

DECEMBER
2011

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH
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MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DEC. 24: CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: 5 PM, 8 PM (Folk Group) & MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY, DEC. 25: CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES: 8:30 & 11:15 AM
SATURDAY, DEC. 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS: 5:00 PM
SUNDAY, JAN. 1: SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD: 8:30 & 11:15 AM

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION is vitally important to the parish. Please try to double your generosity for Christmas & the Sunday before & after, if possible, to help Holy Spirit at year's end. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP is fulfilling our responsibility to God for his generosity to us (me). You who support the parish financially are doing a great job. Newcomers are invited to join in by using envelopes. Any increase you can make in your weekly (monthly) offering is deeply appreciated. Thanks to all who have supported Holy Spirit over the years.

END OF YEAR GIFT GIVING TO THE CHURCH: Various ways available: Catholic Community Foundation Endowment Funds, Will Bequests, Legacy League etc. Contact Pat Madden at 443-263-1925 or visit www.ccfmd.org. Prayerfully consider such a gift. Thank you.

BUILDING UPDATE: As you can see, work has begun on our building project. The area has to be protected so no one will be injured. It is a hard hat area. Keep your prayers going for the safety of the workers.

The NEW ROMAN MISSAL became effective Nov. 27. Special cards are in the pews for your help. Please leave them for everyone's use.

ADORATION BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for an increase in religious vocations Sunday, **DEC. 3, 11:45 – 12:45** in Church. Come, pray with us.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: It is a family responsibility to bring children & teens to the Sacrament of Penance regularly. If you prefer a Penance Service, see the schedule of opportunities listed below:

December 5	7:00 PM	Holy Spirit	Joppa
December 6	1:00 PM	St. Patrick's	Havre de Grace
	2:30 – 3:00 PM	St. Joan of Arc,	Aberdeen
December 12	7:00 PM	St. Mary's	Pylesville
December 13	12:15 & 7:30 PM	St. Margaret's	Bel Air
December 15	7:00 PM	St. Mark's	Fallston
December 19	7:00 PM	St. Ignatius	Hickory
December 20	7:00 PM	Prince of Peace	Edgewood
December 21	4:00 & 7:00 PM	St. Stephen's	Bradshaw
Wednesdays of Advent	7:00 PM	St. John's	Hydes

We will return to offering the **MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD** in the chalice **DEC. 7** and we could use a few more Eucharistic Ministers to help with this. Let me know if you are interested.

DEC 8: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Holy Day: Mass 9 AM & 7 PM

FRANCISCAN CENTER: We are collecting the following new and unwrapped articles for the Franciscan Center: knitted hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and socks for both children and adults. There will be a box labeled "Franciscan Center" in the Narthex for these items. Please bring in your items by Thursday, DEC. 8.

DEC. 10 MARKS FR. SIMMONS' 29TH ANNIVERSARY AT HOLY SPIRIT. It's 29 years for the death of Fr. Dausch.

2ND COLLECTION DEC. 10/11: RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS. Please be as generous as possible to the elderly sisters, priests, and brothers who have dedicated their lives to serve you and others.

2012 BOXED SET ENVELOPES ARE HERE & can be picked up in the Church lobby beginning **DEC 10/11**. If you don't find your name on a box or you would like to start using envelopes, call the office. Remember – if you want an end-of-year statement of your contributions for your taxes, you **MUST** have an assigned envelope number.

LION'S CLUB BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: DEC. 11, 9AM – 1 PM, Joppatowne High School. Adults - \$7.00 in Advance, \$8.00 at the door and Kids - \$4.00 in Advance, \$5.00 at the door. Call Rich @ 410-679-8206

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS: DEC. 18, 9 – 12 AM at Prince of Peace. Adults \$6.00, Children 6 & up \$4.00, under 6 free. bacon, eggs, sausage, pancakes & hash browns provided by Corpus Christi Council Knights of Columbus.

GIVING TREE: will be in the Narthex until all the tags are taken. Please return your wrapped gifts with tag securely taped to the package to the narthex **by Sunday, DEC. 18**, for distribution to needy children from our local elementary schools. Help make Christmas a little brighter for them. Thank you & God bless you for your generosity.

We are sponsoring five needy families for Christmas this year.

If anyone wishes to help with food or gifts for these families, please call Anne O'Connor at 410-679- 9591.

If anyone is in need of food for Christmas, please let us know.

COOKIES AND CAROLING: Prince of Peace invites everyone, especially families with children to the celebration of Cookies & Caroling from 6:15 to 7:30 on Monday, **DEC. 19**. Bring some cookies to share. We sing all the carols. We enjoy cocoa & cookies.

FAITH FORMATION - Sr. Susanne Bunn, MSHS

410-679-5219 or HspiritFF@aol.com.

Parents have the power to bless their children. Families have the power to bless their Christmas Tree.

(If you use holy water. Bless the tree before you plug in the lights:

Dear God, 2000 ago, you brought your son, Jesus into this world to teach us the power of love & sacrifice. As we raise this tree, we remember his birth & the meaning of his life for us. Bless + this tree as a symbol of our celebration of Jesus' birth & our gratitude for his sacrifice. May the joy this tree brings & the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts you have given us. We ask your blessings upon our loved ones, this day and always. Amen.

Families have the power to bless their family Christmas Crèche: Blessed are You, Lord God, king of all creation: We praise You for Your love. We thank You because You have loved us so much that You sent Your only Son to bring us eternal life. Bless + this crib that we have prepared, & let it be a reminder to us of the lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary. Father, we praise You through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PEACE DAY: Retreat for First Reconciliation students and parents will be held on **Sunday, DEC. 4** from 1:30 to 4:30 PM at Prince of Peace. The Family Scrapbook is due on Peace Day. Sr. Susanne will be at ALL MASSES on the 11th and 12 to invite families of children preparing for First Penance to remain for a few minutes after Mass to receive a tour of the Reconciliation Room.

Class Cancellation: In the event of snow or other reasons, WBAL Radio 1090 will carry the announcement.

SAVE-THE-DATE: The **HOLY SPIRIT** Bull and Shrimp Roast will be held **FEB. 18** at Prince of Peace, 7 – 11 PM.

PRINCE OF PEACE BINGO: Invite your friends and neighbors to Bingo, 7:00 PM every Wednesday at our sister parish in Edgewood. Great food. Great fellowship. Cash prizes.

DAILY ROSARY recited at 8:40 AM, Mon. – Fri. in the Chapel. Mass is in the Church at 9.

MASS OFFERINGS: Anyone may ask Fr. Simmons to offer a Mass for the repose of someone who has died or for the intentions of someone who is living. The usual offering is \$10.

ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50) and the **SANCTUARY CANDLE** (\$5) may be purchased any week for any intention. Don't forget your deceased loved ones. Call the Parish Office to check for availability of dates.

BULLETINS – Monday is the deadline for all information to be printed in the bulletin. Call Fr. Simmons or e-mail the office by Noon on Monday.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS (In memory or in honor of relatives and friends)

*Put your donation & list of names in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers & put in the collection basket no later than December 19th. **PLEASE PRINT!!***

