

UPCOMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 31st
Vigil Mass—Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God —4:30 pm

Tuesday, January 1st
Mass—Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God-10 am
Parish Office Closed

Sunday, January 6th
Knights of Columbus Breakfast—8:30 to 11 am (2)
Religious Goods Store—After Masses (2)
Healing Mass—3:00 PM

Monday, January 7th
Adoration and Confessions—5 to 8 pm
Children's Adoration—6 to 6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 8th
Altar Server Training—6 pm (1)

Legend

Church (1) Padua Hall (2)
Religious Education (3) Ewald Center (4)

Mass Intentions December 31-January 6th

12/31	8:00 am	John Poss (D) r/b Woodburn Family
	4:30 pm	Nora Sandoval (D) r/b Sister Ann
1/1	10:00 am	Catherine Pearson (D) r/b Woodburn Family
1/2	8:00 am	Roger Mundy (D) r/b Weilmuenster Family
1/3	8:00 am	Patricia Moxley (D) r/b Kathy & Dave Temple
1/4	8:00 am	Roger Munday (D) r/b Kathy & Dave Temple
	12:00 pm	Charles Garner (D) r/b Dottie Cecil
1/5	9:00 am	Thomas & Margaret Donohue r/b Beth Donohue
	4:30 pm	Margaret Dorsey (D)
1/6	8:15 am	Helen Wall (D) r/b Linda Gibson
	11:15 am	Parishioners

"AND I WILL GIVE THEM REST"

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all deceased members and their families.



FROM THE PASTORS DESK

The Beautiful Season of Christmas

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony's,

As you read this article we are in the midst of the great season of Christmas. It is the shortest of the liturgical seasons in the Church, but one of the most beautiful. In this season we celebrate many great events in the life of Jesus. We celebrate, of course Jesus' birth. This is followed by the Feast of the Epiphany. We also celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, and then the season ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Each of these feasts has profound truths to teach us.

In my last bulletin article, I dealt with the implications of the Eternal Word of the Father becoming flesh for us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. This mystery is, for me, the most profound in the liturgical calendar. God the Father, seeing the depth of misery that the human condition became, sent His only son to redeem it by his single act of total obedience of dying on the cross. The Christmas crib is intimately linked to the cross.

In this season we also celebrate the fact that the "Eternal Word" Jesus of Nazareth immersed himself in a family. The feast of the Holy Family has importance for us all. It is in the setting of family life that Jesus grew and matured. Pope Paul VI visited the town of Nazareth in 1964 while on his historic pilgrimage, and he said this about Jesus' home town: "May Nazareth teach us the meaning of family life, it's harmony of love, it's simplicity and austere beauty, it's sacred and inviolable character; may it teach us how sweet and irreplaceable is its training, how fundamental and incomparable it's roll on the social plane.... .O Nazareth, home of the carpenter's Son, we went there to understand and to praise the austere and redeeming low of human labor."

This feast is followed by the "Showing Forth" of the Epiphany. In Matthew's Infancy narrative we are given the wonderful episode of the "Magi" from the east who follow the star which points to the Christ Child. T.S. Elliot wrote a beautiful poem titled "The Journey of the Magi," which I may share with you in my next Christmas article; but for now, we can say that Matthew's intent is to tell readers of the Gospel that the Lord is a "Light to the Nations."

"Light to the Nations" is the phrase that St. Luke records when Jesus is presented in the temple. The Feast of the Presentation is not until February 3rd. When that comes up in the next year (2019) we will comment on that beautiful scene depicted by St. Luke.

Finally, the Christmas season ends with the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus, in humble obedience to the Father, submits himself to receive the Baptism of John. Jesus modeled this obedience to the Father so that we would follow His example.

Obedience is the hallmark of the Incarnation. You cannot advance very far in the spiritual life if obedience is not a virtue cultivated and adhered to strictly.

Enjoy the season of Christmas. It is short but has profound implications to your spiritual life, and your hope of eternal life with Christ.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

FAITH FORMATION

Merry Christmas! Classes resume next Sunday, January 6th, the Feast of the Epiphany! We will have a Christmas/Epiphany sing-a-long in the hall at the end of class from 10:15—10:45 am. For those of you who will be enjoying the Knights of Columbus breakfast, you are in for a treat! All parents and parishioners are welcome.

Please keep our 2nd graders and their families in your prayers as they prepare for their First Reconciliation with a retreat on Saturday, January 5th, and receiving the Sacrament on Saturday, January 12th at 10:30 am.

Please pray for each by name:

Jacqueline Arroyo	Skyler Buzzella
Ethan Donovan	Erik Doyle
Kaitlyn Edgington	Mia Edgington
Gemma Julian	Colton Hemberger
Alan Kozlowski	John Lanham
Mary Lanham	Damian Lebow
John Mangum	Tamaya Mendoza
Cole Miller	Samantha Nealon
Bridget Puttlitz	Brady Rooney
William Sanders	Lincoln Uhlmann
London Wood	

LIFE TEEN

Our next Life Night is **Saturday, January 12th**, beginning with the 4:30 Mass titled "No Matter How Small." Using the story "Horton Hears a Who" as a basis, this night will help the teens understand what it means to protect and defend life at all stages. This Life Night will address the entire spectrum of pro-life issues and call the teens to actively speak out for the dignity and respect of all human life. We will end in Adoration of Our Lord between 7:30 and 8 pm.

We have about 10 spots left for our trip to Camp Cove-Crest in Georgia from August 4th-10th. Encourage your high school aged daughter or son to join us as we travel by coach bus for a week of fun, faith and adventure as we will hear inspiring Catholic speakers, listen and sing along to great Catholic musicians, and spend time in the beautiful Georgia mountains. We will go white water rafting and climb on a guided high & low ropes challenge course that encourages teamwork and builds camaraderie. The high ropes course includes dynamic elements such as a rock wall and cargo net, as well as a static koala course that ends in a zip line through the trees! Whether you're looking for a climb up into the sky or some great sports, CoveCrest has plenty to offer! Not to mention you will get to hang out with some of the greatest people you've ever met! Please contact Mary Beth Woodburn at 443-646-5724 to reserve your spot for #bestcampever.

2019 Contribution envelopes are available for pick-up outside of Padua Hall if you receive envelopes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Chrissy Baxter, Vicki Baxter, JB, John Bell, Sam "Bo" Bradley, Florence, Dominic Brady, Jack Bragger, Jeff Carr, Ralph Carrello, Bill Carroll, Jimmy Carroll, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Wlaine Cunnane, Jean Davis, Sig Degitz, Gavin DiBitetto, Jo Finch, Linda Foresta, Anthony Fowler, Taylan Fowler, John P. Flynn, Noah Christopher Haas, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Roza Ivanac, Lindsey Jay, Kayla Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, JoAnn Kery, Richard Knupp, Rick Kollinger, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Mark Mann, Walter Matziet, Kelly McCarley, Jennifer Melanab, Maude Mangels, Margie Edwards Morgan, Sarah Olsen, Doris Pettko, Darley Phillips, Payton Phillips, Ray Pyles, Babies Ace and Troy Remer, Jonathan Rieger, Carolyn Ritch, Joel Rivera, Grayson David Rodriguez, Wayne Romanek, Geri Rosen, Kristy Salek, Bunny Tate, Betty Theurer, Carolyn Vargas, Susan Vilcheck, Pat Waak, Chelsea Whittington, Shannon Wink, Sue White.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD **JANUARY 6TH, 2019**

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Isaiah rejoices over the light and glory that will shine upon Jerusalem. He describes how the wealth of nations will be brought to Jerusalem, and travelers will arrive bearing gifts and praising God.

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

Paul explains to the Ephesians that the Gentiles are now co-heirs with the Jews. Through Jesus, they became members of the same body. Therefore, they would receive everything God had promised the Jewish converts if they followed Christ's teachings.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Astrologers from the east came looking for the newborn king of the Jews, which greatly disturbed King Herod. Herod wanted to kill Jesus, and asked the astrologers to return and tell him where Jesus was. The astrologers found Jesus and brought him gifts, but received a message in a dream telling them not to return to Herod.



ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

January 8th at 6 pm will be the next Altar Server training led by Deacon Eric. Children in 4th grade and up are encouraged to attend if they have ever considered altar serving. Please contact Deacon Eric if interested at 410-610-3844.