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Phone: 716-549-0420 Fax: 716-549-0425 Email: rectory14006@gmail.com Website: www.mpbangola.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor:Rev. Timothy Koester
Pastoral Care: Elizabeth Emhof..... 262-4782
Parish Trustees:.....Elizabeth Duzen &
.....Conrad F. Piskorz
Business Manager:Mary Lou McEvoy
RCIA: Marie O'Connor.....549-1818
Faith Formation:.....549-1818
Music Ministry: Barb Reuman..... 549-0420
Parish Secretary:Pat Maiorana
Sacristan:.....Diann Hosler
Parish Council Chairperson:John Latimore

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday
11:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9:00 a.m. -- 1:00 p.m.

OGN FOOD PANTRY 17 PROSPECT ST.

Tuesdays, 1:00–5:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil:4:00 p.m.
Sunday:.....8:30 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday–Wednesday, Friday:.....8:30 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

Infant Baptism: During weekend Masses. Parents must be practicing Catholics and attend a Pre-Baptismal Class. Call the rectory office to register.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): call the rectory office.

Reconciliation (Confessions): Upon request only.

Marriage: Couples contemplating marriage must make an appointment to meet personally with the Pastor before a definite wedding date may be scheduled. Church arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding. No wedding date will be scheduled over the phone.

Anointing of the Sick: Anyone who is seriously ill is invited to contact the rectory to request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion.

Parish Devotions (Cancelled until further notice).

Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration : Tuesdays: 1:00–2:00 p.m.
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Wednesdays after 7:30 a.m. Mass. *Recitation of Rosary:* daily after 7:30 a.m. Mass.

Letters of Recommendation: Registered parishioners in good standing for a minimum of 3 months and active, who are confirmed, and if married, did so in accordance with the Church's regulations, will be issued letters on request. One week prior notice is required.

New Parishioners: We welcome you warmly. Please register at the rectory office as soon as you arrive



**Saturday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas)**

10:00 AM - People of the Parish

**Sunday, December 26 - The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary, and Joseph**

8:30 AM - Mayme C. Pasqualetti - req. Daughter Mary

10:30 AM - People of the Parish

Monday, December 27 - St. John, apostle, evangelist

8:30 AM - Benedette Catalino Paglia - Estate of
Verna Catalino

**Tuesday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents,
martyrs**

8:30 AM - Vincent Burke - req. McEvoy Family

Wednesday, December 29

8:30 AM - Brian Galfo - req. Karen & Spencer

Thursday, December 30

8:30 AM - James J. Hein - req. Pat

Friday, December 31 - Vigil: Solemnity of Mary

7:00 PM - John Granville - req. Family

**Saturday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy
Mother of God**

10:00 AM - Mike Fitzgerald - req. Family

Sunday Vigil - 4:00 PM - Edmund & Bernice Dull -
Estate

Sunday, January 2 - The Epiphany of Our Lord

8:30 AM - Tomasz Olejniczak - req. Mother, Father &
Sisters

*In your prayers, please pray for the deceased
of the parish.*

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26



1 SAMUEL 1:20-22, 24-28

PSALM 84

1 JOHN 3:1-2, 21-24

LUKE 2:41-52

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

ISAIAH 60:1-6

PSALM 72

EPHESIANS 3:2-3a, 5-6

MATTHEW 2:1-12

A Message from the Pastor

Merry Christmas!



Fresh off the Feast of the Incarnation and Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we are celebrating the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The timing this year posits the importance of the Holy Family in the theology of God's coming into our world as one like us: born like us with time in the womb, formation and development. This gives meaning to all of these in our own lives.

Be sure to note the inference to ("The Holy Family") the Trinity. Don't be shy about glimpsing the three days Jesus spent in the tomb as already integral to this story.

Our first reading today calls on us to embrace the story of Hannah who prayed diligently for a child. Even the prophet knew of her ardent desire and request of God. The most important thing in Hannah's life was to have and nurture a child. So great was Hannah's devotion to God that when she weaned the child, she gave him back to God for service with the prophet.

Hold that thought as we look at the Gospel. Joseph and Mary honored the rituals and went to Jerusalem for Passover. When the child was twelve, he finds his place in the temple engaged with the church leaders. Note he is "lost" for three days ("Father, Son, Spirit;" "Jesus, Mary, Joseph"). For Mary, this may be a foreshadowing of the sorrow and anxiety of three days in the tomb.

Jesus very naturally says -- Where did you expect me to be? -- Serving the Father. However, he obediently goes back with his parents and lives and grows with them.

Our family life is central to God's Way. It takes work on each individual's part. Family is integral to our development and ultimately our faith. Samuel, from the strength of his family, went to serve the Lord by serving the poor, the needy, us. Isn't our path the same?

Choicest Christmas Blessings,

Fr. Tim

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE



Solemnity of Mary

Friday, December 31, 2021 (New Year's Eve)

Vigil - 7:00 p.m.

* * * * *

Saturday, January 1, 2022 (New Year's Day)

Morning Mass - 10:00 a.m.

Please Note: In addition to the Mass times listed Above, a Sunday Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. Saturday January 1, 2022.

Concert for Advent, Christmas

The St. John Paul II Schola Cantorum, directed by Steve Quebral, will present a "Choral Treasures of Advent and Christmas" Monday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Teresa Church, 1974 Seneca St., Buffalo. For details, visit www.jp2schola.org.

Oplatki Available

For those interested in continuing the Polish tradition of Oplatki at Christmas time, envelopes of the wafers are still available at the rectory business office during business hours. Each envelope contains two wafers. Donations of \$1.00 will be accepted.

MPB Church Hours

The front door of the church is unlocked Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (8:00 am.-1:00 p.m.); Saturday (3:00 - 5:00 p.m.); and Sunday (8:00 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.).

2022 Envelopes

Envelopes for 2022 are available now and may be picked up in the Chapel following Sunday Mass.

2022 Mass Intentions

Requests for 2022 Mass intentions may be made at the rectory during office hours or by mail. Please do not phone in requests.

Pray For the Healing of the Sick

Kathy Duerr, Mary Angela Richir, Kathy Nolan, Amy Jezioro Crawford, Lily Schwietzer, Sandy Clark, Cassie Rizzuto, Miya Wardlaw, Lynn Sellick, Linda A. Hogg, Ryan O'Meara, Jean Francis, Deborah Schiedel Downs, Mason Joseph Reynolds, Patricia Jasinski, Ann Marie Collura, Fred Gugino, Josephine Prisco, Jonah Delang, Robert Catalino, Michele White, Cheryl Kendall, Eryn Ramirez, Sandra Stevens, Jenna Place, Renee Perez-Quinn, Bonnie Hyman, Mark Faraci, Jackie Francisco, Eleanor Rathgeber, Eugene Frometa, Richard Riley, Jane Granville, Jessie Keith, Diane Cooke, Michael Rizzuto, Sr., Pauline Landes, Anna Marie Kirsch, Stephen Rodler, Karen Schiavone, Joseph Newland, Linda Muscato, Lucille Zoda Galfo, Anthony Genovese, Dorothy Genovese, Patricia Latimore, Kimberly Borkowski, Jeannie DiChristopher, Eric Kohlmeier, Paulette Dailey, Christine Radwan.

Project Keep Evans Warm and Fed

The warm clothing drive, Project Keep Evans Warm, also includes a food and paper drive. All collections will be turned over to Operation Good Neighbor for distribution to families in need who reside in Evans.



Requests for clothing donations include winter coats, gloves, boots and hats in all sizes, colors and styles. Children's sizes are very popular.



All donated clothing must be clean. Dry and canned food for donations might include soups, cereals, pasta and vegetables. Baby food is in great demand. Paper goods (Kleenex, paper towels and bathroom tissue) will also be collected.

You may drop off donations in the Chapel foyer for Sunday morning pick-up. For home pick up, call 481-4480 or 507-6703. Leave a message.





Because of an early bulletin deadline, last weekend's stewardship was not available to report. It will be included in next week's bulletin.

Catholic Charities Sends Warm Wishes



"When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. (Matthew 2:10) As we celebrate Christ's entrance into the world, we reflect on what it brought to us all: faith, hope, love, light, exceeding joy.

We wish you all of these and more, today and every day. Merry Christmas from all of us at Catholic Charities.

Festival of Lights

The 31st Annual Festival of Lights at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, 1023 Swann Rd, Youngstown will be open from 5:00 until 9:00 p.m. December 17-January 2.

See 15 acres of spectacular Christmas lights, including a 9-foot tall outdoor illuminated Nativity scene and a life-size Fontanini Nativity scene in the Basilica.

Admission and parking are free and groups are welcome (reservations appreciated). For scheduled hours of the office, gift shop and cafeteria, email office@fatimashrine.com or call 716-754-7489.

Nativity Sets on Display at Fatima Shrine

Fr. Roy Herberger's collection of International Nativity Sets from 59 countries are on display at the Fatima Shrine, 1023 Swann Rd., Youngstown during the Festival of Lights.

Visitors are welcome from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until January 2 (with the exception of December 24-25 and December 31). For more information, please call Fr. Roy at 716-852-2076.

| January 1 & 2 | MPB Extraordinary Ministers | Lectors |
|---------------|--|--------------|
| 4:00 p.m. | K. Young, J. Sack, N. Preischel, volunteer | P. Pinto |
| 8:30 a.m. | D. Hosler, K. Wells, L. Feider, J. Barone | D. Gelencser |

Faith Formation Sessions

Faith Formation classes for grades K-11 take place Sundays in the Parish Hall. Grades K-8 report to class at 9:15 a.m. and Grades 9-11 at 7:00 p.m. To register, contact the Rectory Office (549-0420).

All who attend are to be masked and are to enter the hall at the gym entrance. Students K-8 must be signed in and picked up by a parent or guardian.

More information is available on the parish website: [MPB Faith Formation \(mpbangola.org\)](http://MPB Faith Formation (mpbangola.org)).

Becoming CatholicRCIA

If you have not had the opportunity to receive all the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) and would like to remedy the situation or if you have pertinent questions about your faith, contact the Faith Formation Office (549-1818) to discuss your concerns.

Adults, and children who have reached the age of reason (usually age 7), who are not baptized, prepare to enter the Catholic Church through a process known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), which can easily be accommodated to children. RCIA gathers regularly and tailors the process to the needs of the individual. Adults who have been baptized in another Christian tradition and who are preparing to become Catholic follow a similar process adapted to their own particular circumstances.

MPB CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 26

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. - Sunday Masses
 No Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m. (K-8)
 No Faith Formation - 7:00 p.m. (9-11)

Tuesday, December 28

1:00 p.m. - Operation Good Neighbor: Parish Hall

Friday, December 31

7:00 p.m. - Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass

Saturday, January 1

10:00 a.m. - Solemnity of Mary Mass
 4:00 p.m. - Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday, January 2

8:30 a.m. - Sunday Mass
 No Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m. (K-8)
 No Faith Formation - 7:00 p.m. (9-11)



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Pray the Rosary
(Daily)

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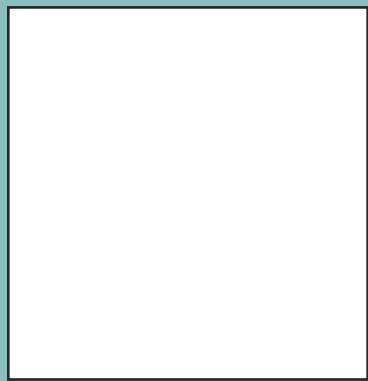
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