

# Holy Trinity Polish National Catholic Church

200 Grace Street McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Visit our website: [htpncc.org](http://htpncc.org)

## Mass Intentions

Humble Shepherds, December 31, 2023

8:00 AM **John Funaiock**

Remembered by Sue and Dan Malerbo

10:00 AM **Vocations to the Priesthood**

Epiphany, January 7, 2024

8:00 AM **Members of Holy Trinity**

10:00 AM **“Jolly 22 Crew”**

**Captain Chris Stover, Tech Stg Dale Mathews, Staff Sgt.**

**Ms. Afton Ponce, Captain Sean Ruane**

Remembered by Family



**Humble Shepherds** Today as we recall how the shepherds and our ancestors in the faith were looked down upon, we should remember to always treat others with love and respect. This solemnity should be an encouragement to the poor, the humble and the lowly today, knowing that God cares for them and may be using them in a special way.

During the Holy Mass on this day we pray for our Prime Bishop, Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Seminarians. We also pray for sacred vocations to the Holy Priesthood, that those men whom God has called may answer His call and serve His people as shepherds.

Shepherding had a lowly place among the occupations in the Holy Land in the first century. Because their work made them ceremonially unclean, shepherds were considered untrustworthy. The text tells us they were “living” in the fields. Their occupation required them to provide water, food, shelter, medication, aid and protection. Shepherding was strenuous, even dangerous work. It was expected that the shepherd would come between the lion or bear when one would attack the flock. God reveals himself to the downtrodden and despised. They represent the lowly and humble who receive God’s revelation. The most obvious implication is

that the Gospel first came to the social outcasts of Jesus’ Day. The entire drama that surrounds the birth of Jesus takes place with no part given to the secular or religious rulers of the land. No politicians. No celebrities. No paparazzi. No athletes. No religious leaders. He is still doing this today. God seeks the forgotten, those who society rejects or ignores – the downtrodden and dejected.

**DONATION OF THE AED** We celebrate the gift of God the Father of his Son to all of creation, and we are grateful. Our parish is also extremely grateful for the generous donation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for our parish. Mike and Nicole Stepek graciously worked with the Borough of McKees Rocks and the Damar Hamlin Foundation to secure this gift for the parish. We are grateful for Mike and Nicole for bringing this gift to us and for the generosity of McKees Rocks Borough and the Damar Hamlin Foundation. We will soon be conducting training on the use of this device and general CPR. All members of the parish will be informed once the training is scheduled and are invited to participate.

**BISHOP MACK CONSECRATION OF THE ALTAR AND CONFIRMATION** On Sunday January 21 at the 10:00 AM Mass Bishop John Mack will be at Holy Trinity to consecrate the new Altar and celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. Please plan to join us for this special celebration. For members of our parish who have not yet celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation please plan to join Fr. Mike in a session to prepare for this celebration on Sunday January 7 at 9:00 AM. Anyone who have questions please see Fr. Mike.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR** Mass intentions are available for Sundays and other Holy Days throughout the year. Often the intention is for all of the living and deceased members of our Parish community. The Mass intention could also be offered in thanksgiving for a special blessing received, anniversary or birthday, a special prayer request for healing or in honor and remembrance of someone who has passed away. If you would like to schedule a Mass intention for 2024 please schedule with Fr. Mike.

**SUPER BOWL LVIII POOL** The Super Bowl this year is on Sunday February 11, 2024 and our parish will help to make the game more interesting (Since the Steelers are not positioned to participate except as spectators) with a Bloch Pool. The blocks will be \$10 each and the payouts will be \$100 for the 1st and 3rd quarters, \$200 for half-time and \$500 for the final score. The parish will get \$100 for the purchase of the AED. Please see Mike after mass to get your blocks! Good luck to all!

**2023 - 2024 PITTSBURGH STEELERS SEASON FOOTBALL POOL** Holy Trinity Steelers football pool is complete! Good Luck to all those who are participating over the next 2 weeks of the regular season games. Blocks have been assigned and all the numbers have been picked for the entire season. All participants will have the same block for the entire season but your numbers are different each week. Each game will pay out \$25 for half and \$75 for the final. The December 23rd game will pay out \$100 for the first and third quarters, \$200 for the half and \$300 for the final score.

**SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN LIVING** All of the youth of our parish are invited to participate in learning more about the faith in our School of Christian Living on Sunday mornings. All students that are participating, please arrive at 9am. Pre-School/Kindergarten class will begin at 9:30am and all other classes will begin at 9am. There will be a Communion and Confirmation class so if your child will be receiving either of those Sacraments, please plan on attending. If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact Mary Nosal at mary.l.nosal@gmail.com or 412-817-0438. All are welcome!

**BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT HOLY HOUR** As a Eucharistic people, adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament focuses our attention on the love of God that permeates our lives and our world. On Saturday, January 6, our parish will host a Holy Hour beginning at 10:00 AM. January will be our fourth of five first Saturdays of the month to pray and offer sacrifices for the conversion of Russia and peace in Ukraine, Israel and the Middle East. Please plan to participate in these next five months of prayer as requested by Our Lady of Fatima. All are welcome!

**My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You. I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You. Most holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners. Amen.**

**PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING** The Parish Committee will meet after the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 4, 2023.

**2023 SUPPORT FOR HOLY TRINITY** Thanks to all who generously support Holy Trinity parish. On Christmas weekend the parish received \$1,097 in the collection. In addition, the parish received \$87 for the PNCC Fund, \$5 for HELP, \$20 for Christmas Flowers, \$285 for the Seminary, Christmas \$4,834, Oplatki donation of \$16, \$109 for Hall rental and miscellaneous cash was \$557. The total deposit was \$7,001. The Enhancement Fund received \$5. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! If you would like to have a set of envelopes for your contributions please see Paulette or Fr. Mike.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK** Please pray for all those who are infirmed or home bound. In a special way we pray for Adam, Alan, Beverly, Bobbi, and Carol K., Dolores, Donald, Jeanne, Jim, Joann, Joe, Kathy, Kimi, Knox, Linda, Nick, Melinda and Shelby Lorraine.

**THE COMMUNION PRAYER** *In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen. Julian of Norwich*

