

**PASTORAL TEAM**

Reverend Carmen A. D'Amico  
Reverend Thomas A. Sparacino  
Deacon Reynold Wilmer

**PASTORAL TEAM STAFF**

Sr. Marlene Luffy, CDP, Administrative Assistant  
Brenda Younger, Business Manager

**St. Benedict the Moor Church**

Centre and Crawford Streets, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Parish Office Phone 412-281-3141 – Fax 412-391-7151  
School Office Phone 412-682-3755 – Fax 412-682-4058  
Website: [www.stbenedictthemoor.org](http://www.stbenedictthemoor.org)  
Email: [churchoffice@stbenedictthemoor.org](mailto:churchoffice@stbenedictthemoor.org)

**Parish Staff**

Suzanne Davis, Sunday School Director  
Sr. Margery Kunder, CSJ, School Principal  
Lalla Smalley, Parish Nurse, Outreach Ministry  
Peggy Bullard, A.G.O, Music Ministry  
Antonia Long, Music Ministry  
Priscilla Davis, Receptionist

**Epiphany Catholic Church**

1018 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-3502  
Parish Office Phone 412-471-0257 – Fax 412-471-1345  
McDowell Hall, Fish Fry 412-471-1008  
Website: [www.epiphanychurch.net](http://www.epiphanychurch.net)  
Email: [churchoffice@epiphanychurch.net](mailto:churchoffice@epiphanychurch.net)  
[pastoralcouncil@epiphanychurch.net](mailto:pastoralcouncil@epiphanychurch.net)

**Clergy in Residence**

Reverend Neil McCaulley

**Clergy, Sacramental Ministry**

Reverend John F. Walsh

**Parish Staff**

Lalla Smalley, Parish Nurse, Outreach Ministry  
Dr. John Raevens, Music Ministry  
Greg Fuhrman, Music Ministry

**St. Mary of Mercy Church**

202 Stanwix Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15222-1381  
Parish Office Phone 412-261-0110 – Fax 412-261-0113  
Website: [www.stmaryofmercy.org](http://www.stmaryofmercy.org)  
Email: [services\\_stmaryofmercy@verizon.net](mailto:services_stmaryofmercy@verizon.net)

**Clergy in Residence**

Reverend Ronald P. Lengwin  
Reverend Thomas M. O'Donnell

**Parish Staff**

Lois Elder, Television Ministry Director  
Betty Penny, Social Concerns Outreach Minister  
Dennis Johnson, Music Ministry  
A.R. Valletta, Music Ministry

**LITURGICAL DIRECTORY**

**Weekend/Sunday Mass Schedule**

5:00 p.m. St. Mary of Mercy (Vigil)  
6:00 p.m. Epiphany (Vigil)  
7:30 a.m. St. Mary of Mercy  
8:00 a.m. Epiphany  
9:00 a.m. St. Benedict the Moor  
9:30 a.m. St. Mary of Mercy  
10:00 a.m. Epiphany  
12:00 p.m. St. Benedict the Moor  
12:00 p.m. St. Mary of Mercy  
5:00 p.m. Epiphany

**Weekday Mass Schedule**

**St. Benedict the Moor**

9:15 a.m. Thursday (according to school schedule)

**Epiphany**

7:00 a.m. Wednesday and Friday  
12:05 p.m. Monday through Friday

**St. Mary of Mercy**

6:30 a.m. Monday through Friday  
7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday  
12:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**St. Benedict the Moor**

8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. Sunday

**Epiphany**

11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Monday through Friday  
5:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Saturday

**St. Mary of Mercy**

11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Monday through Saturday  
12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Monday through Saturday

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**St. Benedict the Moor** (1st. Saturday of the month)

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**Epiphany**

Friday, following 12:05 p.m. Mass - 5:00 p.m.

**St. Mary of Mercy**

Tuesday, following 7:30 a.m. Mass - 11:45  
Thursday, following 12:00 p.m. Mass - 5:30 p.m.

**Epiphany**

**Novena** to the Sorrowful Mother  
Fridays following 12:05 Mass  
**Novena** to St. Rita of Cascia  
Mondays following 12:05 Mass

**St. Mary of Mercy**

Miraculous Medal **Novena**  
Mondays 12:30

**St. Benedict the Moor**

**Novena** to St. Benedict the Moor

***We Are All Gifts From God!***

Returning thanks is not just something we do at our Eucharistic liturgy, but something embedded in the daily life of our family.

Hannah reminds us that every child is a gift from God. As parents, we not only give thanks to God for the gift of our children, but we must also give them back to God. Our return gift is not usually a one-time event as it is for Hannah, but a daily handing over of our children to God so that they can grow in body and spirit toward maturity.

Mary and Joseph experience the awakening in their child Jesus to his life's direction. On the brink of adulthood ~ at 12, the Jewish boy celebrates his *bar mitzvah* (becoming "one to whom the commandments apply") ~ Jesus takes responsibility for his vocation as a teacher of God's ways. Although Mary and Joseph do not quite understand what Jesus is up to, their love makes room for him to follow the path that eventually takes him from home and family to the death not far from this same Jerusalem temple.

John's letter recalls that, while we might now be parents ourselves, we still remain children of God. We are all gifts from God, begotten in love and called to give back that love not only to God, but to one another. Following this path, we will become like our Father in heaven.

*~ Living with Christ*



**Year for Priests:** Through the intercession of St. John Vianney, let us pray that our priests be encouraged through the support and love of their congregations. This week we pray for the following priests:

Fr. Michael MacVeigh, Fr. Thaddeus Maida, Fr. Domenic Mancini, Fr. Thomas Manion, Fr. Michael Maranowski, Fr. John Marcucci, Fr. Joseph Markalonis, TOR, Fr. John Markell, Fr. Joseph Mastrangelo, Fr. Nicholas Mastrangelo

*Pray daily for the priests who serve our parish and those who assist them.*

*Pray for vocations to the priesthood and Religious Life.*

***Mass Schedule for New Year's Vigil and New Year's Day***

Friday, January 1st, is the *Feast of Mary, Mother of God* and a Holy Day of Obligation.

Please see your page in this bulletin for the times of Masses.

***Blessings at Christmas***

As we admire and enjoy our beautiful churches with the flowers and decorations during this Christmas Season, we take this time to thank all who have contributed financially to have the churches look so lovely! We thank you for your participation in the Flower Memorials in honor of, or in memory of your loved ones. The significance of their lives is represented in the beauty that adorns our churches throughout this season. We will remember those whose names appear on the Floral Memorial as we pray for them during the Masses offered this season.

***A Word of Gratitude***

We want to thank all those who had their hands in the cleaning and decorating of our churches. We especially thank the maintenance team of the three churches and their helpers for setting the mangers.

We thank the sacristans, the musicians, the Lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers and those who served at the altar. Please know that for all of you, your time, talent and treasure are gifts to the parish and to all who are visiting with us.

***Thank You!***

*The priests and staffs of the parishes wish to thank you for the prayers, cards and other expressions of good wishes received during this Christmas season. May you always feel the love of Christmas in your hearts; that love that God gives us through His son, Jesus.*

*May you have a Blessed and Peace-filled New Year!*

***Readings for the Week of December 27***

- Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28/1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24/  
Lk2:41-52
- Monday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
- Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28



**Christian Mothers**

Christian Mothers, this is a reminder of the Christian Mothers meeting next Sunday, January 3rd, at 10:30 a.m. Hope to see you there!

**Christian Mothers Newsflash!**

Please pick up your "Silent Tea" fundraising package from one of the officers. In addition, items with the Steelers' logo are needed immediately for the "Steelers Basket" to be raffled in January. All proceeds from the fundraisers support the tuition assistance fund for St. Benedict the Moor School.

**School Notes**

School will resume on Monday, January 4, 2010 at the regular time. Please keep our students, families and staff in prayer for a safe and blessed Christmas vacation.

**Blood Drive**

The Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blood Drive for Life will be held on Monday, January 18, 2010 from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at St. Benedict the Moor Church. Give the gift of life. Call Black Catholic Ministries now to pre-register, 412-456-3170.

**Hold the Dates!**

"Black Catholic Leadership Conference: Developing Church Leaders to Serve," April 23-25, 2010, sponsored by the Office for Black Catholic Ministries. Look for more information from the planning committee in the coming weeks.

**Today's Reflection**

Because Jesus did not tell his parents His plans to stay in Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph were distraught and probably felt negligent and guilty. Like the Holy Family, parents today operate with the same deficit because children don't disclose all their plans. Despite the centuries, the problems of parenting are the same.

**~ Happy Birthday ~**

Caroline Kamau, (Dec. 28); Muriel Alim, Myka Joy Lichius, Erica Moody (Dec. 29); Dina Benaiah, Roseann Burwell, Amanda N. Gooden (Dec. 31); Renat Grichang, Conrad Johnson, Leili Kani, Edward Meeks, Jr. Pierre, Nshimyumukiza (Jan. 1)

**MASSSES THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR**

(†) DENOTES DECEASED

**Sunday, December 27**      **Feast of the Holy Family**  
 9:00 a.m.      The unborn, elderly, handicapped and all causes of life  
 12:00 p.m.      Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
                          Intention of donor

**Sunday, January 3**      **Feast of the Epiphany**  
 9:00 a.m.      Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
                          Intention of donor  
 12:00 p.m.      Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
                          Intention of donor

**Mass Schedule for the Holy Day**

**New Year's Vigil**  
 Thursday, Dec. 31,  
 6:30 p.m.

**New Year's Day**  
 Friday, Jan. 1,  
 9:00 a.m.

**Tax-Free Gifts From IRAs**

Congress recently amended the Internal Revenue Code to allow people over 70½ to make completely tax-free charitable contributions of assets invested in Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). The new law benefits IRA owners who are 70½ years of age or older at the time of their gift, but only for the tax year ending December 31, 2009. St. Benedict the Moor School is an eligible recipient. For more information, call the school or the diocese at 412-456-3055.

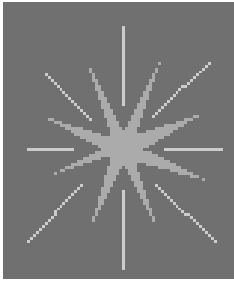
**Pray for Our Sick and Hospitalized**

The following requests our prayers: Dorothy Brisbane, James Burwell, Priscilla Charles, Lydia Francis, Brenda Glenn, Ruth Haston, Florence Hester, Elouise Humphrey, Joyce Johnson, Theresa Lewis, Nathaniel McKenzie, Betty Muse, Josephine O'Connor, Alan Stewart, Lucretia Tabb, Barbara Tucker, Adelaide Wilson.

**Last Week's Stewardship**

9:00 a.m.....	\$2,503.00
12:00 p.m.....	\$1,399.00
Mail-ins .....	\$110.00

**Thank you!**



*Masses for the Holy Day*

*New Year's Eve, Vigil  
6:00 p.m.*

*New Year's Day  
10:00 a.m.*

***Feast of the Epiphany***

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Epiphany and our parish will celebrate at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We have invited Bishop McDowell to be the main celebrant and homilist. After Mass you are invited to a continental breakfast in McDowell Hall. We hope you will make plans to attend.

***Parish Share Program***

We want to thank all of our parishioners for your generous response to this year's Parish Share Goal. We have reached our goal of \$30,000! Your commitment to the Church and the many ministries of the Diocese is truly inspirational. If you haven't yet made your contribution you can still do so; any funds collected at this point will remain here in the parish. Thank you!

***Interested, Anyone?***

Epiphany is seeking a few people (men or women) who would be interested in assisting the priests by helping with wedding rehearsals. The rehearsals are usually Friday (early) evenings; a training session will be held. Call Lalla if interested, 412-471-0257, x11.

***Sanctuary Lamp***

During the weeks of **December 27** and **January 3**, the 14-day Sanctuary Candle will burn **in memory of Beau, Celeste & Cavan Gable, requested by Maury & Anne Gable.**

***Monthly Remembrance***

The altar wine and hosts to be consecrated during the Masses for the month of **December** will be offered in remembrance of **Margaret DeCort, deceased, requested by the Family.** For the month of **January**, for the **living & deceased members of Pawlak & Burrell Families** requested by **Mary Burrell.**

***Pray for the Sick, Homebound and Hospitalized***

We ask you to remember the following in your prayers ~ Mary Barry, Virginia Chiappetta, Dee DiPofi, Chrystil Dougherty, Margaret Hagan, Karen Kraeer, Vince Lusardi, Carmella Magnelli, Nancy Meinert, K. Prosser, Joe Schramm, Mary Beth Starosielec, Jodi Stebler, Dan Simsick.

**MASSSES THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY**

(†) DENOTES DECEASED

**Saturday, December 26** **St. Stephen**  
6:00 p.m. Nellie & Irven Anisko †  
M/M Robert Anisko

**Sunday, December 27** **Feast of the Holy Family**  
8:00 a.m. Sr. Margaret Cecilia Hirsh † (Anniv)  
Michele Fagan  
10:00 a.m. Patricia Tunney † Daniel & Joyce Murphy  
5:00 p.m. Robert W. Wisdom † (Anniv)  
Robert S. Wisdom

**Monday, December 28** **Feast of Holy Innocents**  
12:05 p.m. DiPofi Family by Dolores DiPofi

**Tuesday, December 29** **St. Thomas Becket**  
12:05 p.m. Deceased of the Fagan Family †  
Michele Fagan

**Wednesday, December 30** **Octave of Christmas**  
7:00 a.m. Nickolaus Marquart † (Anniv)  
12:05 p.m. Anthony Francis † (B/Day)  
Francis & Rosalie Francis

**Thursday, December 31** **St. Sylvester**  
6:00 p.m. Frank Smutsky † M/M John E. Ridilla

**Friday, January 1** **Mary, Mother of God**  
10:00 a.m. For the people of Epiphany Parish

**Saturday, January 2** **St. Basil the Great  
St. Gregory Nazianzen**  
6:00 p.m. For the people of Epiphany Parish

**Sunday, January 3** **Epiphany of the Lord**  
8:00 a.m. For the people of Epiphany Parish  
10:00 a.m. Begandy, Waddell & Gorra Families †  
Gene & Linda Begandy  
5:00 p.m. Fr. George T. Leech † Friends

***Please pick up the Floral Memorial listing  
on the tables in the church.***

**Last Week's Stewardship**

1st Collection ..... \$ 949.00  
2nd Collection (maintenance) ..... \$1,329.00

**Thank you!**



*Masses for the Holy Day*

*New Year's Eve, Vigil  
5:00 p.m.*

*New Year's Day  
12:00 noon*

***St. Mary of Mercy Food Drive***

St. Mary of Mercy Food Pantry is in urgent need of canned goods and baked goods to give to the needy families who come to our door. You may bring your donations to the Parish Office **this week Monday thru Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** Next week you may bring the items all week from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. You may also place your items daily inside the church at the communion rail and they will be collected. If you have questions, call Betty at 412-261-0110.

***Begin the New Year With a Prayer for Peace***

Join the Benedictine Sisters for a Prayer Vigil for Peace On Thursday, December 31. Come for Vespers, 4:30 pm. Dinner (simple supper a 5:00 p.m.) or just come at 6:30 pm for the prayer service and speaker, Sr. Jeannette Bussen, CSJ. If you choose to come for dinner, please call for reservations at 412-931-2844.

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!***

Our Lady of the Angels Adult Choir, under the direction of Chrissy Jankowski, will host the annual Christmas concert on Sunday, January 3, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. in St. Augustine Church on 37th. St. the concert is free. For more information, call 412-682-0929.

***Class Reunion, Sacred Heart***

The Class of 1960 from Sacred Heart High School, Shadyside, is planning a reunion on Saturday, Sept. 18. Any interested graduates of the class should call 412-373-0343 or 412-823-5570.

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***Reminder: the Mass Book of intentions is now open.  
Please call the office or stop in to request your  
Mass intentions for 2010.***

**Last Week's Stewardship**

Offertory.....\$1,683.00  
Parish Share.....\$210.00

**Thank you!**

**MASSES THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY OF MERCY**

**Saturday, December 26** **St. Stephen**  
12:00 p.m. William McEllicott, deceased  
Charles J. McEllicott  
5:00 p.m. Elias Hakim, deceased by D. J. Mariano

**Sunday, December 27** **Feast of the Holy Family**  
7:30 a.m. Mass for the people  
9:30 a.m. Alex & Anna Gerwell by Gerwell Family  
12:00 p.m. John Korbe by Lillian Korbe

**Monday, December 28** **Feast of Holy Innocents**  
6:30 a.m. John E. Ashton  
by Mary M. Mitchel & Family  
7:30 a.m. Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
Intention of donor  
12:00 p.m. Anna Gerwell, deceased  
by Gerwell Family

**Tuesday, December 29** **St. Thomas Becket**  
6:30 a.m. Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
Intention of donor  
7:30 a.m. Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
Intention of donor  
12:00 p.m. Mary Rumancik by Mary Ann

**Wednesday, December 30** **Octave of Christmas**  
6:30 a.m. John R. Wargo by Filetei Family  
7:30 a.m. Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
Intention of donor  
12:00 p.m. Thomas Stosich by Daughter, Ann

**Thursday, December 31** **St. Sylvester**  
12:00 p.m. Rev. Leo Vanyo Estate  
5:00 a.m. Mass for the people

**Friday, January 1** **Mary, Mother of God**  
12:00 p.m. Mass for the people

**Saturday, January 2** **St. Basil the Great  
St. Gregory Nazianzen**  
12:00 p.m. Mass for the people  
5:00 p.m. David C. Evans by Carole Clifford

**Sunday, January 3** **Feast of the Epiphany**  
7:30 a.m. Mass for the people  
9:30 a.m. Betrose & Petrica Families  
by Loretta Petrica  
12:00 p.m. Mike Bianco, deceased  
by Oliverio Family

**SACRAMENTAL MINISTRIES**

**Infant Baptism:** To schedule, call Deacon Reynold Wilmer, 412-281-3141, x 5.

**Adult Baptism and Children (RCIA):** Call Deacon Reynold Wilmer.

**Reconciliation (Confession):** See the Directory for the schedule or call for an appointment.

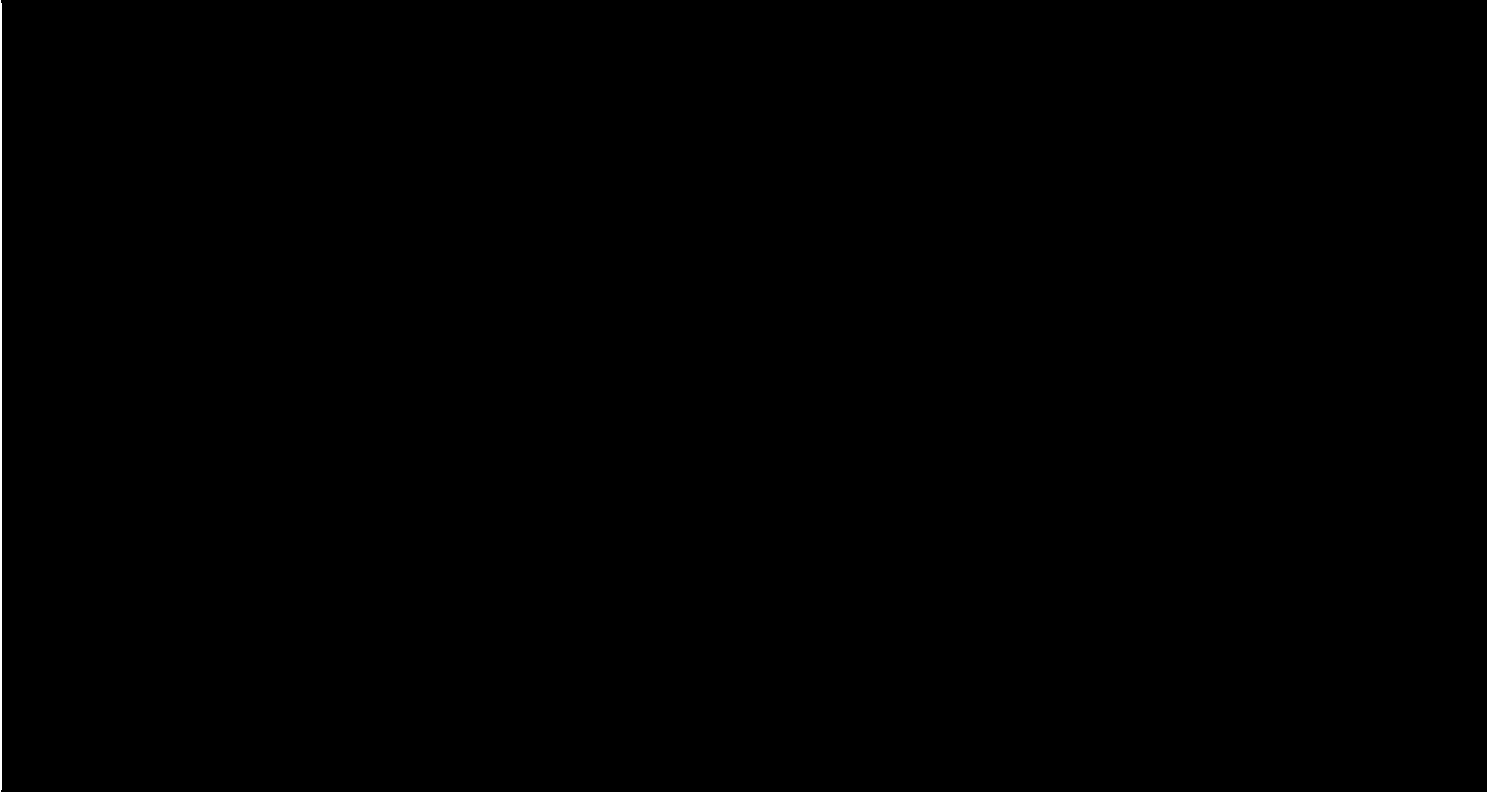
**Holy Eucharist and Anointing of the Sick:** For those who are sick and confined to home or those who are seriously ill, call the Parish Office for a priest to visit.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Couples planning to marry are to contact our Deacon at least six months before the desired date. Marriage preparation is required.

**Religious Vocations:** If you feel called to the Diocesan Priesthood or Religious Life, contact Fr. Carmen, Fr. Tom or Sr. Marlene.

**Inactive Catholics** are warmly welcomed back to our Faith. Call the Parish Office.

**New parishioners** are invited to join our Catholic community. Call the Parish Office.



**Pastoral Council Chairs**

Janice Simmons, St. Benedict the Moor Church  
Arlene Gallagher, Sue Pavick, Epiphany Church  
Interim Pastoral Council, St. Mary of Mercy Church

**Business Office Hours**

St. Benedict the Moor Church  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Epiphany Catholic Church  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
St. Mary of Mercy Church  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

***The Center City Parishes Membership Form***

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE:  New Registration  Change of Address  
 Moving Out of Parish  Need Envelopes

CHECK ONE:  
 St. Benedict the Moor  
 Epiphany  
 St. Mary of Mercy

Please drop membership form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory.

Note: Use of this form does not automatically register you with the church. You will be contacted to arrange an appointment. Thank you.

**CHURCH NAME: CENTER CITY PARISHES**

**CHURCH NO.: 042**

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

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Any special instructions go here.

We do not proofread pages 2 and 7. Please let us know if changes are ever made to these two pages.