

**December 25, 2016      Christmas, The Birth of Our Lord, God & Savior**  
**From the Desk of the Pastor**

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Christ,

The fruit of this Great Feast before us this day is joy. Joy that a long expected prophecy has been fulfilled. Joy that God has come among us, the King is among his people. Joy that ours is the God of action who gets his proverbial hands “dirty” to be amidst us in our trials so as the better to lift us out of them. The almighty God who sits upon the universe’s most exalted throne, He who commands the course of planets and galaxy by the breath of his mouth was content to be placed in a feeding trough for cattle. He loves us, and we can only respond with love and, of course, joy!

*No one is really happy merely because he has what he wants, but only if he wants things he ought to want. – St. Augustine.*

People ask, “How could Mary and Joseph have been happy considering all poverty.” The answer, in part, is because they had the very thing they ought to have wanted: Jesus Christ. We have everything and are not really content. What is the one thing we should strive to want more than anything? God’s will in our life. Find out what God wants of you and pursue it with abandon! There happiness awaits!

*We may always rejoice, if we will only keep our head a little raised above the flood of human things. –St. John Chrysostom*

Put on your prosecutor’s hat for a minute and consider the cold, hard facts of the first Christmas. A couple living in an atypical social situation (she was found to be child before the actual marriage), without a decent place to give birth and soon to be on the run from a madman (Herod). How is it possible that amidst all this there could be any rejoicing? For men, there could be no rejoicing but with God rejoicing is possible even in these circumstances. Mary and Joseph kept their heads raised above the chaos of human events and this allowed them to see the Sun of Righteousness.

This Christmas, enjoy your time with family and friends, and keep your eyes on God!

Jason, priest and sinner

## New Things Happening at Holy Trinity:

- **The Pastoral Christmas message of His Beatitude Sviatoslav** is available in the church vestibule. Please pick up a copy. **Also, please pick up your 2017 Church envelopes** in the vestibule.
- **Holy Trinity 2017 Calendars** are be in the church vestibule weekend! Thank you for your patience
- **Congratulations to the Christmas Wreath Winners!!!** The large Fox wreath: Mary Kurzawski, the medium Owl wreath: Dennis O'Donovan and the table centerpiece: Lesya Korenovski, ENJOY!!!
- **Do you want “brownie points” with God?** How about visiting our shut-ins and those on our prayer list? With Christmas coming many people develop feelings of isolation and depression because they are alone. This is a time of year when a special effort needs to be made to help others, especially by starting at home with our own parishioners. Yet, the demands of Christmas time and the blessing of houses in the New Year take your parish priest's time away from visiting shut-ins. This weekly commitment will cover December and January. “What you do to the least of these.”
- **The annual Malanka Dance** will be Saturday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> at the Ukrainian American Citizens Club, Carnegie. Doors and kitchen open at 7:30pm. New this year- Unnecessary Polka playing from 7:30-8:30pm. As always from Youngstown, the Fred Yasnowsky Orchestra from 8:30pm-12:30am. Tickets: \$15-early registration until Jan.18<sup>th</sup>. After that, tickets are \$20 for adults, children and students \$5.For reservations: call Debra Walenchok at 412-276-4007.
- **Save the Dates: May 26 to June 16, 2017** for volunteering in Ukraine with the Sisters of St. Basil in their ministry to Ukraine's needy. The sisters & seminarians collaborate with the volunteers to teach children English and to visit orphanages & psychiatric institutions. For an application, and additional information contact Sr. Ann Laszok OSBM at [srannl@aol.com](mailto:srannl@aol.com) or 412-260-1607. Michael Haritan, photographer, produced a *Wonderful* video of the trip last year. Go to: <https://youtu.be/qr4YjE5H-TM> and enjoy!



**Prayer List:** Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have a prayer list, contact the office and we'll send you one. **Keep in your prayers:** Anastasia Chruszcz, Stephanya Borszcz, Pauline Danesky, Alice Haritan, Luba and Peter Hlutkowsky, Daniel Holowaty, John Maslany, Helen Novak, Joe Popivchak, Mary Simek, Tillie Volanski, Donald Schultz, Dr. Justine Perhosky, James Holdcroft, Rich Hurey, Theodore Hritzko, John Yenchik, Frances Ingram and John Mosur.

**Spiritually Adopt a Priest Program.** Our priests are indispensable. They give their lives to their saving mission of Christ and His church. It is our duty to pray for our priests. And so we are officially starting our "Adopt a Priest Program." We will send interested parishioners a prayer card with the specific name of a priest, bishop or seminarian for whom to pray. And each year thereafter, at the beginning of our church year, September 1<sup>st</sup>, we will send a different priest to include in your prayers. **To participate, please e-mail your name and address to: [spirituallyadoptapriest@gmail.com](mailto:spirituallyadoptapriest@gmail.com).** Indicate your preference for an English or Ukrainian prayer card. Thank you for interceding on behalf of our priests.

ПРОГРАМА ДУХОВНОЇ ПІДТРИМКИ СВЯЩЕНИКІВ  
Наші священики незамінні. Вони присвятили своє життя для спасительної місії Христа і Його Церкви. Наш обов'язок молитися за наших священиків. І тому ми офіційно починаємо програму духовної підтримки священиків. Ми направимо зацікавленим парафіянам молитовну картку з ім'ям певного священика, єпископа або семінариста, за кого слід молитися. Щороку на початку нашого церковного року, 1 вересня, ми будемо посилати Вам ім'я іншого священика, щоб додати його до Ваших молитов. **Для участі надішліть будь-ласка своє ім'я та адресу на електронну пошту: [spirituallyadoptapriest@gmail.com](mailto:spirituallyadoptapriest@gmail.com).** Складаємо щиру подяку від імені наших священиків за Вашу турботу.

**Christmas Caroling** at Holy Trinity parishioner's homes by our Youth Group will take place **THIS Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>** (predominately English) 6pm-10pm and on **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>** (predominately Ukrainian) 6pm - 10pm. ***Please call the rectory if you would like the carolers to come to your home!*** 412-279-4652. The Christmas Caroling is a big fundraiser for our Youth Group, so any donations are gratefully accepted.



**Christmas Day Open House and Dinner** will take place at Church of the Atonement (618 Washington Ave, Carnegie) on **Sunday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** from 1-3pm. Local delivery for Shut-ins. Please your delivery order now by calling 412-276-0366. Accepting orders until Wed., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. No charge for dinner or local delivery. If you are alone or looking for fellowship, join us. Have fun! We welcome everyone!

**Hospice Volunteers Needed**-at Anova Hospice Palliative Care (17 McKean Ave. Charleroi, 15022 for patients that live in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene,

Washington and Westmoreland counties. Volunteers visit with patients to chat, or play cards and you choose the times you volunteer. For more information, call 724-483-3812 or [mmagisketreadwell@anovahomehealth.com](mailto:mmagisketreadwell@anovahomehealth.com).

Do you need Estate Planning, Last Will and Testament, Living Will? If so, consider giving John Sembrat a call. His number is: 412-260-8605

**The Church** was a Mother to you in Life, providing for your Spiritual Needs: Please Remember the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma in your Last Will and Testament. The wording to do this is as follows: “I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, \_\_\_% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_].”

**Vital Stats for Sunday Dec 18<sup>th</sup>:** \$2,075 was offered in the collection with another \$146.50 for candles, \$241 for the Eparchy, \$35 for Utilities, \$34 Special Offering, \$15 for Seminary Collection, \$112 for the Natalia Protynyak in Ukraine Fund, \$215 from the Wreath Raffle, all for a grand total of \$2,873.50. The Pyrohi “Marathon” Project brought in a “net amount” of \$11,400. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.

**Lector Schedule:**

- Saturday, Dec. 31 – 4pm: Stephanie Fedora
- Sunday, Jan. 1 – 8:30am: Ben Ciarallo
- Sunday, Jan. 1 – 11am: Sophia Charron

**What’s happening in our parish this week....**

Sat. **Christmas Eve Vigil, with Carols & Readings**  
12/24

9:00am Matins and Confessions until Noon

4:00pm Divine Liturgy to mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of Catherine Sudiak requested by Zac Sudiak & Family

....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Msgr. Russel Danylchuck requested by the Daniels Family

JC

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Sun **Christmas-Birth of Our Lord, God and Savior**  
12/25

10:00am Divine Liturgy for the people

....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of Joseph & Gina Greco requested by daughter Angela Honchar

JC

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Mon. 12/26	<b>Synaxis of the most holy Theotokos</b> , Commemoration of David, Joseph & James		
	9:00am	Divine Liturgy for the health & birthday of Martha Charron requested by the Charron Family	JC
		<i>The office is closed today</i>	
Tues. 12/27	<i>The holy apostle T first martyr archdeacon Stephen</i>		
	9:00am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Theophil “Ted” Konecky requested by Dr. Justine Perhosky	JC
Wed. 12/28	<i>Commemoration of the holy 2000 martyrs burned in Nicomedia</i>		
	8:00am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Karen Tagliaferri requested by the St. Josaphat Society	JC
Thurs. 12/29	<i>Commemoration of the holy infants slaughtered by Herod</i>		
	8:00am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Lesya Protynyak requested by Rebecca & Chris Egidi	JC
Fri. 12/30	<i>The holy virgin martyr Anisia</i>		
	8:00am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Emily Stecko requested by Arlene Dorn	JC
Sat. 12/31	<i>Our venerable mother Melania the Roman</i>		
	4:00pm	Divine Liturgy to mark the 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the late Sam Davis and all deceased in the Davis Family requested by Tim and Maryann Davis & Family	IS
		....also Divine Liturgy for the People	JC
Sun 1/1	<b>Sunday Before Theophany</b>		
	8:30am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Theophil “Ted” Konecky requested by Stephen H. Zinski	IS

11:00am Divine Liturgy to mark the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
late Denise Neczypir requested by the Neczypir Family JC  
.....also Divine Liturgy for the repose of John & Catherine  
Patross requested by Eleanor Patross IS

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## December BIRTHDAYS

Peter Colaizzi	Oleg Mykhayliv	Pat Johnson
Eric Hanzel	Walter Kalyn	Terry Styran
Yuriy Pavlyshyn	David Moss	Helen Moskal
Kathy Sembrat	Russ Zorey	Jennifer Styran
Steve Neczypir	Faith Markle	Martha Charron
Matthew Klim	Euphemia Medwig	