

## *From the Pastor . . .*

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Vincent de Paul Parish,

I appreciate everyone getting the “**Giving Tree**” items in early. The St. Vincent de Paul Society said that we received a generous amount of presents. Very few items were missing, and that saves the organizers from having to run to the store and purchase missing items. Gifts for children will be distributed through the Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center on 18<sup>th</sup> Street. The Knights of Columbus are grateful for all the contributions of **coats for kids**.

Last Monday the school had “**Celebrity Server**” night at the Elm Grove Pizza Hut. The restaurant was packed with St. Vincent de Paul Parishioners and school families. It was a fun evening and the school made over \$600 from tips and the fifty/fifty raffle. Fr Gary and I worked in the kitchen cleaning dishes. It reminded me of my job in high school as a cook and dishwasher at Shoney’s in Martinsburg, WV. Thank you to the SVS school teachers who served and John Yelenic, our Advancement Director, for organizing the event.

The “Joy of the Gospel.” Our Advent reflection was a small group with only around 25 people attending this event last weekend in our church hall. All who attended enjoyed the learning more about Pope Francis’ vision of a Church that goes to the peripheries,” and brings the message of Christ to those most in need. Question to consider:

**Jesus is already present to the people on the peripheries. Will he be there alone? Will the people of his church join our Lord on the peripheries of humanity?**

God bless you all, Msgr. Paul Hudock

**Second Collection this week: Retirement Fund for Religious.** Please help religious communities. “Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry,” writes a religious sister. Your gift to today’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!



## **ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE**

**SERVICE:** Our Communal Penance Service - in conjunction with St.

Michael’s - will be held Tuesday evening, Dec. 19, at 7:00 pm here at St. Vincent’s. Everyone is invited to attend this Prayer Service with the opportunity for individual confession as part of your preparation for Christmas.



## **CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL:**

We are now at 77% of our goal!!

### **Raise the Roof!**

We have collected \$131,07 of our \$170,000 goal. (As of December 5). **At this stage, your gift will be returned directly to the parish without tax from the Diocese. Thank you for your support!**



**FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS:** Anyone wishing to make a donation toward the flowers we use to decorate the Church for Christmas is asked to place the donation in an envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” and either mail it to the parish office or placed it in the collection.



**CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS:** So that everyone has an opportunity to have their special intentions prayed for at Christmas time, we ask that you place your intentions on a sheet of paper and either mail it to the parish office or place it in the collection. These intentions will be compiled into a list and placed in a binder. The binder will be placed near the Altar for each of the Christmas Masses. Donation/stipend for the intention is optional.



**SIGN UP SHEETS:** The sign up sheets for the Christmas Masses will be placed in the vestibule next weekend (December 9/10). We are in need of Lectors/Announcers, Altar Servers, and Greeters for 7:00, and Midnight Christmas Eve Masses, and for the 10:30 am Mass Christmas Morning. We need Eucharistic Ministers for all Masses: 4:30, 7:00, Midnight, and 10:30 am. Please sign up for the Mass you plan to attend.



**Please Pray For Those who are sick...** Lora

Bishop, Barbara Brayec Fred Chipkar, Mabel Curtis, Urban Danahey, Kathy Dietrich, Sammi Eimer, Janet Ferrera, James Guerriero, Fred Jaquay, Marcia Laughlin, Linda Melko, Steve McCollam, Denise Mull, Mike Perring, Shirley Seamon, Mark Slater, Barb Smith, Evelyn Tellitocci, The Petruccioli Family, Lori Plants, Fr. Bill Seli, S.M., Henry Schmitt, Nick Stephan, Anita Tankovits, Chester Jay Taylor, Jim Tighe, Kathy Wagner, Fr. Joe Wilhelm, S.M, Mitzi Wiczorkowski, Sue Yahh

**BEREAVEMENT GATHERING:** If you or someone you know has lost a loved one and may benefit from a gathering for those grieving, please join us at 6:00 pm at St. Alphonsus Church Basement. The next gathering is **Monday, December 18, at 6:00 pm.**

**ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING:** Instead of re-gifting, maybe consider giving someone on your list a couple of piglets (\$60), a flock of chickens (\$40), 10 fruit trees (\$150), 12 Health Exams (\$25), 10 Vaccinations (\$150), Hand Washing Station (\$30), school supplies, other medical help, sanitation, or just a donation and let Catholic Relief Services (CRS) use it where it is needed the most. CRS will send a card about the gift/s to the person's you wish. These possible gifts are not just for Christmas, but gift giving throughout the year on that special occasion for a unique and very different gift idea. CRS' 2017-2018 Gift Catalogs are available in the foyer. If you would like a gift catalog sent to your home, call 1-800-235-2772 or log on to [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org).

The address is: 228 W. Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21201. Thank you for considering this - if not for this Christmas, maybe next.

**Parish Sacrificial Giving**

**December 3, 2017**

<b>Collection:</b>	\$9,673.00
<b>WeShare</b>	723.00
<b>Head Count</b>	593

*Thank you!*

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**Sunday - December 10**

Youth Mass/Children's Liturgy of the Word  
9:30 am Mass

**Wednesday - December 13**

Rosary 6:00 pm OLSD

**Thursday - December 14**

SVS Christmas Pageant 7:00 pm School

**EVENTS NEXT WEEK**

**Tuesday - December 19**

Prayer Shawl 1:30 pm Library  
St. Vincent de Paul Society 6:30 pm Caveney Rm  
Penance Service 7:00 pm St. Vincent's



**The St. Vincent de Paul Society**

**Update:** We are still accepting donations of beds and bedding -- queen size and smaller. We especially needs blankets and pillows. Thank you all for sharing your blessings!



**MARRIAGE PREPARATION FOR**

**ENGAGED COUPLES** - A one day retreat, will be held Saturday, January 13, 2018, from 8:30 am - 8 pm at St. Michael Parish.

Cost is \$40 per person (includes materials and 3 meals). Register and pay online at: [WVMarriage.org/RegistrarPFCM](http://WVMarriage.org/RegistrarPFCM).



**2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** Eagerness.

Today's readings combine to tell a story of eagerness--enthusiasm, zeal, wholehearted dedication. Eager anticipation is not a surprising topic for the Advent season, but very surprising, perhaps, is what our readings urge us to be eager about: the cleansing of sins. Isaiah tells God's people to cry out loudly, proclaiming that the Lord will come with power to comfort them and forgive all their sins. Saint Peter inspires us to "be eager to be found without spot or blemish." In Mark's Gospel, people from all over stream to the Jordan, acknowledging their sins and repenting. John the Baptist preaches the mighty power of the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Today's readings wake us up, reminding us how great God is. May we eagerly seek the powerful peace that God's forgiveness brings.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT:** To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 1-800-352-6513. Report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 1-888-434-6237.

# St. Vincent's School and Youth News

## Upcoming dates to remember:

**December 14** SVS Christmas Program  
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**GREENBACK SWEEPSTAKES AND DINNER** WILL be held Saturday, March 17, 2018.

As you know, Greenbacks is the largest fundraiser designed to support our parish school! This year we will honor Father James LaCrosse, S.M.! **This year, the Greenbacks event will take place at The White Palace, located in Wheeling Park.** Raffle Tickets are available in the vestibule of St. Vincent's for all parish families  
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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** If you would like to assist with making our Greenback Dinner a wonderful event for our school and parish families -- please consider signing up to volunteer! Attend the Greenback Volunteer Meeting on Thursday, December 14, at 10:00 am in the Main Hall of the Parish Center.  
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Please consider placing St. Vincent Parish School on your gift list this Christmas.

Mrs. Rossell and our teachers will put your donation to good use each day of the new year. Your generosity will help further develop our mission to create a school community committed to embracing the needs of each child. Our school administration, faculty and staff created a WISH LIST! Prices based on a recent internet search. All gifts made directly to the school are exempt from assessments to the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston. You are welcome to purchase the items and drop them off at our school or make a donation toward the purchase of an item.

**Checks should be made payable to St. Vincent de Paul School.** Wish list:

- NEW Social Studies (grades 5-8) and Science Books (3-8) \$65-\$100/book
- Light weight folding tables (\$50) and chairs (4/\$60)
- iPads - 2nd generation (grades 3-6) \$130
- Chrome Books (grades 7-8) \$175-\$200
- Literature Organizer \$130
- Desktop/Floor Plastic Drawers - \$10-\$30
- Class sets of novels - Set of 25/\$85-\$100
- Student Privacy Dividers - 10/\$65

(Continued in next column)



**We have Children's Liturgy of the Word** on the 2nd Sunday of each month during 9:30 Mass

- Next gathering will be January 14.



**RCIA:** For Information on becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic religion, please contact Sister Rosella at: 304-242-0406.

**RCIA sessions are held each Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Caveney Room.**



**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR):**

Upcoming Schedule:

- |             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| <b>Dec.</b> | <b>10</b> Class    |
|             | <b>17</b> No Class |
|             | <b>24</b> No Class |



**Thank you** to all who supported our Giving Tree this year. Your generous support is greatly

appreciated. Catholic Charities on 18th Street gave out several bags of gifts for children along with food for Christmas.



**NEWS FROM WHEELING CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:**

Discovery Learning allows students to explore, think, analyze and create! All seventh grade students in our partner schools will gather on Wednesday, December 13th at Central Catholic High School for a day of Innovation! Students will be introduced to hands on opportunities in engineering, broadcasting, robotics, digital musical design and theatrical presentation! If you did not receive an invitation and would like to be "innovated" - please call John Yelenic, Director for Enrollment at 233-1660.

**Get Knighted:** CCHS is ready to enroll YOU for the 2018/19 school year.

**Wish List for SVS (Continued):**

- Toys for Boys and Girls - early childhood age
  - Barbie Dolls/Clothes
  - Pet Shop Toys
  - Kids Table and Chair Set \$25-\$85
  - Teacher Computer/Desk Station/ Smart Board
- Many Blessings for a beautiful Christmas!

## Mass Schedule

## Liturgical Minister Schedule for Next Weekend (Dec. 16/17), 2017)

### Masses This Weekend

**Saturday Dec. 9 (2nd Sunday of Advent/Vigil)**  
5:00 pm William and Catherine Straughn  
**Sunday Dec. 10 (2nd Sunday of Advent)**  
8:00 am John Marple  
9:30 am Bill O'Leary  
11:30 am Dr. Robert Bianco  
10:30 am (OLSD) Bruce and Marie Newton

### Masses This Week

**Monday Dec. 11**  
7:50 am Bob Schutz  
**Tuesday Dec. 12 (Our Lady of Guadalupe)**  
7:50 am No Mass  
*Miraculous Medal Novena before 7:00 pm Mass*  
7:00 pm Jean Tankovits  
**Wednesday Dec. 13 (St. Lucy, Virgin/Martyr)**  
7:50 am Special Intention for the Drnach Family  
**Thursday Dec. 14 (St. John of the Cross, Priest)**  
7:50 am Lillie Calvert  
**Friday Dec. 15**  
9:00 am Margie Fitzpatrick  
6:00 pm

### Masses Next Weekend

**Saturday Dec. 16 (3rd Sunday of Advent/Vigil)**  
5:00 pm Pat Clutter (Anniv)  
**Sunday Dec. 17 (3rd Sunday of Advent)**  
8:00 am Jack Sr. and Madeline Belby (Anniv)  
9:30 am Jerry, Josephine and Jenuzzo Ammirante  
11:30 am Emma and James Babuscio, and  
Salvatore and Virginia Vecchio  
10:30 am (OLSD) All the People of the Parish

**YARN NEEDED:** Our Prayer shawl Ministry is in need of skeins of yarn to make more shawls. All colors are welcome, as well as gift cards to craft stores where we can purchase yarn. We make shawls, lap robes, and baby blankets.



Yarn may be dropped off to the parish office during regular business hours. Also, if you know someone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, please call the parish office and let us know.

Thank you for your help!

**REMINDER:** The Rosary is prayed before Mass each morning beginning at 7:30 am.

### Saturday—5:00 pm

**Servers:** Maddie Taylor and Angelina Robrecht  
**Greeters:** Nancy LaBrosse and Betsy Martin  
**Lector/Announcer:** Jim Roberts  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Nancy LaBrosse, Michele and Tom McFadden, Rita Gallo, Patti Snyder

### Sunday - 8:00 am

**Servers:** Griffin Stenger and Patrick Childers  
**Greeters:** Don and Nancy Stenger, Maria Stein  
**Lector/Announcer:** Mary K. Bell  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Derek and Mary Rose Dimmey, Carol Harris, Carolyn Brookover, Jim Baller

### Sunday - 9:30 am

**Servers:** Charlie and Isabella DiSaia, Mary Derrow  
**Greeters:** Lynn Hetzel, Becky DiSaia, John Dudzik  
**Lector/Announcer:** Bill Gibson  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Bev Vanaman, Leo and Marsha Boissy, Amy Bishop, Lynn Hetzel, Garry Ferrell, Richard Oswald

### Sunday - 11:30 Mass

**Servers:** Landon Prager and Mariana Alkhouri  
**Greeters:** Susie and Paul Newmeyer  
**Lector/Announcer:** Jo Terry  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Dave Soloninka, Janie Fox, Barb Napple, Karen Bates, Bob Morgan

### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Sunday morning, Dec. 24**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

Masses: 9:30 am and 11:30 am

**Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24**

4:30 pm, Children's Pageant  
before Mass

7:00 pm Featuring Brass Unlimited  
9:00 pm at OLSD

**Christmas Day, Monday,  
December 25**

12:00 am (Midnight)

10:30 am

No Mass at OLSD