

**ST. JOHN THE
EVANGELIST CHURCH**
309 LOTZ AVE

**JANUARY 3, 2016
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

PASTORAL STAFF:

- **Msgr. Michael Becker**- mbecker253@aol.com
- **Deacon Gene Neral**- gene@lifeinfocus.net
- **Ms. Tabatha Griffin**- stjohncatholic@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 Ministry- norma.foose@yahoo.com
- **Mrs. Lindsay Reffner**- Admin. Assistant- stjohncatholic@atlanticbb.net
- **Mrs. Mary Ann Mirobelli**- Business Manager- stjohncatholic@atlanticbb.net
- **Mrs. Mary Haenig**- Religious Education Dir- mshaenig@gmail.com
- **Mrs. Mary Petrak**- Confirmation- mfpetrak@hotmail.com
- **Mr. Ken Dunmire**, Maintenance



The Geishauer family lighting the advent candle. (Greg, Regina, Sarah, Luke & Kathleen)

APPOINTMENTS

ACOLYTES:

- Sat. Jan. 9. - 4:00PM- Ryan Donoughe, Jack Donoughe
- Sun. Jan. 10- 8:00AM- Zoey Landeck, Nate Rudolph
- Sun. Jan. 10- 11:00AM- Nathan Ringkamp, Kaelab Ruggles

LECTORS:

- Sat. Jan. 9. - 4:00PM- David Petrak, Mary Petrak
- Sun. Jan. 10- 8:00AM- Ron Adams, Fran Semelsberger
- Sun. Jan. 10- 11:00AM- Bill Foose, Norma Foose

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

- Sat. Jan. 9. - 4:00PM- Barb Aubrey, Connie Baker, John Lloyd, Bill Stokan
- Sun. Jan. 10- 8:00AM- Joyce Cunningham, Mary Truesdale
- Sun. Jan. 10- 11:00AM- Walter Bloom, Cecelia Bloom, Barb Bundy, Ginger Cooney, Bob Olson, Steve Wilson

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:

- Sat. Jan. 9. - 4:00PM- Lori Ginter, Bill Sweet, Dorothy Yingling, Hedy Zumsteg
- Sun. Jan. 10- 8:00AM- Helen Miller, Darlene Scarpaci, Dan Turcovsky, Diane Turcovsky
- Sun. Jan. 10- 11:00AM- Marilyn Bevan, Dee Capriotti, Lou Ann Clark, Wally Wargo

Sacristan:

- Sat. Jan. 9. - 4:00PM- Bill Sweet
- Sun. Jan. 10- 8:00AM- Michele DeFrancisco, Darlene Scarpaci
- Sun. Jan. 10- 11:00AM- Marilyn Bevan

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UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

February 6- Mardi Gras Party
May 14th- Love Feast

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A MOMENT OF MERCY - LOVING FATHER, we pray that you provide your divine protection to all migrants, particularly those who are driven from their homes due to war or violence, who are uprooted due to environmental degradation and climate change, or whose material poverty pushes them to find opportunities elsewhere. Show us how we might reach out to these vulnerable populations and help them to begin a new life in a new home. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Few Words from the Pastor:

Many, Many Thanks! Our celebration of the Nativity of the Lord was splendid, made even more so by the choir, those who decorated the church, and all those who exercised liturgical ministries for the feast. Many thanks as well to those who purchased flowers for the altar. Our poinsettias were the most beautiful in memory. May the spirit of the season remain with us throughout the New Year!

Our Gratitude to Father Carl – We so much appreciate the assistance which our Franciscan brother Father Carl Vacek provides while I am away on retreat. Father Carl also ministers as part-time chaplain at the Veterans Hospital.

Sheltering the Homeless – The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops invites us to observe *National Migration Week*, beginning today, January 3, and continuing to the January 9. The theme for this year is “*I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*” More than four million refugees have fled Syria and the surrounding region since 2010, with most taking shelter in surrounding countries. Many thousands have died in the process; countless others struggle with the daily ritual of just trying to survive. This is the largest migration since World War II. We pray as well for the unaccompanied children who have come to America from Mexico and Central America. In this Year of Mercy, we pray and are urged to extend our hospitality to those who come to us seeking shelter from the ravages of war and poverty. To welcome the stranger is to welcome Christ.

Adult Ed to Resume – Beginning next Sunday, our Sunday morning Adult Ed will begin a bible study of St. Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. This letter of Paul will be read each Sunday up until the beginning of Lent. All are encouraged to bring your bible. All are most welcome!

Praying for Christian Unity – Later this month, from January 18-25, we will be observing the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. There has never been a time in our history when Christian need to be united and speaking with one voice, especially in the face of persecutions in the Middle East and in response to the rampant materialism in our own culture. This is an urgent mission for Pope Francis, as it should be for all of us!

Easter Comes Early This Year – The celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection comes very early in 2016, on the 27th of March. Easter is a movable feast in the Christian calendar, the date of which was determined by the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. At this council it was established that **Easter** would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the spring equinox. The Orthodox churches follow the same rule. However, they follow the Julian Calendar and the Western church follows the Gregorian Calendar. This year the Orthodox Easter will be on May 1st.

Kudos to our Youth Ministry! – The Sunday before Christmas the teens of our parish participated in an outreach to the homebound, delivering fruit baskets and cookies along with the warmth of friendship! Special gratitude to Jim and Stephanie Krug who spearhead this annual event, and to Mary Petrak and so many other adults who assisted in accompanying our young people on these home visits!

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 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 \$12,525.00 from 46 donors.**

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January

Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis

Interreligious Dialogue

That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice

Christian Unity

That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.

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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 100th 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!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

January 9th- Classes will Resume

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CONFIRMATION:

All Confirmation Candidates:

Saturday, Jan. 9th: 9th grade students and a parent will meet in the cafeteria from 9:00 - 1:00 for a Baptism Retreat.

Sunday, Jan. 10th: 10th grade students have a Confirmation session, 10:45 - 2:15

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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

Liturgical Reflection: The appearance of the Light of the world leads all to acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the nations. As the Collect for today's Mass prays, "O God who revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we...may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory." Through the mercy of God, believers are brought into the realm of mystery and faith. The Eternal Word is present among us. Wise men and women seek to follow the light of God's Word.

Stewardship at St. John's

OFFERTORY for December 20, 2015

Loose: \$444.00
Envelope: \$6,131.50
Children's: \$3.00
Parish Development: \$95.00
Solemnity of Mary: \$50.00
Christmas Offering: \$777.00
Christmas Flowers: \$30.00
Retirement for Religious: \$100.00
Total: \$7,640.50
Online Giving: \$1,983.00
TOTAL: \$9,623.50

*Flowers were placed in the sanctuary,
at Christmas,
"In Memory/Honor Of":*

Stephen Romerowicz requested by Mrs.
Olga Romerowicz

Deceased family members of Fred & Donna
Fornwalt

Marion Nagle requested by Barb Nagle

St. John the Evangelist School Scrip Program

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

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

Jan. 4th: School Resume

Jan. 11th-15th– Dibels Testing

Jan. 12th– Officer Phil K-2nd

Jan. 14th– Farm Show 3rd-6th

Jan. 15th– No School– In-Service

Jan. 18th– No School– Martin Luther

King

LOST KEYS: THERE WERE KEYS FOUND IN THE CAFETERIA DURING CHEESEBALLS. THEY ARE BMW KEYS WITH A SHEETZ CARD AND THREE OTHER KEYS. PLEASE STOP BY THE OFFICE.

OTHER NEWS:

Star of the Sea Council 4245, Hollidaysburg, will hold its Free Throw Championship on **January 23, 2016** from 1200-200pm at St. Patrick's Gym in Newry. REGISTRATION 1200-1230pm. Competition is free but donations of non-perishable food item for local food bank is encouraged. Open to boys and girls 7-14 as of Jan. 1, 2016. Must bring proof of age. May only participate in one council competition. Awards for all age groups. Questions of pre-register by calling Dennis Dombrosky at 695-1509 or email at dinopapt@aol.com.

Sunday, January 3, 2016

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Sun. Jan. 3rd- Epiphany of the Lord

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

Mon. Jan. 4th- Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30AM- Morning Prayer & Communion Service

Tues. Jan. 5th- Saint John Neuman

8:30AM- Morning Prayer & Communion Service

Wed. Jan. 6th- Christmas Weekday

6:00PM- Evening Prayer & Communion Service

Thurs. Jan. 7th- Christmas Weekday

8:30AM- Morning Prayer & Communion Service

Friday Jan. 8th- Christmas Weekday

8:30AM- Morning Prayer & Communion Service

Sat. Jan. 9th- Vigil for Baptism of the Lord

3:00PM- Confessions

4:00PM- Mass for *Jerry Bowmaster* requested by Tracy &
Bob Miller

Sun. Jan. 10th- Baptism of the Lord

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

11:00AM-Mass for *Annie Johnston* requested by Rita &
Jerry Kibler

6:30PM - Lectionary Based Faith Sharing

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Weekday Readings

Mon. Jan. 4- 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tues. Jan. 5- 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44

Wed. Jan. 6- 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52

Thurs. Jan. 7- 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Lk 4:14-22a

Fri. Jan. 8- 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16

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