



For the One who carved the islands / has come to live among us,
And this is the house He has cho-

GREETERS AND SERVERS—NEXT WEEK
DEC. 30/31, 2017

REMINDER: Servers and Greeters, not Parish staff, are responsible for finding a substitute once a schedule is disseminated. Thanks.

ALTAR SERVERS

SAT 9:00 am: Spanish Assigned
SAT. 5:30 pm: Edward Carder
SUN. 8:15 am: Travis & Elena McConachie
SUN. 11:00 am: Maggie Anderson

GREETERS

SAT. 8:45 am: Carmen Boling
SAT. 5:30 pm: Richard and Judi Smith
SUN. 8:15 am: Terry and Diana Logue
SUN. 11:00 am: Kathie Ryan and Nancy McGillis

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 9:00 AM: (HISPANIC): **For the special intentions of the Hispanic Community of St. Mary Star of the Sea.**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 5:30 PM: **In remembrance of all the names included on the envelopes which have been placed on altar and in appreciation for the gifts of the flowers that decorate the altar at this time.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 8:15 AM: **For the repose of the soul of Alva Brower**, as requested by his Princess.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 11:00 AM: **For repose of the soul of Friedel and Heinz Osterfeld** as requested by their friend Maria Bower Stewart.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5:30 PM: **For the homeless, the refugees, and those lacking life's necessities.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 10:00 PM: **For the intentions of the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea.**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 10:00 AM: **For the intentions of the parishioners of St. Mary Star of the Sea.**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 6:30 PM: **That the Holy Family might bring peace and harmony to our families.**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 12:05 PM: **For the healing of Roger Raymond the nephew of Tom and Dolores Neal and help for his family**, as requested by Tom and Dolores Neal.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 12:05 PM: **For the repose of the soul of Tony Richardson and the consolation of his family**, as requested by the Bereavement Support Ministry.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 am: MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

ST. STEPHEN

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

12:05 pm: **COMMUNION SERVICE**

3:00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet--Church

6:00 pm: Choir Practice--Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

ST. JOHN

3:00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet--Church

6:00 pm: **CONFESSIONS**

6:30 pm: **MASS**

7:00 pm: RCIA--Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

THE HOLY INNOCENTS

11:30 am: **CONFESSIONS**

12:05 pm: **MASS**

1:00 pm: St. Vincent de Paul Meeting--Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

11:30 am: **CONFESSIONS**

12:05 pm: **MASS**

1:00 pm: *Adoration--Church*

3:00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet--Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

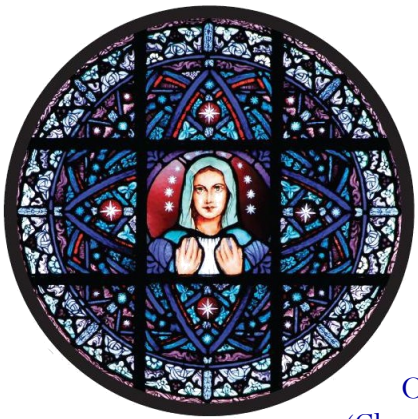
9:00 am: Spanish Mass

10:00 am: Spanish--Hall

4:30 pm: Rosary

4:30 pm: **CONFESSIONS**

5:30 pm: **MASS**



St. Mary Star of the Sea
Catholic Church

Father Peter Adoko-Enchill

Reverend Deacon Bill Swanson

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
(Closed Monday, Thursday and Friday from 12:00-12:30 pm)



The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23/24, 2017

CHRISTMAS

FOR ONTO
US A
CHILD IS
BORN,
ONTO US
A SON IS
GIVEN,
AND THE
GOVERNMENT
SHALL
BE UPON
HIS
SHOULDERS



AND HIS
NAME
SHALL
BE CALLED
WONDERFUL,
COUNSELLOR,
THE MIGHTY
GOD, THE
EVERLASTING
FATHER,
THE
PRINCE OF
PEACE.

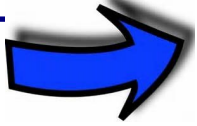
BLESSINGS

Readings for the Week...

MONDAY Isaiah 9:1-6 Psalms 96:1-3, 11-13 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14	TUESDAY Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Judith 31:3-4, 6, 8, 17 Matthew 10:17-22	WEDNESDAY: 1 John 1:1-4 Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 John 20:1-8	THURSDAY: 1 John 1:5--2:2 Psalms 124:2-5, 7-8 Matthew 2:13-18	FRIDAY: 1 John 2:3-11 Psalms 96:1-3, 5-6 Luke 2:22-35	SATURDAY: 1 John 2:12-17 Psalms 96:7-10 Luke 2:36-40	SUNDAY: Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14 Psalms 128:1-5 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:22-40
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“OUR MISSION IS TO...

**CELEBRATE GOD’S PRESENCE IN OUR MIDST BY MASS, SACRAMENTS, AND PRAYER;
LIVE CHRIST’S LOVE BY SERVING OTHERS, ESPECIALLY THE POOR, NEGLECTED, AND SUFFERING;
GROW IN THE TRUTHS AND VALUES OF OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION, TEACH THEM TO OUR CHILDREN, AND
PROCLAIM THEM TO THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW THEM.”**





**FROM THE DESK OF
FATHER PETER
ADOKO-ENCHILL...**

Christmas in Ghana

Christmas is a joyful season in Ghana as it is in many places. It is celebrated in two fashions; spiritually and socially. Many people travel from their places of work in the cities and towns to their home-villages and towns to celebrate with their relatives and friends. It is a special time when people buy new clothes and sew new dresses meant for Church activities.

If December 24th falls on a working day in the week, workers close from work at noon. That is the beginning of the Christmas holidays, and it ends on December 26th. Work begins again on the 27th till 31st noon. Some institutions do not resume work after the 24th break till the new year, January 2nd. On the eve of Christmas, Churches are filled to capacity. People go to Church to thank God for the gift of life. Even those who have not been to Church for the whole year will be found in Church.

In many Churches, they begin the celebrations with carols sung by the singing groups in the Church. Some churches have two or three singing groups with the number not less than twenty. Sometimes too, the youth dramatize the birth of Christ. Normally, activities start at 8:00 pm and end some time after midnight. Sometimes, some of the singing groups sing Christmas songs through the town or village after the midnight mass.

In the morning, that is, the Christmas day, there is mass, and most of the time there is only one mass. After mass people prepare their favorite dishes and enjoy them with their relatives. People send gifts to their friends and loved ones. Some of the gifts are comprised of cooked good, cakes, bread, and live chickens.

In actual fact, the celebration is a whole week affair, from December 24th to January 1st. In the course of the week, societies in the Church organize picnics and parties, and the youth also have games.

Fr. Peter



**(Christmas is a Holy Day of Obligation.
Attendance at one of these Masses will fulfil this
requirement for you.)**

Christmas Eve Masses:

Sunday, December 24, 5:30 pm (Family Mass-
Bilingual)

INCENSE WILL BE USED AT THIS MASS

Sunday, December 24, 10:00 pm
Solemn Mass of Christmas Eve

INCENSE WILL BE USED AT THIS MASS

Christmas Day Mass: The Nativity of Our Lord

Monday, December 25, 10:00 am

INCENSE WILL BE USED AT THIS MASS.



THE HOLY INNOCENTS

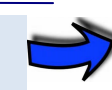
The Feast of the Holy Innocents is Thursday, December 28. Please remember the unborn and those suffering from the sadness of abortion in your prayers this holy season.

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE**

SÁBADO MISA EN ESPAÑOL	9:00 am
SATURDAY VIGIL	5:30 pm
SUNDAY	8:15 am & 11:00 am
MONDAY	12:05 pm
TUESDAY ** COMMUNION SERVICE	12:05 pm
WEDNESDAY	6:30 pm
THURSDAY	12:05 pm
FRIDAY	12:05 pm

(CONFESSIONS 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO EACH MASS)

***Mass times are subject to change during the year. Please consult the Weekly Calendar on the last page of this bulletin for the specific schedule of Masses for the week.*



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Week of 12/17/2017

Week #25

Week / Semana

Actual / Colecta Real	\$ 16,826.98
Budgeted / Presupuesto	\$ 7,382.49
	\$ 9,444.49
Year to Date / Año Corrido	
Actual / Colecta Real	\$ 187,023.02
Budgeted / Presupuesto	\$ 184,562.25
	\$ 2,460.77



COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

There will not be a coffee hour after any of the Masses this weekend.

**HOLIDAY
CLOSING
NOTICE**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE
SCHEDULE**

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on the following days due to the holidays:

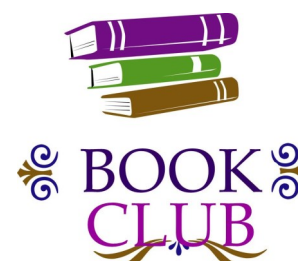
Monday, December 25,
Tuesday, December 26,
Monday, January 1,

Please check the bulletin for Mass times and other weekly schedules.



BULLETIN DEADLINE

Submissions for the bulletin for the week of December 25, must be received by the Parish Office by Wednesday, December 27 at noon due to the short week.



BOOK CLUB MEETING

St. Mary's Book Club will meet on Friday, January 5, in Room 6 at 1:00 pm. The fascinating book for discussion will be "Bad Religion (How We Became a Nation of Heretics)", by Ross Douthat. The reviewer will be Marian Meany. All are welcome!



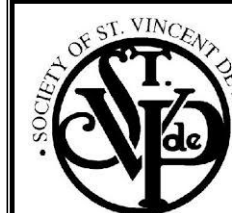
**A Blessed
and Joyous
Christmas**

The staff of St. Mary's wish all the members of the parish and all of our visitors a most blessed, joyous and happy Christmas. A child came into the world about 2,000 years ago and the world has not been the same since. Our Parish come into the world a little over a hundred and fifty years ago and the world hasn't been the same since either... Thank you all for making St. Mary's a very special parish indeed!



**A NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE
BEHIND-THE-SCENES-ANGELS**

The Angels behind the Angel Tree -- those who did the Excel spread sheets, the organizing, the calling and the everything else in between--wish to express their thanks once again for your generous spirits this Christmas season. Without you they wouldn't have a job... *They send an early reminder too that it is only 365 days until next Christmas so think of being an Angel's Helper next year! No prior experience is necessary and on the job training is provided.*



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY**

Our regular first Sunday Collection for our St. Vincent de Paul Society will be taken up at all Masses next weekend, January 6/7, 2018. Your generosity insures that the least among us are not forgotten.