

#3338

The flowers on the main Altar have been designated by the Neiderer family in memory of George, Dennis & Richard Neiderer.

## Mass Intentions

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Earl T. Brady
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Living & deceased members of Raymond F. & Gladys T. Staub family
	10:00a.m.	The People of the Parish
Mon.	8:00a.m.	Roy & Madeleine Staub family
Tues.	8:00a.m.	Mary Sand
Wed.	8:00a.m.	Keith A. Adams
Thurs.	8:00a.m.	Tom McKim
Fri.	8:00a.m.	Connie Zumbrum
Sat.	5:30p.m.	Sean Bollinger
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Living & deceased members of Cletus & Mary Neiderer family
	10:00a.m.	The People of the Parish

## Offertory Procession

Sat. Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>	5:30p.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Eckenrode
Sun. Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:30a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Riser
	10:00a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Stafford

The Second Collection this weekend is the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please be generous.

For those who ordered Cookies, they are available for pick-up after the Masses this weekend in the Parish Hall.

**From the Pastor:** From a sermon by St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo 396-430, excerpted from *the Liturgy of the Hours*. John [the Baptist] is the voice, but the Lord is *the Word* who was in *the beginning*. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives for ever.

Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart...

When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: The word *ought to grow, and I should diminish?* The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: *My joy is complete.* Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

[John said]: *I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare*



*the way for the Lord. The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. Prepare the way for the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into your hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him."*

What does *prepare the way* mean, if not "be humble in your thoughts"? We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory. If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself. He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

This weekend we welcome  the newest member into our Parish Family

through the Sacrament of **BAPTISM**  
Milena McKim Rumbaugh,  
daughter of Patrick and Marianne (McKim) Rumbaugh.  
Congratulations to the new family!

**No Confessions Sat. Christmas Eve!**  
**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Sat. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 5:30p.m. & 7:30p.m. Sun. Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Midnight Mass at 12:00a.m. and 9:00a.m.**

**New Year's Mass times follow the regular weekend schedule. Sat. Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30p.m. Sun. Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 7:30 and 10:00a.m.**

We thank Murphy Funeral Home for providing us with the 2017 Calendars this year. They are available in the vestibule of the Church on a table, 1 per family please.

You can do your Christmas shopping at the Parish Office this year. We have Jackie Klunk's wonderful cd "Faith, Hope & Love" for \$20.00, we have Fr. McNeil's dvd history of the Church for \$10.00, Sacred Heart men's and women's Rosary's for \$25.00 each and just a few Ornaments left for \$20.00. Call the Office at 637-2721.

Church cleaning will be this Thurs. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m.

### Area Advent Penance Services

Mon. Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. Immaculate Conception, New Oxford.  
Sat. Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. St. Joseph the Worker, Bonneauville.  
Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. St. Francis Xavier Church, 25 W. High St. Gettysburg.

Mon. Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. St. Aloysius, Littlestown.  
Tues. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Abbottstown.

Wed. Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00p.m. St. Joseph Church, Grandview Rd. Hanover.

Direction for Our Times: come join our Parishioner Wendy McCall in Our Lady's Chapel on Sat. Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00a.m. to pray the rosary and read the monthly locution message from Jesus, as given to Anne, a lay Apostle. For more information, call Wendy at 717-969-2452. And check out the website: [www.directionforourtimes.org](http://www.directionforourtimes.org). All are welcome.

It's time to order Poinsettia's in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The price is \$11.00 each and the deadline to order is **Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>**. You can drop your order in the collection basket or for more info contact the Parish Office at 637-2721.

Enjoy a Christmas Concert at Delone Catholic Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> in the Old Gym beginning at 6:30p.m.

The 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Carol Sing will be held Sun. Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. at Emmanuel UCC 124 Broadway, Hanover. This Hanover Tradition will have Christmas Carols sung and their stories (re)told by Steve McKonley and Landy Grimm, accompanied by a community orchestra directed by Jamie Brown. All are welcome!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Prayer Shawl Retreat will be held Sat. Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30a.m. at the Diocesan Center in Hbg. The day is hosted by the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women and will include Mass, prayer, knitting/crocheting, fellowship and lunch. For more information call Kathy Kokoski at 717-448-889 or Deb Black at 717-514-8815.

### Sacred Heart School News

The students will have a dress rehearsal for their Christmas Program Wed. Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00p.m. in the Parish Hall, all are welcome to attend and enjoy our children's talent! The Christmas Program will be held Thurs. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m.

Make your Christmas shopping easier by supporting SHS's "Helping Hearts Gift Card Program"! In the church vestibule before all Masses, volunteers are selling gift cards to many local stores and restaurants. Proceeds from your purchase benefit both Sacred Heart School and our important tuition-assistance program.