

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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December 6, 2016

Feast day of St. Nicholas. See page 4 for his story.

*Our Lady of Fatima
Pleaded that we pray the Holy Rosary
before Sunday Mass and
privately from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily.*

DECEMBER 4, 2016

Our Lady of Fatima Parish
2010 12th Avenue
www.ourladyoffatimaaltoona.com

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Parish Office: 814-942-0371

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Schedule

Sunday: 10:30 AM Holy Days: 6:00 PM
Rosary: 10:05 AM Rosary: 5:40 PM

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Administrator
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur

Parish Secretary

Carol Z. Smith

Secretary's Assistant

Ellen Kelly

Eucharist for the home bound - weekly:
Patty Flanagan 942-0371 to make arrangements.

Our Lady of Fatima Church is open
Monday through Friday: 9AM - 6PM
for visits before the Blessed Sacrament.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals will be held at
Our Lady of Fatima.

Preparation for Baptism, and Weddings will be held at
the Cathedral. 944-4603

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Parishioners wishing to receive the sacrament of healing may call the Cathedral Parish Office to make arrangements. 944-4603

**OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH IS A RESULT OF THE
MERGER BETWEEN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES
OF SS. PETER & PAUL AND ST. LEO THE GREAT IN 1995.**



Cathedral Church Office: 814-944-4603

One Cathedral Square

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop

Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector

Rev. Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar

Christian Initiation Team: 944-4603

Catholics returning Home: 944-4603

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Web: www.holytrinitycatholic.school

Altoona Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 381-7011

Hollidaysburg Campus (Pre-K thru Grade 4) - 695-6112

Middle School Campus (Grades 5 thru 8) - 942-7835

Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School:

Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org – 944-4014

Directors of Religious Education:

Chris Laraia – Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317

Jean Koury – 9 thru 12 – 949-2777

Religious Education Office: Sundays – 943-7424

**Confessions @ Cathedral: 7:00 PM Wednesday
12:30 PM Saturday**

Religious Education @ Cathedral: Pre-K through 11

Sacramental Formation @ Cathedral: First Reconciliation

First Communion

Confirmation

Sacramental Formation @ the Cathedral: Baptismal Prep

Marriage Prep

Christian Initiation

Hospital Visitation: Call the Cathedral: 944-4603

Cathedral Eucharist:

Sunday: 5:00 PM (Vigil) Holy Days: 5:30 PM (Vigil) Weekdays: 6:45 AM

8:00 AM 8:00 AM 8:00 AM

10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon 5:30 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM

5:00 PM 12:00 Noon



2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL **DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN**

OLF GOAL FOR 2016 = \$13,948.00

PLEDGED THRU NOV 29 = \$10,515.

NEEDED TO REACH GOAL = \$3,433

OF PLEDGES = 56

56 participants = 36% of our Parish

Our Lady of Fatima is in the last weeks of the ACA appeal for 2016.

We are asking our parishioners to PLEASE consider giving additional monies to the ACA to reduce our balance owing of \$3,433 by December 31. Your check must be dated by December 31, 2016 in order to fulfill the 2016 appeal.

We, as OLF Parishioners could reach our goal if the remaining 98 families that have not pledged would donate \$35.03 between now and Dec. 31st, our parish would meet within a few cents

Mrs. Connie Andros	M/M John Corle	M/M Michael Long	M/M David F Smith
Connie Angesk	Mrs. Colleen Douglass	Mr. Joseph Merritt	Mrs. Doris Smith
Mrs. Ruth Barry	Mrs. Eileen Edwards	Mrs. Genevieve Musto	Mr. Thomas A. Smith
M/M Ronald Biem	Mr. Daniel J Hallinan	M/M John G. Noonan, Jr.	M/M Bryan M Starr
M/M Greg Brannan	Ms Tina Helsel	M/M Michael O'Connor	M/M Thomas Stoltz
Mr. Anthony Bruno	M/M Charles Hennigan	M/M Joseph M. Pufka	Mrs. Jeanne C. Summers
M/M Vincent Burr, Jr.	M/M Thomas Hofer, Sr.	Mrs. Carol Riggleman	Mr. Richard Summers
M/M Michael A. Byrne	M/M James Hosgood	Mr. James R. Riley	M/M Michael Wall
Mrs. Patricia Byrne	M/M Joseph P. Ianniello	Mrs. Geraldine Rose	Mrs. Patricia Wall
MM Wilson Carper, Jr.	M/M Stephen Kasun	Mrs. Lorraine Shuma	Mrs. Helen Watters
Mr. Howard C Colledge	M/M Charles R Kelly	Mr. Robert Simanski	7 Anonymous
Mrs. Frieda Conrad	Mr. Shawn Kelly	Mrs. Carol Smith	
Mrs. Karen Conrad	M/M Joseph Knott	Mr. Daniel E Smith	

Happy Birthday

12/08 Connie Andros

12/08 Ray Kelly

12/09 John Kasun Sr.



Advent Family Ritual

Every night before supper or bedtime light a candle, turn out the lights, and pray that Jesus' love and mercy will come into our world.

**Then share some conversation such as:
 -How did you bring Jesus' love to someone today?**

-How did you feel Jesus loving you today?

Follow That Teenager

Advent is a great time to start thinking about the word fiat. Not Fiat, the little Italian car! Rather, fiat is the Latin word meaning, "Let it be done." In the Catholic community, it refers to the young Mary's response when the angel Gabriel announced she would conceive Jesus: "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). Mary's fiat shows her complete willingness to do God's will, even without fully understanding what it would mean for her. Mary's fiat and the high priority the church places on it can give us pause. Was that "yes" really such a big deal? After all, the angel said, "You will conceive." Wasn't Mary basically saying yes to something that God had already planned? Yes, God had already chosen her and had chosen Jesus. Yes, the angel was announcing that God had found favor with Mary, and the tone the angel takes is not one of asking permission.

So why do we celebrate Mary's "yes"? Because we recognize that whenever God brings something to our lives, we have the free will either to move in rhythm with God or to resist God's movement. Mary's fiat shows how we should respond. Even while God's will is happening in our midst, we can deny it and move away from it. Mary did neither, choosing instead to embrace her new reality.

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**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 4, 2016
10:30 AM**

Our Lady of Fatima Mass Intentions

Readings: Is: 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12

Today's Intention = Paul Cassarly

December 8, Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

***6:00 PM Esther M. Dorazio (Family)**

December 11, 2016, Second Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 35:1-6, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

***10:30 AM Genevieve Musto (Louise Marshman)**

Cathedral Mass Intentions

December 5, Monday: Advent Weekday

Readings: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

6:45 AM Derek Behe (Jim, Elaine and Family)

8:00 AM John Capouellez, Sr., Anniv. (Family)

12:00 PM Pat Rabine (Calendar of Prizes Winner)

December 6, Tuesday: Saint Nicholas, Bish., Doc.

Readings: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

6:45 AM Bill Crouse (Jack and Lois Steinbugl)

***8:00 AM Bernadette Weakland (Frieda Conrad)**

12:00 PM Betty McCabe (Al and Irene Schlecht)

December 7, Wednesday: Saint Ambrose, Bish., Doc.

Readings: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

***6:45 AM BeBe Milliron (Mike and Sherry Byrne)**

***8:00 AM Jack Douglas (Kathleen, Mike and Troy)**

12:00 PM John Casanave (Tom Byrne Family)

Vigil - Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

5:30 PM Mary Lou Oswald (M/M Greg Clemens)

December 8, Thursday: Immaculate Conception/ Holy Day of Oblig.

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

8:00 AM Julia Febbo, Birth. (Jim, Elaine & Family)

12:00 PM Joe Multet (Dave Capouellez)

5:30 PM M. Virginia Jones (Patricia Palumbo)

December 9, Friday: St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzinn

Readings: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

6:45 AM Eleanor Toth (Catherine & Mark Pacifico)

8:00 AM Maureen Wolf (Cathy Ford)

12:00 PM Capone Families

December 10, Saturday: Advent Weekday

Readings: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9, 10-13

8:00 AM Marian and Thomas Swires (Family)

12:00 PM Deacon John Rys, Birthday (Family)

Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 35:1-6, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

5:00 PM Conzo /Jacobs Families Dec. (Pam & Pat)

*Jesus, Son of the Living Father Have
Mercy on me, a sinner*

*DECEMBER 4, 2016
Scripture Reflection*

The Scriptures for today are full of hope. That hope, however, is tinged with a warning, as we discover in the preaching of John the Baptist. The First Readings for the four Sundays of Advent are taken from the great Hebrew prophet, Isaiah. Today he proclaims that a new king shall sprout from the family tree of Jesse (David's father). This new king will rule with wisdom and justice, and the world will be transformed.

The Gospel for today and next Sunday introduces John the Baptist. Each year during Advent we read John's call for repentance as he storms out of the wilderness! For him repentance is the necessary step for becoming part of the Reign of God. John harshly criticizes the religious leaders; not because he is the one to judge--that is the role of Jesus--but because he is adamant that all should be ready to accept the one who comes after him.

The repentance of Advent is a call for transformation. The struggle to "change our minds" can confer a brief glimpse into God's mind, and that is when the transformation takes place. How many times did Isaiah have to repent of hate before he could imagine his conquerors joining him in the covenant? How many times did Paul have to repent of hardness of heart before he realized the scriptures foretold Christ and fellowship with the uncircumcised?

Isaiah reminds us of the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at the Sacrament of Confirmation. When we turn away from sin and turn towards the Lord, we are transformed. Enemies begin to speak to one another. Adversaries join hands. People seek to meet together. Love overcomes hatred. Revenge gives way to forgiveness. Discord is transformed into mutual respect. Advent is a joyful call to change our lives. We turn to our God with renewed strength.

- This Advent we open ourselves to transformation. God is always coming into our lives.
-
- Are you ready to receive Emmanuel?

Out and About...

ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY	Liturgical Reflection... Advent is a time of longing and expectation as we remember Mary awaiting the birth of the Son of God. The new ritual for the Order of Celebrating Matrimony (OCM) offers an Order of Blessing an Engaged Couple. The engaged couple is longing and expecting the day of the celebration of their marriage. The honorable betrothal of Christians is a special occasion for two families to pray together and receive a divine blessing. The blessing of the engaged couple is a formal beginning of what will be completed at the celebration of the Matrimony (OCM 218). This celebration of prayer is to be adapted to suit particular circumstances. 2016, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.
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December 4 Mt 3:1-12

Today's gospel raises many questions. Was the Baptist's family embarrassed by his life style, diet, clothing, and message? Did they avoid or ignore him or advise him to come home and be "normal"? Advent, a time to change our hearts, raises another question: Who in your family needs for your acceptance?

2017 \$AV-A-ROUND COUPON BOOKS ARE HERE...

THE BOOKS ARE \$25.00 THIS YEAR WITH QUITE A FEW NEW COMPANIES PARTICIPATING. NATIONAL ALSO! Some of the coupons are valid immediately. The book has a value of \$5,000.

JANUARY 2017 CO-OP TICKETS AVAILABLE...

Mondays in January (2, 9, 16, 23 & 30th) the prizes are \$100.00. Watch the PA "Pick 3" evening drawing to see if you won! They make great stocking stuffers or inserts for Christmas Cards. The rest of the days of January win \$50.00. Happy 2017!

OLF Winter Soup Sale..

We are having a Winter Soup Sale sponsored by Hoss's. There are sign up sheets on the clipboards in the pews. Chicken Noodle Soup Kit and Beef Noodle Soup kits are on sale for \$15.00 each. We are also having a dessert sale (New Items) Hoss's is trying. Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough .67 ounce Pre-portioned Bake & Serve Cookies and Cinnabon Family Pack Goody Bites 17oz. pack. Cost of each is \$10.00.

Like Mexican? Mojito Marinade Steak Griller Kit 4/6oz. Steaks for \$20.00. Steaks are also a new item. You may order any item we had sold at our last Hoss's Sale. Orders due by noon Dec. 14th and pickup is December 21st, (First day of Winter), at the rectory from 11 AM-1 PM and 3 PM- 5 PM. You may also call your order in to the rectory 942-0371.

List of the Deanery Penance Services:

Sun., December 4 - Saint Joseph's, Bellwood - 5 PM
Sun., December 4 - Saint John's, Lakemont - 5 PM
Mon., December 5 - Saint Mark's - 6 PM
Sat., December 10 - Saint Therese - 10 AM
Mon., December 12 - Our Lady of Mount Carmel - 7 PM
Tue., December 13 - Holy Rosary - 6:30 PM
Wed., December 14 - Cathedral - 6:30 PM
Thu., December 15 - Our Lady of Lourdes - 5:30 PM
Thu., December 15 - Sacred Heart - 5:30 PM
Mon., December 19 - Saint Rose of Lima - 7 PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION...

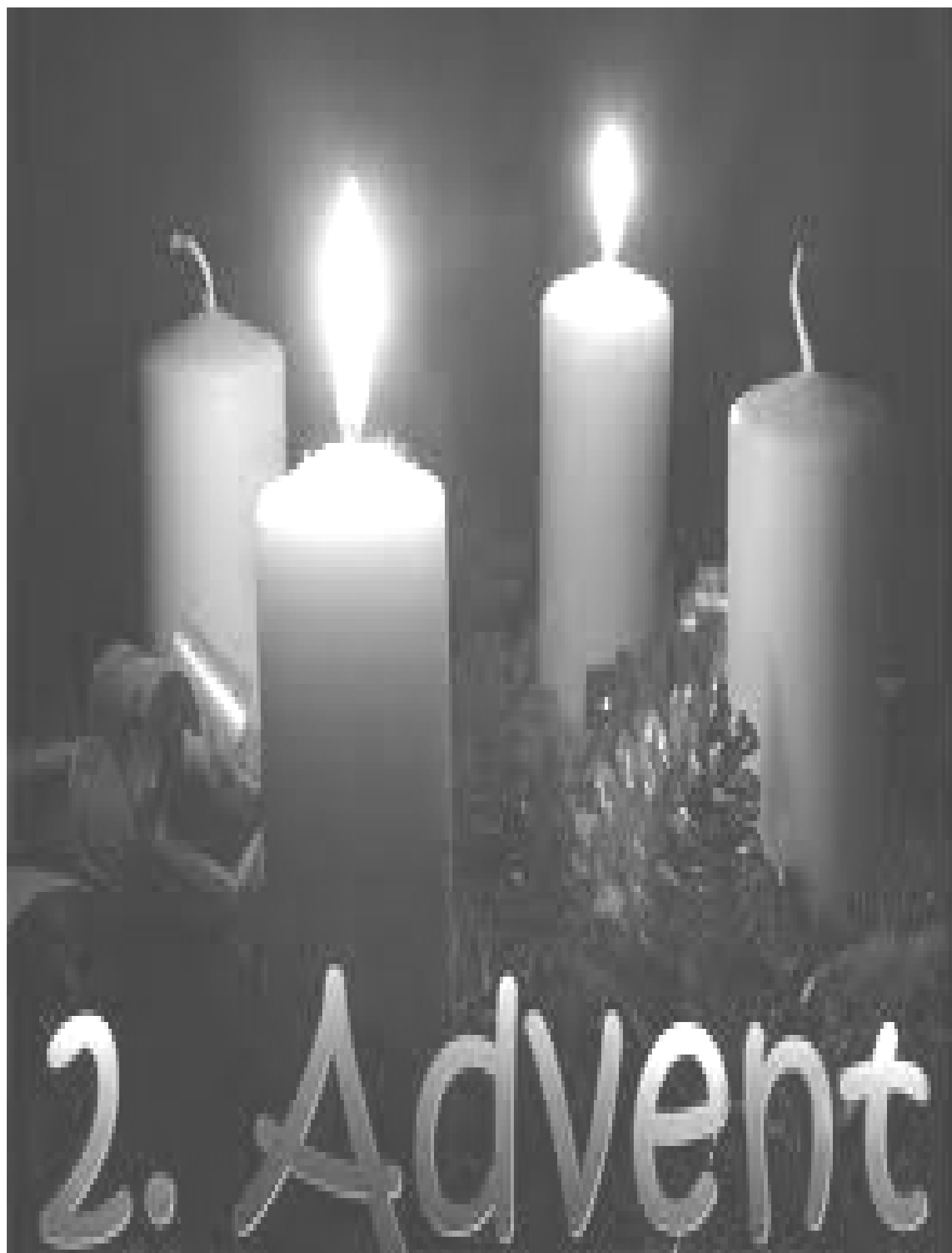
F.I.R.E. SESSIONS-6:15 PM-8:30 PM Students Grades 9-11 with parent or guardian, meet in the Seton Suite today and Dec. 18th.

The Story and History of Saint Nicholas of Bari

Saint Nicholas, the patron Saint of Russia, was born toward the end of the third century. His uncle, the Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, ordained him priest, and appointed him abbot of a monastery; and on the death of the archbishop he was elected to the vacant see. Throughout his life he retained the bright and guileless manners of his early years, and showed himself the special protector of the innocent and the wronged. Nicholas once heard that a person who had fallen into poverty intended to abandon his three daughters to a life of sin. Determined, if possible, to save their innocence, the Saint went out by night, and, taking with him a bag of gold, flung it into the window of the sleeping father and hurried off. He, on awaking, deemed the gift a godsend, and with it dowered his eldest child. The Saint, overjoyed at his success, made like venture for the second daughter; but the third time as he stole away, the father, who was watching, overtook him and kissed his feet, saying: "Nicholas, why dost thou conceal thyself from me? Thou art my helper, and he who has delivered my soul and my daughters' from hell." St. Nicholas is usually represented by the side of a vessel, wherein a certain man had concealed the bodies of his three children whom he had killed, but who were restored to life by the Saint. He died in 342. His relics were transferred in 1807, to Bari, Italy, and there, after fifteen centuries, "the manna of St. Nicholas" still flows from his bones and heals all kinds of sickness.

Calendars of Prizes 2017 Are Here!

Calendars of Prizes 2017 are being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all Masses. Like last year, each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$10.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$5,000.00 Family Trip or Cash Option. Due to the state regulations for small games of chance, it is necessary that all one thousand tickets be sold. Otherwise, the parish will lose money on unsold tickets. If you have a favorite three digit number, call the Parish Office (944-4603) weekdays between 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM to check on availability or stop at the Cathedral Square door after Mass. These make great gifts that last all year!



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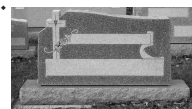
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