



**Scripture Readings for Today**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 16:25-27

**Gospel:** Luke 1:26-38

**Scripture Readings for December 28<sup>th</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Colossians 3:12-21

**Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40

Dear Parishioners,

God is always surprising us and going beyond our expectations. He took a young shepherd, David, and turned him into a mighty warrior and king. He took a simple young Jewish girl and gave her the privilege of bringing His Son into the world. When David wanted to build a house for God, a temple, God told David "No thanks. I will build a house for you, a dynasty." In the second reading, Paul tells us that God surprised the Jews and Gentiles going beyond their expectations by inviting the Gentiles into his kingdom.

God wants to take us beyond our expectations as well. St. Paul writes "Eyes has not seen, ear has not heard what...God has prepared for those who love him." (I Corinthians 2:9)

The only thing that prevents God from taking us beyond our expectations is us. Let us pray for the grace to level the mountains of pride and fill the valleys of our weakness so that God can fulfill his promises in us.

May you and your families have a Blessed Christmas and Holy New Year.

Fr. Carl

**THE COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 13-14<sup>TH</sup>**

Envelopes .....	\$14,735.30
Loose .....	\$1,268.55
Poor Boxes .....	\$595.85
Children's .....	\$30.20
Retired Religious Collection .....	\$6,957.49

**THE MASS COUNT FOR DECEMBER 13-14<sup>TH</sup>**

5 PM – 260	7:30 AM – 182	9 AM – 312
10:30 AM – 352	12 PM – 233	Total – 1339



In the first reading, God promises King David that his house and his kingdom will endure forever. It is through Mary's "Yes" — "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say." — that the promise finds fulfillment.

*O King of Kings and God  
Incarnate!*



*Come let us adore!*

*May the joy of Christ be yours in this  
Holy Season of Christmas!*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS** of Elizabeth Simpson, Mary Jo Levine, and Tammy Randle.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**, especially those in hospitals – Cecelia Brushwiler, Leo Bukowinski, Concetta Glorioso Fowler, Elaine Flannagan, Shirley Hartge, Joseph Hallameyer, Miriam Schindler, Maribelle Jane Kursch, and Audie Murphy.

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Milton Getka, Mary MacDaniel, Lou Kaminski, Mary Van Dusen, Charles & Jacque Harris, John Joseph, John Hartner, Mr. and Mrs. William Lang, Noreen Newcomb, and Robert Nelson.

**PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE:** We ask



you to remember the parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: USMC – Pvt. Harry Harrison Bruns, Cpl. Joseph Bytella, LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, LCpl Alex Webb, LCpl. John J. Cohee, Jr., Sgt. David Burton; USAF – Capt. Brian Gallagher; Nat'l Guard – Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, David Parker; Army – Timothy Muhl, Sgt. Joshua Callow, Specialist Stephen Grenfell, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Stephen Winter, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Sheldon Broedel, Recon Scout Matt Lambert, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne.

*Mass Intentions*



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 22-28<sup>th</sup>**

MONDAY 12/22	6:30 a.m. – Virginia Smith 8:00 a.m. – Chester Walski
TUESDAY 12/23	6:30 a.m. – Dahlia DiLeo 8:00 a.m. – Ints of the Harris Family
WED. 12/24	6:30 a.m. – Joseph & Eleanor Meyd 8:00 a.m. – Special Intentions UC 4:00 p.m. – Ints of Mary Van Dusen LC 4:00 p.m. – Joseph Haynes, Sr. 6:00 p.m. – Robert Kreft 8:00 p.m. – Patricia Walsh 12:00 a.m. – Marian & Frank Cummings
THURSDAY 12/25	9:00 a.m. – Carmelina Lotz 10:30a.m. – Tony & Concetta Vinci Barranco Family
FRIDAY 12/26	6:30 a.m. – Craig Lowman 8:00 a.m. – Robert Fisher
SAT. 12/27	8:00 a.m. – Aley Venginickal 5:00 p.m. – Joseph Johnson
SUNDAY 12/28	7:30 a.m. – Mary Jo Davis Levine 9:00 a.m. – For the Parishioners 10:30 a.m. – Lou Kiszner 12:00 p.m. – Joseph R. Topper Sr. Vinci Family

**DAILY READINGS**

<b>Monday</b> 12/22	<i>Advent Weekday</i> <b>Reading:</b> 1 Samuel 1:24-28 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 1:46-56
<b>Tuesday</b> 12/23	<i>St. John of Kanty</i> <b>Reading:</b> Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 1:57-66
<b>Wednesday</b> 12/24	<i>Advent Weekday</i> <b>Reading:</b> 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 1:67-79
<b>Thursday</b> 12/25	<i>Nativity of the Lord</i> <b>Reading:</b> Isaiah 52:7-10 <b>Reading:</b> Hebrews 1:1-6 <b>Gospel:</b> John 1:1-18
<b>Friday</b> 12/26	<i>St. Stephen, the first Martyr</i> <b>Reading:</b> Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59 <b>Gospel:</b> Matthew 10:17-22
<b>Saturday</b> 12/27	<i>St. John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</i> <b>Reading:</b> 1 John 1:1-4 <b>Gospel:</b> John 20:1a and 2-8

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the family of Sylvia Kosisochukwu Edozie who was baptized in our Church last weekend.

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to help decorate the Church for Christmas. We will meet in the Church at 1:15 to set up the trees. Please consider giving an hour to help.

**CONFESSIONS:** Confessions will be heard Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4-6 p.m. in preparation for Christmas.

**EVENING PRAYER WITH JESUS:** Please join us to pray the Liturgy of the Hours before the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday 12/23 at 6:30 p.m. 'O Come let us Adore Him.'



**CONFESSIONS:**

**Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**MASSES:**

**Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 p.m. Upper Church  
4:00 p.m. Lower Church  
6:00 p.m.  
8:00 p.m.  
Midnight

**Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.

The 4:00 p.m. Mass is celebrated in both the Upper & Lower Church. All other Masses are held in the Upper Church only.

**POSTER CONTEST WINNERS!** St. Agnes Council Knights of Columbus is proud to announce the winners of the "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. The St. Agnes School winners are:

Grades 1-3 Jessica Skoglin (grade 3)  
Grades 4-6 Thomas Hill (grade 4)

Congratulations Jessica and Thomas!

## **ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!**

The Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students of St. Agnes Catholic School wish our families, friends, and fellow parishioners a most blessed and happy Christmas and New Year filled with peace and joy. You are a gift to us with your constant support and generosity, and we are thankful for you and for the gift of your children whom you have placed in our care.

**Angel Project:** A special thank you to the students and parents who so generously supported our "Angel Project". Students donated money to purchase gifts for children in need at St. Joseph's Monastery Parish. The kindness of our school families will make this a brighter Christmas for many children.

*Merry Christmas and a Happy 2009!*

Please keep our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

### **Dates To Remember:**

- 1/5** School reopens 8:05 A.M.
- 1/6** First Reconciliation 7:00 P.M.

### **Save The Dates!**

- 1/8** STAND training 6:30 PM in the New School / This is a mandatory class if you want to do any volunteering at St. Agnes School.
- 1/13** Home School Association meeting 7:00 P.M.

Re-registration forms for the 2008-09 school year will be sent home soon. Please return them to keep your child's place for next year.

**PANERA BREAD FUNDRAISER** – St. Agnes Council Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Panera Bread coupon sale. Strips of 6 coupons for 3 bagels of your choice are available for \$10.00. Each strip is valued at \$18. If interested, contact Bernie McNulty at 410-480-0661.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

### **ROMANS 16:27**

To God, who alone is wise, may glory be given through Jesus Christ forever and ever.

## **St. Agnes Youth Ministry**

### **Sunday, December 21 – Christmas Party**

Our Christmas party is always such a great time to relax and celebrate Christmas! Food drinks and entertainment will be provided. Please bring a wrapped, \$5 gift to play our gift exchange game. Please make sure your gift is suitable for a male or female recipient.

### **Sunday, December 28 – No Youth Night**

### **Sunday, January 4 – New Beginnings**

Let's ring in the New Year by focusing on our ability as Catholics to start fresh in the Sacrament of Reconciliation!

## **Religious Education News**

**Sunday, December 21 and 28 – No Religious Ed. classes.** Merry Christmas!

**Sunday, January 4 – Report cards will be distributed!**

**Tuesday, January 6 – Sacrament of First Reconciliation**

## **RESPECT LIFE CORNER**

Did you know that the Freedom of Choice Act (S.1173, H.R.1964) has no conscience clause? Doctors, nurses, and hospitals will have to perform abortions even if they are morally opposed. **Call or e-mail your representatives and President-elect Obama's transition team to voice your opinion.**

[www.mikulski.senate.gov](http://www.mikulski.senate.gov) 202-224-4654  
[www.cardin.senate.gov](http://www.cardin.senate.gov) 202-224-4524  
[www.change.gov](http://www.change.gov)

**March for Life:** Thursday, January 22. Join tens of thousands to show the new administration and our legislators that we will not tolerate abortion on demand, partial-birth abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia. Please plan to participate in this March!

Pregnant, Need Help?

Call the Gabriel Network – 1-800-ANGEL-OK  
Suffering Post-Abortion Stress? Call Project Rachel – 1-800-286-4224