

DECEMBER 25/27, 2015
CHRISTMAS & HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



Monday, December 28, 7:30 am
Tom Longo

Tuesday, December 29, 7:30 am
People Of The Parish

Thursday, December 31, 7:30 am
People Of The Parish

Friday, January 1, New Year's Day
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother Of God
People Of The Parish

Saturday, January 2
5:00 pm Peter Plishka

Sunday, January 3
7:30 am MaryAnn McHugh
9:00 am Linda Donnelly
10:30 am Jack Cavanaugh
Maureen Accinni
12:00 pm Edward Barbieri

Celebrant Schedule – January 2-3
5:00 pm Fr. Mark
7:30 am Fr. Mark
9:00 am Fr. Mark
10:30 am Fr. Peter
12:00 pm Fr. Peter

*The parish offices will be closed, Thursday & Friday,
December 31st & January 1st in observance of the New Year holiday.*

SHARING OF OUR TREASURE

Thank you for your support and generosity!

The Christmas collection, December 27th and January 3rd collections will be posted in the January 10th bulletin. This is due to a reduced holiday printing schedule by Bon Venture Bulletin Company.

*All contributions for the year 2015 must be received by
Thursday, December 31, 2015
for the amount to be included in your Income Tax Statement.*

Heartfelt Thanks to:

*Concurso's Garden Center and
Gardens of The World
for the beautiful Christmas decorations.
May God continue to bless you.*

2016 Calendars

*Donated by:
Parsippany Funeral Service, Lake Hiawatha;
Keri Memorial Funeral Home, Lincoln Park;
Available in the vestibule of the Church*

MINISTRY NEWS

ROSARY SOCIETY

Please join us on **January 6th at 1 pm** at the Ministry House for a regular meeting. Please join us on Sunday mornings after the 9:00 am Mass in the Cry Room to pray the Rosary. For more information on the Rosary Society please call Stephanie Travers at 973-227-4197.

CARING CRAFTERS

The next meeting of the knitters and crocheters will be held on **Tuesday, January 5th at 9:00 am** at the Ministry House. What do we do? We use our talents primarily to craft hats and scarves to provide comfort and support to chemotherapy patients. We also assist and donate to other charitable causes and their needs. For more information, call Barbara Sanders at 973-334-6884.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Next Meeting – Monday, January 4th at 8:00 pm in the Knights of Columbus Room. Visit our website at: <http://StPiusxKofC.org/>.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Ron Owens, Bereavement Facilitator. **Bereavement Meeting Wednesday, January 20th, 7-9 pm, Ministry House.** For special requests, please call 973-335-2894, Ext. 123.

PRAYER GROUP

St. Pius X Spirit of Love Prayer Group meets semi-monthly on the **second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 12:45 pm in the Chapel at the Ministry House.** What do we do? We offer prayers for our parish family including those listed in the bulletin and for the petitions written in the Book of Intentions in the Deacon David Library.

BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for Bible Study on **Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm** at the Ministry House. Our topic will be The Acts of the Apostles. All are invited to attend! *Please note, there will be no Bible Study on December 29th, due to the Christmas Holiday.*

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is the process the Roman Catholic Church has for the introduction of the faith and the formation of new adult members. During the year process, the candidates will learn about their spiritual path in Christ culminating at the Easter Vigil. If you are an adult seeking Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist, please contact Peter O'Brien at the Ministry House.

Prayer Memorials 2016 Mass Book

The 2016 Mass Book is available. The Graces of the Mass and the Blessings of Prayer are infinite. The Eucharist is offered for ALL of the faithful departed at each celebration. A memorial gift or offering allows a special acknowledgment which goes to God's work on earth as we honor those now with the Lord.

Christmas Wish List

There is only one thing I'm hoping for Christmas. That is someone or a group of people from our parish family would be interested in memorializing a tapestry as seen below. This will be on the large wall in the Narthex and enhance our space with the imagery of the Last Supper. The cost is \$7,500 and there are 5 individual panels. If anyone is interested in fulfilling this Christmas Wish List, please call the Ministry House or see me personally.

*Peace & Blessings,
Fr. Mark*



Keep Christmas In Your Heart

It isn't pine and holly that makes it
Christmas Day.
It isn't all the tinsel or the gifts we give
away.
It isn't lighted Christmas trees that make
the season bright.
What really makes it Christmas, is the
Hope Christ came to bring.
The peace on earth, good will to all
of which the angels sing . . .
So may you know the love and peace of
feeling Jesus near,
Keeping Christmas in your heart each day
through the year.

I pray that . . . you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe . . .

Ephesians 1:18-19

*Peace & Blessings,
Fr. Mark*

A Year Of Mercy

On April 11, 2015, Pope Francis announced "An extraordinary jubilee, a Holy Year of Mercy that is to have God's mercy at it's center (Miserecordiae Vultus) from December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016. He wants us to live this Holy Year in the light of the Lord's words: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36).

"Thus Merciful like the Father is the motto of this Holy Year. In mercy, we find proof of how God loves us. He gives his entire self, always, freely, asking nothing in return. He comes to our aid whenever we call upon him." During this jubilee year, Pope Francis encourages us "to contemplate constantly the mystery of mercy" and "rediscover and make fruitful God's mercy, with which all of us are called to give consolation of every man and woman of our time."

A Prayer For The Year Of Mercy

*Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us
to be merciful like the heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees you sees God.
show us your face and we will be saved.
you are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power
above all by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the world.
Send your Spirit and consecrate
every one of us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy
may be a year of grace from the Lord,
and your church, with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind. Amen.*



Mother Teresa

*"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you . . .
yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother
and offer him your hand."*

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

Christmas held special meaning for Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, who once said that her work with the poor began on Christmas Day in 1948.

A priest had come to India to spend the holiday with Mother Teresa. While he was visiting, there was a knock at the door. When the sisters opened the door, they found a small basket on the doorstep. Perhaps it is a benefactor donating food for Christmas, one sister exclaimed. But when Mother Teresa opened the basket, she began to smile, "Jesus has arrived." In the basket was a sleeping baby boy, left to be cared for by the sisters. Mother Teresa picked the infant up, "Look, now we can say that our Christmas is complete. Baby Jesus has come to us. We must thank God for this wonderful gift."

Feast Of The Holy Family We Are God's Family

Reflection by Henri Nouwen

"Jesus came to share his identity with you and to tell you that you are the beloved sons and daughters of God. Just for a moment try to enter this enormous mystery, that you, like Jesus, are the beloved daughter or the beloved son of God. This is the truth.

Furthermore, your belovedness preceded your birth. You were the beloved before your father, mother, brother, sister or Church loved you or hurt you. You are the beloved because you belong to God from all eternity.

God loved you before you were born, and God will love you after you die. In Scripture, God says, 'I have loved you with an everlasting love.' This is a very fundamental truth of your identity. This is who you are whether you feel it or not. You belong to God from eternity to eternity. Life is the opportunity to say, 'I love you, too.'

Youth Ministry Christmas Wreath Sale & Santa Breakfast

Thank you to Roe Brush for her continued service in making our Annual Advent Wreath Sale such a success! Thank you also to all those who served at the Santa Breakfast!

January

- 3 – 9th Grade Confirmation Class
- 8 – Eric Johnson House
- 10 – 10th Grade Confirmation Class
- 12 – Homeless Solutions
- 17 – 9th Grade Confirmation Class
- 24 – 10th Grade Confirmation Class
- 31 – 9th Grade Confirmation Class

February

- 7 – 10th Grade Confirmation Class
- 9 – Homeless Solutions
- 12 – Eric Johnson House
- 21 – 9th Grade Confirmation Class
- 26-27 – Antioch
- 28 – 10th Grade Confirmation Class

Saint Pius X School He Has Shared Our Journey

Jesus has entered our history; he has shared our journey. He came to free us from darkness and to grant us light. In him was revealed the grace, the mercy, and the tender love of the Father: Jesus is Love incarnate. He is not simply a teacher of wisdom; he is not an ideal for which we strive while knowing that we are hopelessly distant from it. He is the meaning of life and history, who has pitched his tent in our midst.

Religious Formation

Schedule of Classes for January 3, 2016

Glory Middle School –

Grades 6, 7, 8 – 7:30 am Mass; Class 8:15 – 9:30 am

Glory Elementary School –

Grades 1 – 5 – 9:00 am Mass; Class 10:00 – 11:00 am

Confirmation –

Grades 9 – 12:00 pm Mass; Class 1-2:00 pm

Schedule of Classes for January 10, 2016

Praise Middle School –

Grades 6, 7, 8 – 7:30 am Mass; Class 8:15 – 9:30 am

Praise Elementary School –

Grades 1, 4, 5 – 9:00 am Mass; Class 10:00 – 11:00 am

Grades 2 & 3 – 10:30 am Mass; Class 11:30 -12:30 pm

Confirmation –

Grade 10 – 12:00 pm Mass; Class 1-2:00 pm

All Second Grade Parents & Teachers

First Eucharist Retreat—Weekend of March 5th & 6th

Please send permission forms to the Ministry House.

First Eucharist Parent Meetings

Praise, Sunday, January 10th, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Glory, Sunday, January 17th, 10-11:00 am

Knights of Columbus Room

The purpose of this meeting is instruction, education and spiritual renewal. *Parents must attend one of these meetings.*

All 9th Grade Students, Parents & Teachers

9th Grade Retreat—Sunday, January 17th, for classes 9A, 9B, 9C. Sunday, January 31st, for classes 9D, 9E, 9F. The retreat will begin in the Parish Center at 9 am and conclude in Church with the 12 pm Mass. Please return permission forms to the Ministry House.



Praying for fellow parishioners who are sick is an important component to our Faith. Due to privacy issues, however, people do not always appreciate their names being published. Requests for published names will only be taken from a family member accompanied by a phone number.

Alvira Conductor, John Farkas, Lilliana Elyse Mahan, Dawn Pandorf, Leslie Kondek, Corey Forlenza, Frank J. Somsy, Pattie Prezioso, Marie Cavallero, Eileen Scharwath, Marilyn DeSantis, Ann Dimaira, Victor Marmo, Jason McGaha, Marilyn Geffken, Tom Clayton, Barbara Capsouras, Elizabeth Krone, Christine Paglia, Ragan Kilkell, Adrian Simone, Paul Perrone, Janet Babbitt, Bruno Stillo, Michael Mascari, Marjorie McArthur, Charlie Auskings, Eileen Kapotes, Stephen Koczko, William Schicke, Remedios Gatuz, Annarita Gardinella, Linda Bitetto, David Tafe, Gregory Sugra, Jose Nunez, Kevin Deege, Pasquale Amoresano, Jason Fass, Nikki Basil, Terry Cox, Al Beatrice, Daniel DePaul, Giovanna Mele, Pasquale Mastriani, Christina Adamski, Dolores Patisso, Gary Nagurka, Tina Kenning, Francoise Wagener, Brooklyn Auskings, Raymond Ervey, Paul DiPiazza, Sam Sessa and Edward Strasser.

Please remember to notify the office when your family member has recovered.