



PASTOR'S CORNER

Thanksgiving, Of Course, Is a Way-of-Life

Mass Intentions

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 25, 2017

Saturday – Nov 25th –

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Helen Sidor
by Stephanie and Kathleen Bodnar
7:00PM – Richard Fedor (WA)
by Roma and Family

Sunday – Nov 26th –

8:30AM – Edward J. Ferenchak
by Abby Polchik and Family
10:30AM – Jean R. Danko
by Helen Kennedy

Monday – Nov 27th – St Virgilius

8:00AM – John “Jack” McCarty
by Kathleen and Peggy

Tuesday – Nov 28th – St James of the Marches

8:00AM – Catherine A. Mahon (B)
by Daughter, Barbara Knarr
Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Nov 29th – St Saturninus

6:00PM – David J. Sweeney
by Rose and Bernard Sweeney

Thursday – Nov 30th – St Andrew the Apostle

8:00AM – Marvin Wright
by Patricia Oplinger

Friday – Dec 1st –

St Edmund Campion and Companions

8:00AM – Anna Romanchick
by Kathy McCloskey and Family

Sacred Heart Novena after Mass

Saturday – Dec 2nd – St Bibiana

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

First Sunday of Advent

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Jeanette S. Koncz
by Evelyn Geiger
7:00PM – The Poor Souls in Purgatory
by Irene Vomero

Sunday – Dec 3rd –

8:30AM – Ann and Glen Oswald
by Daughter, Louise
10:30AM – Margaret and Charles McCarty
by Kathleen and Peggy



Pray the Rosary each Sunday
8:15AM and 10:15AM

Greater than the festive holiday traditions which are celebrated as Thanksgiving, a grateful heart is the gift received when we open ourselves to Jesus Christ. And the grateful heart is a way-of-life for his disciples.

Henry David Thoreau wrote:

“I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual. It is surprising how contented one can be with nothing definite - only a sense of existence. Well, anything for variety. I am ready to try this for the next ten thousand years, and exhaust it. How sweet to think of! my extremities well charred, and my intellectual part too, so that there is no danger of worm or rot for a long while. My breath is sweet to me. O how I laugh when I think of my vague indefinite riches. No run on my bank can drain it, for my wealth is not possession but enjoyment.”

But, what if we are concerned that our gratitude is weak or absent: should we wait to give God thanks until we really feel it? Of course not.

Peter Kreeft, in *Prayer for Beginners*, writes: “One moment of prayer, of weak worship, confused contrition, tepid thanksgiving, or pitiful petition will bring us closer to God than all the books of theology in the world.”

That is to say, that *any* gratitude to God brings us closer to God. *Any* gratitude. So why not pause right now and give God thanks.

Dear Lord, thank you for the people of St. John Fisher Parish, for my family and friends, for my dogs, for your faithfulness and mercy...

With unending (even if) imperfect gratitude, Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$3,487.00
 Poverty Relief Collection \$1,000.00

The **Second** Collection next weekend, **December 2nd 3rd**, will be the **Christmas Flowers Collection**.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

4:00PM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	J.Strohl	J.McAllister Deacon Jack
7:00PM	L.Ruda N.Ruda	J.Englert	P.McCarty Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	E.Snyder	J.Druckenmiller Deacon Jack
10:30AM	C.Gair D.Gair	J.DeLong	J.Ottinger Deacon Jack



The Catasauqua Lions is having their Holiday Meal at St Paul's Lutheran Church, 417 Howertown Road on **Saturday, December 2nd, at 12:00 noon.**

This meal is being offered **FREE OF CHARGE** and is open for all seniors who live, attend church, or belong to an organization in the Catasauqua and North Catasauqua area. There is a signup sheet at each church entrance. Please sign up **today!**

SANTA'S WISH-LIST

HO! HO! HO! Christmas has started! We would like to thank the **Slovak Ladies Society** for their gift of **\$3,000.00**. Any Santa gift made to the ongoing renovations of our parish is greatly appreciated!

Help from Our Retired People

I am looking for retired people from our parish to reach out to our home bound parishioners. We have people that need rides to doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, some minor house cleaning and just someone to visit them. Whatever you are comfortable doing for others would be appreciated. Please call Deacon Jack at 610-266-0689 if you are interested in helping.



The Rectory Office will be closed for business on **Monday, November 27th**. God and weather permitting, the Rectory will reopen on **Tuesday, November 28th, at 10:00am.**

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Friday, December 1st
ADORATION begins after morning Mass, and continues throughout the day.

7:00PM ~ HOLY HOUR



The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Christ the King Sunday celebrates the full authority of Christ as King and Lord of the universe. Officially called "The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King," it is celebrated on the final Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Sunday before Advent.



The Solemnity of Christ the King is a newer feast in the Catholic Church; it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The pontiff was witness to a turbulent time in the world's history. Secularism was on the rise and dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. Christ had long been referred to as King, but Pope Pius and the Christian faithful saw the respect and reverence for Christ's authority waning in the midst of the unrest during the first part of the 20th century. In response, the feast was set with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus.

The feast was initially fixed to the final day of October, the day before All Saints Day. Later, in 1969, Pope Paul VI moved the feast to the last Sunday before Advent, to emphasize the importance of the feast. This is fitting within the Church year. The liturgical year begins with Advent, the season of awaiting the coming of Christ, and now the year ends with celebrating the Kingship of Christ.

ANNUAL GIVING TREE



Catholic Charities is asking for your donation to their Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program. This program supplies young women with the needs and supplies for their newborn child. As in the past, you may make a donation of baby items, but since space is an issue, they are asking for donations of gift cards to stores where baby items are sold. By

making a monetary donation, they can then purchase larger items, like cribs and car seats.

When you take a gift tag from the giving tree, please place your gift card, or monetary gift in an envelope, tape the gift tag to the front of the envelope and place in the collection basket. Any checks given as monetary gifts should be made out to **St. John Fisher Church**.

Catholic Charities greatly appreciates our involvement in this worthy cause each year and thanks God for our continued donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Our annual giving tree will be up on the **first Sunday of Advent, December 2nd and 3rd**. ~ ~ Charlotte Kerrigan

St. Mary's Church

122 Union Street, Catty

Their **Holiday Breakfast Buffet** will be held on **Sunday, November 26th**, from **8:30am until Noon**. The cost is \$8.00 for adults and children ten and under is \$5.00.

The buffet includes: scrambled eggs, home fries, ham, breakfast sausage, cream dried beef, toast, French toast, sweet treats and beverage. There will be a small Holiday Gift Raffle. Raffle tickets are \$5.00 for a sheet of 26 chances. **Santa arrives at 9:00am; photos with Santa are \$3.00.** Come kick off the Advent Season with your friends at St. Mary's!



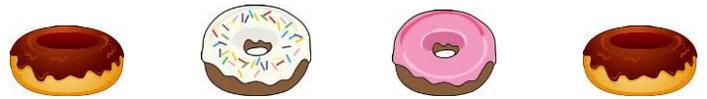
Sponsor a Snowflake

This year help make this Christmas Season a little brighter and festive in Small Town USA! It makes a unique gift by remembering someone by sponsoring a snowflake in their name! Individuals, families, groups or businesses can sponsor a holiday snowflake that adorns the streets of North Catasauqua during the Christmas season. A plastic plaque will be attached to each snowflake with the name of the sponsor. The price is \$300.00. For information, call 610-264-1504.

IN THE WORDS OF...

My confidence is placed in God who does not need our help for accomplishing His designs. Our single endeavor should be to give ourselves to the work and to be faithful to him, and not to spoil his work by our shortcomings.

~ St Isaac Jogues



DONUT SUNDAY

Due to the C.C.D. Christmas Program on **Sunday, December 17th**, our **December Donut Sunday will be next Sunday, December 3rd**. Thank you to **Jim and Kerri Crossin** who are sponsoring next week's event. Please stop by after the **8:30AM and 10:30AM Masses** for some coffee, tea, and some donuts!



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS THIS CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, sponsor a wreath in memory of a veteran. The Information Technology team from Air Products has joined with Wreaths Across America to honor the veterans buried at Resurrection Cemetery in Wescosville. Wreaths are \$15.00 each and can be sponsored online at <https://wreaths.fastport.com/donateLocation.html?page=24326>. With your help, we can honor all 1,500 veterans and remember, honor, and teach our children about the many sacrifices our veterans made to protect our freedom. Then join us at the Resurrection Cemetery on **Saturday, December 16th**, at **12:00pm**, for a short ceremony. Deadline to sponsor a wreath is **Monday, November 27th**.