

# St. Ignatius of Antioch Church

999 Reading Avenue Yardley, PA 19067

December 25, 2016 *The Nativity of the Lord*



## THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning. Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

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## MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Andrew C. Brownholtz, M.Div., Pastor  
Rev. Anthony J. DiGuglielmo, J.C.L., Assistant Pastor  
Msgr. Francis J. Statkus, J.C.D., Retired, in Residence  
Deacon Robert J. Skawinski, M.B.A., Retired  
Deacon Michael Cibenko, B.A.  
Mary Ann DiTommaso, M.A. in Ed., School Principal  
Annmarie C. Flanagan, M.A., DRE  
Maria Gdovin, B.S., M.Ed., Youth Minister  
Francis Klose, M.A., M.Ed., D.Litt., Music Director  
Gregory Lucidi, B.A., M.S., Business Manager  
Maria L. LaMantia, B.S., Parish Secretary

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rectory: 215-493-3377 ext. 211  
Fax: 215-493-0450  
E-mail: [contact@stignatius.church](mailto:contact@stignatius.church)  
Website: <http://www.stignatius.church>  
School: 215-493-3867  
Religious Education Office: 215-493-5204  
Youth Ministry Office: 267-391-7693  
Music Ministry Office: 267-393-0843

## NEW PARISHIONERS

New to the parish? Please call the rectory for an appointment to register.

## WEDDINGS

Arrangements should be made at least six months in advance. Please call the rectory to make an appointment with one of the parish priests.

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

Saturday: 5:15 PM Vigil Mass  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30AM, 6:00PM  
Children's Liturgy of the Word: at 9:30 Mass  
Daily, Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM  
Saturday: 8:00 AM.  
Holy Day Schedule: 7:00PM Vigil Mass, 7:00AM, 9:00AM, and 7:00PM.  
Special Schedules for Christmas, New Years & Easter

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: 4:00 to 5:00 P.M.  
Eves of First Fridays: 7:00 to 7:30 P.M.  
Confessions will also be heard at any reasonable time on request.

## ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the rectory at 215-493-3377 ext. 211 if someone is sick. The Holy Eucharist will be brought to anyone homebound.

## BAPTISMS

The Sacrament of Baptism is normally administered on Sundays at 12:45P.M. Pre-Jordan class, for the first child only, is required for parents. Class is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM in room 2B on the 2nd floor of the Meeting Center. Parents, please call the rectory to register for the class.



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### SUNDAY SOCIALS



Join us January 8th, after the 7:30AM, 9:30AM and 11:30AM Masses in a festive atmosphere as we share stories with one another while enjoying fresh brewed coffee, delicious donuts, and a healthy selection of fruit and juices. We look forward to seeing everyone!

### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

All are invited - as we sing God's praises and share in His Word and His Love in an intimate community of faith. We meet every Tuesday from 7:00-8:30PM in Room 2F in the Meeting Center. Deacon Bob Skawinski is our spiritual Prayer Group Director.



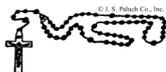
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### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

For those who would like to inquire about the Catholic Faith, information is available. Please contact the Director of Religious Education, Annmarie Flanagan, at 215-493-5204 or 215-370-5701.

### ROSARY



All are invited to recite the rosary after the 9:00am Mass. For those who can stay longer, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is also recited.



### TODAY'S READINGS

- First Reading -- All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).
- Psalm -- All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God (Psalm 98).
- Second Reading -- God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).
- Gospel -- The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).
- The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation.
- All rights reserved.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
- Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Sunday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21



### Mass Intentions for the Week

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| <b>Monday</b><br>9:00AM                      | <b>December 26, 2016</b><br>Joseph and James Murphy (The Murphy Family)  |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>9:00AM                     | John Lombardi (Frank and Mary Fazzalore)   |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>9:00AM                   | Diane Mays (The Mays Family)   |
| <b>Thursday</b><br>9:00AM                    | Mary Dolores Wright (Bill and Katie Pasko)   |
| <b>Friday</b><br>9:00AM                      | All Living and Deceased Members of the Parish  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br>8:00AM<br>5:15PM          | Robert Moore (Charismatic Prayer Group)<br>Michael Sr. and Michael Jr. (Lorraine Downs)  |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>7:30AM<br>9:30AM<br>11:30AM | <b>January 1, 2017</b><br>Robert V. Cashwell (Michael and Jackie DeMaio)<br>Katherine Marseglia (Vito Marseglia and Family)<br>Harold (Buzz) Taylor (Wife) |

## FISCAL CORNER

Our Parish Appeal this week totaled \$7,875 with 21 families contributing. As you know, this year's goal has been set at \$150,000. We are very optimistic we can reach this year's target, but only with your help. This critical parish fundraiser is one of our largest sources of income, aside from our normal Sunday collections, and is greatly needed for the daily operation of our parish. Please return your donation by placing this year's appeal envelope in the collection basket at Mass. You may also mail your contribution or drop it off directly to the rectory.

As of our Tenth week of the Parish appeal, 310 out of 2549 families have contributed \$101,646 toward our goal of \$150,000. We are at 67.76% of this year's goal and still need to raise \$48,354 to meet this year's target. For those who have already contributed, thank you for your generosity. For those who have not yet contributed, you still have time to make a last minute contribution that will count towards the 2016 tax year! We hope we can count on your support! – Gregory Lucidi, Parish Business Manager

### COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

Christian Giving



December 20, 2015

December 18, 2016

Sunday	\$ 14,414.50	358 Env.	\$ 17,354.50	437 Env.
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Registered Households: 2,541—Percentage of households using envelopes: 17.20%

*We are very grateful for the support of our parish!*



The following schedule is provided to help both new and long-time parishioners make plans for attending Christmas liturgies this year:

CHRISTMAS EVE: 4:00 PM (Children's Liturgy), 8:00 PM, and 12:00 Midnight (Once the church is full at the 4:00 PM Mass, parishioners will be directed downstairs to the auditorium for an overflow Christmas Mass.)

CHRISTMAS: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE: Saturday, December 31st - 5:15 PM Vigil Mass

NEW YEAR'S DAY: Sunday, January 1st 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM

### AID FOR FRIENDS

#### LOOKING FOR A WORTHY CHARITY FOR THE NEW YEAR? PLEASE CONSIDER AID FOR FRIENDS...

Aid for Friends provides **free meals** for the elderly, ill and homebound in the greater Philadelphia area. Our next meeting to assemble meals will be held on **Thursday, January 12th** from 9 am – noon in the church auditorium kitchen. *We are truly blessed, but more helping hands are always needed and welcome.* If you can't stay to help assemble the meals, a main dish or starch can be delivered on the morning of the meeting or a donation can be given to help us buy supplies. Your gifts and talents are always appreciated. If you would like additional information on how you can help, please call Kathy, 215-321-0116 or Jayne, 215-321-5739. See you on January 12<sup>th</sup>! *"For it is in giving that we receive."* –St. Francis of Assisi

## Pray For

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**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY** that they return to the comfort of good health: Elizabeth Alvino, Loretta Amerine, Sabrina Amerine, Ann Birchler, Lucille Brantl, Ruthann Carroll, Gloria Cheeseman, Brynn Clare Connor, Cliff Conway, Mary C. Crawford, Linda Crosby, Louie DiTanna, Mark Maholick, Marlene Drainville-Spillene, Frank Fazzalore, Mary Fazzalore, Olga Fleming, David Fry, Michael G., Sherry Golden, Rose Ann Grall, Madeline Guarnieri, Paul Hahn, Meryl Jacobson, Andrew Kelly, Diane Kelly, Fr. Lawrence Kozak, Ellen Masterson, Vincent Masterson, Lily Murphy, Robert Murphy, Christine Nasar, Daniel O'Brien, Thelma Pisano, Alicia Simon, Darwin Stout, Jonathan Sutton, Jeanne Tobin, Jane Wallace, Donald Weston, Sabrina Wooding, Barbara Zenno. **(Please call the rectory to submit prayer requests for the sick, and also to remove a name from the list. Names will be removed after a month, unless you request otherwise.)**

**WE PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED, especially John Tripoli**, all of our service personnel killed while serving our country, those who have no one to pray for them, and the Holy Souls in purgatory.

#### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY :

Cameron Armstrong, Matthew Bauer, Melissa Bishop, Christian Blaydon, Sara Brill, Mark Buckley, Michael Joseph Buckley, Brad Bullman, Evan Cumming, Brent Cummings, Kevin O'Brien Darby, Staten DeTample, Ronald Ernst, Kevin Frawley, Anthony Fuscarello, Joe Galle, Jessica Garcia, Shane Gibbons, Stephen Greene, Jonathan Grubb, Edward Hill, David & Christine Kawoczka Krueger, Matthew Krall, Justin Kumor, Daniel LaMorte, Matt Leonardo, James Limer, Michael Lowe, W. Kyle Magrisi, Joseph Marchand, Greg Marolo, Matthew McGurk, Phil Melandez, Chris Merrick, David Morgan, Kevin Nash, Stephen Neder, Fred Olivari, John O'Rourke, John Parente, Laura Perazzola, Gregory B. Procaccini, Jason Propst, Matthew Rieser, James Tams, Scott Toro, John Worman.

## NIGHT AT THE RACES

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

St. Ignatius will be holding its 1<sup>st</sup> annual Night at the Races on Friday February 24, 2017 at 7:30pm. We are planning a night of food, drinks and a whole lot of fun! We are looking for volunteers to help plan the event! Please give us a call at the rectory (215-493-3377) to let us know that you can be a part of the team!

**Clothing Collection**

You can donate wearable, used clothing at the Thrifty Irishman clothing bin in our parking lot. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

## ADORATION CHAPEL

Come let us Adore Him



What is the Importance of Eucharistic Devotion?  
The following is an excerpt from the USCCB (US Conference of Catholic Bishops) resource on the Liturgy: "This practice, repeatedly praised and recommended by the Magisterium is supported by the example of many saints. Particularly outstanding in this regard was St. Alphonsus Liguori, who wrote: "Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the most helpful to us." The Eucharist is a priceless treasure by not only celebrating it but also by praying before it outside of Mass. We are enabled to make contact with the very wellspring of Grace." Our Adoration Chapel is open 7 days a week 24 hours a day. Won't you make some time for a visit? Also, please consider taking one of our open hours: Monday 12pm, 1pm Tuesday 11am, 3am, Wednesday 2am, Thursday 3am, 2pm, Friday 6pm and Saturday 1am, 1pm. Even if you can help for a limited time, it is appreciated. For more information call Marianne Kloc at 267-346-0152. God Bless you!

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Blessed Christmas to all from the Adult Faith Formation Committee at St. Ignatius Parish.

We thank you all for your support of our programs throughout the year. As we move into the new year, we invite you to join our committee meetings the first Wednesday of every month. We need new ideas and suggestions for our programs. Jesus will be really happy you did, and so will we.

In past weeks, we mentioned our programs on Jan. 14 and Feb. 4 and now we offer "What Every Catholic Should Know about Hell" (video) on March 11, 2017 at 9 AM and then our final offering of the year on April 22, 2017 will be "Ocean of Mercy: St. Kolbe/Faustina/JPII" - three great saints who have given us an ocean of mercy (video). Join us in the Rel. Ed. center at 9 AM / refreshments; bring a friend.

All presentations are video, but great all the same.

St Thomas Aquinas, pray for us.

## RESPECT ROSE OF LIFE INTENTION



For all babies both in the womb and without.

The Respect Life Committee will be sponsoring a MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP on Friday, Jan 27, 2017.

In recent years, we have been unable to fill a 35- seat bus! We have over 2,000 families in our parish. Yes, you would need to take a day off from work. Yes, it may be cold. But, since 1973 there have been over 58 million surgical abortions. We have a NEW administration with a new 'pro-life' stance. Let's see if we can fill a 54 seat bus and go to Washington DC to make OUR choice of life heard! Contact Anne Chapman at [annechapman425@gmail.com](mailto:annechapman425@gmail.com) or call 215-584-1248 to register as soon as possible...oh, by the way, the cost is free!!!!

What came to be through Him is life and this life is the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

We REALLY need to realize what it is that we celebrate. One of the reasons there has been a 43 year battle to overturn Roe v. Wade is that choosing the death of a child as a 'choice' for the mother, is not really a choice; yes, women have free will as do we all, but one's rights stop where those of another begin...that is respect of life. Jesus came to shed light on the darkness.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Intercessory Prayer:

For all those who have choice, may they choose life and love; we pray to the Lord.



Do you have a few hours per week to volunteer? We are looking for volunteers to help at the rectory during the busy parts of the day. If you have a few hours to spare, and would like to assist in the rectory office with some light office duties, we could use your help! If you are interested, please call the rectory (215-493-3377) and someone would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

## RECTORY OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday 12/27 to Thursday 12/29 – Open 9am to 4pm  
Friday 12/30 to Monday 1/2 – Closed  
The rectory will re-open on Tuesday 1/3 at 9am.





**Take courage;  
get up, he is  
calling  
you.  
Mk 10:49**

**Get FORMED**

How to Access:  
Simply Visit: [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)  
Enter Our Parish Code: **40742e**  
Register yourself and enjoy the content available to you and your family!



Take time today to savor the miracle of this day. Grab a cup of hot chocolate and watch this engaging exploration of the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.

**COPING WITH LOSS AT HOLIDAY TIME**

Are you grieving this holiday season, feeling alone, and don't know what to do? Are you feeling unsure about how to celebrate this year? Are you having a hard time talking about your loss while others are celebrating? Consider attending the Annual Holiday Support Group for adults facilitated by Dr. Rosemarie Cataldo, Licensed Clinical Psychologist. Topics to be covered include:  
~Dealing with role changes and expectations with your holiday traditions.  
~How you and your children can remember and include your loved one during the holidays. ~How to cope with the stress of the holidays.  
The support group will meet from 7:00pm to 8:30pm on Friday 1/6/2017. Sessions will be held in the old Rectory Building - Room 2B (directly across from St. Ignatius Church). There are no fees or costs to attend. If you are interested in attending one or all of the sessions, kindly call Rosemarie Cataldo at 267-391-7351 and leave a message.

**A GRATEFUL THANK YOU**

As you know Catholic Social Services has a large number of people of limited means that they want to help. We mentioned earlier that CSS approached Social Action concerning providing clothing items to those served at their Fatima Center on Street Rd. Committee members converted a room in the Center into a clothing store including reconfiguring the adjacent confessional into a dressing room. Using our contacts at local stores we obtain items on clearance and sell them for a dollar an item to the Fatima Clientele. Since we began this operation the store volume has more than doubled every week.  
We also have committed to purchasing 4000 diapers a month for CSS clients to address an ongoing need. We will continue this program as long as we have the funds required  
We thank you and wish you a Merry Christmas for making our neighbors lives better! Without your help none of this would be possible!

Merry Christmas,  
Your Social Action

**H.O.P.E.**

**(Helping Other People Everyday)**

H.O.P.E. is a group of concerned parishioners who are willing to help anyone in the geographical boundaries of our parish.

**What we do:** Visit shut-ins; prepare meals in a crisis situation; grocery shop or run errands for shut-ins; take others to the grocery store; take people to Mass one day a month; drive to medical appointments, bank, post office, etc.

**What we CANNOT do:** Transport people in wheelchairs, be called as an emergency ride, do personal care (feeding, bathing, toileting, house cleaning, or respite care), respond on short notice. (If possible, please give us 2 weeks notice).

To volunteer for H.O.P.E. or to use H.O.P.E., call Pat Furst at 215-801-0820.

**BOOK n' BEAN**

Our group is growing and we are always adding new members. How about joining us on the last Tuesday night of each month beginning in September (except December and summers) to discuss our selected book of the month? We meet in the Religious Education Office across from the School Cafeteria from 7:30 - 8:45pm for a relaxed discussion. Bring your own beverage.

Contact Linda Stewart at: [dremom@verizon.net](mailto:dremom@verizon.net) or call me at 215-968-3577 with questions. Our schedule is:

- Tuesday, Jan. 31 Custer's Trials: a Life on the Frontier of a New America ~ T. J. Stiles
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 The Road from Coorain ~ Jill Ker Conway
- Tuesday, Mar. 28 Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS ~ Joby Warrick
- Tuesday, April 25 Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet ~ Jamie Ford
- Tuesday, May 23 Nightingale ~ Kristin Hannah

**AID FOR FRIENDS  
GIFTS OF WARMTH**



Gifts of Warmth are invaluable to our homebound friends during the cold, winter season. Please use the Aid for Friends donation boxes at any of the church entrances to leave your unwrapped gift. Some suggestions for donation include: men's or women's robes and pajamas, blankets, socks, sheets, sweat suits, toiletries, Ensure or Boost, etc. Thank you! Your kindness and generosity are always appreciated.



St. Ignatius is looking for a Director of Music Ministry. This part time position reports to the pastor and is responsible for the effective planning, coordination and execution of music within the liturgical celebrations of the parish.

Visit our website at: [www.stignatius.church](http://www.stignatius.church) for the complete job announcement and contact information.

# Youth and Young Adult



ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH SCHOOL  
"A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence"  
"A Community of Faith, Academics and Service"

Let us rejoice for the Savior is born! Jesus, the Light of the World as we celebrate your birth may we begin to see the world in the light of the understanding you gave to us.

The Faculty, Staff and Students of St. Ignatius School wish you a Merry and Blessed Christmas!



ST. IGNATIUS  
OF ANTIOCH  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# OPEN HOUSE

## Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>

9-11 am | 6-8pm  
[sischool.org](http://sischool.org)

MARCH FOR LIFE 1/27/17

Please come join us and hundreds of thousands of other proliferators as we march on Washington DC for the 43<sup>rd</sup> time to let our new administration know that we expect more prolife legislation and a prolife Supreme court justice. Mass at 7:15 AM; bus departs 8 AM promptly, returns around 7:30 PM. Light refreshments; bring a lunch; no charge.

To register to reserve a seat contact Anne Chapman at [annechapman425@gmail.com](mailto:annechapman425@gmail.com) or call 215-584-1248. Join

FATHER McCAFFERTY  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A suggestion to our parishioners - see if the company you work for might consider a matching gift to your donation to our Scholarship Fund. We are in need of several donations to the fund in order to assist needy families with school tuition.

*From the Religious Education Office*



The Religious Education Office opens on Sunday at 7:00 a.m. and from Monday through Thursday at 9:30 a.m. The office is closed on Friday, but I do check phone and email messages.

### Christmas and PREP classes:

PREP CLASSES RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 2. CONFIRMATION: A Reminder: All robe envelopes (whether or not you are buying a new robe) were due in the PREP Office by December 15. The Information Sheet, Name Form, Works of Charity, and Sponsor's Letter of Eligibility are due by January 15.

CATECHETICAL AWARDS: At the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, January 14, 2017, Archbishop Charles Chaput will recognize Parish Religious Education Programs throughout the Archdiocese and present awards to many generous Catechists and Aides who give their time and talent to PREP all year long. Here at St. Ignatius we have several Catechists and Aides who will be honored for their years of service to the young people of our Parish.

WE CONGRATULATE...

Caroline Vietti	15 years	Donna DiVito	5 years
John Daemer	10 years	Robin Innella	5 years
Leanne Lyons	10 years	Christine Jaslar	5 years
Steven Tirendi	10 years	Renee Primich	5 years

### PREP CLASSES:

Parents of students in grades 7-12: Please encourage your sons and daughters to continue their Religious Education after Confirmation. Confirmation is a beginning, not an end. Don't deprive your older kids the chance to learn more about God. We all know how much we need God in our lives. It's not too late to come to the class.

Special Needs PREP class: Parents, are you aware that we have a PREP class for students with special needs? This class meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. If we could help to give your child a religious education in a small group environment, please give Annmarie a call at 215-493-5204.

### DESIGNER HANDBAG BINGO IS BACK!

When: Fri, January 20, 2017 (snow date Sat., Jan. 28th)

Doors open at 6:30pm; Bingo starts at 7:30pm

Where: St. Ignatius Church Auditorium

Why: To benefit the St. Ignatius School 8th Grade Graduation Please join us for a fun filled evening of bingo, raffles, handbags and fun!

Suggested donations are \$25.00 per person in advance: \$30.00 at the door

For tickets call Dorothy Aschenbrenner at: 215-493-4764

or email: [toma357@comcast.net](mailto:toma357@comcast.net)