

St. Cyril of Alexandria

3854 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212

December 3, 2017



Mission Statement

Members of Saint Cyril of Alexandria Parish, a Catholic community of faith serving Brighton Heights, strive to live Christ-centered lives through worship, partaking of the sacraments, and serving those in need.

Our parish family welcomes and accepts without judgment all those who wish to join us. We will serve and motivate each other so that we continue to grow in our Catholic faith.

Together we will nurture our faith, hope and love of God, our parish, and our neighbors, here and throughout the world.

Administrator
Reverend Lawrence R. Smith

In Residence
Reverend Clement Kanu

Religious Education
Jean M. DiDonato
Jennifer Earnest
Kristen Frankovich

Director of Music Ministries
Theresa M. Hammond

Rectory Staff
Esther White
Maureen Stack Galardi

Maintenance
Fred Thornton

Parish Phones

Rectory..... 761-1552
School 761-5043
School Fax..... 761-0840
Religious Education Office..... 734-0505
Axmacher Hall..... 761-3254
E-mail Address: saintcyrilchurch@yahoo.com
Website: www.stcyrilpittsburgh.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Holyday TBA
Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Baptism
*Second Sunday of each month 12:15 p.m.
(arrangements must be made at the Rectory in advance)*

Baptism Seminar
First Sunday of each month 12:15 p.m. (all parents of newly baptized must attend prior to Baptism)

Sacrament of Matrimony
Couples planning to be married are to contact the Rectory six months prior to the intended date of the wedding, in order to complete the necessary Diocesan requirements.

Diocese of Pittsburgh Abuse Hotline
1-888-808-1235

MASS INTENTIONS**Sat., Dec. 2 - Vigil**

4:30 pm- Mary Kraus - Family

Sun., Dec. 3 - First Sunday of Advent8:30 am - Tom Gavin (30 year anniversary) -
Sandy & boys

11:00 am - Rose McCann - Dan, husband

Mon., Dec. 4 - Advent Weekday

7:30 am - Maria Fisher - Bill & Sandy Lazzara

Tues., Dec. 5 - Advent Weekday

7:30 am - Ida Lasagna - Jan Fetzner

Wed., Dec. 6 - Saint Nicholas

7:30 am - Father Larry Bruney - 55 Club

Thurs., Dec. 7 - Saint Ambrose

7:30 am - Loretta Schweiger

Fri., Dec. 8 - The Immaculate Conception

7:30 am - For Our Parishioners

10:00 - For Our Parishioners

Sat., Dec. 9 - Vigil

4:30 pm- Mary Kraus - Family

Sun., Dec. 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 am - For Our Parishioners

11:00 am - Stan Marciniak - Family

Festival of Lessons and Carols
Most Holy Name Church, Troy Hill
Sunday, December 3 at 1:30 pm

Please join us in welcoming Emmanuel with a beautiful, inspiring service of scripture, readings, carols and hymns!

Following are the Mass schedules for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (which falls on December 24) and Christmas.

Saturday, December 23:

Vigil for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:30 pm

Sunday, December 24**Fourth Sunday of Advent:**

8:30 am

11:00 am

Sunday, December 24**Christmas Eve:**

4:30 pm

8:00 pm

Monday, December 25**Christmas Day**

11:00 am



The Sanctuary Light at Saint Joseph's altar will burn as a **Memorial Light for all members of our Military** on active duty throughout the war-torn areas of the world. Let's let the candle remind all of us to pray for peace.

This week the Vigil Light was donated by Tom & Lillian King

Advent Prayer Tree

You are invited throughout the season of Advent, to write and place your petitions and prayers on the Advent Prayer Tree in the church vestibule. Advent, being a season of HOPE, is an appropriate time to place our hope in Emmanuel (God With Us) through prayer.

On Mission For The Church Alive!

The Work of God's Hands: Today we begin the season of Advent, our annual time of joyful expectation as we await the coming of Jesus Christ. Our waiting is two-fold. More immediately, we anticipate the celebration of Christmas and the anniversary of the Son of God coming as one like us to love us and to set an example for us to follow. At the same time, we actively await the time when Christ will come again in glory and call all people to himself. Throughout the Advent season, as in today's Gospel, we will hear the call to be alert and ready for the Lord's coming that we might not be caught off guard. That readiness includes allowing the God who created us in his image to continue to form our hearts and lives to be more like His own, for "we are the clay and [He] the potter." As we also anticipate the changes coming in our parishes as part of the *On Mission* initiative we place our trust in God as he continues to form us and our parishes. May our hearts be formed in patience and peace as we work to build up new communities of faith. May our parishes be formed in vibrancy and unity as places of warm welcome and firm faith. Visit onmissionchurchalive.org to learn more and to stay informed.

Your Weekly Charity

Total Parishioner donations: \$2,924
 General Loose Offertory \$ 216
 Total donations this week: \$3,140

This generosity goes a long way in sustaining the ministry of our Faith Community. Thank you!

From St. Cyril's Religious Education Department:

RCIA: December 6, 6:30 pm Church Tour

RCIC: December 6, 6:30 pm class in Room 105

Need an easy and wonderful way to keep a true focus on Advent? Sign up for the **Best Advent Ever** at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever> and get ready for a life-changing journey. All you need in order to register is an email address and your name. Do your children have email addresses? Sign them up! Their heads are buried in their phones anyway. At least you know they will be inspired.

Christmas Pageant

December 10 at 10:00 am in church

Come watch our second and third graders recount the birth of Jesus. Of course our pre-school and kindergarten students will be angels for the production and sing us a special song. They do such a great job every year! We hope to see all of you there!

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS & PRAISE
St. Paul Cathedral
 Saturday, December 9
 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm



With Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Presider
 Michael Woshner, Witness Speaker
 Come join choirs from throughout the Diocese to fill the Cathedral with joyful song. Sing along!

Annual Christmas Celebration
Church of the Assumption

45 North Sprague Ave., Bellevue

Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 pm

Featuring the Adult & Children's Choirs & Brass Ensemble. A freewill offering will be taken.

The Sacrament of the Anointing will be offered after all Masses celebrated on the first weekend of each month. Anyone facing a hospitalization, or suffering from a

chronic illness, old age, etc. is encouraged to receive this Sacrament. The Anointing of the Sick is administered to bring spiritual and even physical strength during an illness. It is an outward sign established by Jesus Christ to confer inward grace.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the third Sunday of each month between the 8:30 and 11:00 morning Masses for private prayer and meditation. Please participate in this beautiful tradition of Adoration.



Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Elmer Klimko
Louise Mangiere & Michael Murphy

who were called home to our Loving God.

The Fraternity of Priests will be celebrating a Mass for healing on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi, Finleyville. You are invited to come and celebrate the Eucharist, expecting the healing presence of the Lord Jesus, as at every Mass, to touch you in all your needs.

St. Aloysius Annual Holiday Train Display

3616 Mt. Troy Road, Reserve Twp.

Saturdays: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sundays: 12:00 Noon to 4:00 pm

Now through January 14, 2018

Closed December 23-25

Free admission. Donations appreciated.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

12/9 4:30 D. Scullon, T. Wehner, D. Marx
 12/10 8:30 L. Rankin, T. Callahan, R. Freyvogel
 12/10 11:00 D. Vaughan, C. Kaut

LECTOR CANTOR

12/9 4:30	P. Bookser	L. Klimko
12/10 8:30	D. Lang	W. Hammond
12/10 11:00	P. Urzua	A. Murtha

ALTAR SERVERS

12/9 4:30	Gia D'Ambrosio, Katie Kontrik
12/10 8:30	Hannah & Isabella Gorrell
12/10 11:00	Joseph Delie, Robert Heflin

POPE FRANCIS: OPEN YOUR HEART

A Season of Hope

*“Let your steadfast love, O Lord,
Be upon us, even as we hope in you.”
(Psalm 33:22)*

In this season of Advent, which is a time of waiting in which we prepare ourselves to welcome once again the comforting mystery of the Incarnation and the light of Christmas, it is important to reflect on Christian hope. It is very important, because hope never disappoints. Optimism disappoints, but hope does not!

We have such need, in these times that appear dark and in which we sometimes feel disoriented at the evil and violence that surrounds us and at the distress of so many of our brothers and sisters. We need hope! We feel disoriented and even rather discouraged because we are powerless and it seems this darkness will never end. But we must not let hope abandon us, because God, with his love, walks with us.

We can all say “I hope because God is beside me; I have hope because God walks with me.” God walks and holds my hand. God does not leave us to ourselves. The Lord Jesus has conquered evil and has opened the path of life for us. The birth of the Savior is the light that pierces and dispels the deepest darkness. The presence of the Lord in the midst of his people cancels the sorrow of defeat and the misery of slavery, and ushers in joy and happiness.

~
*How might I reaffirm my hope
and try to discover anew God's presence
in me and in my life this advent?*

The Little Sisters of the Poor are once again offering Christmas cards sketched by Sister Martha. This year's card is cream with a green sketch of Mary holding baby Jesus. The previous year's cards are also available. The cards are 7 for \$10 + \$2 shipping; 12 for \$15 + \$3 shipping; or 30 for \$25 + \$6 shipping. Cards can be viewed and by calling 412-307-1100, or sending a check payable to Little Sisters of the Poor, 1028 Benton Ave. or stopping at the main entrance of the Home.



First Sunday of Advent



**What I say to you,
I say to all:
WATCH!"**

From Our Administrator

We begin this week the preparation for the Coming of the Lord as we observe the Season of Advent. The theme for the First Sunday is watchfulness. We do not know when the Lord will come, so we must prepare ourselves. Just think of all the preparations you make for the 25th of December. How many times you wonder if you can accomplish all the tasks in making this important day so special. The spiritual preparation should not take second place to the material gains. Let us not fall asleep in forgetting the real meaning of the Lord's coming when we encounter Him on the last day.

I am KEEPING THE LIGHT ON FOR YOU on December 13 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the church for the sacrament of God's loving forgiveness. It does not matter how long you have been away from the sacrament of Reconciliation, or what sins you need to confess. You are welcome with open arms to receive the gift of God's forgiving love.

~Father Larry Smith