



Parish Tidings



Our Lord's Ascension Parish

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February 2016 Volume 4, No. 9

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Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day is about love. But is there a way to know what love really is? Can we be in love and out of love?

When someone says, "I love you," is there a way to know if he or she means it? Are we victims of love? Can we train ourselves to love? What is love?

Love is indispensable to marriage, family and community. Relationships are miserable when love is absent. But we need an objective way to understand what love looks like. In Scripture, husbands are commanded to love their wives (Ephesians 5:25); older women are to train younger women to love their husbands and children (Titus 2:4) and communities of Christians are to be distinguished by their love for one another (John 13:35).

The best available description of love is found in 14 qualities of love listed in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. This is one of the most quoted Scriptures at wedding ceremonies. To protect true love, we should often visit this description of it.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails." (1 Corinthians 13:4-8, NIV).

This is God's prescription for great relationships.

Soccer Coach of the Year



For the second time in three years Evan Weller was named Boys Soccer Coach of the Year. In addition to coaching the Phillipsburg soccer team for the past thirteen seasons, Evan is also teaching English as well as creative writing and leadership courses at the high school

The Phillipsburg Staliners completed their third straight season with double-digit victories, a fifth consecutive spot in the state tournament and its first county crown since 1989. . Evan credits the backing he receives at Phillipsburg from parents, the booster club, the athletic director, the administration and coaches and the support of his wife Ashley for his team's success.

Congratulations Evan

Lottery Calendars



On January 3, 2016 the second chance drawing from the 2015 Lottery Calendars was held. Congratulations to Cindy Weller, the

lucky \$100 winner and to Kira Mohr for selling the winning ticket.

After more than five years of managing the Lottery Calendar Fund Raiser, Joe Jurnock has decided to resign from this position. Jackie Bayak and Andrea Gritman have resumed responsibility for the 2016 Lottery Calendar project. Thanks to Joe for his many years of dedication and service.

ANS Holds Election

When the ANS met for the first time this year on January 10, 2016, an election of officers was held. The results were as following:

- President - Jackie Bayak
- Vice President - Beverly Wunderlich
- Secretary - Jo Ann Schaffer
- Treasurer - Nancy Poposki

The ANS meets on the first Sunday of the month. Please join us if you are interested.

Renewal of Baptismal Vows



During Mass on Sunday, January 10, 2016, the Solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord, all in attendance renewed their baptismal vows. On this day we not only remember Jesus' baptism, but we celebrate our own.

February at a Glance

Sunday Mass at 9 AM

SOCL after Mass

Coffee Social after Mass

Bingo every Wednesday at 7 PM

Stations of the Cross – 6:30 PM - Fridays during Lent

February 5 & 6 – Pierogi Making

February 10 - Ash Wednesday – 6:30 PM

February 11 – Roll Baking

February 14 – ANS meeting

February 15 – Kiffle Baking

February 19 & 20 - Tentative pierogi making

February 21 Yearly Parish Meeting after Mass (Tentative)

February 27 – Clothing distribution



The youth group is sponsoring a used clothing drive/swap. Bring any new or gently used clothing of any size, type of season and gender on any Sunday until February 21. Shoes, undergarments, jewelry, accessories or clothing that is stained, torn or damaged in any way will not be accepted. Please place all clothing in well tied bags or boxes.

The distribution event will be held on Saturday, February 27 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM for anyone in need to pick out clothing of their choice. To make sure there is enough for everyone there will be a limit of 5 articles of clothing per person.

Spring Bazaar

Our Annual Spring Bazaar will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2016. Any new ideas or suggestions for this event are welcomed. The donation slips will be available on February 14. Please remember to pick up your donation form, fill it out and return this form as soon as possible to Nancy Poposki, Andrea Gritman, or place in the Bazaar Box in the Narthex.

Baskets, bows and cellophane paper are available for anyone wishing to contribute a basket for the Chinese Auction. White Elephant items may be brought to the church any time before March 13.

Tentative preparation dates for 2016 Spring Bazaar

- February 5 & 6 – Pierogi Making
- February 11 - Roll Baking
- February 15 at 9 AM – Kiffle Baking
- February 19 & 20 – Tentative Pierogi Making
- March – Roll Baking – to be determined
- March 10 & 11 at 9 AM – White Elephant setup
- March 14 at 9 AM – Table & white elephant setup
- March 15 & 17 at 9 AM – Setup (if necessary)
- March 18 at 9 AM – Halupki making & final preparations
- March 19 – Spring Bazaar – doors open for workers at 8 AM

Around the Parish

- The 2016 donations envelopes and the 2015 tax receipts are available in the narthex of the church.
- Please pickup your remembrance tree ornament from the table in the narthex of the church.
- For the fifth consecutive year, Joe Jurnock has organized a parish outing to attend a Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs baseball game. For the Friday, August 12, 2016, 7:05 PM game against the Indianapolis Indians, we will be seated in the PPL Picnic Patio. The \$27.00 cost includes an "all you can eat" buffet, unlimited soft drinks and a beautiful fireworks display. Payments for the fun outing should be made to Joe Jurnock before July 10.

How Do You Like Your Pierogies



One pierogi making Saturday as the pinchers sat around the table, a discussion began about what is the best way to serve pierogies. One suggested pan frying in olive oil if not butter. Another said that swimming in butter and onions is the only way to go. Others suggested they should be accompanied by sour cream, applesauce and even ketchup. We wondered how others enjoy their pierogies. Gerry Matla suggested we put it in the Tidings and ask people to respond to a survey. So here is your chance to share your favorite way to eat pierogies. A survey sheet is attached to this newsletter. Responses can be given to Andrea Gritman or Jo Ann Schaffer, emailed to gritmanger@hotmail.com or even placed in the collection plate. We hope to hear some new ideas on how to consume our favorite food.

The End is Near!



A priest and a pastor are standing by the side of a road holding up a sign that reads "The end is near! Turn around now before it's too late!"

A passing driver yells, "You guys are nuts!" and speeds past them. From around the curve, they hear screeching tires—then a big splash.

The priest turns to the pastor and says, "Do you think we should just put up a sign that says 'Bridge Out' instead?"

Carmel Popcorn

- 5 to 6 quarts (20 cups) popped corn
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup margarine
- 1 cup peanuts (optional)
- ½ cup corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda



1. Spray large shallow roasting pan with cooking spray. Add popcorn and place in preheated 250 degrees oven while preparing caramel.
2. Mix brown sugar, corn syrup, margarine, peanuts and salt in a heavy 2-quart saucepan. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil over medium heat.
3. Boil 5 minutes without stirring. Remove from heat. Stir in baking soda and vanilla; mix well.
4. Pour syrup over warm popcorn, stirring to coat evenly.
5. Bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Remove from oven and spread on foil that has been sprayed with cooking spray.
6. Cool; break apart. Store in tightly covered container

Sweet and crunchy, this caramel corn is easy to make and is a great treat to enjoy during the Super Bowl

How Do You Like Your Pierogies?



- Fried in butter
- Deep-fried in oil
- Swimming in butter and onions
- Accompanied by sour cream
- Accompanied by applesauce

Other ideas

Name (optional)

Look for survey results in the April newsletter