

## MASS INTENTIONS

|                |         |   |
|----------------|---------|---|
| Saturday 12/10 | 5:30 PM | Parish Family                                 |
| Sunday 12/11   | 8:30    | Anita Meinberg by Bill & Karen Hottinger      |
|                | 11:00   | Madeline Rosshirt by Joe & Melissa Malone     |
| Monday         |         | No Mass                                       |
| Tuesday        | 10:00   | Richard Lieber by Dave & Carol Koker          |
| Wednesday      | 7:00 PM | First Reconciliation & Parish Penance Service |
| Thursday       | 10:00   | Donald Carp by Bill & Karen Hottinger         |
| Friday         |         | No Mass                                       |
| Saturday 12/17 | 5:30 PM | Helen Kovach by Carl Grubic                   |
| Sunday 12/18   | 8:30    | Gloria Cesar by Bill & Karen Hottinger        |
|                | 11:00   | Parish Family                                 |

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 11th – Is 61:1-2a,10-11 / 1 Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8,19-28  
 Monday, December 12th - Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,10ab / Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47  
 Tuesday, December 13th – Zep 3:1-2,9-13 / Mt 21:28-32  
 Wednesday, December 14th – Is 45:6b-8,18,21b-25 / Lk 7:18b-23  
 Thursday, December 15th – Is 54:1-10 / Lk 7:24-30  
 Friday, December 16th – Is 56:1-3a,6-8 / Jn 5:33-36  
 Saturday, December 17th – Gn 49:2,8-10 / Mt 1:1-17  
 Sunday, December 18th – 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 / Rom 16:25-27 / Lk 1:26-38

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES

### December 11, 2011 – Third Sunday of Advent

**Saturday 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday 11:00 a.m.**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** \*Chris Smith, Julie Burke  
 Joyce Curran, Eileen Baesmann  
**Lectors:** Janet Flood, Christie Weiner  
**Servers:** Logan & Caleb Writesele  
**Greeters:** Richard Burke, Ruth Krumm  
**Cantors:** Kristen Treadway

\* Jerri Burgel, Donna Kashuk  
 Dan Townsend, Susan Welch  
 Don Vocca, Warren Butt  
 Rebecca, Madison, Garrett, Noah  
 Bob & Connie Muench  
 Joe Lindsay

\*Sharon Rhodeback, Corinna Rush  
 Laura Sammons, Pat Urban  
 3rd Grade Class  
 Paul, Ryan, Richard Cherry  
 3rd Grade Class  
 Victoria Chester

### December 18, 2011 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Saturday 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday 11:00 a.m.**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** \*Theresa Shively, Chris Smith  
 Julie Burke, Eileen Baesmann  
**Lectors:** Jolene & Dave Bogner  
**Servers:** Scott & Micalah Treadway  
**Greeters:** Joe & Bonnie Weiner  
**Cantors:** Melissa Jungers

\*Donna Kashuk, Jerri Burgel  
 Tom & Rhonda Thompson  
 Rodney Tornes, Chuckie Aitken  
 Caitlin, Natalie, Madison, Hannah  
 Bob & Connie Weiner  
 Maria Dellapina

\*Bubby & Roberta Eichner  
 Sharon Rhodeback, Corinna Rush  
 Carol Barb, Richard Cherry  
 Paul, Ryan, Marko Jr.  
 Jack McKenzie, Janet Grosik  
 Guitar Group

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT REFLECTION** - When we celebrate our own birthday, it isn't simply a celebration of the past. We also think of the present - where are we at this point in our lives and where are we going? When we celebrate Christmas, we think about the wondrous truth of what happened at Bethlehem. But we don't simply look back with nostalgia, we need to think about what the birth of Christ means for us now and in the future. He is still "Emmanuel" - God with us. We need to open ourselves to His presence - here and now.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION AND PARISH PENANCE SERVICE** - Some of our PSR students will be making their First Reconciliation on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 pm. This will be our parish Penance Service as well. The students will make their First Confessions, followed by any parishioner who wishes to participate.

### **YOUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**December 3/4, 2011**

435 Registered Families - Total Offering - \$4,826.50\*  
Offering from 120 Sunday envelopes – \$4,522.00\* Loose Cash – \$304.50\*  
Children's Wishing Well – \$.75  
Christmas Flowers - \$285.00 Kroger Rewards - \$759.40

### **Building Fund**

Payment received on Capital Campaign Pledges - \$140.00  
Payment received on Debt Retirement - \$210.00  
Amount still owed on debt for building - \$284,286.76

**Many contribute generously. We all need to share the burden  
of parish support. May God bless your sacrifice for Him!**

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests need your help. For years, these selfless women and men ministered for little, if any, compensation - educating the young, nursing the sick, promoting justice and peace. Their sacrifices now leave a substantial gap in retirement savings. Your gift to the **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS** provides vital funding for prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please Share in the Care and give to those who have given a lifetime.

The second collection during each of the Masses this weekend, December 10 and 11 will enable your **St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference** to help local neighbors who find themselves in immediate unanticipated need. In response to a call for assistance two Vincentian parishioners from Church of the Ascension are sent to address the issues of concern. Assistance is also provided for the St. Vincent de Paul Haven temporary men's shelter in Newark. Thank you for your spiritual and financial support.

**PARISH WEBSITE UPDATED** - The Ascension website - <http://www.johnstownascension.org> has been completely updated. New features include a Parish Calendar listing upcoming events; pages for each ministry with contact information, events, documents and photo galleries; download current and previous bulletins/Ascension Connection; directions to the church for out-of-towners with a map; and a link to sign up to the parish email list. Ministry contacts have the ability to update their own page, documents, photos and event listings. If you have photos of parish events you are encouraged to email them to the webmaster, [theresa@duick.com](mailto:theresa@duick.com), for sharing on the site. Ministry contacts, please email [david@duick.com](mailto:david@duick.com) to setup a training session on updating your groups page and event calendar.

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24** - Mass and Nativity Play at 5:30 pm and Mass at 10:00 pm.

**Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25** - Mass at 10:00 am. (No PSR)

**New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31** - Mass at 5:30 pm.

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Sunday, January 1** - Mass at 8:30 and 11:00 am. (NO PSR)

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** - We will once again be decorating the altar with poinsettias in celebration of the birth of Christ. Please use the envelope in your packet or one of the Christmas Flower envelopes on the table in the gathering space. If you would care to have the name of a loved one or a special intention listed in the Christmas bulletin, please indicate it on the envelope. Please include a contribution of \$10.00 and drop your envelope in the collection basket. Deadline for the Christmas bulletin is early, so please get them in by Wed., December 14.

**The Women of Ascension** will have their December meeting and cookie exchange on Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 pm.

**NATIVITY TIME!** - Rehearsals for the Children's Nativity play are scheduled for Sunday, December 11th, 4:00 pm, Sunday, December 18th, 4:00 pm, and Friday, December 23rd, 6:30 pm ( The Dec 23 one will be a DRESS REHEARSAL SO PLEASE WORK HARD TO ENSURE YOU ARE AT THIS ONE) Any questions, please e-mail Kristen Treadway at [sktreadway@embarqmail.com](mailto:sktreadway@embarqmail.com).

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

Our prayers this week are asked for: Catherine Bisang, Joe Vocca, Kathy Hanninger, Barbara VanHoose, Mackenzie Grogan, Jim Wahl, Nioma Bowmar, Debbie Hlad, Tony Dellapina, Peggy Sanders, Storm Stevens, Mary Jane Downey, Ron Writesel, Frank Fiamingo, Hilde Hildebrandt, Mary Ann Williams, Fr. Reichert, Jim Sweet, Mary Sweet, Lucy Heller, Margie Bemiller, Bev Meholick, Bob Meholick, Ralph Downey, Marion Disbennett, Mary Phalen, and for those who have no one to pray for them.

Our **2012 CHURCH ENVELOPES** are available for pick-up in the east hallway across from the restrooms. Please note that you may or may not have the same number as last year, so please double check your name before taking them. If there is not a set with your name on them, please see the sheet at the table for instructions.

**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION UPDATE** - It's my birthday! Thank you so much for all your prayers. Because you prayed for me, I got the best of all gifts - LIFE! Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Spiritual Adoption Program these past 10 months. Anyone who wishes to, may donate a baby gift that will be delivered to Heartbeats of Licking County. There will be a collection box in the gathering space after Christmas.

**DEBT RETIREMENT UPDATE** - In the six months since we started our efforts to retire the debt, along with regular mortgage payments we have been able to reduce the debt by \$58,000. Many thanks to all who have helped and remember that pledge cards are still available in the gathering space.