



Parish Tidings



Our Lord's Ascension Parish

Rev. Bogdan T. Yurchishin
ascensionpncc@verizon.net

Rectory: 610-865-1514

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2105 Jennings Street
Bethlehem, PA 18017
Office: 610-694-0164

www.ourlordsascension.org

Repairs and Improvements

Lighting

If you have been in church in the last couple of weeks you may have noticed a brightness over the altar area. That's because all of the existing lights over the altar have been replaced with state of the art "LED" Lighting. The previous fixtures were originals back from 1976 and have not been operating properly for some time. The lights on both Sts. Mary & Joseph's Altars have been replaced with LED's as well. Thanks to Catherine Trawinski's donation, we were able to accomplish this project.

Also, if you have been at the church in the evening (especially now that it is dark earlier), we have been able to enhance the lighting in the parking lot with the addition of a large watt LED lighting fixture located on the outside of the rear wall of the church. This

significantly helps brighten up the area making it easier to see and adds additional security. We have also replaced the church roof lighting on the steeple (once we replaced the roof). Please remember that LED lighting only uses a small percentage of the watts conventional lighting used and expect to see some cost savings with all the lighting projects we have done. Thanks to late Joseph Koczan, Jr. for his donation. Thanks to John Wunderler for coordinating both projects.

Walter Poposki

Heaters

Thanks to the YMS of R, three heaters were added in the basement and the wall heaters in the committee room and the Narthex of the church were repaired and are now in working order.

Roof

Due to a very generous donation from a Parishioner, we were able to make plans to replace our 26-year old main roof. After receiving multiple quotes and selecting the best bid, we received disheartening news that the entire roof would need to be covered with plywood for the shingles to be warranted. This would add \$10,000.00 to the original roof quote. We decided as a Committee that getting the roof done before winter was

important, and Church societies including the YMS of R and the ANS have generously pledged funds to help cover this unexpected cost. However, we still face a shortfall as the total bill will exceed \$29,000.00. Please consider making a contribution to help defray the roof expense before year end, and remember that it is tax deductible. Envelopes are available in the narthex of the church for your contribution.

The Parish Committee

Fantastic Fall



Our annual Fall Bazaar was held Saturday, November 5, 2016. The sunny day brought many of our devoted customers once again making this our biggest fund raiser. Record sales were achieved at the Pierogies Kielbasa, Take-Out, Basket Auction and, Baked Goods. A special thank you to Elias Market for donating two bushels of apples for the apple squares and strudel and to Redner's Market for donating \$20.00 to cover the cost of the rolls. Please remember these stores when shopping.

The final breakdown is as follows:

Nut Rolls	\$ 1,604.00
White Elephant	\$ 502.70
Kielbasa/Sauerkraut	\$ 836.50
Crafts	\$ 603.00
East-In	\$ 788.91
Take-Out	\$ 1,147.05
Chinese Auction	\$ 1,262.00
Baked Goods	\$ 1,269.25
Pierogies	\$ 1,386.00
Donations	\$ 605.00
Total	\$10,004.41
Expenses	\$ 279.00
Profit	\$ 9,725.41
After bazaar sales	\$ 33.50
Total Profit	\$ 9,758.91

Lesser Know Saints

Saint Francis Xavier



Francis was born in the family castle of Xavier near Pamplona, Spain in 1506. He was sent to the University of Paris and met Ignatius Loyola and became one of the seven who founded the Society of Jesus. In 1538 he left Paris to join Ignatius in Venice and was ordained there and went to Rome a year later. When the Pope formally recognized the Society, he and Fr. Simon Rodriguez were ordered to the Far East as the first Jesuit missionaries. He spent six months in Mozambique preaching and giving aid to the sick. He eventually arrived in Goa, India. There he began preaching to the natives and attempted to reform his fellow Europeans, living among the natives. During the next decade, he converted tens of thousands to Christianity. In 1551 India and the East were set up as a separate province and Ignatius made Francis its first provincial. In 1552 he set out for China, landed on the island of Sancian within sight of his goal, but died before he reached the mainland. He left the mark of his missionary zeal and energy on areas which clung to Christianity for centuries. He was canonized in 1622 along with his friend, Ignatius Loyola. Francis was proclaimed patron of all foreign missions on December 3 which became his feast day.

December at a Glance

- Sunday Mass at 9 AM
- Coffee Social after Mass**
- Religious Classes after Mass – 2nd and 4th Sunday of each Month
- Bingo every Wednesday at 7 PM**
- December 3 – ANS Ladies Social
- December 11 – Christmas Dinner – Mass at 10 AM**
- December 12, 13 & 14 - Pierogi Making
- December 13 – Men's Social**
- December 24 –Christmas Eve Service at 9 PM
- December 25 - Christmas Day 10 AM**

Pastor's Corner



My Dear Friends,

Although we are still reflecting on Advent, our hearts are already anticipating the birth of Baby Jesus. During the first Sunday of Advent, we've lit the first candle on the advent wreath with faith to meet Jesus at the end of our journey. We will soon meet the light of the world. With the Advent candles being lit weekly, we're making this light shine more and more through the darkness of our modern world. Every time we do something, the light becomes bigger, brighter and it fills even more dark places around us. As we prepare ourselves for Christmas, I wish you all to be this light in today's world. Don't be afraid to shine with Jesus in your heart during this upcoming Christmas season! Merry Christmas!

Father Bogdan

Around the Parish

- Volunteers are needed to lend a hand at bingo on Wednesday nights.
- Remember to purchase your 2017 Lottery Calendar. You can play the daily number every day for just \$25.00. A Lottery Calendar makes a great Christmas present for the "hard to shop for person" on your gift list.
- Thanks to Mark's Woodwind Trio for performing at Mass on Sunday, November 27.
- On Sunday December 11, 2016, the day of our parish Christmas dinner, a remembrance tree will be placed on St. Joseph's side of the altar. Part of the tree will be adorned with vintage Christmas ornaments from Poland. Ornaments will be supplied for each parishioner to place on the tree in remembrance of loved ones'.
- The annual Christmas Dinner sponsored by the ANS will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2016 after Mass. Mass that day will be celebrated at 10:00 AM. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 6 to 12. The menu is as following: Roast Pork, Herbed Potatoes, Sausage Stuffing, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Dessert, Coffee or Tea, Wine for a toast and sharing of the Oplatek. We will also hold a raffle at the dinner. The cost of the raffle tickets is 6 for \$5.00. Join our parish family and help celebrate the beginning of the Joyous Christmas season.
- Pierogi Making
Monday, December 12 – potato peeling at 12 Noon
Tuesday, December 13 – pierogi making at 8:00 AM
Wednesday, December 14 – packing pierogi at 9 AM

A Helping Hand

Rose Marie "Sarge" Brugger and Mia Fernandes would like to extend their sincere gratitude, respect and appreciation to all who contributed in making the charity bingo on November 13 a huge success. Support came in many forms: monetary, savory foods, baked goods and precious time. A special thank you must be given to the parish women who manned the kitchen and to the men who ran a superbly organized bingo. Their generosity is far reaching. All proceeds (over \$1700.00) from the event will cover Sarge's medical expenses.

Mia Fernandes

Condolences

Members of Our Lord's Ascension Parish wish to offer our sympathies to Andrea Gritman and her family on the passing of her eldest brother, Chester Kois. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jerry, Andrea, and her sisters and brother.

If you have something to share, a story, anecdote, recipe, or up-coming event in your life, please submit it to Jo Ann Schaffer, or Andrea Gritman.

Jesus is Better Than Santa

Santa lives at the North Pole.

JESUS is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh

JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa comes but once a year

JESUS is an ever-present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies

JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited

JESUS stands at your door and knocks and then enters your heart.

You have to stand in line to see Santa

JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap

JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or girl, What's your name?"

JESUS knew our name before we did. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly

JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa can offer is HO HO HO

JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa says "You better not cry"

JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you.

Santa's little helpers make toys

JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa may make you chuckle but

JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree

JESUS became our gift and died on the tree.

It's obvious there is really no comparison.

We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about.

We need to put Christ back in Christmas.

Jesus is still the reason for the season.

Yes, Jesus is better, he is even better than Santa Claus!

Shortbread Cookies

3/4 cup softened butter

2/3 cup sugar

2 egg yolks

1Tbsp. light cream

1 tsp. vanilla

2 cups flour



Beat butter and sugar on medium speed until light (3 min.). Add egg yolks, cream and vanilla. Beat until fluffy. Add flour gradually until well combined and smooth.

Divide in half and wrap in plastic. Refrigerate 2 hours or longer.

Roll on floured surface with rolling pin to about 1/4" thick. Cut with cookie cutter. Decorate.

Bake at 325 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes