

December 19, 2021 | 4th Sunday of Advent

# Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish

SERVING THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF  
PENN HILLS, PITCAIRN, AND MONROEVILLE



Blessed  
are you  
among  
women

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## Mass Schedule

### **Saturday**

4:00pm	Monroeville
5:00pm	Penn Hills

### **Sunday**

8:00am	Monroeville
9:00am	Penn Hills
11:00am	Monroeville
11:30am	Penn Hills

Mon. 9:30am	Monroeville
Tues. 9:30am	Penn Hills
Wed. 9:30am	Monroeville
Thurs. 9:30am	Penn Hills
Fri. 9:30am	Monroeville

### **Monroeville**

245 Azalea Dr, Monroeville, PA 15146  
Parishoffice@cdsmp.org  
412-373-0050

### **Penn Hills**

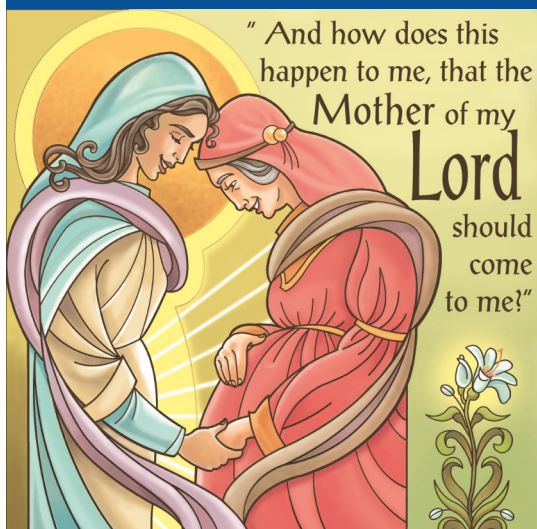
200 Stotler Rd, Penn Hills, PA 15235

St. Vincent dePaul assistance line: 412-436-9208

Website: [www.cdsmp.org](http://www.cdsmp.org)

 ChristTheDivineShepherd  
[www.flocknote.com/ChristTheDivineShepherd](http://www.flocknote.com/ChristTheDivineShepherd)

Diocesan Victim Assistance: 412-456-3093 Office)  
1-888-808-1235 (Hot Line) PA Child Line: 1-800-932-0313, Call  
911 immediately if a child is in danger.



### AUDACITY

*There is a spirit of audacity in our readings today. During a time of injustice and threat of invasion, the prophet Micah boldly announces that the God of insignificant Israel will raise up a leader from backwater Bethlehem, and this leader will bring justice and peace to the whole world. In the Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary, marginalized women, brazenly celebrate that their sons will be world-changing instruments of God. We further learn that this audacity is rooted in trust in God. The author of Hebrews describes the faithful obedience of Jesus. Mary is shown as the exemplar of faithful trust in God. This is the way God often seems to work, in the ordinary and marginalized in our world. Those who seem weak have learned to trust in God's strength. These have the audacity to become instruments of God's peace and justice.*

## From the Pastor

Father Mike Conway



It's funny how your perspective changes as you get older. When I was young, Advent always seemed so, so long. Christmas would never get here, and the anticipation was killing me. Now that I'm a bit older, and allegedly wiser, I'm willing to start a petition that we lengthen Advent by at least two weeks. Maybe more. There's just so much to do, and I don't just mean the busyness of the world. There's so much to do and consider spiritually, and we've hardly been able to scratch the surface of it.

We briefly considered the prophet Baruch, whom we seldom hear from, but we haven't had the time to talk about Zephaniah or Micah, whom we've heard from the last two weeks and who are equally obscure. We considered the entrance antiphon from week three, but we don't have time to talk about this week's: *Rorate Caeli*, "Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior." Nor have we considered some of the great saints we've celebrated or will celebrate during Advent: Andrew, Francis Xavier, Ambrose, Lucy, Juan Diego, and John of the Cross, just to name a few. Worse, we haven't had time to talk about the great Marian feasts of Advent: the Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Loreto, and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Clearly, Advent has to be longer. That's not going to happen, but what can happen is that we can change ourselves. In these waning days of Advent, it is useful to reflect on Mary and Joseph as they journey towards Bethlehem. The roads are crowded with all sorts of people, each heading to their hometown for the census. Some are happy to do so, some are rather cranky about it. There's congestion. There's noise. And there's the added complication that Mary is very pregnant at this point. She's got to be tired and uncomfortable, and surely both she and Joseph are worried. But both have received messages from God; Joseph in a dream and Mary from the archangel Gabriel, and the context of the message was the same: *do not be afraid*. God is with them on this journey, and He will not abandon them.

So perhaps our Advent has not been as perfect as we would have liked. Maybe we feel like we could have done more to prepare spiritually. But this is not a time to worry or panic. This is not the time to be afraid. Let us use these last days of Advent to ponder in our hearts what God is speaking to us; to ponder what He is calling us to. Make it a priority in these last days to find some time specifically for prayer, especially as a family. Like Mary and Joseph, may we always make a radical gift of ourselves to God.

*(Continued on page 3)*



## From the Pastor

(Continued from page 2)



Our Christmas Mass schedule will be as follows: 4 PM at both churches; 7 PM at both churches; Midnight at Monroeville; 9 AM at Penn Hills; and 10 AM at Monroeville. We all know that Christmas Masses often bring visitors to our parish; please be patient in the parking lots and welcoming in the pews. While masks are not required, I strongly encourage wearing them.

Please note, there are no evening Masses on Christmas Day. The Mass schedule for Sunday, December 26, remains the same.



Following the 11:00 Mass today, please join us in Biedenbach Hall for a reception to congratulate Deacon Rick on his retirement and wish him and Kathy well as they prepare to move to North Carolina. Please pray for them, and pray for more vocations to the priesthood and diaconate.



*Oremus pro invicem!*  
*Maranatha!*

### A Message from Mary Lou Bender

It is with mixed emotions that I have decided to resign my full-time position as Assistant Director of Music Ministries at Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish. Having been blessed with over 26 years of service at St. Susanna and two years at Christ the Divine Shepherd, it is time for me to slow down to be able to enjoy more time with my children and grandchildren, who all live out of state. When I started at St. Susanna, my plan was to work there until I could find a job closer to my home, which was then in the South Hills, but I enjoyed the job so much that I drove the Parkway for 25 years and finally moved to this side of town just four years ago. I am grateful for the many friendships and memories I have made over the years, and I will treasure them always.



### Meeting

The St. Vincent DePaul Society of Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish will meet on Wednesday, January 5th at 7:00 PM at Biedenbach Hall, 245 Azalea Dr., Monroeville, PA 15146.

### Save the Date



The Knights of Columbus are having our annual Knight at the Races on Friday, January 28, 2022. Ticket will go on sale soon, watch the bulletin for more information.

## Ladies of Charity December Praise Letter

As we anticipate the birth of Jesus this Advent season, let's keep Christ in Christmas. And during these times, as families and faith communities gather together, let's pray that the Lord keeps us safe and opens our hearts so that we can welcome Him with joy.

Keep in your prayers Pope Francis, Bishop Zubik, Fr. Mike and Fr. Thom and all the leaders of the church. May the Holy Spirit be with them so that they may be encouraging, sincere and wise in their ways and their words.

Please pray for all of those that are burdened or face challenges in their lives. May we be blessed with the grace and strength to bear our crosses as Jesus did, without complaint and with a sincere faith that God will never leave us alone.

Keep in your prayers all those who continue to work to care for all those who are victims of COVID-19. We pray for the nurses, doctors, aides, food workers, janitorial teams and all those who work tirelessly to ensure the care of patients and facilities. May God bless them all with strength to continue and keep them safe. Remember to pray for all those who are suffering physically, spiritually and mentally. May their faith sustain them and may God's presence comfort and lift them.

Many saints are remembered this month including Sts. John of the Cross, Francis Xavier, Anastasius, Nicholas, Juan Diego, Cyprian, Lucy, Stephen and the Martyrs of Africa. Pray for their intercession and their help. Pray for all of God's creatures and ask for St. Francis of Assisi's intercession, that they all may be treated with the kindness and love that His gifts deserve.

Pray for all of those who are those who are persecuted because of their faith and those that are victims of human trafficking. May God hold them safely in the palms of His hands. Offer a special prayer for the missionaries who were kidnapped in Haiti. May God keep them and all persons being held against their will, safe from harm and may He deliver them safely home to their loved ones. So many have lost jobs during this pandemic. Please pray for those in need, those who are homeless, hungry, thirsty or in need of medical care. May we open our hands and our hearts and with the grace of God, may their needs be met.

Please pray for Pope Francis' intentions for December: for Catechists, who are summoned to announce the Word of God; may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pray especially for those who find the holidays particularly hard. May they find solace in knowing that our Savior is born!

### PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

*St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle. Be our defense against  
the wickedness and snares of the Devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the  
world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

### TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

Tuesday, January 18, 2022  
7pm Penn Hills  
200 Stotler Rd, Penn Hills, PA 15235



CHRIST THE DIVINE  
SHEPHERD PARISH

[www.cdsmph.org/taize-choir](http://www.cdsmph.org/taize-choir)



## Our Parish Family

# *Merry Christmas*

*from*

## CHRIST THE DIVINE SHEPHERD YOUTH GROUP



**We will be back with a new meeting day  
for the New Year!**

CHRIST THE DIVINE SHEPHERD

# Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021**

4 pm Penn Hills  
4 pm Monroeville  
7 pm Penn Hills  
7 pm Monroeville

**Christmas, December 25, 2021**

12 am (Midnight) Monroeville  
9 am Penn Hills  
10 am Monroeville

Christ  
THE Divine  
SHEPHERD  
PARISH

[www.ChristTheDivineShepherd.org](http://www.ChristTheDivineShepherd.org)



## Grant them Eternal Rest

PRAY FOR THE REPOSE  
OF SOULS



Beverly Kacsma  
Thomas Reitz

Obituaries may be accessed at  
[www.cdsmph.org/funerals](http://www.cdsmph.org/funerals)



## Baptism

Emmersyn Grace Roseberry  
Daughter of Christopher and Billie  
Roseberry

## Sanctuary Candle



### Monroeville:

Tim & Richard Sr. Bieranowski  
By, Mother, Brother & Sister

### Penn Hills:

Edward Konop  
By, Wife & Children

Please contact the parish office at 412-373-0050 if you are  
interested in sponsoring one of our tabernacle lamps.

## Our Parish Family



### RCIA at CDS

Earlier this month, Christ the Divine Shepherd celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Welcome. Those in our RCIA program publicly declared their intention to enter a relationship with Christ and His Church. Please pray for them as they continue their journey.



## Divine Mercy Academy



### DMA Music Update

Students in grades K-8 attend weekly music classes at Divine Mercy Academy. During class, our students use many types of instruments to learn the fundamentals of music, including drums, xylophones, recorders, and most importantly, our singing voices! With an emphasis on active music-making, we use movement and games to reinforce and practice musical concepts.

A total of 42 students in grades 4-8 are members of the Beginning and Advanced Bands at DMA. The DMA Bands were excited to perform their Christmas Concert on December 9th to an enthusiastic group of family and friends.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 18, 2021

4:00PM, St Bernadette, (MC), +Donna DeBellis -- Jim & Marilyn Cellurale

5:00PM, St Susanna, (TM), +Colomba Musico -- Kathy and Family

### Sunday, December 19, 2021

8:00AM, St Bernadette, (MC), +Lucille Shamlin -- Daughter

9:00AM, St Susanna, (TM), +Christopher Dunmire -- Nancy & Howard Anderson

11:00AM, St Bernadette, (MC), For the People of our Parish

11:30AM, St Susanna, (TM), Special Intention -- Stephanie Jonnet

### Monday, December 20, 2021

9:30AM, St Bernadette, (MC), +Rege Reinersmann Jr. -- Debbie & Family

### Tuesday, December 21, 2021

9:30AM, St Susanna, (MC), +Catherine Rovnyak -- Daughter

### Wednesday, December 22, 2021

9:30AM, St Bernadette, (MC), +Veronica & +Dominic Ranier -- Kay Shearer

### Thursday, December 23, 2021

9:30AM, St Susanna, (TM), +Ed Konop -- Wife & Children

### Friday, December 24, 2021

4:00PM, St Susanna, (VP), For the People of the Parish

4:00PM, St Bernadette, (TM), For the People of the Parish

7:00PM, St Susanna, (VP), For the People of the Parish

7:00PM, St Bernadette, (MC), For the People of the Parish

### Saturday, December 25, 2021

12:00AM, St Bernadette, (MC), For the People of the Parish

9:00AM, St Susanna, (MC), For the People of the Parish

10:00AM, St Bernadette, (VP), For the People of the Parish

### Sunday, December 26, 2021

8:00AM, St Bernadette, (TM), +Suzanne Turba -- Mike & Dolores Peck

9:00AM, St Susanna, (MC), +Betty Quigley -- Karen & Joe Fello

11:00AM, St Bernadette, (TM), +Derna DiCecco -- Family

11:30AM, St Susanna, (MC), For the People of our Parish

**A reminder that  
our Church  
Buildings open a  
half-hour prior to  
the start of Mass.**

**The Rosary is  
prayed prior to  
our weekday  
Masses beginning  
at 9:00am**

#### Legend

MC	Fr Mike Conway
TM	Fr Thom Miller
VP	Visiting Priest

**DECEMBER  
20-26**

**This Week  
@ CDS**

**Christ  
THE Divine  
SHEPHERD  
PARISH**

#### MONDAY

#### TUESDAY

Eucharistic Adoration,  
10am PHCH  
Purgatorian Society,  
4:30pm PHCH  
Bible Study,  
7pm BH  
Contemporary Choir Practice,  
7pm PHCH

#### WEDNESDAY

Coming Attractions Bible  
Study,  
10am BH  
Contemplative Prayer,  
6pm CR  
Parish Choir Practice,  
7pm MCH

#### THURSDAY

Coming Attractions Bible  
Study,  
10am SR  
Decorating  
10:30 am PHCH  
Purgatorian Society,  
4pm MCH  
Eucharistic Adoration,

#### FRIDAY

#### SATURDAY

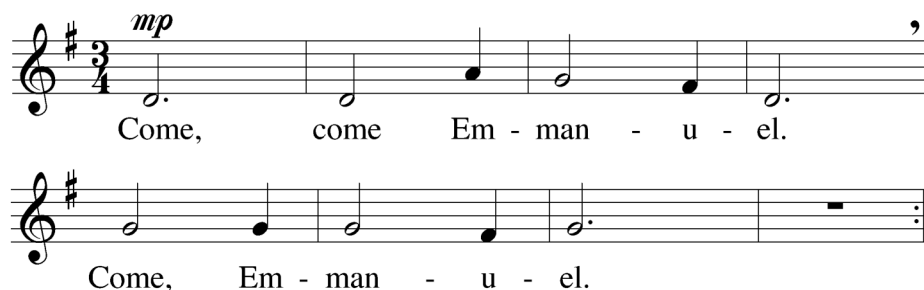
#### SUNDAY

#### LEGEND:

MRC	Monroeville Office
	Conference Room
MCH	Church, Monroeville
PHCH	Church, Penn Hills
BH	Biedenbach Hall, Monroeville
DMA	School
LC	Lourdes Center, Monroeville
SR	Spirit Room, Penn Hills
CR	Classroom, Penn Hills

## Order of Mass

### Entrance Procession



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### Advent Gathering Song Greeting

Priest: The Lord be with you  
**All: And with your spirit**

### Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I ask Blessed Mary—ever virgin—all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**All: Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy, Lord Have Mercy**

*or*

**Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison.**

## Liturgy of the Word

**First Reading:** Micah 5:1-4

Thus says the LORD:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah  
 too small to be among the clans of Judah,  
 from you shall come forth for me  
 one who is to be ruler in Israel;  
 whose origin is from of old,  
 from ancient times.  
 Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time  
 when she who is to give birth has borne,  
 and the rest of his kindred shall return  
 to the children of Israel.  
 He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock  
 by the strength of the LORD,  
 in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;  
 and they shall remain, for now his greatness  
 shall reach to the ends of the earth;  
 he shall be peace.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,  
 but a body you prepared for me;  
 in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.  
 Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the scroll,  
 behold, I come to do your will, O God.’”

First he says, “Sacrifices and offerings,  
 holocausts and sin offerings,  
 you neither desired nor delighted in.”  
 These are offered according to the law.  
 Then he says, :Behold, I come to do your will.”  
 He takes away the first to establish the second.  
 By this “will,” we have been consecrated  
 through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



## Order of Mass

### Gospel:

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out  
and traveled to the hill country in haste  
to a town of Judah,  
where she entered the house of Zechariah  
and greeted Elizabeth.  
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb,  
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
"Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.  
And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my  
ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.  
Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled."

### Profession of Faith

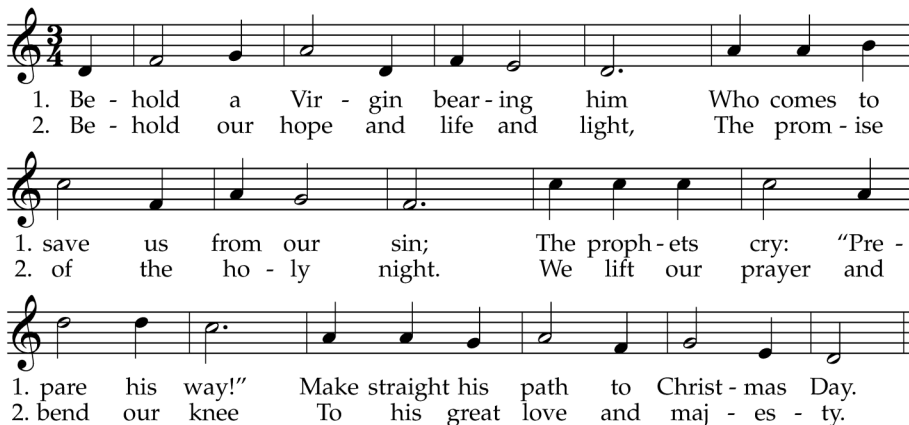
I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of  
heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son  
of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God,  
Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not  
made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all  
things were made. For us men and for our salvation he  
came down from heaven (*all bow*) and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For  
our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he  
suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the  
third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended  
into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the  
dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the  
Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from  
the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the  
prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic  
Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the  
life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Faithful

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Offertory

### Behold a Virgin Bearing Him



1. Be - hold a Vir - gin bear - ing him Who comes to  
2. Be - hold our hope and life and light, The prom - ise

1. save us from our sin; The proph - ets cry: "Pre -  
2. of the ho - ly night. We lift our prayer and

1. pare his way!" Make straight his path to Christ - mas Day.  
2. bend our knee To his great love and maj - es - ty.

### Invitation to Prayer

*Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters  
that my sacrifice and yours may be  
acceptable to God the almighty  
Father*

**All: May the Lord accept the  
sacrifice at your hands for the  
praise and glory of his name, for  
our good and the good of all his  
holy Church.**

*Priest: The Lord be with you.*

**All: And with your spirit.**

*Priest: Lift up your hearts.*

**All: We lift them up to the  
Lord.**

*Priest: Let us give thanks to the  
Lord, our God*

**All: It is right and just**

## Order of Mass

### Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus Deus Sábaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra glória tua. Hosánna in excélsis.  
Benedíctus qui venit in nómine Dómini.  
Hosánna in excélsis.

### Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your  
Resurrection until you come again.

### Great Amen

### The Lord's Prayer

### Sign of Peace

**Agnus Dei:** Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi:  
miserére nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: dona nobis  
pacem.

**All:** Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter  
under my roof, but only say the word and my soul  
shall be healed.

### Communion Songs

#### Refrain

And Holy, Holy, Holy is His Name.

### Holy is His Name

#### Lo How a Rose



1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing From ten - der stem hath sprung!
2. I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, This Rose I have in mind,
3. O Flow'r, whose fra-grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the air,



1. Of Jes-se's lin-eage com-ing, As those of old have sung.
2. With Ma-ry we be-hold it, The Vir-gin Moth-er kind.
3. Dis-pel in glo-rious splen-dor The dark-ness ev-'ry-where;



1. It came, a flow-er bright, A-mid the
2. To show God's love a-right, She bore to
3. True man, yet ver-y God, From sin and



1. cold of win-ter, When half spent was the night.
2. us a Sav-ior, When half spent was the night.
3. death now save us, And share our ev-'ry load.

### Hymn at the Dismissal

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

#### Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

### O Come O Come Emmanuel

2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on  
high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.  
by the Child's hand.

### LIVE-STREAM MASSES

Our Live-stream Masses continue  
every Monday, Wednesday,  
Friday, at 9:30am on our  
Facebook page.

Sunday we live-stream at 9:00am  
and 11:00am.



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14- 18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46- 56
Thursday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Friday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

## Parish Information

### Email Contact Information

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*Pastor*

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*Secretary*

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**Mrs. Eileen Almeter**

*Custodian*

ealmeter@cdsmph.org

### Office Hours

The Parish Office is located at **245 Azalea Dr, Monroeville PA 15146.**

It is open between 9am and 1pm, Monday through Friday, Saturdays from 3:30 to 5:30 and Sundays from 9 to 12:30. You can also email us at [parishoffice@cdsmph.org](mailto:parishoffice@cdsmph.org) or call us at 412-373-0050.

### Confession

At Christ the Divine Shepherd Parish, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated:

- Saturday, 3pm, CDS Monroeville
  - Saturday, 4pm, CDS Penn Hills
- or by calling the parish office and making an appointment.

### Marriage

Please contact us to plan for your wedding as soon as you become engaged, by contacting Deacon Mike at [mkelly@cdsmph.org](mailto:mkelly@cdsmph.org) or 412-373-0050 x112.

### Baptism

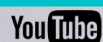
Baptisms will be celebrated following the Sunday 11:00am Mass in Monroeville and the Sunday 11:30am Mass in Penn Hills. Please call Deacon Mike at the parish office at 412-373-0050 X112 to plan your celebration of Baptism!

### Private Prayer

A reminder that our churches are open for Private Prayer in both Monroeville and Penn Hills.

- St Bernadette church will be open from 7am till 6pm on Monday and Thursday, and from 7am till 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- St Susanna church will be open on Tuesday from 9am till 6pm and on Thursday from 9am till 10:30am.
- Adoration will take place at St Susanna from 10am till 11am on Tuesday, and at St Bernadette from 5pm till 6pm, on Thursday.

## CONNECT WITH US



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