, crocheting knowledge we can use your help.

Two veterinarians, Matt Stachmus and Shawn Orczeck, will continue their work from last year.

Cost is the airfare and personal travel expenses. Tetanus and hepatitis shots are required. Malaria prevention pills and antibiotics can be prescribed by your doctor.

If you have even the smallest interest to join us, please get in touch with Monsignor Becker or Mary Lee Madigan-Davis, 931-2651, mlmdcreek@aol.com

#### **Angel Tree Bulletin Announcement 2015**

The Angel Tree was able to help 19 families for Christmas 2015 because of your incredible generosity.

In this Year of Mercy our families were extremely grateful and ask me to share their gratitude for your many gifts.

This parish continues to share time, talent and resources in ways that go above and beyond anything that one could ask. You are truly angels doing God work.

To all those who purchased food and gifts, wrapped, delivered, and made gifts for those who were in need, thank you and may God bless you this Christmas and all through the New Year.

Angel Tree Coordinators, Susanna Tomlinson and Ron Adams

### Stewardship at St. John's

#### OFFERTORY for December 13, 2015

Loose: \$481.00 Envelope: \$5,910.00 Children's: \$3.00

Parish Development: \$35.00
Catholic Charities: \$40.00
Christmas Offering: 75.00
Christmas Flowers: 305.00
Retirement for Religious: 698.00

Total: \$7,547.00

Online Giving: \$1,925.00

TOTAL: \$9,472.00

**Immaculate Conception: \$1,037.50** 

### ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

December 19th-Jan. 3rd: NO SCHOOL MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!

> Jan. 4th: School Resume ++++++++++++++++

## St. John the Evangelist School Scrip Program

Cash Receipts and Disbursements Report For the Five Months Ending November 2015

#### **Receipts**

Inventory Sales \$252,926.20 PrestoPay profit \$ 460.65 \$253,386.85

#### **Disbursements**

Purchases \$ 247,528.02 School Subsidy \$ 12,500.00 Credit Card Fees \$ 444.44 Other Misc. Exp 20.70 \$ 260,493.16

Excess of Receipts over Disbursements \$(7,106.31) Cash Balance as of 10/31/2015 \$5,758.03 Inventory @ Market Value \$34,763.00 Loan From Church \$10,000.00

Any questions, please call Matt & Alicia Reilly at 943-6875.

\*\*SCRIP WILL NOT BE SOLD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST.

#### Sunday, December 20, 2015 SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

#### Sun. Dec. 20th-4th Sunday in Advent

8:00AM- Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by John Prosperi

11:00AM-Mass for People of the Parish 6:30PM - Lectionary Based Faith Sharing

#### Mon. Dec. 21st- Advent

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:15AM- Morning Prayer

8:30AM- Mass for *Peggy Harber* requested by Rich & Joyce Lowe

#### Tues. Dec. 22nd- Late Advent Weekday

7:30AM- Eucharistic Adoration

8:15AM- Morning Prayer

8:30AM- Mass for Dante Capriotti requested by Rich & Barb Luckner

#### Wed. Dec 23rd- Late Advent Weekday

5:00PM- Confessions

6:00PM- Mass for *Leo & Cecelia Long* requested by Bill & Dee Schmerbeck

#### Thurs. Dec. 24th-Vigil of Nativity of the Lord 4:00PM- Mass for People of the Parish MIDNIGHT- Mass for People of the Parish

#### Friday Dec. 25th- Nativity of the Lord 10:00AM- Mass for People of the Parish

#### Sat. Dec. 26th-Vigil of 5th Sunday in Advent

3:00PM-Confessions

4:00PM- Mass for *Joseph Aungst Sr.* requested by Family

#### Sun. Dec. 27th-5th Sunday in Advent

8:00AM- Mass for *People of the Parish* 

11:00AM-Mass for Lena Colyer requested by Dan & Patty Rebar

6:30PM - Lectionary Based Faith Sharing

#### **Weekday Readings**

Mon. Dec. 21- Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45

Tues. Dec. 22-1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

Wed. Dec. 23- Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Thurs. Dec. 24-2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

Fri. Dec. 25- Is 9:5, Is 52:7-10/16, Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14