

North American Martyrs Parish

Two Churches ~ One Community ~ A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
November 27, 2011, First Sunday of Advent

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
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Mrs. Charlotte Dobrinsky, Church Secretary
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evanchak@namschool.org
Mrs. Annette Waldron, Dir of School Advancement, Ext 9
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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.



GETTING USED TO THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL

The following is an article that I benefited from reading and thought I would share it with you. I hope that it helps us all to appreciate the 3rd Edition of the Roman Missal. Fr. Joe

“NEW TRANSLATION IS A PLUS FOR CATHOLICS” by James Breig

(James Breig, a long-time diocesan newspaper editor and freelance writer, has written hundreds of articles for Catholic magazines. For 25 years, he also authored an award-winning column on the media for Catholic newspapers. Now retired, he continues to write and is working on a book about World War II.)

Microsoft Vista and “New Coke” have proven that not every change is for the better. Furthermore, when change comes to important elements of life, it is often resisted with the cry of “we never did it that way before.”

However, experts who are enthusiastic about the changes to the Roman Missal – the book that contains the prayers for the Mass – think the alterations are improvements that will lead to a deeper spiritual experience.

Because a new edition of the Latin Roman Missal was issued in 2002, it is necessary for all the countries of the world to translate this missal into the vernacular,” says Msgr. Anthony Sherman, executive director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Divine Worship, in explaining why the changes are being made.

But translation is not something easy to accomplish, concedes Msgr. Kevin Irwin, dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington. “We all bring our own prejudices and ideas to translation,” he says. “It is hoped that the new texts will be more accurate so that our faith and our statements of faith are reliable.”

Msgr. Irwin says changes to the Roman Missal are rare. “The previous Roman Missal (in Latin) was published in 1570, with minor adjustments [being made] in editions through 1962,” he says. “After the Second Vatican Council, the new [Roman Missal] was published in 1970, followed by a 1975 edition with minor adjustments and then the third edition in 2002 with additional prayers for new saints’ feasts etc.”

Father Paul Turner of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph in Missouri elaborated on the latter point, saying that the missal “includes additional saints’ days that are now on the calendar, as well as some Masses for other circumstances. In addition, the rubrics in Holy Week have many small emendations.”

What makes the translation of the 2002 edition of the Roman Missal different is that this translation is carried out under the latest Vatican guidelines for translating the Mass into vernacular languages. This new guideline, *Liturgiam Authenticam*, published in 2001, urges a stronger adherence to Latin wording and structure than earlier directives.

The results have led to some concern, voiced even by bishops, that the new English translations of the missal are not user-friendly. In the words of one critic, the language “tends to be elitist and remote from everyday speech and frequently not understandable. The vast majority of God’s people in the assembly are not familiar with words ‘ineffable,’ ‘consubstantial’ and ‘inviolable.’”

Msgr. Sherman counters that “in the United States today, people are almost daily learning new vocabulary, and sometimes it is quite technical. The words in our liturgical prayers can afford celebrants the opportunity to reflect on the broader context of those words and so lead the faithful in a deeper understanding of the beliefs being explained.”

He grants that “the new translation is not perfect because, in a certain sense, no translation can be perfect. The differences of opinion on the translation will be wide. At some future date, the Holy See may substitute a different prayer for what we now have. On the other hand, some have already expressed the opinion that this translation sometimes captures with a greater eloquence the content of the particular prayers.”

Msgr. Irwin says that the Church uses technical words in its vocabulary sometimes because those words capture concepts of the faith that would not be easy to understand without using a lot of other words. “For example, since the 13th century, we have used the term ‘transubstantiation’ to describe the change that occurs in the bread and wine at Mass. Before the change, it is bread and wine. After the change, it looks like, smells like and tastes like bread and wine, but now it is something totally different.”

In Father Turner’s view, vocabulary is not a major problem. “People will readily understand the texts,” he says. “The reason the missal includes such words is that the vocabulary in the Latin originals is so broad. Latin uses a variety of synonyms for words like ‘sacrifice,’ ‘love,’ ‘mercy’ and ‘wonderful.’ In order to represent that diversity and to provide variety among the prayers in English, a broad vocabulary is being used in the translation.”

In recognition of the disturbance change can bring, he adds that bishops’ conferences around the world have repeatedly stressed that these translations should not be used without prior and significant explanation. “One of the things we did not do 40 years ago, when the liturgy was first put into the vernacular, was to explain the changes fully,” he says. “We need several layers of education and instruction about the translations, but even more importantly about the Mass itself.”

MEETINGS

THE NAM WOMEN'S GUILD BOARD will meet Tuesday, **November 29** at 6:30 PM at Panera's in the Miracle Mile Shopping Center. If you are **unable** to make the meeting please contact Ellen Kajder at 412-373-7148.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will meet Wednesday, **November 30** at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

THE ROSARY MINISTRY will make rosary kits on Thursday, **December 1** at 9:30 AM in the Rectory Conference Room. This is not just for the Stitching Angels; we are always in need of help in counting out the beads and making up the packages. We need at least six people! We make up 200 kits in 2 hours. We can do lunch afterwards if you like. Please let me know if you are able to help! Call Mary Harrill at 412-372-3181. Please note we are not making the rosaries, only the kits.

THE SENIOR ENRICHMENT GROUP will attend the Mass at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, **December 7**. After Mass and the recitation of the rosary, the group will meet at Eat N Park for breakfast and fellowship. All couples and singles over 50 are welcome to attend. Call 412-372-3181 with any questions.

THE DECEMBER MEETING of the North American Martyrs Women's Guild will be held on Friday, **December 9**. We will meet at DiNunzio's Restaurant at 5:30 PM (located in the Mosside Shopping Center) for dinner. Then we will attend the "Journey to Bethlehem" at Cross Roads Presbyterian Church, located on Haymaker Rd. If you have not had the chance to sign up for this meeting and program outing, call Ellen Kajder at 412-373-7148.

ON-LINE GIVING

Thank you to those of you who signed up to begin Online Giving. If you have not yet signed up for Online Giving, please prayerfully consider this option. Not only can it be used along with our offering envelopes, it will also hopefully decrease busy work for office staff, reduce expenses and allow the parish to count on a steadier stream of income. To sign up or receive more information, you can visit the parish website at www.namcatholicchurch.org. Remember to include your envelope number when signing up.

**ANGEL TREE**

The NAM St. Vincent de Paul Society is sponsoring the Christmas Angel Tree to provide presents to those less fortunate. We will support Angel's Place women's shelters, the children of the Cross Roads Food Pantry clients, Intersection Inc., and St. Vincent de Paul clients. Gifts should be returned by Sunday, **December 4**, with the angel attached, to support the delivery schedules for the agency Christmas parties. You will note that some of the gifts are to be returned unwrapped. The unwrapped gifts are for the food pantry and for Intersection so that clients can pick out the presents for later wrapping. We thank the parish school children for doing a wonderful job in coloring and preparing the angels for the tree. We also thank our very generous parishioners who have continued to support this project.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

For many years the NAM Altar Rosary Society has offered you the opportunity to donate toward the Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one or other intention. This year we hope to make it easier for you with the addition of an envelope for this purpose in your November envelope packets, eliminating the need for you to fill out your own envelope. You may still offer your contribution for your intention/s in the blanks provided on the reverse side. Please drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Rectory Office by Sunday, **December 11**. The intentions will continue to be published in the bulletin if you get your envelope in by the deadline date.

**SANTA BREAKFAST**

The North American Martyrs Parish Santa Breakfast will be on Saturday, **December 17** at 9:00 AM in DeLuca Hall. The price is \$5/person and children under 2 are free. The day will be filled with a good breakfast, fun activity, and of course visiting with Santa. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, **December 13**. See more information in the flyer in last week's bulletin. If you have any questions or concerns, call Mary Ellen Samek at (412) 889-2278.

**2012 CALENDARS**

Each year at this time we are provided with a beautiful calendar for the new year. We thank Gene Corl Funeral Chapel and Jobe Funeral Home for providing them. The calendars can be found at all the entrances to the church. Please take one home to enjoy all year.

This week's Sanctuary Candle at NAM burns in memory of Floyd Trunzo, requested by Mary.

This week's Sanctuary Candle at St. Michael burns for the health and welfare of cousin Steve Albanese, requested by Virginia Valerino.



Please feel free to call or stop in to make arrangements for the Sanctuary Candle for your loved one.

SCHOOL NEWS

AS A REMINDER, there is no school on Monday, **November 28**. We hope that you continue to enjoy the time off with your family and friends.

ONE WAY that we will celebrate the season of Advent is by participating in an Advent wreath service on the first day of each week during the Advent season. We will gather in the hall area outside of the school library and pray together during this beautiful season of waiting.

OUR SECRET SANTA SHOP opens for business for our students on Tuesday morning, **November 29**. We would like to thank in advance Mrs. Rosemary DeFrancesco, and all of her special elves, for providing this special event for our students, teachers, and staff.

MARKET DAY PICK UP is scheduled for Tuesday, **November 29** from 4:45 PM-5:15 PM in DeLuca Hall. Again, we would like to thank you for any order you made.

THERE WILL BE A GALA MEETING on Tuesday, **November 29**, at 6:30 PM in the faculty room. All are most welcome to attend.

PLEASE JOIN US for the 9:00 AM Mass on Friday, **December 2**. Mrs. Laubham and our third graders are helping to plan this liturgy.

LOTTERY CALENDARS

NAM School is selling lottery calendars based on the Pennsylvania Daily Lottery, the 3-digit number drawn each evening at 7:00 PM beginning in January, 2012. Each calendar is sold for \$30 and gives you 365 chances to win prizes ranging from \$30 to \$1,000. Calendars will be sold after all Masses this month. If you have any questions call Kristen Watson at 412-427-2759 or kristen.watson@gmail.com. We appreciate your continued support with our fundraising efforts.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Oplatki will be available in the main vestibule of the church for a donation of \$3.00/package beginning the first weekend of Advent.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS are selling 2011 Entertainment books. Each book is \$30 and contains thousands of dollars in local savings! Call 412-225-5870 to order. "Keep Christ in Christmas" car magnets are also for sale for \$4 each and can be ordered online at <http://www.kcnativitysets.com/council4925/>. Both make great gifts while supporting Rosebud; a virtuous program rescuing the unborn by supporting young unwed mothers and their children for the child's first year of life. To date Pius XII has adopted 11 young moms.

YOUTH GROUP & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

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

SR HI YOUTH GROUP, for students in grades 9-12, will meet in Biedenbach Hall at St. Bernadette at 5:00 PM on Sundays, **November 27, December 4, & December 18**. There will be no meeting on **December 11** due to the Youth Group Fall Retreat.

JR HI YOUTH GROUP, for students in grades 7-8, will meet in DeLuca Hall at NAM at 7:30 PM on Tuesdays, **December 6 & December 20**.

CONGRATULATIONS to all our St. Bernadette 9th graders, who will be receiving the sacrament of Confirmation tomorrow! Our prayers are with you!

IF THERE ARE ANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS who still wish to attend the Fall Retreat, **December 9-11**, call Lauren ASAP! Final payments are not due until the retreat, but I need your names at least!

YOUNG ADULTS, for those who are college age to 35 years, are invited to the January Theology on Tap on Thursday, **January 12** at 7:00 PM at the Rivertowne Pour House. Our speaker is TBA. All faiths are welcome!

Take pains to refrain from sharp words. Pardon one another so that later on you will not remember the injury. The recollection of an injury is itself wrong. It adds to our anger, nurtures our sins and hates what is good. It is a rusty arrow and poison for the soul. It puts all virtue to flight. -- St. Francis of Paola

**YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Children in grades K-6 are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Musical Program. The program will be performed on Christmas Eve at 3:15 PM prior to the Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00. Please plan on attending the following rehearsals. Since there are a limited number of rehearsals please make every effort to attend all of the practices. Practices will take place in the church.

Sunday, **November 27**, 9:30-10:30 AM

Sunday, **December 4**, 9:30-10:30 AM

Sunday, **December 11**, 9:30-10:30 AM

Sunday, **December 18**, 12:30-2:30 PM,

(DRESS REHEARSAL)

We look forward to seeing you at practice! Don't miss this chance to be involved in this awesome musical performance!

**REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jeanne McCloskey, who was buried from here this past week.

