

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(CHRISTMAS)

5:00PM Anthony Mario Picinic, Jr.

10:00PM Mara Magnozzi

9:00AM Vincenzo Calabrese

10:30AM Maria Lechich

12:00PM Anthony Mario Picinic, Jr.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

ST. STEPHEN

11:30AM Domenick & Domenica Picinic

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

ST. JOHN

8:00AM Nicholas Susak

11:30AM Angelina Foglio

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

THE HOLY INNOCENTS

8:00AM Nicholas Susak

11:30AM Ana Picinic

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

ST. THOMAS BECKET

8:00AM Helen Matesich

11:30AM Stephen Petruzzello – 2nd Anniv.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY

AND JOSEPH

8:00AM Silvia Vega

11:30AM Maria & Tommaso Morin

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:30AM Paul Elia

Ljubica Tapalovic Petar

Andrija, Manela & Ivica

Andricic

David Mihalinec

5:00PM Ferrara, Eichler & Pellegrino

Families

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY

MOTHER OF GOD

9:00AM Tomislav Grvic

10:30AM Souls in Purgatory

12:00PM Louis M. Botto

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

Mary Matarazzo

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

Pasquale (Patsy) Matarazzo

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of

Dec'd Mbrs. Ferrara,

Pellegrino & Eichler Families

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

Jeffrey Marmo

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

Nm 6:22-27

God's loving presence is announced to Moses

and Aaron.

Psalm 67

God bless us in his mercy.

Gal 4:4-7

God sent his Son that we might receive

adoption as heirs.

Lk 2:16-21

Mary ponders all that has happened.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioner:

...As we come together to rejoice and celebrate the birth of Jesus on this Christmas Day, we also take a moment to give thanks for the faith that came to each of us as a gift at our Baptism...We also close our celebration of our 100th Anniversary...It's been a wonderful year when we've had a chance to look back at our founders...to remember relatives who drew strength as they worshipped in our Church...to honor and remember in prayer those who passed a strong faith on to us...to hear the call of Jesus to live our own faith with as much gusto as we can muster...and to pass on this great gift of faith to the next generation through word and example...

...I wish each of you and all those you love a very **Merry Christmas**...I'll remember your intention as I stand at the Altar on Christmas Eve...and we'll have a chance to pray our Centennial Prayer as we complete 100 years and celebrate our 100th Christmas...and look forward to 101!

...With the celebration of *our patronal feast of the Epiphany* on 8 January 2017, we begin our 101st year and our next century...Thank you Jesus for The Church of the Epiphany which gathers us together, lifts us up in prayer, and sustains us with your grace...

...I invite you to remember in your prayers our four RCIA candidates: Andrew Poye, Jacqueline Poye, Chad Armstrong, and Yvette Melian...Andrew and Chad are looking to convert to the Catholic faith from another Christian denomination...and Jacqueline and Yvette are both baptized Catholics looking to receive Confirmation as adults...They will continue to study and pray with our congregation as they prepare to become members of the Church of the Epiphany at Easter...

...Many thanks for your kind generosity to the parish over the years...and just let me tell you about our Epiphany Heritage Fund...We identify some items that need doing in the parish and put them on the Heritage Fund Wish List...We then ask any parishioner to contribute to whatever wish list item they choose and their entire donation goes to that project. None of the Heritage Fund donations are subject to the 18% assessment that the Archdiocese charges us for our regular collections...Below is a list of the current wish list items for the Heritage Fund...

1. Replacement of ten windows in the rectory – projected cost is \$4,500.00
2. New paneling for the rectory basement conference room – projected cost is \$1,500.00
3. Paint the stage floor in the Parish Hall – out to bid
4. New carpeting for the rectory basement conference room – out to bid

...Please be in touch with me for further information and if you wish to donate to one of the items...Make out your check to The Epiphany Heritage Fund...and put the wish list item in the "memo" line of your check...and Thank You as always for your kind generosity...

...Have a very Merry Christmas!!!

God bless,

Fr. Ken

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

December 18th

Sunday Collection

\$4,982.00

"And the Word became flesh." – John 1:14

Jesus is God's ultimate gift of love to us. The countless other blessings that God showers upon us are nothing compared to the gift of His only Son. The only appropriate way for us to respond to such generous love is with our own generous love. When we dedicate our lives to sharing all the gifts God has placed in our hands, the peace of Christ truly will control our hearts and we will know Christmas joy every day.

BINGO

BINGO IS PLAYED ON TUESDAY EVENINGS AT 7:15PM AND ON THURSDAY AFTERNOONS AT 12:15PM. WE NOW OFFER BIGGER JACKPOTS, PROGRESSIVE GAMES AND 50/50 GAMES. COME OUT AND ENJOY AN EVENING OR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO BINGO PLAYED BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S DAY. BINGO WILL REOPEN ON JANUARY 2ND A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Please note that there will be no CCD Religious Education Classes for grades 1-7 on December 25th and January 1st. We will reopen on Sunday, January 8th at 11:00AM.

NEW CHURCH HYMNALS

Our new hymnals are in the Church pews. If your family would like to memorialize a loved one or simply present the hymnal as a gift from your family to the parish, please use one of the envelopes that are at the church doors. The memorial fee is \$25.00 per book. We will be placing these memorials in the new books. We are keeping the dedications that were made at the time the old books began to be used and placing them into the Book of Remembrance in the vestibule.

RETRouvaille – A LIFELINE FOR TROUBLED MARRIAGES

You can save your marriage! Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship grown cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but (both of you) wish to try again – then the Retrouvaille program may help you. Retrouvaille (Rediscovery) sponsored by the Family Life Office – Diocese of Metuchen consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The next program is scheduled for the weekend of February 10-12, 2017. All inquiries are confidential. For more details, please call the Family Life Office at 732-243-4573, Rich & Annette Colasuonno at 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague at 732-583-4468 (evenings).

TD BANK AFFINITY PROGRAM

Our participation in the Affinity Program continues. Going forward, the Church will receive \$10 for every existing checking account included in the program and \$50 for every newly opened checking account included in the program. **Nothing is taken from your accounts.** In addition, the **Church** will receive 1/10 of 1% of the average balance of all savings accounts and CDs included in the program. To sign up, please visit the TD Bank at Lafayette and Palisade Avenues.

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

The Archdiocese of Newark takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct should call the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-497-3256.

THE PERFECT GIFT

*Dear sweet Baby Jesus, in humble manger lain,
Your holy virgin Mother knew from whence You came!
There with cows and oxen in lowly quarters shared,
Knew You at Your infant birth today that we'd yet care?
Humbly we adore You, sweet gentle Babe so dear!
Tucked deep down within our hearts Your love
transforms our fears.
We pray again this Christmas, Infant Babe of Peace,
That war in each man's nation in all the world shall
cease.
On Christmas Day if all would a prayer united lift,
We all shout out our earnest pleas, for peace –
The Perfect Gift!!!
Peace on Earth and Good Will towards
Mankind!!!*

RECTORY SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR'S

PLEASE NOTE: The Rectory Office will have only certain hours during Christmas Week through New Year's. It will be only open for several days during Christmas Week. This is the schedule:

Friday, December 23.....Closed
Saturday December 24.....Closed
Sunday, December 25.....Closed
Monday, December 26.....Closed
Tuesday, December 27 (teens).....10:00AM-6:00PM
Wednesday, December 28 (teens).....10:00AM-6:00PM
Thursday, December 29 (teens).....10:00AM-6:00PM
Friday, December 30 (teens).....10:00AM-2:00PM
Saturday, December 31.....Closed
Sunday, January 1.....Closed
Monday, January 2.....Closed
Tuesday, January 3.....Return
PLEASE NOTE: there will be no regular staff available until January 3rd.

SPECIAL NEW YEAR & EPIPHANY SCHEDULE – 2017

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Saturday, December 31 (Vigil Mass).....5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Sunday, January 1, 2017.....9:00AM, 10:30AM & 12 Noon

PATRONAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 7.....5:00PM

Sunday, January 8.....8:00AM, 10:30AM & 12:00 Noon

14TH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL FESTIVAL

The Scholarship for Inner-City Children – which provides partial tuition scholarships for low income students in grades K to 12 to attend Catholic schools – will hold its 14th Annual High School Basketball Festival on January 7 and 8 at Kean University in Union. Teams playing include: Saint Peter's Prep, Roselle Catholic, Hudson Catholic, Seton Hall Prep, Mt. St. Dominic, St. Benedict's Prep, Marist, Union Catholic, St. Mary's, Don Bosco, Immaculate Conception, Paramus Catholic, St. Joseph's Regional. For complete game schedule, times and information on ordering tickets, visit www.sfchoops.com or call 973-497-4279.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Matthew Dickman, Marion Calabrese, Andree Degedrinsky, Natalie Lopac, Baby Sofia Gonzales, Baby Carly, Anne Lepis, Nadine Nasif, Amantina Lizarzo, William Weitzel, Michael Cougлан, Colin Berg, Giulio Scoccimarro, Marta Coelho, Ann Callagher, Esther Evertz, Barbara Dooley, Gloria Masella, Peter Bertinato, Joann Helmick, Mario Pajar, John Hroncich, Kathy Herring, Vinka Usalj, Anna Tarabokija, Joseph DeMiglio, Efrem Lavrido, Baby Eric Grigsby, Carrie Craven, Sandy Snow, Lydia Locurcio, Kevin Harris, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Elva Lopes, Marilyn Brenes, Lorraine Noack, Mary Bunero, Cabrini Lepis, Erica Duran, Sister Kieran O'Riordan, Maria Murphy, Riccardo & Delia Mattessich, Roger Cook, Frank Mendez, Maria Azucena Mercado, John Reynolds, Baby Ella Grace Gavina, Sister Rosemary McGavin, Luisa Vlacich, Andrew Mircovich, Marie Gagliardi, Arianna Cappola, Liberata Tarabocchia, Archbishop John J. Myer, Anne Frey.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

James Cantu.

“GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!”

