

*JMJ*

Dear Parishioners,

God became the Son of Man so that we might become children of God. During Advent, a frequent entreaty has risen from the heart of the Church: "Come, Lord, visit us with your peace, your presence will fill us with joy". The Church's evangelizing mission is the response to the cry "Come, Lord Jesus" that pervades all of salvation history and continues to rise from believers' lips. Come, Lord, transform our hearts, so that justice and peace may be spread in the world!

Indeed, "The truth which saves one's life inflames the heart of the one who has received it with a love of neighbor that motivates him to pass on to others in freedom what he has freely been given". Being reached by the presence of God who makes Himself close to us at Christmas is a priceless gift. It is a gift that can make us "live within the universal embrace of the friends of God", in that "network of friendship with Christ which connects heaven and earth", which directs human freedom towards its fulfillment and, if it is lived in its truth, blossoms "in a love that is freely given and which overflows with care for the good of all people". Nothing is more beautiful, urgent and important than freely offering to men and women, in turn, what we ourselves have freely received from God! Nothing can dispense or relieve us from this burdensome but fascinating commitment. While the joy of Christmas that we already anticipate fills us with hope, it spurs us at the same time to proclaim to everyone God's presence in our midst.

The Virgin Mary, who did not communicate to the world an idea but Jesus, the Incarnate Word, is an unparalleled model of evangelization. Let us invoke her with trust so that, in our time too, the Church may proclaim Christ, the Saviour. May every Christian and every community feel the joy of sharing with others the Good News that "God so loved the world that he gave His Only Son... that the world might be saved through Him" (Jn 3: 16-17). This is the authentic meaning of Christmas, which we must rediscover and live intensely.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

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## CHRISTMAS 2019

Christmas Mass will be celebrated:

**Tuesday, December 24th**

**4pm** (*homily for the youth*)

**10pm Mass** (*with a candlelit*

*procession to the crèche*

*and music for congregation, choir,*

*organ and brass*)

**Wednesday, December 25th 10:00am**

**The Solemnity of Mary is on Wednesday, January 1, 2020.  
Mass will be celebrated at 9am and 7pm in the Church.**



# DECORATE the Church

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Sunday after the 11:30 Mass.  
Many hands make light work.



*Fr. Newcomb, Fr. Csete, Deacon Rich, the parish staff, and the Little Lambs staff would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.*

**Save the Date!** Court Madonna #114 is hosting the 2nd annual Family Fun Day! Join us for an afternoon of fun, games, crafts, face painting, and snacks. Call Gina to RSVP or Rose Jarvies.  
Fun for the whole family!

We now have Eucharistic Adoration cards available. For a donation, you can gift a card for Christmas, birthdays, get well, etc. and spend time with our Lord. They are available in the parish office.



## *Thank You!*

We are very grateful for your participation in our parish campaign, A Coffee a Day for Our Parish. While we might be a little less caffeinated, your sacrifices for our community are much appreciated. Your increased contribution is allowing our parish to better minister to all who call it home or will in the future.

The collection for December 14/15 was \$4,684.50.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.

## Announced Masses

- Monday, December 23**  
9:00am Matthew Avella, by Cheryl Lovelace
- Tuesday, December 24**  
4:00pm John Coady, by Cheryl Lovelace
- Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas)**  
10:00am Michelle Marino, by Deacon and Joanne Marino  
John Konchan, by the Konchan family
- Thursday, December 26 (Stephen, First Martyr)**  
9:00am Stephanie Tooley, by her sisters
- Saturday, December 28**  
4:00pm John and Mary Oliver, by the family
- Sunday, December 29 (Holy Family)**  
8:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's  
11:30am Helen Costic, by Cheryl Lovelace  
1:00pm Rose and Mary Vicidomini, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church in memory of Evelyn and Charles Westfall & Fannie and Mannie Pirotta, by Catherine Westfall.*



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Chapel, in memory of John Ritzel, by his loving wife Mary Ritzel.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Antonino Mazzara, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Carmella Balsamello, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, Allan Garcia, Christine Haberzettl, Eric Hildebrandt, Rose Gotthardt, Georgia Gotthardt, John Olenick, and John Hendrix.

### *Liturgical Ministers for December 28th/29th, 2019*

Mass	Lector	Ministers of Holy Communion	Altar Servers
4:00pm	L. AVELLA	W. POND	A. WEBB, J. LEGATO
8:30am	J. SMITH	J. HENDRICK, T. CALVARIO	T. LAMOREAUX, M. REINHARDT
11:30am	M. ESLING	J. SNELLINGER, D. FISHER	A. LAUTURE, DJ PERRIN