



Mission Statement

We as members of the Body of Christ, through our thoughts, words and deeds, celebrate the presence of God in all people. As a community of believers, we answer Christ's call to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless and love one another.

December 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent

Immaculate Conception Church

Holy Redeemer Church

Parish Office

605 Luzerne Avenue

West Pittston, PA 18643

Phone (570) 654-2753

Fax (570) 654-9244

Msgr. John J. Sempa, Pastor

Mr. James Meizanis, Deacon

Mrs. Joyce Cecconi,

Pastoral Associate

WEEKEND CELEBRATION

OF THE EUCHARIST

Sat 4:00PM Immaculate Conception

Sat 5:30PM Holy Redeemer

Sun 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

Sun 9:00AM Holy Redeemer

Sun 10:30AM Immaculate Conception

WEEKDAY CELEBRATION

OF THE EUCHARIST

7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00PM - 3:30PM

Mondays 5:45-6:45PM (during Lent)

Immaculate Conception

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays 9:00AM - 10:00AM

Holy Redeemer

Gluten Intolerant?

If you cannot tolerate gluten, please receive communion on the tabernacle side of the church and let the person distributing communion know you need gluten free.

December 1, 2019

Readings/Responsorial: #991

Gathering: #409 People, Look East

Offertory: # 395 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Communion: # 590 Christ, Be Our Light!

Recessional: #865 Soon and Very Soon

Weekly Collection

November 24, 2019

Sunday \$9,024.80

E Giving 1,085.10

Total \$10,109.90

2nd Collection \$1,151.26

Care & Ed of Priests

(November) \$681.00

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend at all Masses we will take up the collection to benefit Retirement Fund for Religious.

2020 Parish Calendars

Thank you to the Gubbiotti Funeral Home, LLC for donating our 2020 parish calendars. They can be found in the vestibules of the churches. Take one home today!

Christmas Wafers

Christmas can be found in the vestibules of the churches. Donation is \$2.00 for a pack of 4 wafers.

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This year, this feast day is celebrated on Monday, December 9th and is not a Holyday of Obligation.

Altar Servers, EM's, Lectors

Our current ministry schedule will expire at the end of December. If you would like any changes made to your Mass preference times or your contact information, please contact the appropriate coordinator by December 15th with any changes. This will give us ample time to prepare the new schedule, which will cover January thru March 2020.

If you are available to serve Mass on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve or New Year's Day, you must contact your coordinator with your availability so they can prepare the holiday schedule.

Altar Servers: Donna Mason 570-903-9142 mmason8589@aol.com

EM's: Teresa Crossin 570-357-3985 tacross5@comcast.net

Lectors: Rosalie Cullagh 570-430-7319 rosan814@comcast.net

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00PM Family Mass Immaculate Conception

5:30PM Mass Holy Redeemer

10:00PM Mass Immaculate Conception

Christmas Day

7:30AM Mass Immaculate Conception

9:00AM Mass Holy Redeemer

10:30AM Mass Immaculate Conception

New Year's Eve

4:00PM Mass Immaculate Conception

5:30PM Mass Holy Redeemer

New Year's Day

9:00AM Mass Immaculate Conception

Organ Fund Envelope

For the month of November, the monies collected from our organ fund envelopes totaled \$951.00 which has been deposited back into our diocesan savings account bringing our account balance to \$23,748.50

Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Eucharist

Boys and girls in 2nd grade will be receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 10:00AM and the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at 10:00AM. Both Sacraments will be held in Immaculate Conception Church. An informational letter will be mailed to parents in the next week or so.

Social Concerns News

•Thanksgiving Food Distribution Thank You!

Thank you to those who spearheaded and organized our Thanksgiving Food Drive!! Thank you to all who showed up to help on Sunday and again on Monday. Thank you to all the teens who show up to help!! Without your help, it would have been a struggle to get it done!

•The Giving Trees

Located in the sanctuaries, adorned with hundreds of gift tags are our parish "giving trees." On the back of each tag is a "family number," which is how we identify the family. On most tags you will find the child's first name, his/her clothing sizes, and a gift idea or a toy the child wants for Christmas. Please place your wrapped gifts (with the tag attached) under the giving tree no later than Sunday, December 16th. If you have any questions regarding the giving tree tags, contact Joyce at 570-654-2753 or email jceconi50@gmail.com. Thank you!

•Christmas Stockings for Kids

All children look forward to finding a Christmas stocking filled with treats and goodies on Christmas morning. In the vestibules of the churches, we have Christmas stockings which you can take and fill with treats and goodies for a child from toddler thru teenage. Once filled, please place the stockings under the "giving tree" at Immaculate Conception or Holy Redeemer. Thank you for your help!!

•Christmas Cookie Sharing

Our parishioners who are homebound and those residing in nursing homes love to receive gifts of goodies for Christmas! For those of you who love to bake, would you consider baking a few extra dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies which we will package and share with these elderly parishioners. If you can bake and share, please have your baked goods dropped off at the rectory no later than Thursday, December 12th. Volunteers will meet in the rectory on Thursday, December 12 at 5:00PM to package the homemade goodies. If you would like to help, please join us.

•Soup Ministry

Our soup ministers will be in the kitchen of IC church on Thursday, December 12th and Friday December 13th at 9:00AM to create another delicious homemade soup for our homebound.

•Delivery to Nursing Homes & Homebound

On Friday & Saturday, December 13th & 14, volunteers are needed to deliver to 43 homebound parishioners a quart of homemade soup, and a Christmas gift of cookies & chocolates and to some 40 plus parishioners who reside in nursing homes a gift of cookies & chocolates.. If you can help deliver, please contact Joyce at 654-2753 or jceconi50@gmail.com. Thank you

•Giving Tree and Christmas Food Distribution

All are welcome to join members of Social Concerns at 4:00PM on Sunday, December 15th in Immaculate Conception Church to sort giving tree gifts and fill gift boxes of food for 97 families. Volunteers will be needed on Monday, December 16th from 4:00PM to 6:00PM to help with distribution. Great opportunity for teens needing service hours!! Thank you!!

Altar Candles at ICC

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Barbara Cawley** are donated by Helen Parulis.

Holy Family Candle at ICC

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Herman & Marion Ciampi** is donated by their daughters, Marguerite & Michalina.

Sanctuary Candle at ICC

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Rose Mariette** is donated by her son, Richard & family.

Sanctuary Candle at HR

Which will burn this week in loving memory of **James Kozloski** is donated by his family.

Christmas Eve Family Mass

All boys and girls are welcome to take part in the Christmas Eve family mass. The children can participate as lectors, gift bearers, heavenly hosts or take part in the skit (non-reading parts). For more information or to sign up, just contact one of the following Family Liturgy Committee members:

Lisa Falzone 570-237-2739 mybudget1@aol.com
Sarah Konopka 571-498-9304 skono1683@yahoo.com
MaryAnn Oliveri 570-357-1778 mare0912b@epix.net

2019 Diocesan Annual Appeal

DAA 2019 Parish Goal	\$32,000.00
Total Raised	\$30,161.00
Over (Under)	(\$1,839.00)

Catholic Choral Society of Scranton

Will present "An Advent-Christmas Concert" in Immaculate Conception Church on Sunday, December 8th at 3:00PM (snow date Thursday, December 12th at 7:00PM). Free admission. Refreshments will be served in the church hall following the concert

Mass Intentions

December 2 thru December 8, 2019

Mon	7:30AM	Fred Lokuta By wife, Joan & family
	8:30AM	Thomas Carpenter By Dianne & Ray Smith
Tues	7:30AM	Anita Prula By son, Joseph
	8:30AM	Dena DeSerra By Blair Corcoran & Anne O'Malley
Wed	7:30AM	Anthony Krolick By Anna Roche & grandchildren
	8:30AM	Davidica Mattei Ferretti By Bruno Ferretti, Jr.
Thurs	7:30AM	Barbara Cawley By Jim & Cheryl Butera
	8:30AM	James Kozloski By Family
Fri	7:30AM	Rose Mariette By Joan Hennigan
	8:30AM	Charles Foy, Sr. By daughter, Mary & family
Sat	4:00PM	Jack & Carmella Salvaggio By children & grandchildren
	5:30PM	Joseph Romasiewicz By Bill & Judy Buckman
Sun	7:30AM	Mary Ann Mirro By husband, Vincent & family
	9:00AM	George R. "Bucky" Mazar By Sam & Karen Aritz
	10:30AM	Anthony Hassey By Thomas & Grace Bradshaw