



# Parish Tidings



**Polish National  
Catholic Church**  
"through the years..."

Our Lord's Ascension Parish

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## Cornerstones

We begin our series of parish cornerstones with Mae Skovronsky. She is the most senior active member of our parish. Mae first came from Texas in 1951 where her husband Leo was stationed. When he was transferred to Philadelphia, they decided to move to Allentown. Mae has been involved with the "Society of Friends" since its inception and served many years as its president. She also participated in the first Fall Bazaar 40 years ago. She and her husband donated much of the produce used in the preparation of the food for the bazaar. When asked to write about herself, she contributed the following:



When I was a little girl, many years ago, living in Dupont, PA life revolved around the church. I was a member of the Polish

National Catholic Church in Dupont, but have since forgotten the name of my church; time will do that to you. Much of life was centered on the different activities that took place at the church. When the bell rang we knew it was time to head to church for a service. But this wasn't the only things we went to church for. Sunday afternoons many of us children would stay at the church to play volleyball and other games. Life was simple. Growing up, there were several societies at the church that I was a member. One was a girls' society called the Girls Sodality. When I was a member of this society we would have one meeting every month, and all meetings were done in Polish. I was also fortunate enough to be secretary and would take the minutes of the meeting in Polish also. This experience, being the secretary, would serve me well as I grew older, specifically when I worked for the Draft Board during World War II, and later being the book keeper and secretary for my husband and his construction business. I never thought that my life was that interesting or worth telling stories about, but since I was asked to do this I figured I'd tell about my time on the Draft Board. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, since that happened on a Sunday, I was at the church. We were all in the church hall playing volleyball when the radio we had playing was interrupted with the message that we were attacked. We were all stunned and just

listened to the radio for any information they could give. We really didn't know what to think or what to say. I don't remember exactly when I started, but a few months after the attack I had the opportunity to work at the Draft Board. My Uncle Mike was one of the officers on the draft board and was able to help me get a job on the board. I had already graduated from high school and business school (which I accomplished in one year). My main duties as the Chief Clerk were to manage the entire office which consisted of me and three other girls. We had to send out questionnaires to men from the area. When the questionnaires were sent back to us, we would classify them into one of several classes. Class 1- A meant that the man was single and fit and would be sent to get a physical. I remember one gentleman came up to talk to me and shook my hand and in his hand was a \$20.00 bill. He was trying to bribe me not to send him into the service. I gave the money back immediately, and I think I did end up sending him into the service. The government would give us quotas for the month and the military would then send them either into the Army, Air Force or Navy, we had nothing to do with that. During this time, we were instructed to make sure the men made it down to the train station and get on the train. This was the part of my job that I could not do. I would make one of the other girls in the office go and make sure all the men got on the train. Just the thought of where these young men were going and the idea that they were going to war was too much for me. While on the board I do remember I was paid \$90 a month. After the war was over, the army downsized and I was the only girl still employed. The office was moved to the Pittston City Hall where I worked with another girl who oversaw a different area. It was during this time that I would eventually meet my husband, Leo. In the hall there were different rooms, with town hall offices, tax offices, our office and an office for military recruiting, including the Air Force where Leo worked. I would occasionally see Leo around the hall. One day the mayor's secretary asked me to her office, and when I arrived Leo was there also. I can't remember the secretary's name anymore, but she was our little matchmaker. Six months later we were married, and stayed married for 60 years.

My time on the board was basically something we had to do. At times it was very stressful especially knowing where these guys were going and not knowing whether or not we would ever see them again. The only bright spot was that I was fortunate enough to meet my husband and started a long and loving relationship together. But that is a story for another time.

## Wedding Bells



Sara Anthony, daughter of Francis and Rane Anthony, and Brent Sutton, son of Wayne and Karen Sutton were married on Saturday, October 13, 2012 in a lovely afternoon ceremony. The newlyweds honeymooned in their newly purchased home in Hamburg. Best wishes for a long and happy life.

## Baptism

Olivia Helena-Ranee Anthony and Alexander Matthew Anthony received the Holy Sacrament of Baptism after mass on Sunday October 21, 2012. The twins were here from Hawaii for their aunt Sara's wedding and to visit their grandparents, Fran and Rane Anthony. Matthew and Patti Anthony are the proud parents.

## A Fun Time at Sunday School



## November at a Glance

- Sunday Mass at 9 AM**
- Coffee Social after Mass
- Sunday School after Mass**
- Bingo every Wednesday at 7 PM
- November 3 – Fall Bazaar**
- November 11 - ANS and Society of Friends meeting
- November 20 - Committee meeting**
- November 22 - Thanksgiving
- November 26 – YMS of R meeting**

## A Hit on "The Tonight Show"

Sonia Kotch's grandson, Michael Kotch of Emmaus, has become a celebrity after an appearance on Jay Leno's show. Michael, a senior majoring in exercise science at DeSales University was invited to perform his skill of solving a Rubik's Cube puzzle in a matter of seconds while doing one arm push-ups. According to Sonia he has been entering contests for a few years solving the puzzle with one hand tied behind him or his eyes blindfolded. It was just recently that he won an on-line contest doing both. As a result of his video on YouTube a producer from the show saw it and invited him to recreate his amazing feat on national television.

## A Month of Remembrances

It is during the month of November that the church observes both All Saints Day and All Souls Day. The country celebrates Veterans Day. We pray, honor and remember family members and friends who are no longer with us. Throughout the year, many of us also reflect and pray for family members and friends who are seriously ill and may be in hospice care. Gerry Matla submitted the following poem to share with the parish family. It originally appeared in the St. Luke's Hospice Newsletter. The poem was written by Paula Hoffman to her family before she died in hopes that it would offer solace to her family members and friends.

### "How Can I Say Good-Bye"

I see the way you look at me  
 With questions in your eyes  
 I feel the words you never say and  
 Then I realize  
 That you're afraid to speak the words,  
 The ones we know are there.  
 Those words that pound within our heads  
 That taunt and tease and scare.  
 I see the way you turn away  
 To find something to do  
 Perhaps this all will go away  
 Without the storms that brew,  
 But, no matter what we do or say  
 The time is coming..... true  
 When I will close my eyes, alas,  
 And bid you all "adieu"  
 So speak the words and listen close  
 For love is in the air  
 Laugh and cry along with me...  
 This precious time we share  
 Will all come back as memories  
 To comfort and to guide  
 Those precious final moments  
 When I must say good-bye.

## Financial Corner

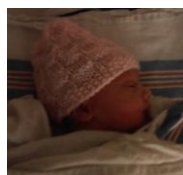


	Contributions	Expenses
October	\$5,649.40	\$4,805.05

## ANS Plans Annual Christmas Dinner

The annual Christmas Dinner sponsored by the ANS will be held on December 2, 2012 at 12:00 noon. Mass that day will be celebrated at 10:30 am. The cost of the dinner is \$ 8.00 for adults and \$ 5.00 for children 6 to 12. Tickets will be available from Jackie Bayak beginning today. By selling tickets ahead of time, we will have a better idea of the amount of food to prepare. The menu is as following: Baked Ham, Potato Pierogies, Corn Casserole, Glazed Carrots, Salad, Rolls, Dessert, Coffee or Tea, and Wine for a toast. We will also hold a raffle at the dinner. There will be five prizes including lottery calendars, gift cards and pierogies. The cost of the raffle tickets is 3 for \$2.00. Nicolette Stavrovsky and Nancy Poposki will again be selling the chances. Join our parish family and help celebrate the beginning of the Joyous Christmas season.

## A Bundle of Joy



Karen Amate is happy to announce the arrival of her first granddaughter, Rosalia Jean Amate, on October 10, 2012 at 11:10 p.m., weighing 6 lbs, 14.9 oz. and 20 3/4 inches long. The proud parents are Jeff and Mimi Amate. Congratulations to all.

## Rolls



The ladies of the church will be baking nut, poppy seed and apricot rolls for the Christmas holidays. Please place your request for rolls on the signup sheet located on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church by Sunday, November 25, 2012.

## A Thanksgiving Prayer



A four year old boy was asked to give thanks before the big Thanksgiving dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer thanking God for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool-whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't he know that I am telling a lie?"

## Easy Corn Casserole

- 1 16 oz. can whole corn, drained
- 1 16 oz. can cream style corn
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup sour cream or plain Greek style yogurt (8 oz)
- 1 stick melted butter
- salt and pepper, to taste
- ¼ to ½ tsp garlic powder
- 1 box Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Combine first 7 ingredients. Mix well.  
 Add muffin mix and stir until combined.  
 Transfer batter to a greased 2-quart casserole dish.  
 Sprinkle cheddar cheese on top.  
 Bake for 1 hour at 350°F.

An easy casserole to add to your Thanksgiving menu submitted by Andrea Gritman

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