Flowers on Mary’s Altar are in honor of the joyful celebration of the marriage of Anna Kaufmann and Jake Lyda. Flowers on Saint Joseph’s Altar are in memory of Donald Todt’s birthday and have been designated by his wife and family.

**Mass Intentions**

- **Saturday March 11**: 5:30pm - Jean Moro
- **Sunday March 12**: 7:30am - People of the Parish
  10:00am - Evelyn Donelson
- **Monday March 13**: 12:15pm - Julia Stamper
- **Tuesday March 14**: 12:15pm - Barbara Thompson
- **Wednesday March 15**: 8:30am - John Sterner *(in Gym)*
- **Thursday March 16**: 12:15pm - Dolores M Groft
- **Friday March 17**: 7:00pm - Diane Weightman
- **Saturday March 18**: 5:30pm - Richard J Smith
- **Sunday March 19**: 7:30am - People of the Parish
  10:00am - Deceased Sisters of Saint Joseph

**Offertory Procession**

If you are interested in bringing the gifts forward for the offertory procession at a weekend Mass, please speak to an usher before Mass.

**Saint Monica Ministry**

Please join the St. Monica Prayer Group at Annunciation Church, McSherrystown on the Second Monday of each month. We pray for Saint Monica’s intercession hoping for our loved ones to return to the faith. Prayers, litany and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy are recited at 5:30pm, followed by Mass at 6:00pm. Please call Annunciation Parish Office at 717-637-1191 for more information.

**Prayer Group Movement for Youth & Children**

Today, Sunday March 12th at Saint Vincent de Paul Church, 220 Third Street in Hanover, the Children’s Rosary and Exposition will start at 2:00pm. Contact: Vicky Bunty at 717-632-3245.

**Need Mulch?**

The Delone Catholic Music Association will be selling brown shredded mulch for $5 per 2 cu. ft. bag. There is free delivery for 10 or more bags to the McSherrystown-Hanover area. Please note: This year’s mulch sale will be pre-orders only and orders need to be placed by 12pm, Thursday March 23rd. Please pick up an order form in the back of the church or contact Jerry Ricucci at ricucci@rocketmail.com or at 717-476-7461.

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**IN THE PARISH**

**Planning for the Parish Picnic**
The first meeting for the Parish Picnic will be held today, Sunday March 12th at 3pm in the Parish Meeting Room. All are welcome!

**Cemetery Spring Clean-Up**
Please remove all winter items from the cemetery by Sunday March 27th. Do not put artificial flowers in the ground. All flowers need to be in a pot or container.

**God Squad Basketball Game**
Where: In the parish hall gym
Admission: $3 (children 2 & under are free)
*Food Adventures Food truck available
*Foul Shot Contest: $1 entry fee
*Halftime performances by STC cheerleaders & NextStep Martial Arts

**Parish Penance Service**
Saturday March 25th, 2023
10am in the Church
Several area priests will be available to hear your Confession.

Stay tuned! Sacred Heart will be having a sub sale for the benefit of the restoration fund. More information will soon be forthcoming.

**RCIA**

**The Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults**
In the early church, there were various little ceremonies that prepared catechumens for Baptism at the Easter Vigil. In the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Church recovered the importance of these ceremonies. Three of these ceremonies are called “Scrutinies.”

**The Scrutinies**
*Celebrated at the 10:00 am Masses on the following Sundays:
  - First—March 12
  - Second—March 19
  - Third—March 26

**The Spiritual Purpose of the Scrutinies:**
"The scrutinies are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.” (§141 in The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

**Easter Plants:** If you would like to purchase flowers for Easter Mass, please put your payment of $11 in the collection basket no later than Sunday March 26th. Be sure and mark the envelope “Easter Flowers” and for whom they are being donated.

**BINGO**

**Saint Teresa of Calcutta School** is hosting Cash Bingo on Sunday March 19th, 2023 here in our parish hall-gym. Doors open at 12:00pm and games begin at 1:30pm. Tickets are $25 per person. Admission includes 20 games of Bingo. Additional cards, Special Letter Games, 50/50, and food will be available for purchase. All money raised will be for building updates. Everyone in attendance must have a ticket. Please call Mrs. Wenger at 717-632-8715 for tickets or visit www.stck8school.org to order tickets.

**Delone Catholic Bingo**
**Event:** Cash Bingo sponsored by the Delone Catholic Athletic Association and the Notre Dame Club of Gettysburg
**Date:** Saturday March 25th, 2023
**Cost:** $20 per ticket which includes a roast turkey platter & twenty games of regular bingo paying $50/game
**Time:** Doors open at 4:00pm, Dinner served from 5:00-6:15pm, Bingo starts at 6:30pm
**Where:** Delone Catholic High School cafeteria. Specials and speed bingo games are available. Door prizes will be given out. No children under the age of 6 are permitted. Contact Patty Smith at 717-451-7618 with questions or to purchase tickets.

**AT THE DIOCESE**

**Catholic Men’s Conference**
What if you could truly find the friends that help you become the husband, father, son, and brother you are meant to be? Do you need encouragement to “step up to the plate” and be what God calls you to be? If you answered yes, grab a friend, and accept the challenge to join together with your brothers in Christ at the annual Men’s Conference. Registration closes on Monday, March 13th. Please visit the Diocesan website for more details and to register! www.hbgdiocese.org/men

**Were you married in 1973?** In honor of your 50th Wedding Anniversary, there will be a special Mass and reception on Sunday July 9th, 2023 at 2:00pm at Good Shepherd Parish in Camp Hill, PA. Bishop Ronald Gainer will be the celebrant. To receive an invitation, please contact the Parish Office and provide your names and date of your marriage. Congratulations!

**Diocesan Annual Campaign**
Our parish goal this year is the same as last year: $67,987. All funds raised in excess of that will be returned to the parish unassessed. We appreciate your generosity. Thank you to those who have already given.
We appreciate your ongoing support for the interior restoration project. After consultation with the Parish Council, the Finance Council, Canning Liturgical Arts, parishioners and other benefactors, we are pleased to announce that the diocese has approved the three-part change order for Phase Three of the Interior Restoration Project. The three segments of this phase are as follows:

1. Full restoration of the marble high altar to its original historic condition. In the 1960s, a significant part of the marble altar had been removed and replaced by the existing wood baldachin. Some of that marble has recently been rediscovered. The intention is to rebuild the original design, as pictured to the left, and reuse the historic pieces where possible. By restoring the original design of the high altar, the painting of the Sacred Heart will have greater prominence within the sanctuary. The present baldachin construction distracts from the artistic quality, the intricate framing, and impressive magnitude of the painting. This restoration will pay homage to the historic design as well as create a continuity between the architecture, decoration and furnishings that offers the interior a state of repose and peace. The cost to fully restore the marble altar is $179,430.

2. Removing of the 1960s wooden baldachin: In order to restore the marble altar, the wooden baldachin, installed in the 1960s, is to be removed. In revealing and restoring the original decorative scheme of the church, it is evident that the baldachin disrupts the stylistic harmony of the church. Thanks to the generosity of a benefactor, there is no cost to the parish.

3. Historic Welcome Sign: The historic welcome sign, pictured to the right, has also been recently rediscovered. At some point, this sign was replaced by the plaque commemorating the elevation of the church to basilica status. The sign is currently damaged due to damp conditions and termites. The intention is to restore the sign and install it within the vestibule to commemorate this piece of the church’s history. The cost is $19,300.

Finances: We are very close to earning the second half of the $500,000 grant from the Warehime Foundation. That grant will cover the cost of the project apart from the changes listed above. We have applied to some other foundations for further assistance and should hear back from them this summer. We also welcome your ongoing support for this effort.

Our purpose: In the Creed, we profess that we believe “in the communion of saints.” So often we think only of the saints who have been canonized and are popular among Catholics. Let us not forget the many saintly men and women—ancestors of our historic parish—who used their creativity, hard work, and enthusiasm to build up this community. The interior restoration project is an affirmation of our connection with them. Writing in the 1890s, parishioner John Timon Reily reminds us of this sacred obligation:

“The Church has reason to rejoice, that Catholics are awakening to the justice and importance of reclaiming and preserving the early history and records of the religion of their fathers. Want, intolerance and persecution drove them from their native land. They came into a strange and unsettled country, cast adrift in the Indian wilds of America, without homes, without a church or a government, and without anything necessary to life and happiness. This generation, with all the grandeur and perfection of its civilization, can never fully understand nor in the least appreciate the sufferings and struggles of those who cleared our fields and built our homes. The enjoyments and comforts we now possess, are ours only by inheritance as the fruits of their labors.”

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