

Holy Family Parish
National Catholic Church
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Solemnity-Humble Shepherds

December 29, 2019

Change of address or phone number, for parish registration, hospital visitations and sacramental needs, baptism and wedding arrangements, please contact the Parish Office by calling 412.276.5562 or 412.678.0566. **Office Hours:** Fridays 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Evenings by appointment. **Bulletin announcements** should be received by Wednesday for Sunday publication either by phone or E-mail at BSleczkowski@aol.com

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HUMBLE SHEPHERDS MASS LITURGY

OPENING HYMN	Bulletin
PENITENTIAL RITE	Page 66
ENTRANCE HYMN	Wisdom 18: 14-15a; Palm 93: 2
C: For when peaceful stillness compassed everything and the nights in its swift course was half spent, Your all-powerful Word from heaven's royal throne bounded, a fierce warrior into the doomed land.	
R: Your throne stands firm from of old; You are from everlasting Lord.	
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.	
R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.	

KYRIE	Page 67
GLORIA	
OPENING PRAYER	

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading	Isaiah 62: 11-12
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 97
R: A Light will shine on us this day; the Lord is born for us.	
Second Reading	Titus 3: 4-7
Gospel Acclamations.	Luke 2: 14
L: Alleluia, Alleluia.	
R: Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.	
R: Alleluia, Alleluia.	
Gospel	Luke 2: 12-20

SACRAMENT OF THE WORD LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

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GENERAL INTERCESSION	
R: Lord, Hear our Prayer	
OFFERTORY	Page 73
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING	
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 1	Page 77
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POST COMMUNION PRAYER	
CONCLUDING RITE	
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CLOSING HYMN	Bulletin

Opening Hymn: “In Midnight Silence”

Hymnal #67, verses 1, 2, & 4

In midnight silence came a voice so clear
Rise up, O shepherds, Christ the Lord is here
Hurry onto City Beth’lem, in a manger you shall find Him
Go and greet the Lord.

‘Twas there they found Him, in a manger cold.
With all the signs the prophets had foretold.
And their hearts were filled with gladness, as they knelt before God’s
greatness, Honoring their Lord.

Songs of the angels’ sound from heaven on high,
Come join the chorus, praise and magnify;
//Glory, laud to God on high, to the Lord of earth and sky
Peace on earth below. //



Closing Hymn: “Shepherds Hurried into Bethlehem”

PNCC Hymnal #61

**Refrain: Glory to God on high, Glory to God on high!
Peace on earth, Peace on earth!**

Lowly shepherds hurried into Bethlehem
When they saw the Babe, they played their harps for Him. **R:**

They approached the manger in humility.
Bowing low with willing hearts, O God to Thee! **R:**

Angels of the Lord announced the wondrous birth.
Ne’er before was heard such news o’er all the earth. **R:**

Now we know Him as our Savior, God and Lord.
Dedicating all the love our hearts afford. **R:**

This Week

Sunday, December 29, 2019

Humble Shepherd

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

SOCL Classes

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

Special Collection for Savonarola Seminary-Year End Prayers

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Circumcision of the Lord

Holy Mass

10:00 A.M.

Sunday, January 5, 2020

Solemnity-Holy Family

Installation of the 2020 Parish Council

Holy Mass

9:00 A.M.

SOCL

10:15 A.M.

Fellowship Hour

10:15 A.M.

Holy Mass

11:00 A.M.

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord



The Epiphany of the Lord Mass will be celebrated on Monday, January 6th at 10:00 A.M. The Epiphany of the Lord is the continuing Christmas story where Three Kings (Magi) travelled to Bethlehem

following a star leading to Christ, presenting Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh representing Jesus as King, Priest and Savior. Epiphany means revelation, opening our eyes, with the invitation that Christ came not only for the Jews but for Gentiles.

Epiphany Visitations: Home Blessing for the New Year, please contact Fr. Bruce to plan arrangements.

Pierogi Program

Through your generosity and kindness, 1,115 pounds of Gold Medal Flour (one half ton) have been donated to Holy Family's 2020 Pierogi Program. You have saved the program over \$500 in expenses by your overwhelming response to our donation request. DZIEKUJE! Carol Burlikowski, Pierogi Program Coordinator

Today's Sunday Ministry

9:00 A.M.

Greeter: M. Sleczkowski

Lectors: Yellow Team

Ushers: B. Griffiths & G. Jobs

11:00 A.M.

A. Fioravanti

B. Zaucha

J. Wagner

Next Sunday Ministries

9:00 A.M.

Greeter: C. Trumpe

Lectors: Red Team

Ushers: J. Lawrence & T. Gibala

11:00 A.M.

A. Fioravanti

B. Zaucha

J. Wagner

Winter Clothes-less Clothes Drive

The United YMSR is conducting clothes drives throughout our national Church asking all parishes to help in this winter clothes drive ending January 20th. Holy Family YMSR Branch 70 is participating. Since our local organizations no longer accept bulk used clothing, it was decided to have a clothes-less clothes drive giving the proceeds to McKeesport charities, the Intersection and Salvation Army where they can use the money for what they need. Located in the back of the Church will be boxes designated for financial donations. All checks are to be made out to the Holy Family YMSR Branch 70.

“The Lord is God and has given us light, whose love endures forever.”

Psalm 118: 29

Fair Share Envelopes

The 2020 Fair Share Envelopes are available in the Church Narthex. With your attendance at Mass and financial support, it will keep our parish doors open to serve God and His people. If you cannot find your envelope, please contact Fr. Bruce. Remember, adult parishioners are required to make the mandatory obligations: General Church Fund (\$100); Diocesan Development Fund (\$40) and 6% Fund (\$25). All other envelopes are your Fair Share donations which has been raised to \$300. To our college students, upon graduation, you are full adult members of the parish and must participate in the Mandatory and Fair Share donations and not rely on your parents Fair Share and also to take an active role in the parish as well as in worship.

In Sympathy

Holy Family Parish extends its love and sympathies to Janet Ghetian and family upon the recent death of her sister Elaine Keebler. Eternal rest grant to her Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds

This feast is celebrated on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas and commemorates the spirit, the evangelical nature, and the purity of the common shepherds that were the first to hear of the glorious birth of the Savior of the world in the continuation of the Christmas gospel narrative from the Shepherd's Mass celebrated on Christmas Eve. This unique feast of the Polish National Catholic Church emphasizes the sacred vocations with the spiritual and material support of the Savonarola Theological Seminary through a special offering collection envelope.

Some 2020 New Year Resolutions

While it's a good idea to look at your spiritual walk throughout the year, January 1st is often a time of renewal for the Disciples of Christ. A New Year, a New Start. So, instead of setting regular resolutions like losing weight, getting better grades, etc., why not try to set goals to improve your relationship, your discipleship with God. Here are some ways we can do just that:

Improve Your Prayer Life: Start off giving five minutes to God. Then maybe try adding another five minutes. Soon you'll find that you'll start going to God more often and for more things. Don't worry about what to talk to Him about, just talk. You'll be amazed by the results.

Read Your Bible in a Year: Getting into the habit of reading the Word is also a common New Year's resolution for many Christians. There are plenty of Bible reading plans out there that guide you through reading your Bible in a year. It just takes discipline to open the book every night. Help Other People God calls on us throughout the Bible to do good works. There are so many people who just need a bit of assistance, and helping others is a great way to set a Christian example.

Get Involved in Church: Most churches have various liturgical ministries and parish organizations to build the Church. Becoming involved will help you grow in your walk of faith and do God's work.

Become a Better Steward: One of the most challenging issues for Christian is the idea of stewardship, which is the process of tithing. Most Christians don't make a lot of money, so it becomes harder to give. Typical activities like shopping and eating out make it difficult to have money left over. However, God calls on all Christians to be good stewards. In fact, money is mentioned far more often in the Bible than other topics.

Plant Some Seeds of Faith: Make it your goal this year to talk to a certain number of people about your faith. You'd be amazed how many people will end up believers from a discussion you have about what God has done in your life.

Get to Know Your Family Better: One of the most difficult relationships in a Christian's life is with family. Do things with them. Share bits of your life with them. Even a small amount of quality time with your family will go a long way in helping your relationship.

Solemnity Humble Shepherds



First Reading: Isaiah 62: 11-12

Responsorial Psalm: 97

Second Reading: Titus

Gospel: Luke 2: 15-20

KEY VERSE: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” Luke 2: 15

READING: The first reading Isaiah prophesizes that with the birth of our Lord the people can taste the joys of the exiles returning from Babylon. Paul tells Titus that we ourselves did nothing to merit the birth of Christ; rather, God sent His son out of compassion for us. The Gospel presented to us, we with Mary are invited to ponder on the deep meaning of the birth of Christ so that, with the Shepherds, we may be moved to glorify and praise God.

REFLECTION: Here we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord’s First Coming. Today we focus on the characters of Mary and Joseph and hear of the circumstances surrounding the conception of the child Jesus, and the reaction of Joseph. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the promise that the Messiah would come from that line. The link between the First Reading and the Gospel is quite explicit today, since Matthew quotes Isaiah. Joseph, descendant of King David, is invited to take his place in the great story of God’s relationship with the Chosen people. There is great sense of a timeless mystery reaching its focal point, as that which was “promised long ago” (Second Reading) now takes flesh in the womb of Mary.

PRAYING: Father, help us to realize that Your Son could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem, but it would all be in vain unless He is born in us. We ask through the same Christ our Lord.

*The birth of Christ allows a rebirth in ourselves.
May the Lord be in our hearts always.*