

The Ascension Weekly

December 17, 2017

Christmas Party at the Rectory: Spreading Good Cheer!

On Sunday, December 10th, Fr. Larry Young opened the rectory to one and all for Ascension's second annual Christmas party for parishioners. Guests began arriving after the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass ended, each carrying a main dish, drinks or dessert in keeping with the potluck theme. It was a festive evening, and in spite of the inclement weather warnings that had been issued throughout the day, around sixty parishioners stopped in. Twinkling Christmas lights and ribboned wreaths greeted all who approached, and once inside, the warm, cheery atmosphere was a nice relief from the cold, with beautiful Christmas decorations everywhere, three or four large Christmas trees all around, a warm fire flickering in the fireplace, Christmas music playing both on the main floor and the basement, and delicious smells wafting out from the large platters laid out on the banquet tables. One of the highlights of the evening was parishioner Steve Johnson's braised beef brisket on a bed of dirty rice; it was the tastiest, most tender cut of meat you've ever had, according to one of the guests who sampled the dish, and it was eaten up quickly. Staff member Enriquita Sarita-Davis made delicious fresh spring rolls, also a hit, and Marysanta Bigony brought a tasty spring garden berry salad with a variety of dressings. The various pasta dishes and salads were delicious. There was also a delectable offering of desserts, such as a big vanilla sheet cake brought in by Dr. Francis Kelly, a rum cake, and lots of cookies and brownies. Parishioners enjoyed their meals while sharing in good conversation, catching up with old friends and making new ones. Partway through the evening, a surprise birthday cake was presented to Cynthia Moneke, one of our youth group teens who was

helping out at the event, and everyone came over to sing her birthday greetings. Outside, a light snow was falling the entire time, so that the parish grounds were blanketed in white by the time most people left at around 7:30 or 8:00 pm. It was very picturesque and a perfect ending to a wonderful evening.

Senior Happenings in December



Exploring the Nazareth of Bible times.

Our Ascension Parish Seniors Club has been having an eventful month so far! On December 5th, the seniors took a field trip to the newly opened Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. It was an awe-inspiring and memorable visit, with so much to take in and to discover, including a guided tour through the world of Jesus of Nazareth, an immersive walk-through experience, and the highly detailed Vatican Library display, among many other exhibits. Eight of our seniors attended the trip, thanks to the efforts of members Bob Rapczynski and Charlie Aquilina, who secured tickets for the group. Everyone enjoyed the trip and highly recommended the visit to all.

Also, on Tuesday, December 12th, the Seniors Club held their annual Christmas potluck luncheon in Bates Hall. It was an enjoyable get-together with warm fellowship and a delicious spread of ham, chicken, green beans, salad and all kinds of dessert. The luncheon replaces the monthly Seniors Club outing, which will resume in January.

