

North American Martyrs Parish

Two Churches ~ One Community ~ A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
January 1, 2012, The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

North American Martyrs is a vibrant parish, built on multi-generational and cultural traditions blended through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Reflecting the unconditional mercy of Jesus Christ, we as a faith community sharing God's love with all people, enthusiastically reach out to embrace everyone, especially the poor, broken, suffering and lost. We draw our strength through prayer, listening to and acting upon God's Word and celebrating the Eucharist, to foster a closer relationship with Christ as humble and faithful members of His Universal Church.



North American Martyrs Church
 2526 Haymaker Rd • Monroeville, PA • 15146
 412-373-0330

Rev. Joseph G. Luisi, Pastor
office@namcatholicchurch.org



St. Michael Church
 740 Wall Ave • Pitcairn, PA • 15140
 412-373-2610

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil4:00 PM
 Sundays8:00 AM, 11:00 AM
 Children's Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 AM Mass

Weekday:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday8:00 AM

STAFF

Mr. Richard M. Tucek, Deacon, Ext. 4
rmtcpa2215@verizon.net

Mrs. Denise Lucas, Parish Pastoral Associate
 412-373-2610

Mr. Tim Thorsen, Business Manager, Ext 5
busmgr@namcatholicchurch.org

Mrs. Charlotte Dobrinsky, Church Secretary & Bulletin Editor, NAM, Ext 4
office@namcatholicchurch.org

Mrs. Pat Cepec, Church Secretary, St. Michael
stmikepitcairn@verizon.net

Ms. Donna Lew-Buechel, Dir of Religious Education
reofficenam@yahoo.com

Ms. Lauren Gates, Youth Minister, Ext 8
youthmin@stbrnadet.org

Mrs. Diane M. Fleet, School Principal
evanchak@namschool.org

Mrs. Annette Waldron, Dir of School Advancement, Ext 9
waldron@namschool.org

Mrs. Melissa Swift, Music Director
swift.melissa@gmail.com

Mrs. Suzanne Evanchak, School Secretary
evanchak@namschool.org

www.namcatholicchurch.org • www.namschool.org
 Office Hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline 1-888-808-1235

MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays9:30 AM
 Tuesday & Thursday8:00 AM
 St. Anthony Novena begins 13 Tuesdays before June 13th

Pastor412-373-0330 X6
Office/Rectory (NAM)412-373-0330 X4
Office/Rectory (St. Michael)412-373-2610
Business Manager412-373-0330 X5
School412 373-0889
School Advancement Office412-373-0330 X9
School Fax412-349-0175
Religious Education412-349-0942
Youth Ministry412-373-0330 X8
Office Fax, (NAM)412-380-1306
Office Fax, (St. Michael)412-373-2031

SACRAMENTS (AT BOTH CHURCHES)

Rite of Reconciliation: 12:00-12:45 PM: At Saint Michael Church the second Saturday of the month. All other Saturdays confessions will be at NAM.

Baptisms: By appointment only. Second Sundays during 11:00 Mass and fourth Sundays after 11:00 Mass at NAM. Baptisms at St. Michael Church will be on the third Sunday of the month during the 9:30 Mass. A Pre-Baptism Seminar is required for first-time parents. Call Charlotte to make arrangements.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Call Fr. Joe Luisi to make arrangements.



NEW SIGN, MORE ANIMALS! THANK YOU, WELCOME HOME

New Sign: I am happy to announce the purchase and installation of a new sign outside of St. Michael Church that will read, **NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS PARISH** and underneath it will read **ST MICHAEL CHURCH**. Weather permitting, it should be installed by New Year's Eve. Formally, the sign read, **ST. MICHAEL PARISH**. At the time of the merger on September 4, 2010, we removed the word, "parish", so that the sign currently reads, **ST MICHAEL**. The new sign will provide more clarity to visitors and more accurately reflect that both churches comprise North American Martyrs Parish.

More Animals! Last year, through the generosity of a group of parishioners, we purchased a new outdoor manger scene from A.T. Merhaut, Inc. Church Restoration & Supply. The cost was quite expensive since the stable, as well as the figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and a donkey were all purchased. I recently received a call from Tom Merhaut saying that this week there is a clearance sale with manger items reduced to 50% off. As a result, the parish is purchasing the ox and the sheep for a total discount price of \$150.00 (retail price of \$300.) A \$50.00 donation from a parishioner just came in reducing the parish cost to \$100.00. You will see these additional animals around the manger this weekend.

Tom Merhaut told me that he is not discontinuing this line of manger figures. It is my goal to yearly add to the manger scene until we have the complete set. Next year, I hope to add the angel (retail price of \$130.00 and if we buy it after Christmas next year, hopefully it will be marked down to \$65.00.) The following year, I hope to add the Three Kings (retail price of \$1,010 hopefully marked down after Christmas to \$505.00).

Thank you: Thanks to **Mr. Dan Sigg** who built a cabinet in the hallway between the NAM school and the church to store a donated set of drums and other music equipment, thanks to **Mr. Tom Koch** for constructing a miniature stable for the indoor manger scene at North American Martyrs Church, Thanks to **Lou & Dot Monta** for picking up the additional figures of our outdoor manger scene, (saving our parish the shipping cost), Thanks to the **Altar Rosary Society (and spouses)** for decorating North American Martyrs Church for Christmas, Thanks to **Cris D'Ascenzo** for decorating St. Michael Church for Christmas. The sanctuary of both churches looked beautiful and inviting. Thanks to our **parish choir**, to our adult choir director and children's pageant director, **Melissa Swift** and our **children** (in the Christmas Pageant), our **organists and cantors** for providing such beautiful music to glorify God at Christmas. Thanks to all the **liturgical ministers** including those at the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass who faithfully fulfilled their liturgical roles. Thanks also to the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** for coordinating the Angel Tree gift distribution, the **Parish Fellowship Committee** for hosting Santa's breakfast and the **Holy Name Society** for the Christmas CD giveaway of the Matthew Kelly CD of "The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality." Thanks to **all of you who purchased Luminaries** for your loved ones to support our Youth Ministry Program.

Welcome Home: *To All Baptized Catholics* – **Deacon Rick Tucek**, and our Pastoral Associate, **Denise Lucas and I**, on behalf of our parishioners, are inviting neighbors, relatives and co-workers back to participate fully with their church family. We are having a night of questions and open discussion on **any** and **all** matters of the Roman Catholic Church. There will also be an opportunity to discuss personal matters privately with myself or Deacon Rick. The meeting will take place at 7 pm on Monday, January 16, 2012 in North American Martyrs Church.

Fr. Joe

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR TWO SCHOOLS

The Pittsburgh Diocese is home to two nationally recognized educational programs for children with special needs: St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech. A special collection to benefit these two organizations will be taken the weekend of **January 14-15** at all Masses in each parish. There is a special envelope in your packets; your generosity will help these organizations forever improve the lives of their students and families.

ON-LINE GIVING

If you still have not signed up for Online Giving, we urge you to consider this option. Please remember that you are still welcome to receive regular envelopes if you wish. You may sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at www.namcatholicchurch.org. **REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR ENVELOPE NUMBER WHEN YOU SIGN UP.**

MEETINGS

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will meet Wednesday, **January 11** at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

THE SENIOR ENRICHMENT GROUP will attend Mass at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, **January 4**. After Mass and the recitation of the rosary, they will meet for breakfast and fellowship at Eat-N-Park. All seniors are welcome!

THE STITCHING ANGELS are currently involved in making chemo caps and lap afghans. In addition there is a need for boy baby items for the next Rosebud Project. The angels will meet on Monday, **January 16** at 9:30 AM in DeLuca Hall. This is a holiday, so the students will not be in school. Please bring scissors and a yard stick. If you have any yarn that you would like to exchange/share, please bring that as well. If the weather is good, we could also do lunch.

THANK YOU!

The St. Vincent de Paul Society wishes to thank all of the parishioners who so generously provided Christmas gifts to support the Angel Tree project this year. A total of 350 presents were delivered to the various agencies we supported. In addition to the Agencies represented at the North American Martyrs Church, there were angels at St. Michael Church which supported the Head Start Program in Pitcairn. Your generosity has allowed the true spirit of Christmas to be shared with the less fortunate of our neighbors.

**STORY BEHIND THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL**

Benedictine Father Anthony Ruff will speak about the recent changes to the Roman Missal and the process by which those changes were adopted on Thursday, **January 12, 2012** from 7 to 9 PM at the Father Ryan Arts Center, 420 Chartiers Ave, McKees Rocks 15136. Father Ruff is a prominent liturgical scholar and professor of liturgy at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota and was an early participant in the official discussions leading to the changes. For information please contact Sr. Barbara Finch at 412-716-9750 or b.s.finch@att.net.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Steve Sekanic, father of Ken Sekanic and Christine Sekanic, our parishioners, and for Louis Pilardi, who was buried from here this past week and the father of our parishioner, Eugene Pilardi.

ADORATION

MONDAY, January 9, 8:30 AM-7:00 PM
BENEDICTION & REPOSITION-7:00-8:00 PM

Organizations are asked to follow the schedule they have followed at NAM in the past. In addition to the organizations' member visitation schedule, you are encouraged to come to spend time with Our Lord.

BINGO!

Start lining up your friends and family now to join you for the next **Bingo Night** being held on **Saturday, January 28**. This event benefits NAM School. Tickets to the Bingo Night will be sold after all Masses at NAM on the weekends of **January 7-8, 14-15 and 21-22**. Your \$20 ticket includes 6 cards for all 14 regular Bingo games, including the **\$500 jackpot game**. Early Birds, Specials, extra Bingo Cards and Pull-Tab Games will also be available for purchase, as will hot foods, snacks and desserts. If you have any questions, please call Laura Nicolazzo at 412-856-8074. Thank you!

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COLLECTION

The second collection taken up at St. Michael today, Sunday, January 1, is for the Capital Improvement Campaign. Thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER AND COMFORT

If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a Prayer Shawl, please submit their name for consideration to Mary Harrill at 412-372-3181 or meh227@aol.com.

RETRouvaille

Did a troubled marriage steal your Christmas joy? Decide now to get it back. Retrouvaille can help you just as it has helped many others. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on Friday, **January 12, 2012**, please contact **Retrouvaille** at **412-277-3434** or **3041 @retrouvaille.org**. More information is available at www.helpourmarriage.com.

This week's Sanctuary Candle at NAM burns in memory of Anthony & Maria Petrilli requested by the Petrilli Family.

This week's Sanctuary Candle at St. Michael burns in memory of Husband, Nick, & Daughter, Shirley Valerino, requested by Wife & Mother, Virginia.

SCHOOL NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! All of us at North American Martyrs School would like to extend our best wishes to all of you for a year full of good health, lots of happiness, and peaceful blessings. We hope each and every one of you enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and that you continue to feel the love of the new born baby Jesus throughout this New Year.

THERE IS NO SCHOOL on Monday, **January 2**. Classes resume, weather permitting, on Tuesday, **January 3**.

A MARKET DAY PICK-UP is scheduled for Wednesday, **January 4**, at 4:45 PM-5:15 PM in DeLuca Hall.

YOU ARE WELCOME to join us for the 9:00 AM Mass on Friday, **January 6**. Mrs. Pinsker and our fourth grade students will help to prepare this liturgy.

WE CONTINUE to save and/or need Campbell labels, also found on other products such as Pepperidge Farm, Box Tops for Education, used ink cartridges, elementary-friendly copy paper, even used on one side, new copy paper, art and craft supplies, and office supplies. Thank you for your consideration.

ARE YOU LOOKING for a fabulous education for your child or another school-aged youngster? North American Martyrs School is the answer! We are still accepting applications for our three-year-old preschool-sixth grade program. Please call 412-373-0889 to set up a tour or to receive additional information. See you soon!

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR POST-ABORTION HEALING

Rachel's Vineyard, a weekend retreat designed to heal the emotional and spiritual wounds of abortion, will be held **January 27-29, 2012** at the Spiritan Center in Bethel Park. In a confidential and supportive atmosphere, Rachel's Vineyard demonstrates God's love, forgiveness, and compassion to women and men struggling with abortion's aftermath. Financial aid available. Sponsored by the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Catholic Charities. For more information, visit www.ccpgh.org or call 412-352-5348. The deadline to register is January 20.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

YOUTH GROUP & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

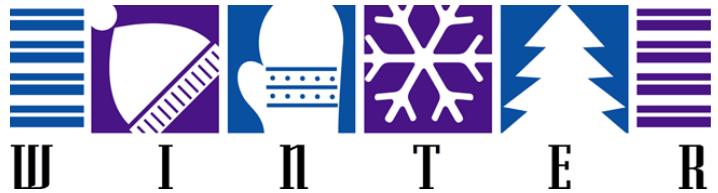
LAUREN GATES, 412-445-6570 OR youthmin@stbrnadet.org

ON BEHALF of the Youth Ministry Program, we wish all of you a Blessed Christmas!!

YOUTH GROUP will resume on **January 8**.

YOUNG ADULTS: Join us for Theology on Tap, on Wednesday, **January 11** at the Rivertown Pourhouse at 7:00 PM. Our speaker is TBA. All ages and faiths are welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The March for Life is Monday, **January 23**. Details coming soon!

**OPEN YOUR HEARTS TO A SENIOR IN 2012**

2012 is the perfect year to stop putting off that annual New Year's resolution to volunteer and Open Your Heart to a Senior can help.

Open Your Heart to a Senior is committed to helping senior citizens live safely and independently in their own homes throughout Allegheny County. Volunteers can help by providing transportation to medical appointments and grocery shopping, telephone reassurance calls, friendly home visits, yard work and simple home repairs.

Allegheny County boasts one of the highest populations of senior citizens in the United States.

The time commitment is flexible and the need is ongoing in every Allegheny County Community:

Shopper—Two to four times monthly; one to two hours per trip. **Driver**—One to two hours per trip.

Weekly or Biweekly Friendly Visitor—One to two hours per visit. **Telephone Caller**—Thirty minutes per week per care receiver. **Safety for Seniors**—Five hours on a Saturday for training and safety checks. **Handyperson and Yardwork**— **Snow Shoveler**—**Mail Assistant**—Two to four hours monthly. **Office Help**—Three hours weekly.

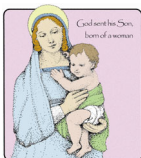
In recent years, 700 volunteers served more than 1,400 care receivers in 84 Allegheny County zip codes. In 2011, volunteers contributed approximately 12,000 hours on behalf of the region's vulnerable seniors.

For information on volunteering, visit www.openyourhearttoasenior.org, call 412-307-0071 or toll free at 866-467-0888 or email at seniors@nhco.org.

For information on volunteering, visit www.openyourhearttoasenior.org, call 412-307-0071 or toll free at 866-467-0888 or email at seniors@nhco.org.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
 Tue: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34
 Wed: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
 Thu: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
 Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11
 Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11
 Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
 8:00 AM People of Parish
 9:30 AM **St. Michael**, Dominick M. Tartaglione-John & Phyllis Sabo
 11:00 AM Edward & Dolores Ursiny-Izadore Family
Monday, January 2 Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
 8:00 AM Intention of Ben Grado-Nick & Lorenza Grado
Tuesday, January 3
 8:00 AM **St. Michael**, Rose Grubbs-Marie Kukurin
Wednesday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 8:00 AM Stephen Krause-Parents
Thursday, January 5 St. John Neumann
 8:00 AM **St. Michael**, Anna Mendicino-Fred & Family
Friday, January 6
 9:00 AM Helen Vranka-Patty & Steve Vranka & Family
Saturday, January 7
 12:00 PM **Confessions/NAM**
 4:00 PM Edna Creighton-Lois & Norman Mueller
Sunday, January 8 The Epiphany of the Lord
 8:00 AM Maria & Louis J. Colaianni-Doreen Franceschini
 9:30 AM **St. Michael**, People of Parish
 11:00 AM Bob Clawson-Kathleen & Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Ella Worth, Martha Smeltz, James Bauccio, Joe Condrasky, Andy DeBone, Theresa Ventresco, Enza Bauccio, Josie Fasano, Sophie Stahl, Homer Sheridan, Pat Emmick, Victor Caruso, Richard Colaric, Rachel Edwards, Jean Perazzelli, Jamison Byrne, Andrea Rosso, Karen Gallagher, Gert Moccadlo, Cori Poole, Carmel Seibert, Jamie O'Grady, Nancy Yothers, Katie Rizzo, Beverly King, Charles Dial, Violet Palatas, Eileen Summers, Barbara Busch, Jim Ackerman, & Mary Fitzmaurice.

CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNERS

NAM: J. Shuble #070, J. Lenart #186.
St. Michael: R. Fields #941, J. Conwell #961,
 T. Drzewinski #186, M.K. & Derek Morel #420.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

At Thomas More College, in Merrimack, NH, you will find an academic community that is dedicated to providing a Catholic education that is affordable. We are now accepting applications and essay submissions from high school seniors for our "2012 Faith & Reason Essay Contest." This contest will award over \$100,000 in scholarship funds to incoming freshmen. To learn more, visit www.ThomasMoreCollege.edu or call (800) 880-8308. Essay submissions must be mailed or emailed by **January 27, 2012**.

We reserve the right to make unavoidable changes in the Mass schedule.

Articles for the January 15th bulletin must be submitted to the Rectory Office by this Tuesday, January 3. You may submit to office@namcatholicchurch.org

Mass for the Living and Deceased Members of N.A.M.'s Altar Rosary Society is said at our twin parish, St. Paul's Catholic Church in Crownpoint, New Mexico, on the first Monday of each month.

PLEASE : DO NOT USE STAPLES OR TAPE TO CLOSE YOUR ENVELOPES. THANK YOU!

2011 Wkly Offertory Rec'd	December 18	December 25
	\$ 9,145	\$ 14,766
2011/12 Wkly Offertory Needed	\$ 9,970	\$ 9,970
2011/12 Wkly Offertory Ovr/(Shrt)	\$ (645)	\$ 4,976
2011/12 YTD Offertory Rec'd	\$ 230,640	\$ 244,830
2011/12 YTD Offertory Needed	\$ 244,750	\$ 254,540
2011/12 YTD Offertory Ovr/(Shrt)	\$ (14,687)	\$ (9,711)
2011/12 Fiscal Year Budget	\$ 509,080	\$ 509,080
2011 Christmas Offertory		\$ 11,682
2011 Christmas Children & Youth		\$ 2,639

If you know someone who is ill and who would like their name published in the bulletin, please have them contact Linda Freytag at 412-856-7321 or at jimlyn2@verizon.net no later than Tuesday evening.

>EMERGENCY FOOD, CLOTHING & MORE<
>IN MONROEVILLE, TURTLE CREEK & PITCAIRN<
>ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY CAN HELP<
>CALL 412-372-8149<

If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a Prayer Shawl, please submit their name for consideration to Mary Harrill at 412-372-3181 or at meh227@aol.com.

WELCOME TO NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS PARISH

In order that we may serve your needs better, please fill out this form, check any interests and drop it in the collection basket, mail or bring to the Rectory/Office. Thank you.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone (Home) (____) _____ (Work) (____) _____

New Parishioner New Address or Phone
 Moving out of Parish School information
 Returning to Parish Interest in Catholicism/RCIA
 Entering Hospital Shut in
 Returning Catholic Interest in Women's Guild
 Interest in Persons w/Disabilities Interest in St. Vincent dePaul
 Interest in Holy Name Soc. Interest in Ladies of Charity
 Interest in Altar Rosary Soc. Interest in Stitching Angels
 Interest in Jr High Youth Group Interest in HS Youth Group
 Interest in Respect Life Interest in Choir
 Interest in Senior Group Interest in Funeral Choir