



St. Edward Catholic Church



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
120 St. Edward Lane, Herminie, PA 15637
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2011

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. John J. Harrold

Pastor

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Miss Faith A. Rich

Pastoral Minister

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Administrative Secretary

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Mrs. Lisa Arch

Faith Formation Secretary

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 & 11:30 a.m.

Weekday - no Wed. 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days—As listed in the bulletin

Reconciliation—Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Baptism

Preparation Class. The Sacrament of

Baptism is usually celebrated on the 1st

and 3rd Sunday after 9:00 a.m. Mass. No

baptisms during Lent.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confession on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the pastor and arrange date at

least 1 year in advance. Attendance at

Marriage Prep. Program is required.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF

ADULTS (R.C.I.A)

Adults interested in becoming Catholic or

those who have not received all of the

Sacraments of Initiation should contact

the Faith Formation Office.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Communion calls to the sick and

homebound and those confined in nursing

homes are made regularly. Please notify

the Pastoral Minister in the Faith

Formation office.

CONTACT US:

Parish Office: 724-446-5197

Faith Formation Office: 724-446-5381

Parish Fax: 724-446-1433

Parish E-Mail:

stedward@dioceseofgreensburg.org

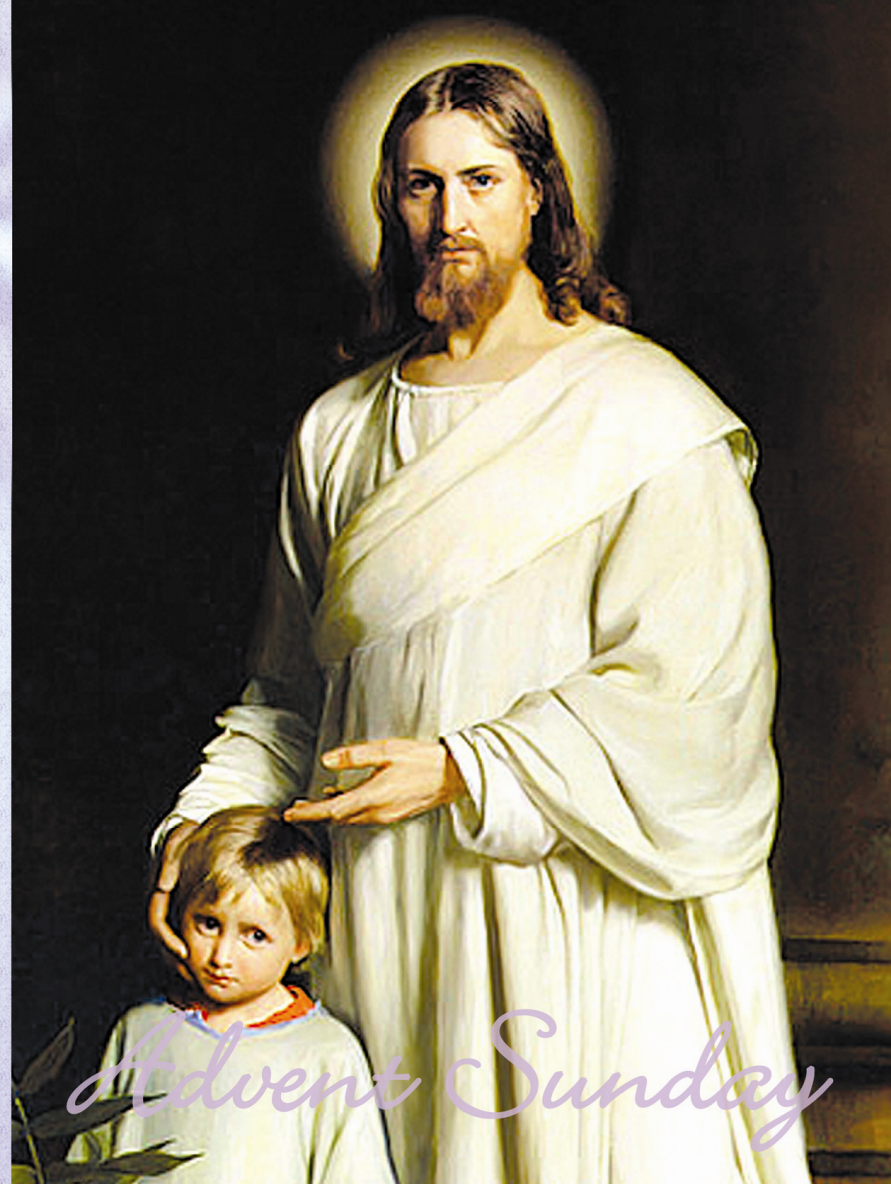
Parish Web: www.saint-edward.org

Diocesan Web: www.dioceseofgreensburg.org



SHOW US, LORD, YOUR LOVE; GRANT US YOUR SALVATION.

Psalm 85:8



Advent Sunday

Parish Mission Statement

We, of St. Edward, are a large parish family diverse in age, community and background. We are united by a shared Catholic faith, offering hospitality and opportunities for spiritual growth. Our baptismal commitment is continually renewed by living and proclaiming the word of God, through our celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. The proclaiming of our faith is found in our example and participation in the world. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we strive to grow in Christ during our journey of a lifetime.



SAT: DECEMBER 3
6:00pm † Frank Gradisek (B.R.)
(Tom, Gina & Grandchildren)

SUN: DECEMBER 4
9:00am For the Living & Deceased Members of
St. Edward Parish
11:30am † Anthony & Eleanor Andrews
(Joe & Rose Sarnelli)

MON: DECEMBER 5
8:00am † Tom Allen
(Family)

TUE: DECEMBER 6 - St. Nicholas
8:00am † Andrew J. Cambuzzi, Sr. (B.R.)
(Russell & Joan Karr)

WED: DECEMBER 7 - St. Ambrose
— No Mass Today —

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Holy Day of Obligation

THU: DECEMBER 8
8:00 AM For the Living & Deceased Members of
St. Edward Parish
7:00 PM † Frank Fedor (B.R.)
(Tim & Mary Jo Conrad)

FRI: DECEMBER 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
8:00am † Glenn Holmquist
(John Socklege)

SAT: DECEMBER 10
6:00pm † Madge Socklege (Anni)
(Walter Novak)

SUN: DECEMBER 11 - Third Sunday of Advent
9:00am † Steve Sada (Anni)
(Dippolito Family)
11:30am For the Living & Deceased Members of
St. Edward Parish

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Offertory, November 20	\$7,374.50
Offertory, November 27	\$7,111.50
Amount budgeted each week	\$9,241.00
Over / (Under)	-\$3,996.00

July thru November - Offertory Total	\$160,844.78
July thru November - Offertory Budget	<u>\$200,213.75</u>
(Over/Under)	-\$39,368.97

July thru November - Utilities	\$13,252.25
June thru November - Diocesan Billing	\$297,464.85
(\$104,450.00 of this amount was not paid in the last fiscal year.)	

Thank you for your generosity!

At this time of year the good steward is most definitely challenged to embrace the simplicity of St. John the Baptist more than the commercialism of the season.

**TODAY'S READINGS FOR THE
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Today we are reminded that we, too, are called upon to prepare a way for the Lord. We are messengers in service to one who is greater than we are. Baptism mandates us to live as disciples and, through our witness, to call others to life as disciples of Jesus.

FIRST READING: The word of the Lord is addressed to a devastated Jerusalem, many of whose citizens are in exile. God's word comforts his people. The time of punishment (the Exile) is ended. A new era is about to begin. God is coming with power. A way must be prepared for him. And note, the God who comes with power, comes likewise in tenderness, like a shepherd lovingly caring for his flock and carrying the very young in his arms.

*"Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation."*

SECOND READING: The reading focuses on the Second Coming of Jesus, which we still await. Once again, we hear that the way of the Lord is prepared through repentance. The end-time day of the Lord is described in apocalyptic language: destruction, judgment, the creation of a new heaven and a new earth.

GOSPEL: The opening words of Mark's account of the Gospel sets forth the theme of his work — the Good News of Jesus, the Son of God. The reader is thus privy to Jesus' true identity — a question that pervades Mark's account of Jesus' life. But before we meet Jesus, we encounter his herald described in words taken from today's First Reading. John's message is simple: Prepare the Lord's way through repentance. He who comes is more powerful than me, He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."

— Mk 1:2b-3

If you do not receive the parish offertory envelope packet, please consider making a donation to these additional collections this month of December:

- Monthly Offering
- Debt Reduction
- Church Improvement
- Children & Family Services Appeal
- Immaculate Conception
- Christmas

Simply place these donations in a regular envelope with your name, collection name, and amounts written on the envelope. Thank you for supporting the parish!



Advent PEACE

As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, we need to think about peacemaking in our everyday lives. How many disputes or arguments would end quickly with a simple apology, a sincere acceptance of fault?

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you... Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. John 14:27

Mary, Mother of the Church



The Immaculate Conception is the doctrine that Mary, conceived in the normal way through an act of love by her mother and father, was preserved from original sin and its effects from the first moment of her existence. This special grace was conferred on her through the grace of God in anticipation of the Redemption.

Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 8th at 8:00am and 7:00pm. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Mary is a wonderful example of what happens when one opens oneself to the life and power of God. In her last spoken words in the Gospels, Mary directs our attention to Jesus, saying "Do whatever he tells you."

OPLATKI ~ The Blessed Christmas Wafer

The Oplatki Christmas wafer commemorates a custom which is many centuries old. The breaking and sharing of Oplatki is accompanied by exchange of happy Christmas wishes, along with the asking and granting of forgiveness of any past wrongs. Once the Oplatki is broken, the wishes are granted, the past is forgotten, the joy of the moment and the future is ensured. As we continue this blessed tradition, our Christmas wafer helps us bring joy and happiness to our hearts and homes.

The blessed Christmas wafer is available this weekend on the bulletin table. A donation of \$2.00 is requested per envelope. A nice tradition to begin in your family.

ST. EDWARD JANUARY TICKET

A "New Year Cash Special" January ticket will be sold again this year to benefit the parish. Cash prizes of \$5000 will be given away during the month of January. Each ticket is \$10. Winning number taken from the First 3 digit PA Daily Lottery at 7pm. **Tickets will be available to purchase before and after all Masses next weekend, December 10/11.** These make great Christmas gifts on a tight budget!

Sellers Needed! - If you can help sell 5 or 10 tickets, please call Lisa Arch at 724-446-5381 in the Faith Formation Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SECOND COLLECTION - A special collection will be taken at all Masses this weekend for our local Food Bank. Your generosity will enable them to purchase additional food needed this holiday season. God will bless your generosity.

POINSETTIA DELIVERY - All parishioners who placed orders for Poinsettia's and Holiday Novelties are reminded to pick them up this weekend in Edwardian Hall after all Masses.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING - Will be held today at 10:00am in the church hall.

YOUTH MINISTRY CHRISTMAS OUTING TODAY - Students who made reservations to attend the Ice Skating event at The Rink @ PPG Place in Pittsburgh are reminded to be here in Edwardian Hall at 1:45pm. The bus will leave promptly at 2pm returning around 8pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES - Continue on Monday, December 5th from 6-7:30pm for all students in grades K-5 who attend public school.

RCIA SESSION - Will be held this week on Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00pm in the parish meeting room.

SUNSHINE CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY - Will be held on Tuesday, December 6th at 6:00pm in Edwardian Hall for those who made reservations. Entertainment provided by the Herminie Button Box. **Help needed at 2pm to set up the hall.**

FOOD BANK - Distribution of food on Wednesday, December 7th at 10:30am in Edwardian Hall.

CHOIR REHEARSAL - Continues on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the church. All voices are welcome! Join in!

2012 RELIGIOUS CATHOLIC CALENDARS - Through the courtesy of Nickels Funeral Home, the 2012 Catholic Calendars are available this weekend in the church vestibule. Please thank them for their generosity.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS - Have you purchased your Christmas cards this year? We have Christmas Cards available from a few years ago on the bulletin table. Any donation is accepted. Thank you!

ALTAR ROSARY CHRISTMAS PARTY - Will be held on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00pm in Edwardian Hall. Members are asked to bring a covered-dish and 2 - \$1.00 gifts.

CHURCH CLEANING FOR CHRISTMAS - **We need your help!** Share your Stewardship of Time and help us prepare the church for the Christmas liturgies on Monday, December 12th at 9:00am. Coffee, juice, muffins and donuts will be provided. Please bring cleaning supplies with you (bucket, rags, etc.).

SPECIAL THANK YOU! - The Altar Rosary Society would like to thank all the parishioners and friends who purchased tickets for their Thanksgiving holiday basket. A profit of \$611.53 was realized for the society. The winner of the Thanksgiving Basket was Rich Amen. They would like to extend a special thank you to parishioners who donated without taking tickets to win.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS - Will have their Christmas Party at Teddy's Restaurant on Tuesday, December 13th at 5:30pm. Members are asked to bring gifts for residents of St. Ann's Home and a \$5 gift exchange for members. Please call Jean at 724-863-4976 to make your reservation.

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER HERE AT ST. EDWARD - **On Sunday, December 11th, a Spaghetti Dinner will be held here in Edwardian Hall from 11:00am - 5:00pm to benefit Hayden Stoll, the 5 year old little boy from Herminie who was attacked by the stray Pitt Bull Dog on November 18th while playing outside his home. This tragedy has significantly affected his family both emotionally and financially. All proceeds will benefit the family. The cost of the dinner will be \$6 for those 6 and older and free for those 5 and younger. Pictures with Santa will be available for \$6. This benefit is sponsored by H.W. Good School Staff and friends. Information by calling Stephanie Bogac at 724-446-7431.**