MASSES FOR THE WEEK

December 18, 2016 4th Sunday of Advent

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Monday	8:00 AM	NO MASS
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Grace Hankinson (b'day) – Mary Grace Stiffler
Wednesday	8:00 AM	NO MASS
Thursday	7:00 PM	NO MASS
Friday	8:00 AM	NO MASS
Saturday	4:00 PM	James Davis, Jr. – Betty Davis
	9:00 PM	Fred Will (Anniv) – Pauline Will
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sandra & Lew Little – Mike & Buddy Hankinson

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Sanctuary Candle – For Peace

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PRAYER LIST: Barbara Allison, Chester Berkey, Dorothy Bittner, Fred Bittner, Janey Black, Leo & Cora Bonus, Vicki Bowser, Ed Boyer, Macy Burke, Anna Burkett, Kara Bussard, Laura Costello, Judy Dronet, Beau Dull, Joel Easter, Baby Ezekiel, Agnes Fleming, Tabitha Flick, Harry Fochtman, Debbie Foor, Paisley Goetzl, Donald Grasser, Kelly Hartbauer, Elizabeth, Ken & Kennaley Heider, Cathy Hernandez, Sandra Herzing, Mike Hess, Chet Hillegass, David Hinson, Tina Hoover, Connie Horne, Matthew Jenkins, Bob Kemerer, J.T. Kline, Todd Kline, Jeanne Marie Klisiewicz, Eileen Knott, Virginia Lambert, Tim Landis, David Leonard, Don Lynch, Martha Marker, George Maser, Dorothy Maurer, Joseph Meslovich, Sr., Gary Metivier, Mike Montreal, Tracey Mowry, Ashley Nail, Cathy & Laird Ober, Anthony Palik, Jane Palik, Louise Pekala, Caleb Plummer, Denver Reed, Carol Restly, Rose Restly, Sabina Restly, Shawn Restly, Paula Saunders, Michelle Schmitt, Tammy Schreiber, Greg Seeley, Sandra Shaffer, Cathy Smith, Clara Smith, Wendy Smith, Michael Stefanik, Tommy Stiffler, Pat Stoe, Judy Stufft, Mike Valentine, Sue Walker, Anna Lee & Kenny Wambaugh, Mereada Werner, Aaron Weiss, Christina Whetstone, Charlotte Will, Jan & Larry Will, Karen Will, Tish Will, Scott Wilkens, Dominick Yachere.

If you added a person's name to the prayer list and they have since recovered,

please call to remove their name from our prayer list

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Last week: Loose: $74.10 Adults: $1,658.00 Total: $1,732.10

Retirement Fund for Religious: $316.00

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Altar Schedule – December 25th

	4 pm	9 pm	9 am
READER:	Wayne Tedley	Kris Engleka	Paul Balint
MINISTER:	Deacon Thom	Deacon Thom	Deacon Thom
SERVERS:	Kennaley Heider	Maria Engleka	Nathan Leonard
	Desirae Heider	Jacob Stewart	Caleb Leonard

THE CHURCH OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Pastor: Fr. Richard Tomkosky
(ricopadre@hotmail.com)

Hall Reservations: Melinda Will (733-0029)

Mass Schedule:

Parish Website: www.newbaltimorecatholic.com

Tues.: 7:00 PM
Sunday: 6:00 PM (Vigil)
8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Rectory:
Box 10
New Baltimore, PA 15553
Phone: 733-2210 Hall: 733-4113

Baptism:
Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

Confessions
Saturday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

Matrimony:
Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program

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Parish Mission Statement St. John the Baptist Parish is a Catholic Christian Community centered in rural New Baltimore, Pennsylvania. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to live as entrusted stewards using God's gifts responsibly, intelligently, prudently, and gratefully to bring about His kingdom. As stewards of our time, talents, possessions, and faith, we

are called to put our lives in proper focus and to live in accord with one another giving love and caring support; to accept Christ's challenge as related in the Gospels – to serve one another.

Families and the Gospel…. The child born to Joseph and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child is EMMANUEL, reminding us "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.

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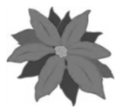

Christmas is the season when our Sanctuary comes alive with candles, trees, evergreens, and poinsettias. If you would like to donate to our Christmas flowers fund, please use the envelope in your packet. All monies will go towards buying flowers for the Church. If you would like to make an offering "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one please include that on your envelope. The names submitted by December 18th will be published.

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We are looking for a person or persons to take charge of our Lenten Fish Fry's for 2017. If no one volunteers by February 1st we will need to cancel this fundraiser because Lent starts on March 1st. We would like to thank Cathy Smith for chairing this fundraiser for the past two years.

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ANTIPHONS

The final seven days before Christmas Eve, the church calls us to cry for the coming of Jesus with special poems for each day. These poems may be said with our meal prayer or as part of our night prayer.

December 17: – O Wisdom, who issued from the mouth of the Most High reaching from beginning to end. Ordering all things mightily but tenderly, come teach us the way of prudence.
December 18: – O Lord of Lords and leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the bush's flaming fire and gave to him the Law of Sinai, Come to redeem us with stretched-out arms.
December 19: – O Root of Jesse, a standard to the peoples before whom all kings are made, to whom all nations shall appeal, Come to deliver us; delay, please, no longer.
December 20: – O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one dares shut, you shut and no one dares open, Come deliver those who are imprisoned in darkness.
December 21: - O Rising Dawn, redeemer of eternal light and Sun of Justice, come, enlighten those sitting in darkness.
December 22: – O King of Nations and our deserved one, you the cornerstone, Come and save us whom you created.
December 23: – O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver. You are the one for whom we wait, Come to save us, O Lord, our God.

Notes from Fr. Rich

- Upcoming Christmas schedule: I hope as your pastor that everyone truly has a blessed Advent season leading up to Christmas. This year we had to change the Christmas Mass schedule in order to ensure that we have music at each Mass, so this year the Christmas schedule in New Baltimore will be: ***4 and 9 pm on Christmas Eve and then 9 am on Christmas morning***. The Benedictine Fathers will be covering Christmas in New Baltimore this year. FYI: *the Mass schedule at St. Thomas in Bedford for Christmas is 5 pm at the school hall, and 9 pm on Christmas Eve and 9 am on Christmas Day in the Church*. Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, so the schedule above for both Churches takes the place of the normal Sunday schedule.
- Confessions: The last time Confessions will be offered before Christmas will be on this Tuesday evening December 20 from 6-6:45 pm in the round room behind the retreat house Chapel- evening Mass will follow at 7 pm in the Chapel. Have a blessed week.☺

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We extend our sympathy to Anita Hankinson & her family at the death of her father Doran Walker. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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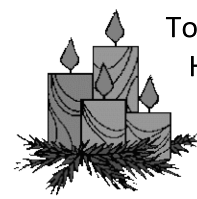

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath — the candles of HOPE, PEACE and JOY. Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of LOVE. Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. As God is love, let us be love also.
In the Book of Deuteronomy we find these words:
"For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. — Deuteronomy 10:17-19a
From the Gospel of John we hear:
"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." — John 13:34-35

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The ushers for the month of January are:
6 pm: Mark Hankinson; Larry Hankinson; Harry Fochtman; Ed Will

8 am: Jeff Hickey; Kay Hickey; Bill Carthew; Oscar Speicher
10:30 am: Lynn Benning; Pat Hankinson; Hunter Stoe

Offertory envelopes and 2017 church calendars
are available in the church basement.