



PLEASE PRAY FOR Dorothy Johnson, Vincent Marzulli, Debbie Fromkin, Brian Oehme, Bronislaw & Zofia Buczek, Teresa Dillow, Tom O'Rourke, Manuel Canencia, Annemarie Logan, Eleanor Passarella, Grace Philhower

SATURDAY, February 17, 2018

9:00 A.M. DOROTHY P. ZAGAMI r/b Bernadette Massey & John Szalinski
 4:00 P.M. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
 5:30 P.M. JOHN FLETCHER r/b Ed Sawicki
 FRED ARENA r/b Family

SUNDAY, February 18, 2018

8:00 A.M. OTTO & ELIZABETH FREDRICKSON r/b C. Lynn Broten
 MARGARET MARY DOYLE r/b Angela & Jim Rogers
 10:00 A.M. JOAN BUELL r/b Mastrella family
 JEFFREY LOURO r/b Sternik family
 12:00 P.M. CATHERINE COONEY r/b Galante family
 MARLENE COLANGELO r/b Doug & Bonnie Stewart
 5:30 P.M. BETTY COUSINS
 GENEVIEVE CIBELLI r/b MaryAnn D'Agostino & family

MONDAY, February 19, 2018

9:00 A.M. JOHN R. FLETCHER r/b Ed Fletcher
 FRANCES DWYER r/b Eileen & Dick Tobin

TUESDAY, February 20, 2018

9:00 A.M. FLORENCE McINERNEY r/b Bernadette Massey & John Szalinski
 HENRY JOHNSON r/b Eileen Lyver

WEDNESDAY, February 21, 2018

9:00 A.M. PAUL REPETTI r/b Kathy Durik
 SUSAN SANSUVERE r/b Gloria & Raymond Burke

THURSDAY, February 22, 2018

9:00 A.M. ANNA MOORE r/b Roseanne Cerchia
 MARY & THOMAS CORRIDON r/b M. Corridon

FRIDAY, February 23, 2018

9:00 A.M. MICHAEL BARRETT r/b Dennigan family

SATURDAY, February 24, 2018

9:00 A.M. KARL SCHLOEDER r/b Riley family
 4:00 P.M. ANGELA MASTROLIA r/b Pat Riordan
 JO MROZ r/b Louise Pataranick
 5:30 P.M. PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

SUNDAY, February 25, 2018

8:00 A.M. MARGARET MARY DOYLE r/b MaryBeth & Greg Rogers
 MARGARET G. SMITH r/b Louis & Margot Rivera
 10:00 A.M. JOAN BUELL r/b Defebough family
 12:00 P.M. CATHERINE COONEY r/b Sheehan
 ROBERT J. YOUNG r/b Anne & Jim Kirms
 5:30 P.M. PAT BREMA r/b Shirley & Ken Barrett
 ART RUBINO r/b Piazza family

ALTAR SERVERS for February 24th & 25th

Sat., 4 pm: Adam Fox, Erin McKinley, Glenn Bates
 5:30 pm: Savannah Isacson
 Sun., 8 am: Andiee & Jaimee Jocson
 10 am: Kathleen Burke,, Joshua Clanton, Jonathan & Celia Ekhelar
 12 Noon: Grace Dalton, Hannah Sheehan & Jarod Alviola
 5:30 pm: Peter Hegel, Adrianna Vergara & Andrei Vegara

**Faith In Our Future
 Cohort 18 Update ~ February, 2018**

Our Cohort needs your input and help. You will recall that this committee was founded to help deal with the difficult challenges in the Church by collaborating with our neighboring parishes. We need to hear from our parishioners regarding your needs as well as how we can best serve the community. We need more members from each parish to serve on the core team. The subcommittees could also use more members to contribute their talents to help complete their goals. If you are interested and willing to help, please contact the Parish Office!

Shop Rite Gift Cards Holy Innocents Parish continues to participate in the *ShopWithScrip* fundraising program. The Parish Office currently carries Shop Rite gift cards (\$25 & \$100 denominations). Scrip cards can be purchased any time during office hours, Monday thru Friday.

Eucharistic Adoration is held at Holy Innocents every Thursday (*except holidays and holy days*) 9:30 am-9 pm AND on First Fridays from 9:30 am-2 pm. Special thanks to all who make regular Adoration possible here at Holy Innocents! Please invite your friends and family members to participate. *"God dwells in our midst, in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar."* —St. Maximilian Kolbe

Altar Rosary Society will not meet again until April 16th. Regular meetings are the 3rd Monday of the month at 10 am in the Religious Ed Annex (directly upstairs from Parish Office). For more info, please call Maria 848 702-1811.

Holy Innocents Seniors Club For the months of February & March, the Seniors Club will only meet on the 1st Friday of the month at 1:30 pm in the cafeteria. If you would like more information about this group, call Alice Kohlman 732 988-4471. **Next meeting: March 2nd. New members are always welcome!**

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is coming very soon. Have you picked out your penance yet? (Or decided to, "Give something up," as some like to put it.) It's a good spiritual practice to take on a special penance during Lent so that we can overcome love of self and to open ourselves to the grace of God. We can often use the things of this world to excess and the penances we take on help to correct that tendency. If you have never tried to go without something for forty days, now this year is a perfect opportunity to try it.

When we take on a Lenten Penance, we first need to ask ourselves one simple question: what am I loving more than God? The answer to this question might be radically different depending on who is answering. Some people might be great at prayer, but they have no self-control when eating. Others may be really into charity work, yet barely ever pick up a bible. Once we examine where we fall short, it is then good to pick something that really challenges. Maybe we could take on spiritual reading, purposefully avoid a certain food, spend some time caring for the poor or pray the rosary every day. It depends on the individual and where they are on their journey of faith.

After Lent is over, depending on how well we did, we will either be glad that we overcame our faults or we will realize just how much we need the mercy of God. Either way, we can praise God for all the opportunities we have to show Him our love. Trust in His Strength, His Love and His Mercy.

God bless!

Fr. Carter

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: SPENDING TIME

Stewardship of time is one of the three interlinked dimensions of our call to stewardship. Just as with our financial resources, we talk about spending time, saving time, and wasting time. But how well do we steward our time, or use it in a way that reflects our gratitude to God for every hour of every day?

According to the latest government survey, the average American spends about 5 hours of "spare" time each day in these activities:

- 2.8 hours watching TV
- 38 minutes socializing and communicating
- 20 minutes reading
- 20 minutes using the computer for fun
- 17 minutes participating in sports, exercise, active recreation
- 16 minutes relaxing and thinking
- 20 minutes on "other activities"

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics)

How do you use your leisure time? Where do your priorities lie? How much time do you give back to God—in prayer, study, volunteering in the parish?

"Teach us to count our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart." (Psalm 90:12)

Bible Study Exploring the Gospel of Mark. Join us at 5:30 pm in the school conference room on the following Mondays: 2/26, 3/5, 12, 19 & 26, 4/9, 16, 23 & 30, 5/7, 14 & 21. This schedule may be subject to change if any of these dates need to be rescheduled. Contact Fr. Carter if you are interested!

Reading Group will start a new book called, "Catholic For A Reason". It is a series of essays about God and the Holy Trinity edited by Scott Hahn. Reading Group meets every other Thursday in the School Conference Room at 7 pm starting March 8th. Feel free to contact Fr. Carter for details: toddcarterpriest@gmail.com. This book is available through book stores and online retailers.

Next Family Game Night Join us Friday, February 16th at 5 pm in the cafeteria. All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. You may bring your own game to play. Enjoy old favorites or learn new games. Pizza & drinks are provided, and a free-will offering taken. Gamers are encouraged to bring snacks or dessert for the sharing table.

Holy Innocents Music Ministry The Adult Choir sings at the 10 am Mass, the Folk Group at the 12 Noon Mass, and The Teen Praise Group the first Sunday of the month at 5:30 pm Mass. The Choir practices in church every Tues., 7 pm. If you are interested in being a part of our parish music ministry, speak with the Music Director.

Religious Education Office

Sr. Bernadette Schuler, osf
732 922-4242 x28

VIRTUS for adults training is presented throughout the year at different locations. ANY adult volunteer or staff member working with children is **REQUIRED** to attend this one-time training session and also submit to fingerprinting & criminal background check. Advance registration required at <http://www.virtusonline.org>. Please call Sr. Bernadette if you need more information.

St. Vincent dePaul Society Holy Innocents SVDPS provides financial assistance and also maintains a small (non-perishables only) food pantry to assist residents of Neptune and a limited surrounding area. Please call 732-922-4242 x24 for information or assistance. Someone is available at the pantry on Sundays following the 10 am & 12 Noon Masses. SVDPS gratefully accepts local grocery store gift cards, as well as monetary donations through the poor boxes in church and the green Social Concerns envelopes. There's always a need for helping hands. Anyone interested in volunteering with this ministry, please call for more information.

Catholic Men for Jesus Christ Join other Catholic Men from across the Diocese of Trenton at the 21st Annual Men's Conference on Saturday, February 24th at St. Gregory the Great in Hamilton Square. This year's theme is "The Age of Mercy". The day begins at 8 am and ends 3 pm. Cost is \$25 per person in advance (\$30 at the door), \$10 for students, with breakfast and lunch provided. For more information or to register online, go to www.catholicmenforjesuschrist.org. To register by mail, send the name of each person registering with your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Catholic Men for Jesus Christ, PO Box 816, Morrisville, PA 19067.

Holy Innocents Church Increased Giving Update: *Our Stewardship Appeal is being well received by the people of Holy Innocents. To date, 217 households have increased their weekly contribution in response to our program, representing a combined weekly increase of approximately \$2,000. If you have not yet indicated your new level of giving, please use the special response form you received in the letter from Fr. Carter. If you are interested in taking advantage of the new Electronic Giving Program, please visit the Church website at www.holyinnocentschurch.net.*

Holy Innocents School News

HIS Booster Club presents Lake House Music Academy in a benefit concert. Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 7 pm in the school gym. Tickets \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Doors open at 6 pm. Contact Scott 732 233-0022 or Jim 732 493-4550 for info or tickets.

Holy Innocents PTA invites you to our Annual Gift Auction, so mark your calendar: Saturday, April 21st! In the mean time, we are asking for donations of goods or services, gift cards/certificates, and new gift items for auction. Donations will be collected in the School and/or Parish Office during regular hours, Monday through Friday. We thank you for your consideration, and hope to see you at the Auction! Any questions, please call the Office 732 922-3141 x13.

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Flute & Guitar Concert Mark your calendar and join us on Sunday, February 25, 2018 at 3 pm in the church. The duo of our parishioner, flutist Marjorie Koharski and classical guitarist, Keith Calmes will perform what has become an annual event here in our parish. All are welcome, so bring a friend! Free-will offering will be accepted.

Schedule for the Coming Week

Sat., Feb. 17	5:00 pm Confessions
Sun., Feb. 18	NO Religious Ed (K-6) 7:00 pm AA in cafeteria
Mon., Feb. 19	NO Religious Ed (7 & 8)
Tue., Feb. 20	9:30 am Rosary Makers in Relig. Ed. Annex NO Religious Ed (K-6) NO RCIA 7:00 pm Choir practice in church
Thur., Feb. 22	9:30 am-9:00 pm Adoration in chapel 6:30 pm AA in cafeteria
Fri., Feb. 23	Gym Closed
Sat., Feb. 24	5:00 pm Confessions PTA Father-Daughter Dance in gym
Sun., Feb. 25	Blood Drive in cafeteria 8:45 am Religious Ed (K-6) 3:00 pm Flute & Classical Guitar Concert in church 7:00 pm AA in cafeteria
Mon., Feb. 26	5:30 pm Bible Study in the conference room 7:00 pm Religious Ed (7) 7:00 pm Confirmation Penance Service in church
Tue., Feb. 27	9:30 am Rosary Makers in Relig. Ed. Annex 4:15 pm Religious Ed (K-6) 7:00 pm RCIA in conference room 7:00 pm Choir practice in church