

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Charles Hoffman | 14 | Blake Melcher |
| | Kelly Schmeidler | | Joe Schmisser |
| 2 | Elizabeth Amaro | | Rebecca Sweet |
| | Ed Barrett | 15 | Linda Covey |
| | Christian Hart | | Junnae Landry |
| | Luke Huslig | | Evelyn Neuburger |
| | Kathy Slater | | Larry Oeding |
| | Max Thimesch | | Rita Pinkall |
| 3 | Yahelin Corona | | Danny Shumway |
| | Brett Fisher | 16 | Crystal Bolen |
| | Hunter Danielle | | Carol Henderson |
| | Haselhorst | | Starla Ortega |
| | Pat Hitt | 17 | Andrea Clarkson |
| 4 | Derek Barnard | | Erin Coutre |
| 5 | Cindy Lambert | | Rayden Crow |
| | Maribel Martinez | | Linda Fletcher |
| | Deanne | | Velia Hernandez |
| | McFarren | | Taylor Marie Rolfs |
| | Jorge Ortega | 18 | Patti Detwiler |
| | Elena Rios | | Micelle Jochems |
| | Irene Shumway | | Wilfred Peltier |
| | Ramon Tapia | | Marilynn Shanline |
| 6 | Ava Chadd | | Jennifer Tawzer |
| | Cheri Hitt | 19 | Stephen Landry |
| | Jerry Keene | | Justin Simmons |
| | Heather Smith | 20 | Vicki Rush |
| 7 | Allan Briney | | Clara Slater |
| | Brandon Curtis | | Diana Watkins |
| | Luis Garcia | 21 | Glenda Blanchat |
| | Abigail Johnson | | Anthony Cannata |
| | Lindsay | | Tom Schnittker |
| | Richardson | 22 | William Becker |
| 8 | Carlos Rodriguez | | Linda Conkle |
| | Daniel Rodriguez | | Isaac Temanson |
| | Roy Schoonover | | Matthew |
| 9 | Victor Espino | | Westerhaus |
| | Jay Evert | 23 | Lenus Fischer |
| | Brynn Hampton | | Aaron Tawzer |
| | Alan Koehler | | Bradley |
| | Elzbieta Marciniak | | Richardson |
| | Sylvia Stecklein | 24 | Mary Behring |
| | Zachary | | Diana Fellhoelter |
| | Vandervoort | | Michael Kirby |
| 10 | Brian Arensdorf | | Jessica Gnad |
| | Stephanie | 25 | Daisy Fernandez |
| | Thompson | | Richard Gerber |
| 11 | Jarid Rojas | | Sandra Haworth |
| 12 | Jake George | | Ashton Lee |
| | Riley Prosser | | Amy Robertson |
| | Brandon Ruckle | 26 | none |
| | Nicole Voss | 27 | Martin Duran |
| 13 | Richard Baker | | Cecilia Pearce |
| | Travis Crow | | Scott Richardson |
| | Xavier Pedroza | 28 | Michael Day |
| | Maria Ramirez | 29 | Brian Beaman |
| | Kayden | | Elizabeth Wirick |
| | Schmidtberger | 30 | Roger Blasi |
| | Wyatt | | Jesus Castillo |
| | Schmidtberger | | Homer Detwiler |
| 14 | Aaron Austin | | Nathaniel |
| | Jerry Frisbie | | Wessling |
| | Barbara Ibarra | 31 | Donna Huff |
| | Fr. Floyd | | |
| | McKinney | | |

STEPPING STONE EVENTS

Baptized in Christ

Bryson Lee Conkle, son of Jason & Taryn Dean Conkle.

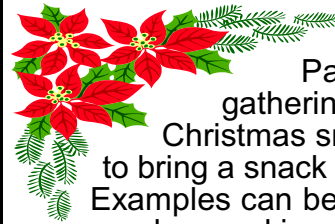
Married in Christ

Ian Andrew Marsh and Emily Louise Landis, October 20th.

Farewell to those Moved

Trevor & Patricia McAdoo moved to Eagle Pass, Texas.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL GALA for Parishioners 65 and over!



On Sunday, December 9th, at 4:30pm, at Parkwood Village, the annual Christmas gathering of Seniors will be held, with spirit's and Christmas snacks and goodies. We ask all who attend to bring a snack or sweet treat to share with all who gather. Examples can be dips (hot or cold), cheeses, meats, finger snacks, cookies, sweetbreads or candy. In other words, whatever fancies your pallet! Drinks (hot or cold) and wine will be provided. If a ride is necessary, please let me know. Cecilia Peltier, 672-2000. Hope to see many of you there, and a new face or two. /s/ Cecilia Peltier, Senior Ministry

HANGING OF THE GREENS

There will be several opportunities to help prepare the church for Christmas this year. The Liturgy Commission, along with some help from PSR, will begin at **7:00 pm on Wednesday, December 19th**. We will finish on **Sunday, December 23 at 2:00 pm**.

As always, we welcome all to assist us at this busy time.

If you have questions, please call Chris Himmelwright (672-2281).



FINANCIAL REPORT - OCTOBER 2012

A new fiscal year began July 1, 2012 and continues through June 30, 2013.

If anyone has questions, please contact a Finance Council member. They are: Linda Gfeller, Haley Fitzsimmons, Rick Klausmeyer, Jennifer Slater, Vince Wilczek, Jim Wessling, Principal, and Vicki Rush, Pastoral Council Liaison.

<u>Receipts:</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Contribution Envelopes	\$25,622.50	\$121,080.78
Other Receipts	14,091.65	58,488.39
Total Receipts	\$39,714.15	\$179,569.17
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
School	\$25,891.72	\$116,882.37
Other Expense	25,489.04	74,010.87
Total Disbursements	\$51,380.76	\$190,893.24
Net Deficit	< \$11,666.61>	< \$ 11,324.07>

RELIGIOUS FORMATION CORNER



From the clipboard of
Erin Crouch, DRE

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. December is here and Christmas will be here soon. This month the youth will be **selling Discount cards for \$20** each. We make \$10 per card profit to go towards our trip to NCCY next year 2013. We have 300 cards to sell. The card has different discounts to different businesses here in Pratt. We will be selling these after Masses on a couple of weekends in December. You can also purchase them by contacting Erin through the parish office or if you know one of the youth going to NCCY, ask them. We appreciate your help with this fundraiser.

First Reconciliation practice for all 2nd graders is from 4-5pm on Nov. 30th in the church. Then we will have First Reconciliation on Saturday, Dec. 1st at 1:00pm in the church. We will have a simple reception in the school cafeteria following reconciliation..

Due to the Christmas holiday season **we will not have PSR on December 26th and Jan. 2nd**. Also, on Jan. 9th is the Catechist ITV session, so no PSR classes that night either. So our last PSR class for December will be the 19th. The High School PSR class has been asked to help decorate the church for Christmas on Dec. 19th during PSR class. Students class time may go later that night. The next PSR class will be Jan. 16th.

All are invited to Mass on Dec. 5th and Jan 16th during PSR class. Mass will begin around 7:10pm to give time for the classes to get organized before coming to the church.

Confirmation candidates, please turn in your choice for sponsors to Erin by Dec. 5th. I will send out letters to the sponsors during the Christmas break.

Religious Formation Commission will meet Dec. 5th from 5:30-6:30 in the upstairs rectory room.

Adult Education: Just a reminder that the Catholicism DVD series is still going on during PSR on nights we don't have Mass in the school conference room. You can come and attend anytime. Also the Bible study is meeting at 6:30pm on Thursday nights at the home of Ken and Jackie Woodruff. I invite you to consider this, even if we have already started.

May everyone have a wonderful Christmas and travel safely.

Erin Crouch
Director of Religious Education
620-388-9024 (cell)
www.sacredheartpratt.com

CHRISTMAS FOR THE INMATES

The Annual Parish Life Commission/Social Justice Christmas Drive for packages for the Ellsworth Correctional Facility will be ending on Sunday, December 11th. We are attempting to make the Christmas holiday a little brighter for the inmates by providing them with a holiday package made up of the items below. As in the past, we are requesting the following items:

- ★
- shampoo
- toothpaste
- bars of soap
- toothbrushes
- small candy bars
- men's deodorant
- small bags of chips
- hot chocolate packets
- small packages of cookies
- packages of cheese crackers
- small peanut butter/cheese packets
- bags of individual wrapped hard candy
-

No gum please!

You are asked to place your donated items in the large box in the church entrance. Thank you!



Sacred Heart News

December 2012

Newsletter of the Catholic Community of Pratt County

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The 'hubbub' has started. The rush of "the season" (of Advent), as we prepare for the season of Christmas, is upon us. What do we celebrate? During Advent we are waiting, waiting for the Savior to be born among us. The Savior has come among us to show what love really means. We know that we are supposed to love God. We believe that God loves us, even before we know that He is part of our life. Some may think that God only loves us when we are deserving of that love; we know that God loves us without putting any strings on that love. Although we understand the words by themselves, our own experience of love is otherwise. We love a little, or a lot, up to a point, unless, or if. We love as hard as we can but our love has limits, it is just a matter of time. Human love is, by definition, partial.

Gods' love for us is personal. God has the possibility to love each one of us personally. If you ask a parent which child they love the most, they will say there is no most. They love each one. We get a better sense of this by saying that God not only loves us, but likes us. It is something like that with us humans. We can love someone without liking them. That is how we love our enemies. We want them to be well, but far away from us. But if we like someone as well as love them, then that love has a totally different tenor. It is tinged with emotion. We will want them to be well with a passion; we enjoy their good fortune; they become part of our own life. It is the inner essence of a person that we love; it is the exterior differences that we like. As Old Blue Eyes sang: "The way she wears her hat, the way she sips here tea—they can't take that away from me".

Each of us is a unique combination of attributes, actions, sin, grace, experience and genes. There is nobody else quite like us: the way we look, and act, and want, and strive, and dream. We can't take that away from God. God's love for us is without rhyme or reason, even irrational. That is why we say, 'Jesus is the reason for the season'. There is no reason that God had to send the Son to be born among us, but that is what happened, because God's love is in the Son that we celebrate at Christmas. Sometimes I think there is no rhyme or reason to our gift giving at Christmas. Then I remember the greatest gift that started the 'tradition of giving gifts'. Maybe the fact that we are made in the image of God means that we too want our love to be 'without reason'. We give simply because, we want someone to know that they are loved.

Merry Christmas...and may God bless each one of you with the greatest gift.

Father Floyd McKinney



2012 ANNUAL WSH TURKEY DINNER RAFFLE RESULTS

Adult Raffle

Items

Hand Quilted King/Queen-size Quilt
8-Drawer Tool Chest
Set of Kitchen/Steak Knives
\$100 Dillons Gift Card
Nook Reader
Wooden Outdoor Nativity
\$50 T&W Meats Certificate
\$100 Walmart Gift Card
Crocheted Afghan
\$25 Club D'Est Gift Certificate
\$100 T&W Meats Certificate
Embroidered Tea Towels
Sherpa Lined Throw
BTI Jacket
Decorated Gourd
\$50 T&W Meats Certificate
Hand-Crocheted Afghan
\$25 Skaggs Gift Certificate
\$100 Walmart Gift Card
\$100 Cash
\$50 Cash
Oster Blender
Oster Toaster
Digital Photo Frame
Wooden Remote Control Holder
2 Qt Rooster Serving Dish
Wall Decor
Signature Spa Facial
Signature Manicure
Musical Holiday Teacup
Cenex Gift Card

Donors

Helping Hands Sewing Group
Anonymous Donor
John & Marie McGuire
SHS Boosters
Ruth Menzer
John & Carol Henderson
T&W Meats
Walmart
Martha Hunter
Club D'Est
WSH
Isabella Staab
Lorraine Prosser
BTI Implement of Pratt
Judy Doolittle
T&W Meats
Martha Hunter
Skaggs Ace Hardware
SHS Boosters
Anonymous
Anonymous
Dolly Neises
Dolly Neises
Lawrence & Wanda Voss
Lawrence & Wanda Voss
Marsha Kile
Cindy Eisenhauer
Deb Roberts
Deb Roberts
Anonymous
Anonymous

Winners

Paula Phillips
Paula Phillips
Terry Wojciechowski
Larry Kneller
Kim Evert
Marvin Schmidtberger
Mary Maltby
Micky Talbott
Thad Merz
Larry Kneller
Donna Gerber
Kristin George
Charlene Calloway
Troy Weissbeck
Ron Meier
Dr. Alan Pribil
Leah Coleman
Nancy Schmidtberger
Ann Loeffelholz
Seth Thibault
Patrice Egging
Lance Anderson
Jessica Voss
Richard Becker
Nancy Schmidtberger
Seth Thibault
Kristin George
Connie Voss
Leroy Bohrer
Donna Gerber
Mildred Eubank

Children's Raffle

Items

Electric Scooter

Winners

n Langford
Bicycle
Tonka Monster Truck
\$15 Itunes Gift Card
\$15 Itunes Gift Card
Collector Edition "Challenger" Combine
4-Variou DVD's

Rapunzel Tea Set
Hummer Sport Trailer
Plush Storytime Bear
3-D Sidewalk Chalk Activity Set
2-\$25 Cash Prizes

Princess Tea Set
Conair Hair Styling Set
Caroling Fun Barbie
Mind Quest Electronic Game
Mad Money Bank
Bath Time Bag

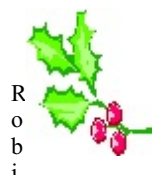
Donors

Women of Sacred Heart

Women of Sacred Heart
Sharon Dodson
Ruth Menzer
Ruth Menzer
David Borho
Ruth Menzer

Nancy Schmidtberger
Nancy Schmidtberger
Sharon Dodson
Ruth Menzer
Anonymous

Lawrence & Wanda Voss
Lawrence & Wanda Voss
Anonymous
Anonymous
Marsha Kile
Sharon Dodson



Harold Lobmeyer
Evan Pribil
Kennedy Melvin
Barrett Bolen
Emily Allphin
Eugene Freund
Maggie Eibert
Patrice Egging
Seth Thibault
Eugene Freund
Logan Pritchett
Seth Thibault
Harold Lobmeyer
Patrice Egging
Paul Westfall
Madelyn Bolen
Clare Slater
Clara Slater
Carson Roberts
Barrett Bolen
Logan Pritchett

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO WON A PRIZE
AND GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO DONATED THE PRIZES.
The Raffle was successful!**

WHO STARTED CHRISTMAS?

This morning I heard a story on the radio of a woman who was out Christmas shopping with her two children. After many hours of looking at row after row of toys and everything else imaginable, and after hours of hearing both her children asking for everything they saw on those many shelves, she finally made it to the elevator with her two kids.

She was feeling what so many of us feel during the holiday season time of the year. Overwhelming pressure to go to every party, every housewarming, taste all the holiday food and treats, getting that perfect gift for every single person on our shopping list, making sure we don't forget anyone on our card list, and the pressure of making sure we respond to everyone who sent us a card.

Finally the elevator doors opened and there was already a crowd in the car. She pushed her way into the car and dragged her two kids in with her and all the bags of stuff. When the doors closed she couldn't take it anymore and stated, "Whoever started this whole Christmas thing should be found, strung up and shot."

From the back of the car everyone heard a quiet calm voice respond, "Don't worry we already crucified him." For the rest of the trip down the elevator it was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop.

Don't forget this year to keep the One who started this whole Christmas thing in your every thought, deed, purchase, and word. If we all did it, just think of how different this whole world would be.

Let's remember the REAL reason for the season

Twas the month before Christmas

When all through our land,

Not a Christian was praying

Nor taking a stand.

See the PC Police had taken away,

The reason for Christmas - no one could say.

The children were told by their schools not to sing,

About Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things.

It might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say

** December 25th is just a ' Holiday '.**

Yet the shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit

Pushing folks down to the floor just to get it!

CDs from Madonna, an X BOX, an I-pod

Something was changing, something quite odd!

Retailers promoted Ramadan and Kwanzaa

In hopes to sell books by Franken & Fonda.

As Targets were hanging their trees upside down

** At Lowe's the word Christmas - was no where to be found.**

At K-Mart and Staples and Penney's and Sears

You won't hear the word Christmas; it won't touch your ears.

Inclusive, sensitive, Di-ver-si-ty

Are words that were used to intimidate me.

Now Daschle, Now Darden, Now Sharpton, Wolf Blitzen

On Boxer, on Rather, on Kerry, on Clinton !

At the top of the Senate, there arose such a clatter

To eliminate Jesus, in all public matter.

And we spoke not a word, as they took away our faith

** Forbidden to speak of salvation and grace**

The true Gift of Christmas was exchanged and discarded

The reason for the season, stopped before it started.

So as you celebrate 'Winter Break' under your 'Dream Tree'

Sipping your Starbucks, listen to me.

Choose your words carefully, choose what you say

Shout **MERRY CHRISTMAS,
not Happy Holiday !**

Please, all Christians join together and wish everyone you meet

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christ is The Reason' for the Christmas Season!

