

Holy Spirit Church

Rev. Armand Mantia

Pastor

Msgr. Vincent J. Doyle

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Alfred J. Burke

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John M. Ballweg

Weekend Assistant

Deacon Joseph J. Carlo

Deacon Stanley W. Kwiatek, Jr.

Pastoral Ministry

Mrs. Barbara Prescott

School Principal

Ms. Catherine Drake

Director of Religious Education and RCIA

Mr. Philip Matrale

Youth Minister

Ms. Liz Melatti, Ms. Marge Smiriga

The Spirit Singers

The Ministry of Music

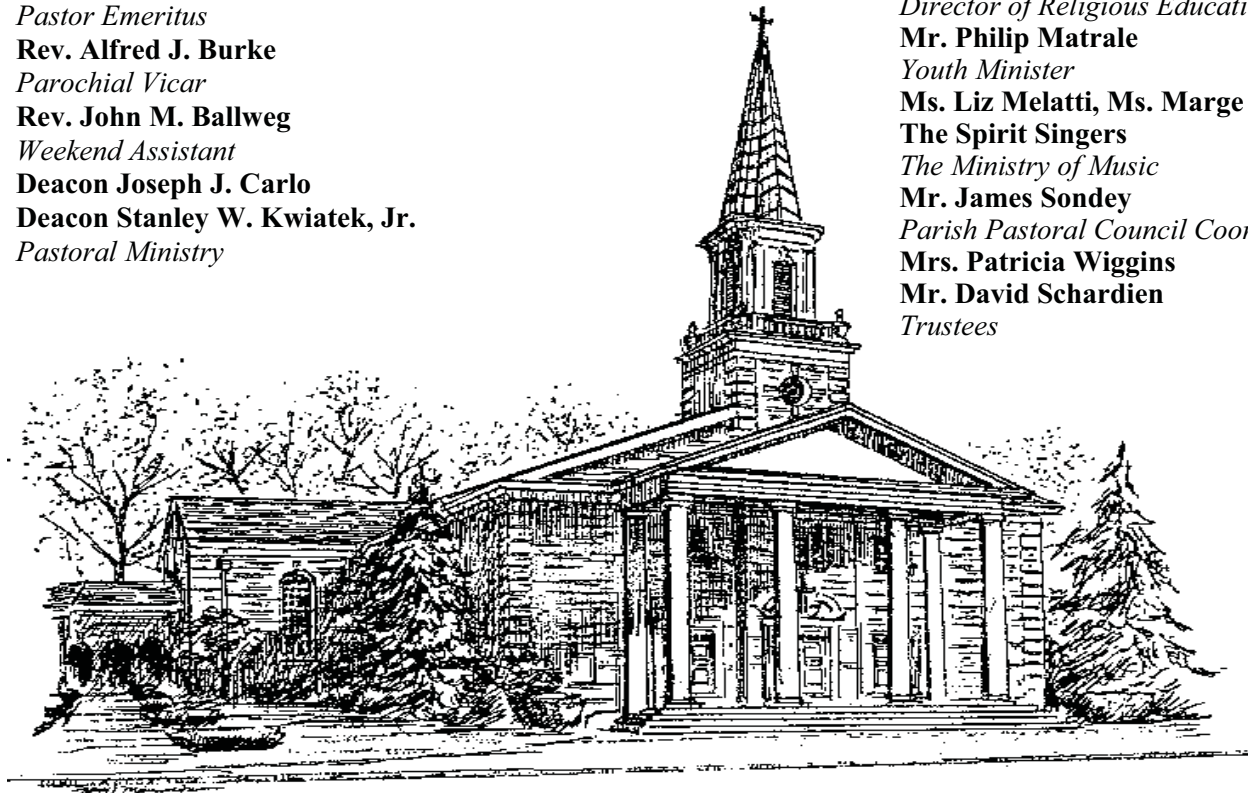
Mr. James Sondey

Parish Pastoral Council Coordinator

Mrs. Patricia Wiggins

Mr. David Schardien

Trustees



Union

971 Suburban Road

New Jersey 07083

Masses

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 12:00 Noon

Weekdays: Monday thru Friday: 7:30am and 8:30am

Holy Days: Will be announced in Bulletin and
from Pulpit.

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second Sunday of each month. A Parent Preparation Program occurs in the preceding week. New parents should register for the Baptism at the beginning of the month prior to requested month by contacting the Parish Office.

Reconciliation

Saturday 11:30-12 Noon and 4:30 to 5:00pm.

Matrimony

Ideally, arrangements for weddings should be made at least one year in advance. Please contact the priest whom you wish to officiate at your wedding, by calling the Parish Office.

Novena

In honor of Our Lady and St. Jude - Monday Mornings - Immediately following 8:30 Mass

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Parish Office. If you move to another parish, or change your address, please notify the Parish Office.

Parish Office - 687-3327

Fax - 687-1312

~ School - 687-8415 ~

E-Mail - holyspiritchurch@comcast.net

Religious Education Office - 964-7533

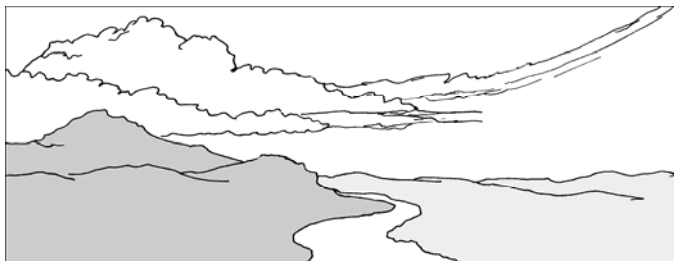
Web Site - www.holyspiritunion.org

Holy Spirit Church

Union, NJ

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2009



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

God has commanded
That every lofty mountain be made low.
--Baruch 5:7

Collections

Sunday Collection: \$12,502.00

Flower Collection: \$1,893.00

DONATIONS FOR THE WEEK OF 11/29/09

POOR: \$13.00

HELPING HANDS: \$ 6.00

Pray for ...

Nikki Nyzio
Marie Armstrong
Joseph Santillo
Trude Kleissler
Gary Russo
Grace Cuomo
Andrew Lewinter
Sal Guarino
Ann Marques
Michael Denicola
William Tyson

Rev. John Olszewski
Shirley Gargano
Joey Genova
Ann Russo
Bea Guadagno
Jo Landwirth
Susan Dowling
Kevin Anon
John Marques
Jodi Wendt

ALTAR BREAD; In memory of Lucy and Leonard Romano req. by Sister
SACRIFICIAL WINE; In memory of John and Mary DiBlasi req. by Daughter
SANCTUARY LAMP: In memory of The Arace Family req. by Wife

Important Bulletin Deadlines

The schedule for the Christmas and New Year's Bulletins is as follows:

If you would like something in the **12/27/09 bulletin** you must have it submitted by **noon on 12/18/09.**

If you would like something in the **1/3/10 bulletin** you must have it submitted by **noon on 12/23/09.**

A message from our Pastor:

Dear Parishioners,

Our journey through the season of Advent continues today as we once again hear the voice of John the Baptist. Like an alarm clock that goes off the same time every morning, John appears every year on this day with his unchanging message of repentance and preparation.

Both of these steps are essential to the process of growing in our relationship with the Lord. We all do a wonderful job of convincing ourselves that we are perfect and that we can't possibly sin. "Confession is for other people, certainly not me" is a comment we priests hear often. Guess what? If you are a human, you are a sinner. During the remaining days of this holy season, I encourage you to seek out the wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation and renew your friendship with God. The times are printed on the front of the bulletin, and there are also two extra evenings scheduled, which can be found in the flyer you received in the mail, and which are available at the church doors.

I would also like to draw your attention to the announcement found later in this bulletin about our annual Christmas pageant for children. This year we are trying something different. The pageant will be held on **Friday evening, December 18** and will include a procession to bless the outdoor manger. We will celebrate with refreshments afterward. All are invited to come and be inspired by our young people. *Please note that this will replace the pageant formerly held at Mass on Christmas Eve.* I wish to extend my thanks to that wonderful group of adults who coordinate this event each year and to the parents who are so cooperative in preparing their children.

Fr. Armand

Holy Spirit Rosary Society

Members of the Holy Spirit Rosary Society will meet in the Church on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 7:30pm for services. We will then have our annual Christmas Party in the Parish Hall. A delicious selection of food and drinks will be available. Entertainment will be provided. Members should be prepared to make monetary donations to Holy Angels Nursery and to the township youth through the "Santa in Blue" program of the Township PBA. All women are invited to join us at this celebration.



School News

Holy Spirit School would like to extend our **sincerest appreciation** to **everyone** who **participated** in and **contributed** to our **clothing & food drives** last month! Both drives were a **huge success**- **THANKS TO ALL** for your cooperation & generosity!



CONGRATULATIONS to our 8th grade students who participated in the **Roselle Catholic** high school annual **Scholastic Olympics for 2009!**

Our students did an **outstanding** job representing **Holy Spirit School**, and we are all **extremely proud** of the following students for their fine achievements in their respective competitions:

- Ashley Laura, 1st place in History
- Michael Recki, 1st place in Current Events
- Kathleen Falcon, 3rd place in English
- Nelson Kelly, 3rd place in English

Thank you for all of your hard work and may God continue to bless you with continued academic success in your future!

On Saturday, December 12th, our 2nd grade class and CCD will be celebrating the sacrament of **First Reconciliation** here at Holy Spirit Church. Please remember to keep them in your prayers.



Our annual Christmas Show is on Monday evening, December 14th at 7:30PM in the Church. The Christmas Show is a relaxing, peaceful experience and a nice break from the hustle and bustle of the Holiday season. Come and enjoy!

Please come to our **Breakfast with Santa** in the Parish Hall on **Sunday, December 13th** after the **9:00 AM mass**. This is great fun for the children and refreshments will be available for all! **PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CAMERA TO GET A PICTURE WITH SANTA**, as we regret being unable to provide pictures this year. In the spirit of giving, we would like to ask **our guests to please bring a donation of a warm item** (i.e. gloves, scarves, socks, etc.) for the underprivileged women & children of **the Apostles' House in Newark**. Your kindness and generosity will help bring comfort and joy to those less fortunate than us during this Christmas season. For more information, please contact **Ana Moreira** (908) 370-2910 or **Michelle Miranda** (908) 686-4431.



CYO/Youth Ministry News

Website: cyounionnj.com

Special Congratulations go to Sophomore, Jessica Dragone and Freshman, John McTernan. Our new members of the month! Since September Jessica and John have done it all. Both volunteered at the Dunk Tank, have done numerous service projects, are Confirmation Mentors and attended the Retreat. They are an inspiration to all our members.

This Tuesday evening we will have a special presentation by the Educational Intervention Institute. The program will address the effects of alcohol abuse on Teenagers. We encourage all our members to be present for this informative event.

Everyone is invited! All CYO members, families and parishioners should keep open next Tuesday, December 15th for our Christmas Presentation the Festival of Lights. More details will be in next week's bulletin.



Tickets for our Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday (December 12th at Costa del Sol) are now on sale. See any Core Team member for tickets. You can also get them at CYO meetings.

"Holy Hour for Life"

Come join us for a Holy Hour for Life
Praying before the Blessed Sacrament On
Wednesday, January 6, 2010 7:30 PM
At Holy Spirit Church Suburban Road, Union, NJ
Sponsored by: Holy Spirit Respect Life Ministry

ALL MEN of Holy Spirit are invited to Prayer with the Holy Spirit Men's Prayer Group on Saturday 12/19 after 8:30 mass. Bring a friend and yourself with an open heart. Coffee and..... will be served. Peace to All!

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is "a gradual process that takes place within the community of the faithful." The length of time of the process varies according to individual need, experience, readiness and commitment. If you, or someone you know is interested in more information, please call Cathy Drake at the **Office of Religious Education** at (908) 964-7533.

~~~also~~~

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

#### *Inquiry*

If you are not a Catholic, but attracted to the Catholic Church, or a Catholic needing to complete your Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist or Confirmation), **Inquiry** is just as it sounds. It is a time set aside for asking questions and exploring God's call in an informal setting. There are no commitments or obligations required, only questions answered and information shared. Again, call Cathy Drake at 908 964-7533.



|                  |                                                                |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>DECEMBER 5th</b>                                            |
| 8:30             | Jean Marie James req. by Llemos Family                         |
| 5:30 pm          | Mrs. Couto req. by Lockwood Family                             |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>DECEMBER 6th</b>                                            |
| 7:30             | For the People of Holy Spirit Parish                           |
| 9:00             | The Children of the Parish                                     |
| 10:30            | Vincent H. Yeo req. by Sister, Francis Price                   |
| 12:00            | Mark Jared Wagner req. by Mom and Dad                          |
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | <b>DECEMBER 7th</b>                                            |
| 7:30             | Kalman Engle req. by Betty Engle                               |
| 8:30             | Bea Rimsky req. by Holy Spirit 60+                             |
| 6:30pm           | Joseph S. Satkosky req. by Satkosky Family                     |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | <b>DECEMBER 8th</b>                                            |
| 8:30             | Frederick J. Neri, Sr. req. by Wife and Children               |
| 12:00            | Antonio Garcia req. by Wife                                    |
| 6:30pm           | Mary Vollweiler req. by Vollweiler Family                      |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | <b>DECEMBER 9th</b>                                            |
| 7:30             | Manuel Manego req. by Manego/Tamayo Family                     |
| 8:30             | Laura Musial req. by Daughter, Barbara                         |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <b>DECEMBER 10th</b>                                           |
| 7:30             | Marty Masterson req. by Betty Engle                            |
| 8:30             | Francis & Florence Bradley req. by Children                    |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | <b>DECEMBER 11th</b>                                           |
| 7:30             | Daniel Hasen req. by Family                                    |
| 8:30             | Kathleen Dyas req. by Sister and Family                        |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>DECEMBER 12th</b>                                           |
| 8:30             | Carol Palasits and Dennis Petruccelli req. by Judy & Al Arnold |
| 5:30 pm          | Helen Dobrowolski req. by Holy Spirit 60+                      |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>DECEMBER 13th</b>                                           |
| 7:30             | Mary Cahalan req. by Kurt and Joanne Landeck                   |
| 9:00             | Frank Gilbride req. by Wife                                    |
| 10:30            | Lena Speronza req. by Martin and Lisa Herrejon                 |
| 12:00            | For the People of Holy Spirit Parish                           |

## PARISH ACTIVITIES

|                  |                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | Family Liturgy—9:00am—Church<br>60+ Annual Fund Raiser; Jewelry, Linens; Wood Crafts—After all Masses<br>AA Spirit of Recovery - Drexler Hall<br>7:15 pm |
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | 7th Grade Exam—7:00pm Parish Hall                                                                                                                        |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | RCIA—7:30-9:00pm—Drexler Hall<br>Boy Scout Committee Meeting—<br>7:00-9:00pm—Music Room                                                                  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | St. Philomena's 12:00-1:30 pm Church<br>CCD—3:45-5:00pm—Church<br>Rosary Altar Society 7:30-800pm<br>Church / 8:00-9:30—Parish Hall                      |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | CCD—3:45-5:00pm—Church<br>Catholic Divorce Ministry—7:30-9:00<br>Drexler Hall<br>Boy Scouts 7:00-9:00pm—Parish Hall                                      |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    |                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | First Reconciliation 1:00pm—Church                                                                                                                       |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | Breakfast with Santa—After 9:00 Mass<br>Parish Hall<br>Baptisms—1:00pm—Church<br>AA Spirit of Recovery - Drexler Hall<br>7:15 pm                         |

**With the start of Advent**, we begin preparing for the birth of Jesus. We of many different nationalities at Holy Spirit, traditionally follow many beautiful customs on Christmas Eve. Many parishioners of Holy Spirit are of Polish ancestry and keep the tradition of sharing the **"oplatek"**, the most ancient and beloved of all Polish traditions. Oplatek is a thin wafer made of flour and water, similar in taste to the hosts that are used for communion during Mass. The Christmas wafer is shared before Wigilia, the Christmas Eve supper. The head of the household usually starts by breaking the wafer with his wife and then continues to share it with everyone at the Wigilia table. Wishes for peace and prosperity are exchanged.

This tradition dates back many centuries when thin, flat bread called "podplomyk" was baked over an open flame and then shared with the family gathered around the fire on Christmas Eve. Generally, today's oplatki has a pattern of the nativity scenes imprinted of each wafer. Deacon Stan has made arrangement of obtaining oplatek for your use at the Christmas Eve supper. If you are interested in purchasing oplatek for your family this Christmas Eve, please notify Deacon Stan or Lisa in the Parish Office so that he may get a general idea how much oplatek to order. Thank you.



### 60+ ANNUAL FUND RAISER

Holy Spirit 60+ Club will be having their annual fund raiser to benefit the 8th grade class and the Thomas Moore Scholarship Fund **TODAY** in the Parish Hall after all Masses. Items being sold: Jewelry; Linens; and Wood Crafts. If you have any questions, or need more information, please contact Liz at 908-687-0781.

### Arriving Late For Mass?

Late arrivals are asked to join the worshipping assembly unobtrusively, entering the pews by way of the side aisles (and preferably while the congregation is standing). Please do not walk down the main aisle once the liturgy has begun.

... And may we all be mindful of the teaching of Vatican II (CSL 56): "The two parts which in a sense go to make up the Mass, viz. the liturgy of the word and the Eucharistic liturgy, are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship. Accordingly this sacred Synod strongly urges pastors of souls that, when instructing the faithful, they insistently teach them to take their place for the entire Mass, especially on Sundays and holy days of obligation."

### Ready for Summer Vacation?

It is certainly not too early to begin thinking about your vacation plans for Summer, 2010. Why not be a part of history and attend the 41st production of the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, which is performed every 10 years. Brochures are available in the parish office detailing this wonderful opportunity, departing July 3, 2010 which also includes visits to many of the other beautiful cities of Bavaria and Austria such as Munich, Nuremberg, Innsbruck and Salzburg. Space is limited, so please act quickly. If you have any questions, please call Fr. Armand or call Anne Breslin of Great Experiences at (201) 825-3725

### **2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Catholic Men's Conference**

to be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at Seton Hall University.....More details soon.....

**Hold the date for yourself!**

### **Benedictine Center**

**Oblate Meeting:** Women and men desiring a spiritual association with a Benedictine monastery are invited to attend the meeting of Oblates of Saint Walburga Monastery in Elizabeth, NJ on December 13, 2009. At 3:30pm two Oblates will report on their experience of the World Congress of Oblates, 2009. The presentation will be followed by discussion, refreshments and 5:00pm Vespers with the monastic community. All are welcome. For further information, please call Sr. Marita at 908-353-3028

**Retreat:** The Benedictine Center invites women to begin the New Year with prayer and reflection by attending the **New Year's Eve Retreat** at St. Walburga Monastery, Elizabeth, NJ. Cost is \$50. Call 908-353-2028 for information.

### *Giving Tree*



Our Giving Tree is set up in the back of the Church. Please take a tag and purchase the gift listed for a poor person and return it to the Church by December 14th, so they can be sorted, delivered and packed for distribution by Christmas. Please place the gift in a bag/box and **ATTACH THE TAG**. By attaching the tag, it will ensure the gift goes to the correct person.

Kindly **DO NOT WRAP** the gift. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this project which brings so much joy to so many needy families. May God Bless You for all your help in this tremendous endeavor. If you have any questions or would like more information, please call Joanne Landeck at 908-964-7533 or 908-686-1137.

### **WHAT WILL YOUR SON BE DOING THIS YEAR?**

He could be camping, swimming, hiking, building a rocket, tying a knot, building a campfire, learning life skills & first aid, pitching a tent, making a friend, helping a community, just about ANYTHING! He could be doing these things all year with the scouts! Learn what it's all about.

### **CUB SCOUT PACK 161 & BOY SCOUT TROOP 85**

Grades 1-5 Cub Scouts; Grades 6-12 Boy Scouts  
Scouting with attitude!

For more information contact:  
Vinny Franchino (908) 686-8789 or  
Fred Sloan (908) 591-1564

### **Troop 85 Wreath and Grave Cover Sale**



The scouts will be selling Christmas wreaths & grave covers before & after every mass the weekend of Dec. 5/6, and Dec. 12/13.

**Please support our troop!!!!!!**

**BLOOD DRIVE:** During this season of giving, please give the gift of life by donating blood. St. Genevieve Church located at 200 Monmouth St. in Elizabeth is sponsoring a blood drive on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> between 8:30-2:00 with the New Jersey Blood Services. Did you know that your one donation can help to save the lives of 3 patients? Platelets, plasma and red cells from a whole blood donation may be used to save the lives of 3 patients. We have so much to be thankful for, and patients and their families are thankful for the kindness and caring of our amazing blood donors. Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent) and bring identification to the drive. Please remember to have plenty to eat and drink before the drive and come well rested. Please contact 1-800-933-2566 if you have any questions about donor eligibility. Thank you for taking the time to save a life!

**Nativity Pageant:** Once again the children in grades 1 through 6 are invited to participate in acting out the Nativity story. This year we are going to do something new and different. The pageant will take place on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 7:00pm in the Church. It will include a small prayer service and then a procession wherein the children will carry the Christ child to the outdoor Nativity Set, followed by a special blessing. We will then proceed to the parish hall for refreshments. Flyers will be sent home to all children in Holy Spirit School and Holy Spirit CCD classes this week. All children who are interested **MUST sign up on Sunday, December 13th** in the 1st grade classroom after the 9 o'clock Mass. There will be a short meeting at that time and a full rehearsal on Wednesday, December 16th at 3:30 pm in the Church. All parishioners are cordially invited to attend this very special event.



If you have any questions, please call Judy Arnold at (908) 964-1365.

**You are cordially invited to attend a very special holiday program:**

### ***A TREE OF REMEMBRANCE DEDICATION***

**On Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Holy Spirit Church, 971 Suburban Road, Union, NJ**

During this program, we will dedicate our holiday tree. Those attending will have the opportunity to personalize ornaments (which we will provide) with the name of the loved one they remember this holiday season. The ornaments will be placed on the tree and remain there during the holiday season.

If you can attend the program, please contact us at (908) 686-4700 or visit the funeral home to placed your ornament on the tree anytime **after** December 16th.



The dedication is complimentary and open to everyone. The Holy Spirit Church was chosen as a place of accommodation and not religious preference. We encourage you to bring family members or friends to this special memorial. **Refreshments will be served in the Holy Spirit Church Hall (which is located to the left of the Church entrance) from 6:15 PM until the time of service.**

***WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL PROGRAM***

Sincerely yours,  
The Staff of McCracken Funeral Home  
Jason M. Oszczakiewicz, Manager

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

**is located at 984 Suburban Road 908-687-3327**

You can reach the Office from the Parking Lot. **(On the Morris Avenue Side)**

**The Office hours are: 8:30 am to 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

In an emergency, or to arrange an appointment with a priest, please call 908 687-3327

**Bulletin Information**—Articles for this church bulletin must be submitted by Tuesday at noon to appear in the following Sunday edition. Articles can be dropped off at the Parish Office or submitted through e-mail at [bulletin@holyspiritunion.org](mailto:bulletin@holyspiritunion.org). As always, articles will be published as space allows