

The Linked Parishes of Corpus Christi and St. Barbara



“As members of the Body of Christ, the linked parishes of St. Barbara and Corpus Christi celebrate the presence of God in all people through our thoughts, words and deeds. We answer Christ’s call as a community of believers to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless and love one another.”

**December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent**

**Immaculate Conception Church
Holy Redeemer Church
St. Anthony Church
Msgr. John J. Sempa, Pastor
Corpus Christi/
St. Barbara Parishes
605 Luzerne Avenue
West Pittston, PA 18643
Phone (570) 654-2753
Phone (570) 654-2103
Fax (570) 654-9244**

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

4:00PM St. Anthony
5:30PM Immaculate Conception

Sunday

7:30AM St. Anthony
9:00AM Holy Redeemer
10:30AM Immaculate Conception

Confession

Saturday

3:00PM to 3:30PM
St. Anthony Church

Daily Mass Schedule

Mon 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Tues 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

Wed 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Thurs 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

Fri 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

12:10PM St. Anthony

Watch Sunday & Daily Mass on

Corpus Christi Facebook

www.facebook.com/corpuschristiparishpa

Weekly Collection

November 26, 2023

St. Barbara

Weekly.....\$4,624.10

E-Giving.....\$305.00

Total \$4,929.10

Care & Education for Priests

November.....\$386.00

Total No Bazaar...\$18,007.00

Corpus Christi

Weekly.....\$9,217.81

E-Giving.....\$2,748.93

Total \$11,966.74

Care & Education for Priests

November....\$1,120.00

No Bazaar.....\$75.00

Total No Bazaar...\$31,120.00

Second Collection Next Weekend

Next weekend, December 9th and 10th, we will take up the diocesan collection to benefit the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Family Mass & Donut Sunday

Today, Sunday, December 3rd, at the 10:30AM Mass, please welcome boys and girls from our parishes who will participate in the Mass as lectors, ushers and heavenly hosts. Following this Mass, everyone is invited to join us in the church hall for “Donut Sunday.”

Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)

December 7th, Vigil Mass 6:00PM St. Anthony’s.

December 8th, Masses 7:30AMImmaculate Conception

8:30AMHoly Redeemer

12:10PM . . . St. Anthony’s

6:00PMImmaculate Conception

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23/24 and Feast of the Holy Family, December 30/31, please follow the regular weekend Mass schedule.

Christmas & New Year’s Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th:

4:00PM Mass.....St. Anthony’s

4:00PM Mass....(Family Mass) Immaculate Conception

10:00PM MassImmaculate Conception

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th:

7:30AM Mass.....St. Anthony’s

9:00AM Mass.....Holy Redeemer

10:30AM Mass.....Immaculate Conception

New Year’s Eve, Sunday, December 31st:

4:00PM MassSt. Anthony’s

New Year’s Day, Monday, January 1st:

7:30AM Mass.....St. Anthony’s

9:00AM Mass.....Holy Redeemer

10:30AM Mass.....Immaculate Conception



**Lessons and Carols
An Advent Concert**

Presented by

Adult Choir of Corpus Christi & St. Barbara Parishes

Sunday, December 10th

3:00PM

Immaculate Conception Church

Following the concert all are welcome to join us for refreshments in the church hall. We are asking for volunteers who would like to bake a cake, cookies or bring a dessert. If you can help, just drop your dessert off at the rectory or Immaculate Conception Church hall on Saturday or Sunday, December 9 or 10. Thank you!

Christmas Wafers

Christmas wafers can be found in the vestibules of the churches. Donation is \$2.00 for a pack of 4 wafers. You may also pick them up at the rectory.

EM's Lectors and Altar Servers

The new ministry schedule will begin in January. If you have any changes to your preferred Mass serving times, please contact your coordinator before December 10th.

EM's and Lectors, contact Teresa at 570 357 3985 or tacross5@comcast.net

Altar servers, contact Donna Mason at 570 903 9142 or toddler.dm@gmail.com

St. Barbara Holy Name Christmas Party

All men from both parishes are invited to a Christmas party on Thursday, December 14 at 6:00PM in St. Anthony's Parish Center.

Corpus Christi Parish Winter Lottery

For a \$25 donation you have the chance of winning \$50 Monday thru Saturday or \$100 on Sundays during January, February & March 2024. Or you can win \$150 on the following bonus days...January 1 & 15, February 1 & 15 and March 1 & 15. For additional tickets, please e-mail needtickets123@gmail.com and we will gladly mail them to you

2023/2024 Envelope Donations

Please know any envelopes for Corpus Christi or St. Barbara Parishes received after December 31, 2023 will be credited to your 2024 parish donations.

Mailing Address for St. Barbara Parish

Please note the correct mailing address is....

St. Barbara Parish
605 Luzerne Avenue
West Pittston, Pa. 18643

Corpus Christi Parish Diocesan Appeal

2023 Goal: \$30,000.00
Raised: \$27,165.00
Over (Under) (\$2,835.00)

St. Barbara Parish Diocesan Appeal

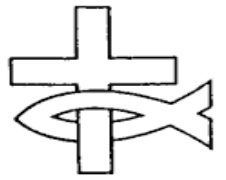
2023 Goal: \$31,000.00
Raised: \$13,560.00
Over (Under) (\$17,440.00)

Veterans Mass...Thank You

Thank you to all those who participated in the annual Veterans Mass held recently at Corpus Christi Parish. From the bagpipers to Judge Tom Burke to the choir and especially to Abby Butler and Michael Supey, a very special thank you because you all made the Mass this year especially meaningful. The military participants made this Mass very impressive. Thank you to all those who attended the Mass and stayed to visit with the military following the Mass. We look forward to seeing you again at the Veterans Mass next November. May God bless all those who have served our country as members of the armed forces.

Sincerely,
Ron, Rosemary & Rosella

Liturgy Intentions For The Week



December 4 thru 10, 2023

Mon	7:30AM (ICC)	Raeann Rose Merlino By WA Teachers
	8:30AM (HRC)	Carmella Buynak By Catherine Belusko
	12:10PM (SAC)	Judy L. Gaul By Sue Stofko & Adrienne Donda
Tues	7:30AM (ICC)	Guy Joseph & Maria Fasciana By Butera Family
	8:30AM (HRC)	Raymond Smith, Sr. By Dianne & Ray Smith
Wed	7:30AM (ICC)	Gilbert, Gina & Gil Dominick, Jr. By Nardell Family
	8:30AM (HRC)	Thomas Butchko By Friend
	12:10PM (SAC)	Gil Dominick By Family
Thurs	7:30AM (ICC)	Alex Nobile By Family
	8:30AM (HRC)	Michael Bitters By John & Ellen Babuscak
	6:00PM (SAC)	Carmen Maffei By J. Hummler
Fri	7:30AM (ICC)	Jim "Goose" Ciali By Anne Powers
	8:30AM (HRC)	Health & Gods's Blessings Fr. Alco By HR Morning Mass Group
	12:10PM (SAC)	Dec'd Membs of the Kalinois & Lawrence Paoloni Families By Family
	6:00PM (ICC)	Jack & Carmella Salvaggio By Children & G-Children
Sat	4:00PM (SAC)	Loretta Bufalino By Linda Fanelli
	5:30PM (ICC)	George Menn & Joseph Butera By Wife & sister
Sun	7:30AM (SAC)	Gary Zavacki By Ettore Anselmi
	9:00AM (HRC)	Jean & Matthew Wisniewski By Tona & Wisniewski Families
	10:30AM (ICC)	Frank Colella By Theresa & Family

Candles

These candles will burn the week of December 3 in loving memory of the following:

Altar Candles at ICC

Ida Popple Rowe.....By Bill & Nancy

Holy Family Candle at ICC

Marion & Herman Ciampi.....By Daughters,
Marguerite & Michalina

Sanctuary Candle at ICC

Barbara Cawley, Jean Zezza & Ann Manganello.....By Geraldine Anselmi

Sanctuary Candle at HR

Dorothy OrlandoBy Bernadette Walchek

Sanctuary Candle at SAC

Dec'd Membs of Lando & Madeline Menchi Family.....By Family

Social Concerns Christmas News

The "Giving Tree"

This Christmas project is organized by the members of the Social Concerns Committees of both Corpus Christi and St. Barbara Parishes. On the "Giving Trees" are hundreds of tags representing Christmas wishes of some children from our local area. They range in age from infant to 17 years.



► On the tag you will find the child's first name, age, his/her size (we included sizes for anyone who wishes to purchase clothing) and an item from his/her Christmas wish list. Just choose a tag, purchase the gift/gifts, wrap them and securely attach the tag to the gift. On each tag is a family number which is how we identify the child who will receive the gift. If you have multiple gifts for a child, please tie the gifts together or place them in a large bag with the tag securely fastened.

► Please know wrapped gifts may be returned to any church. They do not have to be returned to the church from which you took the tags. At St. Anthony's Church, please place wrapped gifts in front of the altar. At Holy Redeemer & Immaculate Conception Churches, wrapped gifts should be placed near the "Giving Tree."

► Please know the very last day to return your "Giving Tree" gifts is the morning of **Sunday, December 17th.**

► Questions regarding this Christmas project can be referred to Joyce at 570-654-2753 or icecconi50@gmail.com.

► For your convenience, a virtual "Giving Tree" can be accessed on Sign Up Genius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AAAF29A2FBCE9-46313986-giving>

Directions are as follows:

Click the link (or copy and paste in your browser)

Click "select" on the child you wish to buy for

Scroll to the bottom and click "save and continue"

Fill in your first name, last name and e-mail address

Click "sign up now"

Christmas Stockings for Kids



Every child looks forward to waking up on Christmas morning to a Christmas stocking filled with goodies and treats of candy and small surprises. If you can help, please consider taking a stocking or two which can be found in the vestibules of the churches and filling it with treats and goodies. The stockings can be filled for boys or girls aged toddler thru teen. The filled stockings may be returned under the Giving Trees in Immaculate Conception, Holy Redeemer or St. Anthony's Church.

Baking Spirits Bright

Our homebound parishioners and those residing in nursing homes love to receive gifts of goodies for Christmas! If you 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 or Immaculate Conception hall by Tuesday, December 12th. Thank you!!!



Christmas Food Donations



This year we have a record number of families on our Christmas lists. We will be filling food bags for approximately 160 families for Christmas. We are looking for donations of all non-perishable foods including Christmas goodies including cookies and candy. Donations may be left in the vestibules of the churches. As always, thank you for your generous donations of food which keeps our food pantry filled. No one is ever turned away when asking for food.

Outerwear for Children

Thank you to our Knights of Columbus Council #18246 for collecting outerwear for kids. We are looking for donations of "new or nearly new" winter coats, snowsuits, hats, scarves, gloves and boots for children from toddler to teen sizes. Donations may be left in the marked boxes in the vestibules of the churches.



Volunteer Help is Needed:

► Making Chocolate Pops

Thursday, December 7th at 9:00AM. If you can help, please join us in Immaculate Conception Church kitchen to make chocolate pops for kids.

► Wrapping & Packaging Christmas Gifts for Homebound and Nursing Homes

Tuesday, December 12th at 2:00PM We will meet in IC Church hall to fill Christmas cookie tins and prepare Christmas gifts to be delivered to our homebound and nursing home parishioners. All are welcome to join us!

► Soup Ministry

Wednesday and Thursday, December 13 and 14 at 9:00AM Our Social Concerns Chefs will meet in Immaculate Conception Church kitchen to make another delicious soup for the homebound parishioners of Corpus Christi & St. Barbara Parishes. All are welcome to help!!

► Delivery to Homebound/Nursing Homes

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, December 14th, 15th & 16th Volunteers will be needed (you choose the day and time) to deliver soup and Christmas gifts to parishioners from Corpus Christi and St. Barbara Parishes who are homebound or residing in nursing homes.

► Preparing Christmas Food Bags

Thursday, December 14th at 6:00PM We will meet in Immaculate Conception Church hall to fill food bags for Christmas giving. We welcome teens needing service hours and anyone else who would like to help. Thank you in advance!

► Sorting & Packing Christmas Gifts

Sunday, December 17th at 11:30AM Volunteers, including teens, are asked to meet in Immaculate Conception Church to sort & pack up Christmas gifts for distribution.

► Pick Up of Christmas Gifts & Food Bags

Sunday, December 17th at 2:30PM Volunteers, including teens needing service hours, will be needed at Immaculate Conception Church to help with the Christmas gift and food distribution. ***The distribution will take place from 3:00PM to 5:00PM. We will need the help of teens to carry food bags and bags of Christmas gifts to the cars.***

► Chocolate Marshmallow Pops for Family Mass on Christmas Eve

Monday, December 18th at 9:00AM Our Social Concerns Chefs will meet in Immaculate Conception Church kitchen to make Chocolate Marshmallow Pops. The pops will be given to the children at our 4:00PM "Family Mass" at Immaculate Conception Church on Christmas Eve. Please join us if you can. Thank you!