

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00PM Ann & Luke Jurovich
8:00AM Stephen Petruzzello
10:00AM Maria Martire
12:00PM Niolo & Benjamin Shikman

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00AM Joseph Lally
5:00PM Janusz Pawlowski
10:00PM Maria Piccini (Luba)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

NATIVITY OF THE LORD
(CHRISTMAS)

9:00AM Rocco Suriano
10:30AM Maria Lechich
12:00PM Maria Busanic

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

ST. STEPHEN
11:30AM Maria Ricci Mattessich

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00AM Concetta DeLuca
11:30AM Angelina Foglio

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

THE HOLY INNOCENTS
8:00AM Maria & Tommaso Morin
11:30AM Maria & Martin Morin

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

11:30AM Stephen Petruzzello -4th Anniv.
Eloise Espiritu
Del Ladameo
Filemon Maloles
Zdenko Matesic
5:00PM Dec'd Mbrs. Ferrara, Eichler,
Pellegrino & Parenta Families


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY &
JOSEPH

8:00AM Stephen John Petruzzello
10:00AM Dorothy Lombardo
12:00PM Dorothy Lombardo

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

 Garitano, Martire, Abate & Stancato –
Grandparents

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

Ernie Sdrigotti

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of

Mara Magnozzi

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

John, Rose & Joseph Ferrara

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

Hannah offers her only child, Samuel, as a gift
to the Lord

Ps 84

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O
Lord

Col 3:12-17

Living as a family and a community

Lk 2:41-52

Jesus' parents find him in the Temple among
the teachers

PASTOR'S MESSAGE DECEMBER 23, 2018

***“Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken
to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”***

My dear parishioners and friends,

Elizabeth's words to Mary are gospel (Good News) for us today. God's Word, which was spoken to us in Jesus, is about to be fulfilled once again in our celebration of Christmas and the little child in all of us is leaping for joy. But, the question is, how have we spent these past four weeks? Have we given enough time to prayer? Have we sought to be forgiven through receiving the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Have we made an effort to be at peace with our friends and family? Have we reached out in charity to the needy in some way? These are the sort of things that the Church asked us to do in preparation for the "Christ event". Did we do them? Really? Be honest!

If your Advent preparation has been lacking in some respects, do not despair! Be calm and make an interior resolution to continue trying to live the hope-filled expectation of the Lord's coming because that is the spirit of Advent. Each and every Sunday in the Creed we profess our belief in the Lord's second coming. Jesus is coming "... to judge the living and the dead". If we live in expectation of his return we will be doing well because our eternal life depends on it!

*Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce*

PARISH SUPPORT

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

December 16th

Sunday Collection

\$4,937.00

"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.

BINGO



THURSDAY BINGO GAMES BEGIN AT 12:15PM. WE NOW OFFER BIGGER JACKPOTS, PROGRESSIVE AND 50/50 GAMES. COME OUT AND ENJOY YOURSELF AND WIN SOME MONEY AND HAVE FUN.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S & MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Archdiocese of Newark's Office of Evangelization announces the dates for the 2019 Women's Day of Reflection on Saturday, March 9th and the Catholic Men's Conference on Saturday, March 16th. Both events will be held at Seton Hall University, which will feature English and Spanish tracks and include breakfast and lunch. Registration fee is \$25.00. It will be held from 8:00AM-4:00PM. There will be an opportunity for Holy Mass, Holy Hour, Adoration Chapel, confession speakers who inspire us to learn, love and live our faith better, fellowship with like-minded Catholics, learn about the ministries of the Archdiocese, and Catholic gifts and books for sale. More information can be found soon at www.rcan.org/womenscommission or www.NICatholicMen.org. You may also contact evangelization@rcan.org or you may call 973-497-4137 for more information.

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

ONLY ABOUT ONE WEEK LEFT TO get tickets to welcome in the New Year with your Epiphany family. We will be having a Gala New Year's Eve Party, Monday, December 31st. Party will be held from 7:30PM-12:30AM. Dinner will be catered by Roman Italian Restaurant, New Milford. Menu includes: Baked Ziti with Ricotta, Chicken Francaise, Roast Beef, Tossed Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Potatoes, dessert, beer, wine, soda, champagne toast at midnight, hats and noisemakers. Music will be by DJ Nick. Tickets are \$35.00 per person and are available for sale at the Rectory by December 27th **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!**

103RD ANNIVERSARY PARISH HOMECOMING POT LUCK

In celebration of our parish feast, the Epiphany of the Lord, we invite you to our 103rd Anniversary - Parish Homecoming Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, January 6th beginning at 1:30PM following the 12 Noon Mass. Please bring in enough food for your table and one extra dish for the main buffet. Cost is \$5.00 per person to cover dessert and soda. You must RSVP by purchasing tickets at the rectory by January 3rd. Also, please let us know what smaller dish you will be bringing to share at this affair.

BIBLE DIARIES FOR SALE

We have a limited number of Bible Diaries available for sale at \$12.00 each. Published by Claretian Publications and distributed through "Lets Evangelize", these compact, attractive hard-bound books offer the daily readings for mass each day of the year (2019) as well as a daily reflection and other inspirational words. It's a great resource for our daily prayer because it keeps us in touch with the liturgical life of the church even when we may not be able to attend daily mass. To purchase one of these books, please contact the parish office or drop in during our regular business hours. It makes a great last-minute Christmas gift that keeps on giving for the whole year!

MASS BOOK FOR 2019

The Mass Book for 2019 has opened. **Three additional Masses may be reserved by parishioners and non-parishioners at this time.** Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Candles, Bread and Wine and Altar Flowers may also be reserved.

SAVE THE DATE

The Neighborhood's Annual Extravaganza at The Elan, Lodi, NJ will be held on Saturday, April 27th. It will feature the Neighborhood Band and Singers, the Manhattan Skyline and other fine entertainment. Dine, drink, dance and enjoy a great evening. Details will follow in a future bulletin.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

There will be a Young Adult Retreat from February 8th-10th at the Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May Point, NJ. Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from your busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost is \$135 per person, double occupancy. You may register at capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829. Any other questions may be directed to Anthony Fucci, Center Director at the above phone number.

**“SOMETIMES YOU ARE
UNSATISFIED WITH YOUR LIFE,
WHILE MANY PEOPLE IN THIS
WORLD ARE DREAMING OF
LIVING YOUR LIFE!”**

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Monday, December 24

Vigil Mass – 5:00PM (Children’s Choir)..... 4:45PM
Christmas Eve Mass.....10:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Tuesday, December 25

Masses..... 9:00AM, 10:30AM (Adult Choir) & 12 Noon

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Monday, December 31

Vigil Mass.....5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Tuesday, January 1

Masses..... 9:00AM & 11:30AM

PATRONAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 5, 20195:00PM

Sunday, January 6.....8:00AM, 10:00AM & 12 Noon

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS

Please note that the Rectory Office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the day after Christmas, December 26th.

MASS ON DECEMBER 26TH

There will be only one Mass on Wednesday, December 26th, and that will be at 11:30AM.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Anna Tarabokija, Eric Grigsby, Carrie Craven, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Elva Lopes, Marilyn Brenes, Frank Mendez, Maria Azucena Mercado, John Reynolds, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Tammy Ledden, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Laura Palmieri, Margarita Lopez-Amaro, Helen Gallina DeLuca, Renee Pascarella, Brother Peter Lyne, Cora Shaffer, Ivan Tarabokija, Paul Barbara, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Matt Allen, Richie Allen, Jazmin Cruz, Jaime Van Dam, Meaghan Kilner, Baby Michael, Joe Villani, Michael Duddy, Peter Foglio, Jr., Paul Kiczek, Kenneth Crawford, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Tony Martello, Ruth Behsman, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Norma Brown, Doris Portillo, Cabrini Lepis, Elizabeth Magliato Loughlin, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Geraldine Fox, Tatiana Flores, Clement Petrocelli.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Ann Marie Hallaert.

KEEP CHRISTMAS SACRED

*Keep Christmas sacred evermore –
Christ holds the love you’re searching for,
The meaning real of this great day,
Each magic moment as we pray,
Within our hearts a thought worthwhile
That’s gently tucked within a smile.
Keep Christmas sacred – set apart,
The tree – the mistletoe – the holly
And dear old Santa Claus so jolly,
A childish face all warm and bright
And gentle starshine in the night.
A lighted church – the Christ Child’s birth,
The miracle of peace on earth,
The cards – the gifts – the carols we sing,
Each warm and tender happening,
Observing customs old or new...
Keep Christmas sacred all year through.*

Garnett Ann Schultz

