

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass Intentions

Sat.	5:30p.m.	Kathy Strausbaugh
	7:30a.m.	Dennis Neiderer
	10:00a.m.	The People of the Parish
Mon. New Year's Eve Vigil	5:30p.m.	Brian Riser
Tues. New Year's Day	9:00a.m.	People of the Parish
Wed.	8:00a.m.	Roy & Madeleine Staub family
Thurs.	8:00a.m.	Dec. members of Wm. F. Nicholson, Sr. family
First Friday	8:30a.m.	Austin Staub, Jr.
	7:00p.m.	Joan Riser
Sat.	5:30p.m.	Descendants of Thomas Adams family
Sun.	7:30a.m.	Charlie Klunk & deceased children Mike & Judy
	10:00a.m.	The People of the Parish

Offertory Procession

Sat. Jan. 5 th	5:30p.m.	Volunteers needed
Sun. Jan. 6 th	7:30a.m.	Volunteers needed
	10:00a.m.	Brian and Lisa Blake

Congratulations to our Parishioners Gary Smith and Barbara Staub who were married here Friday. May God bless their new lives together as husband and wife.



Important: New Year's Day is a Holy Day of Obligation; Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Please see the above list for Mass times.

Please take note: beginning Jan. 1st, if you are admitted to UPMC Hanover Hospital we will no longer receive a call informing us you've been admitted. So please let a family member know to call Father if you wish a visit from him. Contact the Parish Office at 717-637-2721.

This weekend box sets of envelopes for students are available in the vestibule of the Church.

The Parish Office is currently closed and will re-open Wed. Jan. 2nd at 9:00a.m.

Next weekend Jan. 5th & 6th begins our annual Pennies for Life Program. This pro-life activity accepts 1 penny for every year of life God has given you. (Currency is also accepted.) The container will be out every weekend in January. The proceeds benefit Tender Care Pregnancy and Consultation Services in Hanover.

Pastors Column: The feast day of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will be celebrated on January 4. She was canonized on September 14, 1975. The following was



adapted from the Washington Post (April 3, 1994) and will be serialized in the next few bulletins.

The memories are faded now, fragile and tattered like the tiny yellow dress Ann O'Neill still keeps, the beautiful silk burial gown sewn for her by an aunt who wept as she stitched the dreadful garment. It was Easter week 1952, in Baltimore. Ann was 4. She was dying of leukemia. The priest had already been by to give her the final blessing.

She remembers her parents bundling her up against the rain and taking her out of the hospital. She remembers dozing off in a crib mattress in the back of the family station wagon, too weak to sit up and look out the window. When the car stopped, they were in a cemetery. She remembers being placed on a tomb (Mother Seton's), and feeling a small flicker of fear as nuns gathered suddenly around and began to pray.

Days later, when Ann was taken back to the hospital for new blood tests, there was no trace of the cancer. Even decades later, renowned hematologists and oncologists would be unable to explain her recovery. The Vatican would dispatch investigators from Rome, and the pope would eventually declare Ann O'Neill a miracle, one of the few ever authenticated in America. Her case would be used to canonize the first American-born saint, Elizabeth Seton.

Because she was so young when it happened, the story is patched together with fragments of her own memories and those of her mother, Felixena, who, like her daughter, is reluctant to tell it yet another time. "It's over for me," Felixena "Sis" O'Neill gently explains. "I don't feel it's going to make any difference to people." Either people believe or they don't.

When Ann fell ill in February 1952, Felixena was 29, a blue-collar housewife pregnant with the third of her five children. Her husband, William, was a die maker, and the young couple lived in a house they had built themselves.

Normally a happy, robustly healthy child, 4-year-old Ann was suddenly fatigued and irritable. The family doctor put her in St. Agnes Hospital to run some tests. The results were horrifying: Ann had acute lymphatic leukemia. Today, the Leukemia Society of America reports a 73 percent cure rate, but in 1952, there was no effective treatment, and the disease was 100 percent fatal. Ann's

diagnosis was kept secret from her mother for fear that the shock could cause Sis to lose the baby she was carrying. But the truth was impossible to hide, and anyone could see that Ann was dying. She was losing weight rapidly, and her face was bloated and colorless. She was transferred to the University of Maryland Hospital to be treated by one of the country's foremost hematologists, Milton Sacks. The Jewish doctor testified years later before a Vatican tribunal, describing how his young patient had been admitted with bloody sores on her neck and back, severe anemia and a fever of 105 degrees. Sacks didn't expect her to live long.

Ann's mother kept vigil at her bedside, sponging the burning child with alcohol, tearing herself away only when she went into labor. When Ann went into partial remission in late March, her parents took her home. (To be continued...)

Delone Catholic HS will administer the High School Placement Test on Sat. Jan. 12th and Sat. Feb. 9th. The test is given in the school cafeteria from 9-1 p.m. and covers mathematics and English. To register for the test, visit the school website at www.DeloneCatholic.org and click on Admissions, Welcome. For more information, contact Mrs. Jennifer Hart at 717-637-5969 x206 or jhart@delonecatholic.org

The Children's Rosary Group will gather at the Adoration Chapel, 9 N. Third St. McSherrystown, Sun. Jan. 13th at 3:00p.m. Rosaries and prayer books will be provided. For more information contact Vicky Bunty at 717-632-2721.

The Hanover K of C will Sponsor their annual Free Throw Championship for boys & girls ages 9-14, Fri. Jan. 18th from 6-8:00p.m. at St. Joseph Gym Grandview Rd. Hanover. Doors open at 5:30p.m. for registration and warm-ups, and shooting begins at 6:00p.m. All participants must complete an entry form with parental consent and submit proof of age (copy of birth certificate). Entry forms are available the evening of the event or online at www.kofc871.weebly.com or email Dave Zinn at dlzinn@comcast.net for more information. Snow date is Jan. 25th.

The annual diocesan Respect Life Mass will take place on Sun. Jan. 20th at 9:30a.m. at Good Shepherd Church in Camp Hill. This Mass is celebrated every year to commemorate the lives lost to abortion since 1973. Rev. Stephen Kelley, will be the celebrant and homilist.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
from Father Howard and Staff!**