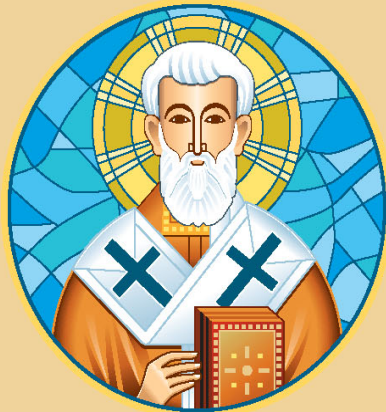
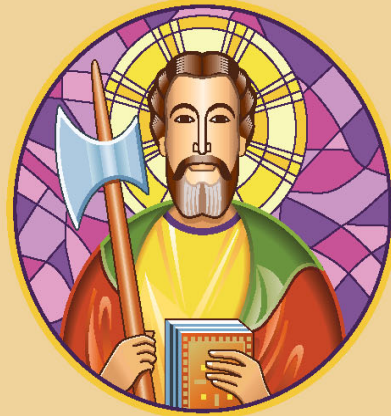


THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF



ST. GREGORY
ZELIENOPLE, PA



ST. MATTHIAS
EVANS CITY, PA



Events Today, Sunday, December 18:

Pancake Breakfast with Santa

8:00 - 10:30 a.m. in the St. Gregory School Cafeteria
\$5 for Adults, \$4 for Senior citizens, and \$3 for Children under 10

St. Matthias Children's Christmas Party following the 9:45 a.m. Mass

Ham and drinks are provided. Please bring a covered dish.
This will replace the CCD class. All are invited.

St. Gregory "Happy Birthday Jesus" Party
in the Bergman Events Center following the 11:30 a.m. Mass
For children ages 10 and under.



Youth Group Christmas Caroling Wednesday, December 21, at 5:30 p.m.

We will meet in the upper parking lot at St. Gregory, go caroling at the local nursing homes, then go back to St. Gregory for refreshments and our normal youth group in the gym. All parishioners are welcome to join us.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve: St. Gregory - 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., & 10:00 p.m.
St. Matthias - Midnight
Christmas Day: St. Gregory - 8:00 a.m.
St. Matthias - 10:00 a.m.

No Confessions on Saturday, December 24.



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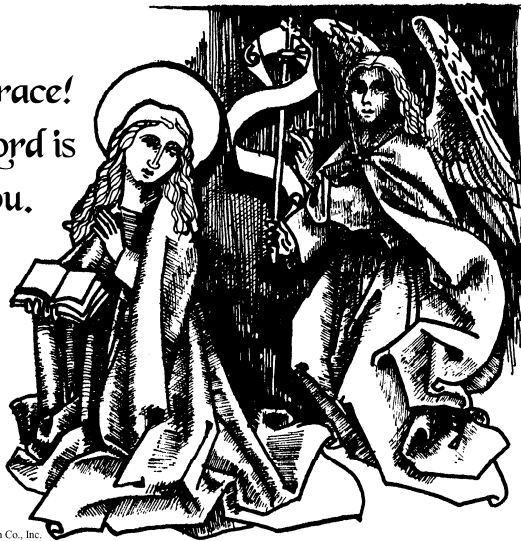
The Eternal God

King David wished that the ark of God might have a more permanent home. David may have envisioned something like the cedar palace where he resided. God had in mind something more: a throne where David's descendants would rule forever, a kingdom where Jews and Gentiles alike would be welcome.

Mary's prayerful nature led to an even more disturbing message. She would conceive and bear a Son though she was not yet married. "How can this come about?" Mary wondered. "The Holy Spirit will come upon you," she was told (Luke 1:35).

Mary's acceptance of this difficult challenge ushered in this, the final age of God's reign. What was once a secret known only by chosen people like King David and his descendants must now be made clear to all so that, as Saint Paul wrote to the Romans, we can be brought to the "obedience of faith" "according to the command of the eternal God" (Romans 16:26).

Hail,
full of grace!
The Lord is
with you.



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Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Group meets every Tuesday following the 7:00 p.m. Mass and the **Divine Mercy Prayer Group** meets every Monday at 3:00 p.m. Both groups meet in the church (St. G). New members are always welcome.

Children's Bulletin in the vestibule is for your family to share. Please take one.

End of Year Donations: Please remember to have all 2011 donations to us before Saturday, December 31. Keep in mind that the parish office will be closed on Monday, December 26, and will have limited hours the rest of that week. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year.

Market Day forms are available in the vestibule of the church. Orders are due by Thursday, January 5 (internet orders by Monday, January 9). The pick-up date is Saturday, January 14, 10 - 11:00 a.m. in the St. Gregory School cafeteria.

Nut Roll Thank You: Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the nut roll making and selling. We made a profit of \$762. Thanks to all.

St. Anne Guild thanks all who donated and bought baked goods at our annual Christmas Sale.

St. Vincent De Paul Society would like to thank you for all the support that they receive, whether it be with food collections for their Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, or monetary donations. They greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour at St. Paul Church, McKean St, Butler on Tuesday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction.

*If you have too much to do,
with God's help
you will find time to do it all.*

— St. Peter Canisius

Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

QUESTION: What do you call a family which began with an unmarried pregnant teen and had a twelve year old son who ran away from home and was eventually executed as a criminal?

ANSWER: HOLY! Two lessons in today's gospel: (1) No matter what is happening in your family, "the Lord is with you". (2) Do not be afraid for "nothing is impossible with God".

Second Collection on Christmas is for the Christmas Charities for Children & Youth. The proceeds from this collection are used to support a number of programs in our diocese that serve children and young people. Please be generous at this special time of year.

Food Cupboard (St M): Items needed in December are personal care: toothpaste, shampoo, bar soaps, deodorants, combs, etc. **Thank you** for your generosity and for remembering those less fortunate during this special season. A total of \$1,156 was collected during the month of November for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets.

Southwest Butler County Food Cupboard (St G) collection is this weekend. **Please note that this is one week earlier than usual.** Please bring your non-perishable items to the vestibule of the church by noon on Monday, December 19. Together, we can help our neighbors have a nice Christmas.

Last Minute Gift Ideas: Lottery Calendars sold by the St. Gregory PTG are available in the school office and will be sold after all Masses at St. Gregory this weekend. The calendar is \$20 and runs for 100 days beginning on January 1, 2012. The payout is \$100 and is based on the Pennsylvania 7:00 p.m. three digit daily number. **Super Bingo Gift Certificates** are available for \$25 and are great Christmas gifts for the bingo player on your list! They are available at the parish office or at Mathew Jewelers in Zelig or The Streets of Cranberry.

Applebee's "Dine to Donate" Night on Thursday, December 22, from 11:00 a.m. to midnight. St. Gregory School will receive 15% of all eligible purchases that day. See the insert in today's bulletin for details. Be sure to save the flyer since you will need to present it to your waiter/waitress.

Oplatki Christmas Wafers are available in the vestibule of St. Gregory for \$2 a packet. This is a favorite Christmas tradition in many families.

Catholic Calendars are still available in the vestibule of the church. Please take one. A big thank you to Boylan Funeral Home for providing them.

Ushers (St G): If you haven't already done so, please pick up your 2012 schedule in your mailbox. One per household please.

St. Matthias Choir Practice will be held following the 9:45 a.m. Mass this week.

Decorating Churches: Both churches will be decorated today, Sunday, December 18 - following the 11:30 a.m. Mass at **St. Gregory** and following the Children's Christmas Party at **St. Matthias**. If you have time to help at either parish, it will be appreciated.

CCD Classes at both parishes will not meet on December 25 or January 1. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8. Have a wonderful Christmas.

Christmas Baskets will be distributed by the St. Gregory St. Vincent De Paul Society to those who signed up to receive one tomorrow, Monday, December 19, at 10:00 a.m. Please go to the lower parking lot and pick up your basket at the church door.

Knights of Columbus: The meeting on Monday, December 19, will be a social Christmas gathering at Bob Goetz's house and all Knights are invited. Please call Randy at 724-752-8706 if you are able to attend.

Early Bulletin Deadline: Items for the January 1 bulletin are due in the parish office by **9:00 a.m.** on Tuesday, December 20.

Advent Reconciliation Services in the Area:

Holy Redeemer, Ellwood City: Tues., Dec. 20, 7:00 p.m.
St. Fidelis, Butler: Wed., Dec. 21, 7:15 p.m.
St. Christopher, Prospect: Thurs., Dec. 22, 6:30 p.m.

St. Gregory School: The last day of school in 2011 will be on Thursday, December 22. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 3. **Please note that the Mass on Friday, December 23, will be at 8:00 a.m. since the school children will not be here.**

Collections

December 10-11

<i>St. Gregory</i>	
Regular Collection: 343	\$7,678.00
Holy Day, December 8: 136	1,587.00
Catholic Institute Loan:	312,385.00
Paid on Loan in October:	6,572.00
New debt balance:	305,813.00
<i>St. Matthias</i>	
Regular Collection: 57	\$1,398.99
Parish Share: 4	200.00
Parish Share Plus: 4	80.00
Holy Day, December 8: 27	301.00

St. Gregory & St. Matthias Weekly Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, December 18 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Saturday Vigil

5:00 p.m. (St G) Rose, Joseph, Gerhard, & Gary Hartmann
& Chuck Goodzinski - *family*

Sunday Morning

8:00 a.m. (St G) Parishioners of St. Gregory & St. Matthias
9:45 a.m. (St M) Margaret Young - *Nick, Tricia, & Elmo*
11:30 a.m. (St G) Palley & Muller Families - *Kathy & Fritz*

Monday, December 19 *Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 a.m. (St G) Christine Young - *Millicent Fitzgerald*

Tuesday, December 20 *Late Advent Weekday*

7:00 p.m. (St G) John Loomis - *Valerie Armstrong*

Wednesday, December 21

Saint Peter Canisius, priest and doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. (St M) Dorothy and Robert Stutz -
Don & Linda Humber

Thursday, December 22 *Late Advent Weekday*

8:00 a.m. (St G) Sue Winfield - *Duer Family*

Friday, December 23 *Saint John of Kanty, priest*

8:00 a.m. (St G) Francis & Julie Davison - *Cathy & family*

Saturday, December 24 *Vigil of Christmas*

No Confessions

Vigil

4:00 p.m. (St G) Francis Lazor - *family*
6:00 p.m. (St G) Mary Ann Graeber - *Bill & Angie Eppinger*
10:00 p.m. (St G) Parishioners of St. Gregory & St. Matthias
Midnight Mass (St M) Rev. John P. Maloney -
Dorothy Spithaler

Sunday, December 25 *The Nativity of the Lord*

8:00 a.m. (St G) Capots Family - *Tom & Terry*
10:00 a.m. (St M) McDrosky Family - *Joan Hogan*



Directory of Information

Pastor Rev. William E. Dorner
E-Mail: frbilldorner@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate Sister Patricia Myers, SHS

Directors of CCD Constance Reeher - St. Gregory
Maureen Kelly - St. Matthias

Weekend Masses
Saturday 5:00 p.m. (St. G) Sunday 8:00 a.m. (St. G)
9:45 a.m. (St. M)
11:30 a.m. (St. G)

Holy Day Masses
Anticipated 7:00 p.m. (St. G) Day of 12:05 p.m. (St. G)
7:00 p.m. (St. M)

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - St. Matthias
12:00 Noon - St. Gregory

Sacrament of Baptism

Sundays at St. Gregory after the 11:30 a.m. Mass and
Saturdays at St. Matthias at 10:00 a.m. Baptisms will be
scheduled after parents have completed the baptism class.

Sacrament of Matrimony

You must contact and meet with Fr. Bill at least six
months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Please call Fr. Bill at the St. Gregory office if you or a
loved one is in need of this Sacrament.

Sacrament of Holy Orders

If you feel that God may be calling you to the Priesthood
or to the Permanent Diaconate, please contact and meet
with Fr. Bill.

St. Gregory Parish www.stgregzelie.org
Two W. Beaver Street, Zelienople, PA 16063
Parish Office 724-452-7245
E-Mail: stgreg.parish@zoominternet.net
Fax 724-452-4064
School 724-452-9731
E-Mail: stgreg.school@zoominternet.net
CCD 724-452-7245
E-Mail: stgreg.ccd@zoominternet.net
Cafeteria 724-452-8010

St. Matthias Parish www.stmatthias-ec.org
417 E. Main Street, PO Box 545, Evans City, PA 16033
Parish Office 724-538-5331

Diocese of Pittsburgh Victim Assistance Hotline
phone number is: 1-888-808-1235