

DECEMBER 31, 2017

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

MONDAY – Mary, the Holy Mother of God

8:30 Mary Elizabeth Crapo req. by Mr. & Mrs. Seamus Campbell

7:00 Jack & Bridget McDonnell

TUESDAY – Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:30 Special Intention for Marie Kelly req. by Kathryn Clark

WEDNESDAY – The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30 Thomas Hennessey req. by the Firreno Family
Alexander Foulds req. by John & Laurie Krieger

THURSDAY – Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:30 Josephine Sica & Relatives req. by August Sica
Sr. Diane Collesano S.C. req. by Matthew Dunn

FRIDAY – Saint John Neumann

8:30 Mary Keegan
Nicole Minton req. by Jack & Nancy Minton
9:30 Joe Voza req. by Theresa Post & Maureen Lewis

SATURDAY – Saint Andre Bessette

8:30 Special Intention of Fr. Thomas Zalewski,
O.Carm. req. by Anna & Simon Levien
Laurie DiCianni req. by the Dirla Family
5:30 Eugene McShea req. by Frank & Pat Coyne

JANUARY 7, 2018

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7:45 Virginia Trumbour req. by Joe & Celeste Alonzo

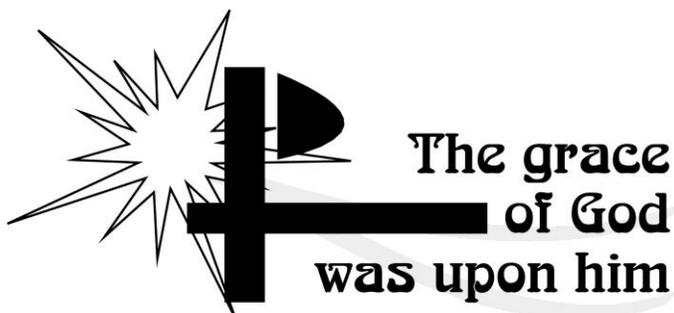
9:00 People of the Parish
Joseph Beebe req. by Ann Jachts

10:30 Mary Elizabeth Crapo req. By Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kelly
Bill McCrink req. by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rizzo

12:00 Members of the Purgatorial Society
Edna Pietrucha req. by Ann Jachts

PARISH FINANCES

Collections from this weekend will be published after the New Year due to an early printing deadline.



REFLECTION

THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES

With Christmas carols still ringing in our ears, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This was God's way of entering into human history as a baby born of Mary. It was within this basic unit of society, with Joseph as his foster father, that Jesus grew up and matured to enter into public ministry. It's our story too.



One of the great joys of life is to grow up in a family that is loving and close-knit. It is here that we learn what it means to be loved and accepted. It is within this nurturing environment that we develop our personality and cultivate a sense of belonging. The family is an incubator in which we learn a sense of compassion for others, where seeds are sown which will later blossom. Most importantly, it is within the family that parents can communicate by attitude and action a sense of God, that will accompany the child into adolescence and adulthood.

Pope Paul VI described the family as a domestic church, or a mini-church. It's a wonderful description because it is here that we are first introduced to the faith; where we first see it in action in the lives of our parents, grandparents and our extended family. This is where we learn how to pray. This is where we learn to be kind, compassionate, gently, patient and forgiving. Where else can we embody these qualities and virtues if not within the loving confines of our homes?

This is how Jesus grew in his faith. It was Mary and Joseph who taught him how to pray the psalms and took him regularly to the synagogue and yearly to the Temple. The great stories and parables that he shared later on in his ministry were no doubt colored by the stories he heard as he grew up. It was living with his parents and grandparents that he learned the importance of forgiveness. No wonder he would tell us later in his public ministry that we should forgive one another 70 times 7 times.

Yes, living in a family has its challenges as well. Yet despite all the difficulties when we reflect back our experiences, we find that it is here we learn things that we can never learn elsewhere – what it means to belong, what it means to be loved and accepted, what it means to make mistakes, to fall on our faces and yet get up and move on. So, today, let us give thanks for our families, and to appreciate more fully that it is within the family we can grow more fully as persons and as followers of Christ.

Sincerely,

Father David

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH - 12/31/17 to 1/6/18

Mon	HAPPY NEW YEAR	Parish Office Closed
Tues.	9:15 AM Scripture Class	Library
Thur.	6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)	McKenna Hall
Fri.	7:00 PM Filipino Mass	McKenna Hall
	8:30 PM AA	Cassidy Hall
Sat.	After 8:30 Mass – Legion of Mary	St. Benedict
	8:00 PM AA	McKenna Hall

LITURGY

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Gn 15:1-6, 21: 1-3

Abram shows us the Lord keeps His promises, for his offspring were indeed many, like the stars in heaven. We, too, must trust in the Lord, so like Abram, our families might prosper.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

By faith Abraham and Sarah were blessed with Isaac, and through him, many descendants because they trusted in God's promise and believed in what they could not see. We see that faith, trust and prayer bring forth God's miracles in our lives.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus was brought to Jerusalem to be consecrated according to the law of Moses. A man named Simeon had learned he would not die until he had seen God's anointed. Upon seeing Jesus, he immediately declared he had witnessed "the glory of your people of Israel." The prophetess Anna also gave thanks and spoke of Jesus to all who would listen. Both recognized the power of Jesus, although he was still an infant.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

A NEW MINISTRY AT OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

Join us on Mondays from 4:00 to 5:00 PM in the Parish Library beginning January 8th, 2018.



We will gather to pray and work in thanksgiving for the goodness of creation. We join our voices, as St. Francis of Assisi did in his Canticle of the Sun, and as Pope Francis echoed in his encyclical on the environment. "Praised be you, O Lord, for the beauty and goodness of the created world!" We thank God for the gift of creation and show our appreciation through our

care. If you are interested in working with us to Care for God's Creation let us know at LaudatoSi.OLL@gmail.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Adult Choir practice takes place on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM in the Choir loft.



Contemporary Choir - Saturdays, 4:30 PM in St. Cecilia Room.

Children's Choir practice takes place on Thursdays at 2:45 PM in the St. Cecilia Room.

Vocal- Instrumental Group - contact our Music Director, Krzysztof Kowalewski at the parish office. *New and existing members are invited.*

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

DOGMA TEAM

Dogma Team meets on Mondays at 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

MOMENTS OF GRACE

All are invited to join us for **MOVIE MOMENTS OF GRACE** on January 13th in Cassidy Hall right after the 5:30 Mass. We'll watch a movie whose theme is brokenness to healing followed by discussion of the film. Feel free to bring a beverage of choice, perhaps an appetizer or other goodie to munch on during the film.

SCRIPTURE CLASS

Scripture class takes place on Tuesday mornings following 8:30 morning Mass. We meet every Tuesday in the Parish Library. Bring a friend as we all journey in our faith together, it will be an hour well spent!

WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

Sisters Against Human Trafficking

Give a gift to support the work of U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking, P.O. Box 25241, Philadelphia, PA 19119
Visit: sistersagainstrafficking.org.

Thank you from Saint Kateri Parish

Thank you to all and to you! Our December Blood Drive was another wonderful success. 70 people took the time to stop in; 73 units of blood were donated; more than 200 patients helped. Thank you for taking the time to Share Your Gift of Life.

**Bring
comfort
to your parents**

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE

Would you like to know more about our parish? Go to www.ourladyofthelake.org. We have the same information as before, but in a new format. We hope you will like it. You can see the Sunday Bulletin – the current week and archived issues from the beginning of the year. You can find the schedules for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers under 'Liturgy'. Need to register in the parish? The Registration form is there under "New Members". How to sign your child up for Religious Education. And, of course, if you have any questions or have trouble finding anything, please call the parish office at (973) 729-6107.

YOUR COATS CAN HELP!

Last year the Sparta Food Pantry gave away hundreds of coats to the clients of the food pantry. It was incredible! We give coats, hats, gloves, and scarves from November through March, or as long as it is cold outside! So... Let's Do it Again! If you have any coats, gloves, hats, scarves that you can offer to someone who does not, please bring them to the Sparta Food Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street, Sparta. They will be collecting gently-used coats, hats, gloves, scarves, through March 2018. This is a great way to help so many people this winter.

TAKE TIME TO LISTEN

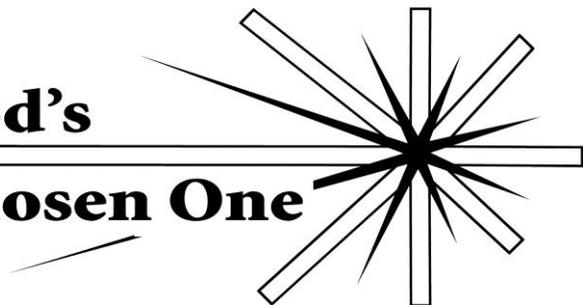
Stop. Create a space to listen. Allow yourself the time to hear what God is saying in your life. Be still enough to see, really see, what is going on in the world and how to ask how you might respond, how you might participate in the healing of the world, and thereby your own healing.

Believe that yours is a call to the fullness of life. Allow that reality to infuse every corner of your being: your spirituality, your values, what you care about, how you use your time and resources, your relationships, your work.

No matter where you are or what your calling, try to deepen your reflections on your vocation. Pray for the guidance of the Spirit. Fill the canvas of your life with new possibilities.

Marie Dennis from "Diversity of Vocations"

**God's
Chosen One**



Our Lady of the Lake Parish Yacht Cruise Sailing on a Mediterranean July 28th – August 8th, 2018



**WINDSTAR
CRUISES**
180° FROM ORDINARY®



Classic Italy & Croatia/Dalmatian Coast Windsurf Yacht Cruise

**10 DAYS FROM Rome to Venice including
Rome, Amalfi, Sicily, Kotor, Dubrovnik, Split,
Rovinj and Venice.**

Explore the shores of Italy, Croatia and Montenegro, discovering the charm of Venice, the magnificence of Rome, and the vast beauty of the Dalmatian Coast. Wander down the ancient cobblestone streets of Taormina, travel up the sparkling fjord to Kotor and bask in the allure of small ship cruising as your yacht anchors in the heart of Old Town Dubrovnik while larger ships only pass by. From remarkable small ports such as Rovinj to timeless cities like Venice and Rome, discover the Mediterranean's most charming and historic destinations in one incomparable voyage.

Pricing from \$3,385.00 pp. dble.

These prices include the 5% group discount a \$100.00 per person ship board credit as well as NDA: \$345.00pp and Tax: \$139.00pp. Note: Complimentary roundtrip transfers from OLL-Newark. Airfare is additional at @\$1,000.00 pp. Pre & Post stays in Rome and Venice are optional.

**For information, please contact Dan Scully c-973-534-6462 or
Daniel.Scully@ScullyTravel.com**



**Scully Travel Group 6 Apple Tree Ln.St.2B
Sparta, NJ 07871 WWW.ScullyTravel.com**

SAVE THE DATE

**Women's Conference (Feminine, Faithful & Fearless)
April 28, 2018 at St. Paul Inside the Walls, Madison
Speakers: Kate Wicker, Cindy Costello, & Katie
McKenna. Go to Stpaulinsidethewalls.org/family life to
register and for more information.**

New Year's Schedule

Sunday – Dec. 31 – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

7:45 AM, 9:00, 10:30, 12:00

January 1, 2018 – New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

(not a holy day of obligation this year)

8:30 AM, 7:00 PM



*Father David, Father Marcin
Deacon Krzysztof
Deacon Sonny
Deacon Jim
and the entire Parish Staff
wish you all a
Blessed and Happy Christmas.*

WELCOME TO THE WeShare FAMILY!

ParishPay has transitioned to **WeShare**. Here are several things to keep in mind as you familiarize yourself with WeShare.

We take security seriously. Donors' recurring donations will continue as scheduled. But donors must authenticate their account and email to receive WeShare emails or to make any changes to their account. The first time a donor enters the system – they will have to go through a one-time validation requiring:

- Their ParishPay user name
- The last 4 digits of the bank account or credit card used with ParishPay

And **ONE** of the following two options:

- Their email address
- A collection name and the specific amount donated within the last 6 months.

Please feel free to contact the customer service team for assistance at WeShare@4ipi.com or call 1 (800) 950-9952 and select *Option 1*.

Our Lady of the Lake R.C. Church 294 Sparta Ave., Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Parish Mission Statement

Our Lady of the Lake is a Roman Catholic Community founded in tradition and based on our faith in Jesus Christ. With the help of the Holy Spirit we share the message of God's love with all. Through our ministries and school, we strive to address spiritual, social and educational needs. We are nourished by the Eucharist, enlightened by the Word and guided by our devotion to Mary, Our Lady of the Lake.

Rev. David McDonnell	Pastor
Rev. Marcin Bradtke	Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Krzysztof Ślimak	Deacon
Mr. James McGovern	Deacon
Mr. Anthony (Sonny) Curcio	Deacon
Elizabeth Heldak	Director of Religious Education
Allison Ognibene	Conf/Youth Director
Krzysztof Kowalewski	Music Director
Denise Aldana	Social Ministries
Ellen Ormond	Secretary/Bookkeeper
Joanna Mattos	Secretary

Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 5:30 P.M.
Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 A.M. and 12:00 Noon

Weekday Masses

8:30 A.M.

Holy Day Masses

8:30, 9:30 A.M. (except August 15th), and 7:00 P.M.

Confessions

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 and at 6:30 P.M.

Novena

Miraculous Medal Devotions: Saturday 8:30 A.M.

Eucharist Adoration

Thursday 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Parish Membership

Our Parish Family invites all its members to participate fully. If you move to another Parish, or change your address, please notify us.

Please see our website for more information.

New Parishioners – Welcome!

Won't you please register at the Parish Office, Monday-Friday 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Parish Office & Rectory (973) 729-6107 Fax (973) 729-7203
Religious Education Office (on weekdays) (973) 729-6107
E-Mail info@ourladyofthelake.org
Web Site www.ourladyofthelake.org
School Offices
Rev. George A. Brown (Pre-K to Gr. 4) (973) 729-9174
Pope John XXIII Middle School (Gr. 5 to 7) (973) 729-1967
Pope John XXIII High School (Gr. 8 to 12) (973) 729-6125