

December 23, 2018
 Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
 — Luke 1:42

A Note from Fr. Conoboy

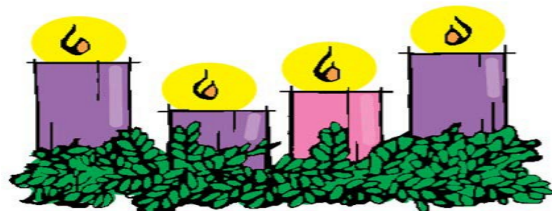
Dear Parishioners,
Christ is Born! Glorify him! Merry Christmas!
 This week we celebrate Jesus' Birth. It is the event that made visible to the world the fulfillment of all of our desires.
 And, of course, the world is still in need of grace and mercy. We are still in need of Christ to be born into our world. We are still in need of light in the darkness of our fears and doubts.
 In Christ is the fulfillment of the promise given to us in Numbers 24:17, "A star shall arise from Jacob and from the roots of Israel shall spring a royal scepter."
 As we prepare for Christmas, here is an excerpt from the poem "Christmas Star":
 "Among them, unseen until now,
 More dimly lit than and oil lamp
 Hung in a watchman's window,
 A Star shone in the road to Bethlehem.

It rose in the sky like a haystack aflame,
 Of fiery straw and thatch.
 All creation shuddered in awe,
 Astonished by this new Star.

Its scarlet nimbus grew wider and deeper--
 A portent for all to see;
 Three stargazers saw the blaze from afar;
 They hurried after its beckoning light."

I pray that all of us keep our eyes and desires fixed on Jesus alone and hurry after the beckoning Light!
 God bless you,
 Fr. Shawn Conoboy

--Christmas
 Christmas Eve: Mass at 4 pm and 10 pm
 Christmas Day: Mass at 10 am
 -Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)
 Mass: December 31 at 5:30 pm and January 1 at 10 am



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Mass Intentions For The Week

Saturday, December 22
 4:00 pm +Elio Carocci-Louise & Family
Sunday, December 23, Fourth Sunday of Advent
 8:00 am Parishioners
 11:00 am +John Gams-John Hildack Family
Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve
 4:00 pm Parishioners
 10:00 pm Parishioners
Tuesday, December 25 Christmas
 10:00 am Parishioners
Wednesday, December 26
 8:00 am NO MASS
Thursday, December 27
 8:00 am NO MASS
Friday, December 28
 8:00 am NO MASS
Saturday, December 29
 4:00 pm +Deceased of the Johnson Family-Robert & Veronica Johnson
Sunday, December 30, Feast of the Holy Family
 8:00 am Parishioners
 11:00 am +Margie Spain-George Spain

Liturgy Schedule December 29 & 30

	4 P.M.	8 A.M.	11 A.M.
Reader 1	L. Moore	J. Smeiles	D. Bjelac
Reader 2	B. Pittman	P. Benetis	A. Sembach
Host	T. Pittman	J. Thiry	F. Falkman

A handicapped restroom is located in the Priest's Sacristy

For our Sick

Let us pray this week for: All Shut-ins and Homebound, those in the hospital and also for: Evelyn Ballas, Gabe Ballas, Rita Totta, Tom Fetock, Lisa Fraelich, Grace Brackin, Jeanne Sherlock, Cathy Kovac, Jane Brasko, Bob "Buckskin" Davis, Helen Surick, John Surick, Frank Deangelo, Sharon Henning, Ben Elser, John Spisak, Louise Carocci, Mary Lou Sheller, Ashley Moore, Monica Holliday, Bob Cabosky, Timothy Broderick, Ken McGregor, Kathy Keith, Marty Politsky, and Walter Grondeski.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).
Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).
Second Reading — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).
Gospel — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).
The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved

MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Monday: Vigil of Christmas
 Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Wednesday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa
 Thursday: St. John
 Friday: The Holy Innocents
 Saturday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket

Ladies' Guild

Thank you to all who participated in the Ladies' Guild basket raffle for their scholarship. We would like to congratulate the winner of the December basket, Linda Guinaugh!

The Church offices will be closed Dec. 24th, 25th, & 26th. We will reopen Dec. 27th normal hours. Merry Christmas!

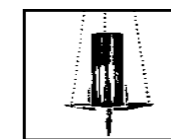


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The Collection for December 15 & 16
\$3,492.00

Stewardship- "For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)
 When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive bystanders.



The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Mary & St. Joseph is burning for: Parishioners



Please, pray for all members serving in our Armed Forces. May God watch over them and grant that they may return home safely and soon:

A Prayer for those in the Military
 Almighty God, We stand before you in supplication,
 Asking Your Divine mercy and protection,
 To envelop with Your invincible armor,
 Our loved ones in all branches of the service.
 Give them courage and strength.
 Against all enemies, Both spiritual and physical,
 And hasten their safe journey,
 Back to their homes and families.
 If it be Your Holy Will That they be gathered to Your bosom,
 With the eternal vanguard of the saints,
 Let their journey to Your everlasting arms.
 Be swift and painless,
 Where they may stand in honor and glory,
 Praising You for all eternity. Amen

Food Pantry

We served 125 residents and along with a box of food they received a slice of ham, bacon, pork chops, milk, bread, butter, eggs, potatoes, onions, carrots, apples, and cabbage. They were very appreciative. We couldn't have done it without you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS



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