

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

DECEMBER 26, 2021

† MASS INTENTIONS †

Sat.	12/25	10:00 AM	Magdalene Kislan by Her Husband Bob & Daughters Donna & Joann
Sun.	12/26	7:30 AM	Michael Plaksa by John Falatko
		11:00 AM	Rocco & Elizabeth Bellezza by their Daughter Geraldine Gordon & Family & Seth & Rose Wheeland & Family
Mon.	12/27	7:00 PM	George and Verna Soltis by Their Daughter Mary and Family
Tue.	12/28	7:00 AM	Tammy Crofcheck by Her Dad
Wed.	12/29	7:00 AM	George Chippi, Sr. by Robert and Virginia Kaminsky
Thur.	12/30	7:00 AM	Bob Hludzik by Mary Ann
Fri.	12/31	7:00 AM	Peter & Stella Amentler by Their Children Janet & John
Sat.	1/1	9:00 AM	Robert Kobilis by the Capozzelli Family
Sun.	1/2	7:30 AM	Catherine Hrino by Nancy Sisock and Family
		11:00 AM	Thomas Yurish by Sharon and Skip Rish



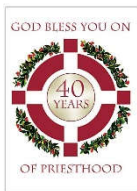
Last Weekend:

Sunday \$3,400.25; Loose \$187.00; Dues \$2,131.00; Care and Education of Priests \$42.00; Other \$1,107.00; Poor Box \$267.00

CANDLES ON THE ALTAR are in Memory of George and Verna Soltis by Their Daughter Mary and Family



OUR SANCTUARY LAMP is burning in Memory of Bob Hludzik by Mary Ann



CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER RICHARD GABUZDA on the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the Priesthood. We have been blessed to be able to enjoy having him celebrate Mass during the Christmas and Easter seasons here at Immaculate Conception Church. God Bless You, Father Gabuzda!



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

If any elderly parishioners would like help with show shoveling, please contact the parish office at 570-636-3035. Our Confirmation students need service hours.



There are no classes on December 26th and January 2nd. Classes resume January 9th.





A Message from Father Mike...

This weekend we celebrate two wonderful events in salvation history: The Birth of Jesus and the Feast of the Holy Family. It is through these two days that we come together as a family of the Church. This weekend as you come together with your own families, take a trip down memory lane to those Christmases of the past and reminisce. How I miss those family gatherings of my childhood. Remember also the blessed event of Mary, Joseph and Jesus. It is our faith in that little stable in Bethlehem that sustains us throughout the year. Merry Christmas, Everyone!



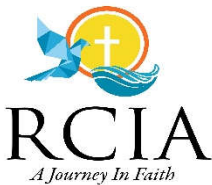
A VIEW FROM THE PEW, CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR WISHES.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Romans 15:13. Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and New Year!

GOOD SHEPHERD TUESDAY BINGO IS BACK! The kitchen opens at 5:00 PM and our Early Bird game begins at 6:00 PM.



BINGO AT ST. PATRICK'S on the second Wednesday of every month. Parish center doors open and food is available at 5:00 PM. Games start at 6:00 PM. game.



Do you want to become Catholic or know someone else who does? Are you a baptized Catholic and still need the sacraments of Initiation (**Holy Communion or Confirmation**) or know someone else who does? Do you want to grow deeper and reconnect in the practice of your faith?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, the RCIA program is for you! RCIA stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This program is being offered jointly between Good Shepherd and Immaculate Conception Parishes.

All Adults who have been baptized or not baptized are welcome! Please contact the parish office for any questions, additional information, and to register by calling 570-788-3141 (Good Shepherd) or 570-636-3035 (Immaculate Conception) and leave your name and telephone number.



MANDATORY BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS will be at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, January 26th, in the Saint Joseph Room of Good Shepherd Church. Please register by calling the Immaculate Conception Parish Office at 570-636-3035 or the Good Shepherd office at 570-788-3141.



Deacon Ministry

❖ QUESTION

What are the roles of Permanent Deacons and how do they function in the Catholic Church?

❖ ANSWER

Great question. The deacon may be one of the most easily misunderstood roles in the Catholic Church. A permanent deacon is an ordained minister of the Catholic Church. There are three groups of ordained ministers in the hierarchy of the Church that include Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. The deacon is not a Mini-Priest but rather his ministry has three dimensions: liturgy, word, and service.

Regarding the second question “*how do they function*”, the deacon serves at the altar during Mass in many ways including, proclaiming the Gospel, may preach the homily, distributing Holy Communion as an ordinary minister, and assisting the priest. Deacons can baptize, witness, and perform marriages, funeral and burial services **outside of Mass**, teach the faith, provide counsel for couples and individuals among many other duties as part of his ministry.

Living in the world, permanent deacons are sensitive to the needs of the families including single parents, students, older people, those with disabilities, the incarcerated, and those who suffer from poverty or addictions of many kinds. Deacons are a “bridge” between the people of the church and the parish priest.

All Christians are called to serve Christ by their Baptism, and the deacon, by his sacramental ordination of Holy Orders, “*is to be a servant in a servant-Church*”. He is sent by the Church to be the presence of Christ to those in need.

Deacon Jim