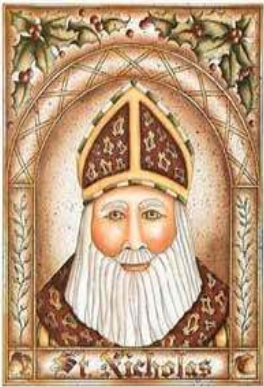


J.M.J.

Dear Parishioners,

We are already in Advent! The month of November at least for me has gone by very fast. Since we enter a new liturgical year, it may be wise to reflect on our habits. We can develop both good and bad habits. When we come into Church always remember to take advantage of blessing ourselves with Holy Water. When we reach our pew genuflect always with our right knee (unless we are not able to physically). Try to pray along with Mass, using the missals and hymnal (Remember as Saint Augustine told us, when we sing, we pray twice). Before we receive Holy Communion make sure that we are in a state of grace, for example, if we have deliberately missed Mass on Sunday, (this does not hold if we are sick or taking care of someone who is ill, or if the weather makes it inadvisable to attend) we are to go to Confession before we receive Holy Communion. We also should fast an hour before Mass. The tradition in the United States before receiving Holy Communion is to make a profound bow. The norm is to receive on the tongue and an allowance has been granted to receive on the hand. When we receive, be sure to make sure our mouths are open and tongue out so it is an easy transition for the host to be placed on our tongue. If we receive on the hand make sure our hands are clean and that we place one hand over the other. The indulgent for receiving of Holy Communion on the hand can be refused if the communicant does not follow the norms for receiving it this way. If you are infirmed and need Holy Communion brought to you at Mass, make sure you sit up front in the first few pews. It is not permitted to have the host brought back to you in the main body of the Church. Finally it has always been a tradition in the Church to make a nice thanksgiving after Mass. So, before and after Mass we should try to be as quiet as possible to allow others to have their own personal time in prayer with our Lord. May our good habits allow others to see outwardly our inner devotion and love for God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*



**St. Nicholas Faire Sunday December 6, 2015 from 11:00am to 2:30pm in the Church Hall. Join us for an afternoon full of food, fun, and fellowship to benefit St. Mary's Little Lambs! Featuring: Hudson Valley Custom Crafts, Lighthouse Catholic Media, Mary Kay, Mouse Works, Pampered Chef, Prayer Pillowcases, Radiantly You, Rodan + Fields, Thirty-One, local crafters, entertainment by Rose Mary's School of Dance, and more! FREE Children's Christmas Craft table! Lunch for Sale! Santa Lucia Bake Sale! Every Religious Education student who attends class on December 6 will receive a coupon for a FREE hot dog! Vendors and Volunteers are needed! Call Eileen at 858-4208.**

Join us for fellowship after the **5:15pm Mass on Tuesday, December 8th** to honor our Blessed Mother, as we celebrate the ***Feast on the Immaculate Conception***. Wine and appetizers will be served. All are welcome. Please contact the parish office by **Monday, November 30th** if you are planning on attending.



Please join Little Lambs on **Tuesday, December 22nd** in the Church Hall for our Annual Silent Auction and Christmas Pageant. The Auction will open at 9:00am with winners called at 10:00 and the Pageant beginning at 10:30. A milk and cookie reception will follow the pageant.

**Thank You!** Little Lambs would like to thank everyone who attended the recent Burger King Benefit. They raised \$190.04!

**G.E.M.S.** will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 1st** at 5pm. All children in grades 6 through 8 are welcome. Please call the parish if your child is planning on attending. They will be making Christmas gifts for the homebound.

**St. James Church** 75 River Road in Montague, NJ is having their annual Christmas Bazaar Sat., Dec. 5th from 9am-3pm. Crafts, Gifts, Baked Goods, White Elephant Table and lunch available.

**F.A.I.T.H.** will be visiting St. Joseph's Nursing Home (at 4:30pm) and the Water's Edge community (at 5:30pm) for Christmas Caroling on **Wed., Dec. 9th.** *All are welcome!*

**Court Madonna Court #114** is hosting a women's day of recollection on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am until 3pm at St. Mary's Church Hall. The topic will be *Women of the Church*. The cost is \$5.00. Coffee, tea, and donuts will be served at 9:30 and session begins at 10AM. **Lunch will not be provided so please bring your own.** If you are interested in attending, or for more information, please contact Marge O'Connor 570-491-5240 or Joyce Klimkiewicz 856-8875



**Christmas Food Baskets**

We currently have 50 families signed up and a waiting list of 26 families.

We will be collecting turkeys and hams on **Thursday, December 17th** from 5:30pm until 7pm.

In the spirit of Christmas, we are continuing our tradition of a "GIVING TREE." We are supporting both the local Elks Lodge and the Port Jervis High School Rotary Interact Club in their efforts to provide winter outerwear items for needy children and teens in our community. A donation of \$10 or more would be greatly appreciated; every \$50 will sponsor one child. Please see the Christmas tree in the narthex starting this weekend. They may be returned in the attached envelope, in the collection basket or at the parish office, by **Monday, December 14th.**

**Essay Contest!** All children in grades 7 through 12 are invited to enter. Theme is "Dignity of the Elderly". For guidelines and more information, call the parish office.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**

**Monday, November 30 (Andrew, apostle)**  
9:00am Regis Foster, by Bob and Dianna Witherow  
Charles Harrington, by Bill and Catherine Simons

**Tuesday, December 1**  
9:00am Intentions of Fr. George Hafemann, by Bill and Catherine Simons  
Romeo Mendoza, by the Mendoza family

**Wednesday, December 2**  
9:00am Thomas, Anna, William, and Martin O'Brien, by John O'Brien

**Thursday, December 3 (Francis Xavier, priest)**  
9:00am Julia Gailie, by Mary Case

**Friday, December 4 (John Damascene, priest and doctor of the Church)**  
11:30am June Livingston, by Vince and family

**Saturday, December 5**  
4:00pm Fritz Klostermeier, by Joyce Senkiew

**Sunday, December 6 (Second Sunday of Advent)**  
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's  
11:30am Arthur and Helen Murphy, by Helen Marinaro

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:**

Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Marion Rohner, Nick Moscatiello, Jeff Sauschuck, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Kelly Quick, Sandy Osbourne, Jose Maldonado, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Vada Glass, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, John McKean, Andrea Fedoruk, Lisa Donahue, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Maureen Hildebrandt, William Quinn, Mary Ellen Piper, Jeannine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Tonya Addy, Gloria Hicks, Jules Diez, John Kavanagh, Al Gessner, Lillian Diaz, Thomas Gumaer, Jr., Ashley Avella, Amelia Quinn, Lillian Diaz, Leon Logan, James DeGroat, Theresa Kavanagh, Angela Grillo, and Grace Maillet.

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*Sick List Update*  
Please maintain/remove/add  
(Due by December 3rd)

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The collection for November 21/22 was \$5,967.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.

**Liturgical Ministers for December 5th/6th**

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	D. COTUGNO	C. WITTINE, H. ECKES	Q. KRENTZ, A. AND R. COLLADO
8:30AM	H. MARINARO	W. CARMODY, D. MURO, T. CALVARIO, J. TAYLOR	S. PHILLIPS, Z. ADAMCIK, J. MARCONE
11:30AM	M. ESLING	R. DENNINGTON, D. LIVINGSTON, T. MARION	K. EPPS, S. MASCI, J. EDWARDS