



Saturday	Dec. 20 – Vigil
5:30PM	Pietro Sforza
Sunday	Dec. 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:45AM	Leonard and Robert Florio
10:00AM	John Hecker
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday	Dec. 22 – Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Jeffery Karash
8:45AM	Harold Urban
Tuesday	Dec. 23 – Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Donna, Barrett & Morris Families
8:45AM	Philip, Rita & Raymond L. Rodin
Wednesday	Dec. 24 – Advent Weekday
9:00AM	Ann von Schaumburg
4:30PM	Elizabeth O'Shea
6:30PM	George R. Coberg
12:00AM	Maye, O'Flaherty & Rugani Families
Thursday	Dec. 25 – Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
8:00AM	William O'Shea
10:00AM	Klarer & Jendrusak Families
12:00PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Friday	Dec. 26 – St. Stephen
9:00AM	Dolly Vogt
Saturday	Dec. 27 – St. John
8:30AM	Frances G. Schaf
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:45AM	Teresa Denehan
10:00AM	David George Kay
12 Noon	John Hartmann

In Loving Memory

The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Anna and Frank Zeisel requested by John and Marie.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Hofmann and Zeisel families requested by John and Marie.



We ask your prayers for our recently deceased parishioners, Florence M. Dowling, Charles A. Rieck and Ann Sernotti.

If you would like our parish to continue to pray for family, friends or loved ones who are ill and in need of prayer, please call the rectory office – 201-384-0557. We will put their names on the sick list once again and continue our prayer for them. If you want their name to be added to our Prayer Chain, please let us know that as well.

Please pray for the sick

Mariana Cardenas...George Magno...Peter Ramzi... David Storick
Bob Jackson...Susan G. Klarer...Kathy Hans...Cecelia Agpalasin
Katherine Marie Mirabile...Maria Martinez...Maureen G...Baby Jake
Emily Del Vecchio...Angela Darata...Cecilia Gomes...Donna Tkacz
Anne O'Neill...Margherita Bonaldo... Valerie Kana' ...Kendra Wehner
Teresa Colgan..Patricia Marino..Ed Lane..Mathilde Hartmann..Ben S.
John R...Dorothy McDuffy...Angela Petrocelli...Benjamin Zangoglia
Richard Domenech..Marie Fitzgerald..Sr. Margaret Hoffman
Tony Martignetti..Mary Coutinho..John Tibbs..Barbara Manz
Carole Chittenden..Deborah Portillo..Potino Canares..Thomas Donnelly
Barbara Wronski..Joan Rella..Louis Garipoli..John T. Shea

Pictures for Nov. 2

If you have framed photos of family members who have died that were placed in the church for the month of November as part of our remembrance of those who have died, you can now pick them up at the rectory between 9:00am-6:00pm.



Sunday – December 21

9:00AM-10:00AM Adult RCIA RCA
11:00AM-12:00Noon Kids RCIA Class SFC
11:00AM-12:00Noon Teen RCIA Youth Room

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday – December 22

6:30PM Decorate church for Christmas
6:30PM-9:30PM Basketball SH

Tuesday – December 23

9:30AM Parents Group B10
6:30PM Decorate church for Christmas
7:00PM-9:00PM Adult Choir Chapel

Wednesday – December 24

Thursday – December 25

Christmas Day

Friday – December 26

7:30PM Rosary for Peace LC

Saturday – December 27

Feast of St. John

Sunday – December 28

9:00AM-10:00AM Adult RCIA RCA
11:00AM-12:00Noon Kids RCIA Class SFC
11:00AM-12:00Noon Teen RCIA Youth Room

Solemnity of the Holy Family

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs



Christmas Mass Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

4:30 PM Mass with our Children's Choir
6:30 PM Mass with a Wind Ensemble and Contemporary Choir
11:15 PM Celebration of Carols
12:00 Midnight Mass with our Adult Choir

Thursday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

New Year's Mass Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 31

6:00PM Vigil Mass

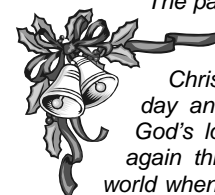
Thursday, Jan. 1

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM



Christmas Greetings

The parish staff and Pastoral Council wish to extend to all of our parish families their prayers and best wishes for a blessed and joyful Christmas Day and Christmas Season. This is the day and the time when we celebrate the wonder of God's love, born for us in the Christ Child. We pray again this year for the gift of peace, promised to the world when the Lord was born for us. Sadly, that peace is not yet a reality in our world, but **we do not give up hope**. We pray that we will be the instruments of that peace in our world today. **May God bless us – everyone!**



Many hands make light work -- We need your help -

Decorating the church on Monday, December 22 and Tuesday, Dec 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m. We especially need men on Monday evening to help move the 20ft trees into the church!



Parish Office Schedule



We want parishioners to know that the parish office will be closed Wednesday thru Friday, Dec. 24, 25 & 26, 2008 and also on Wednesday thru Friday, Dec. 31, 2008, Jan. 1 & 2, 2009.

Serving in Iraq

We ask God to keep in his care all those who are serving overseas in our armed forces, especially in Iraq or Afghanistan. They are listed below and we ask your prayers for them.

- Christopher Iacobino Michael Whitford Michael Bianco
Brian Collins Alicia Newball Gerald J. Ferra, Jr.
James Markert Mathew Rosica James Phillips Kyle Zownir
Kristine Becker Donald Dickson Danny Hilsdorf
Edward Bryan Frago Angelica Peji John Paul McLaughlin
Joshua M LaBazzetta James R. Melady Robert Dellner
Walter F. Fawcett David Christopher Pierson Joe Shannon
Christopher Lynch Zane Campbel Christopher Kishbach
Robert Challener, Jr. Ryan Shireman Christian Baierwalter
Anthony Zangoglia...Wayne Lawton Daniel Rosica

If you have a relative serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, please call the rectory so that we can add his/her name and offer a prayer for him/her.

St. Paul Session

On Thursday, Jan. 8, at 7:30 PM, we will have our second session on the writings of St. Paul. Fr. Bob wants to apologize for having to cancel the last session at the last minute. Having looked at the person of St. Paul in our first session, we will look over his letters in the New Testament to discover how so much of what he wrote has become the foundation of our faith. Just in case there is a need to re-schedule the session due to unforeseen circumstances, please call the rectory and let us know that you would be attending this session on Jan. 8.

Intersection Work

Father Bob contacted Mayor McHale to get an update regarding the work that will be done to the intersection of Washington and New Milford Avenues. The mayor communicated that the county of Bergen is expected to bid the project during the winter with the projected start date in the spring of 2009. The work should coincide with the construction of the St. Mary's Senior Residence building. However, it seems as if the project will be completed in 2010, after the Senior Residence is completed. We wanted to pass this information on to our parishioners since some have asked about the new intersection.

Summer Trip 2009 Brochures

Brochures are now in the parish office for our trip to California from July 18-27, 2009. We will spend time in San Francisco, Sonoma, the Sierra Nevadas, Yosemite National Park, Carmel, Monterey, San Simeon, Santa Ynez, Solvang, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles, including Hollywood (Mann's Chinese Theater, Sunset Strip, Rodeo Drive). The cost per person, two to a room, is \$2,900.00. The cost includes 1) transportation to and from St. Mary's/Newark Airport; 2) departure taxes/fuel surcharges; 3) round trip airfare Newark/San Francisco & Los Angeles/Newark; 4) 8 nights hotel accommodations; 5) sightseeing as described in brochure; 6) daily breakfast, 1 lunch, 3 dinners. An optional excursion at the end of the trip would include a trip to San Diego, hotel accommodation w/full breakfast, sightseeing and entrance/service fees. This would cost an additional \$300. If you are interested in this trip, please come to the rectory and pick up a brochure.

Sight and Sound Trip - Balance Due

If you have reserved a ticket for the Easter show Behold the Lamb at Sight & Sound's Millennium Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, March 28, 2009, the balance is now due. This is for those who did not pay the entire amount when they made their reservation

First Friday Sacred Heart Novena and Healing Mass

Church of St. Mary, 20 Legion Pl, Closter, 201-768-7565, will hold the Sacred Heart Novena/Healing Mass on the first Fri. of nine consecutive months. The next novena mass will be held on Fri., Jan. 2. Each evening begins at 7:00pm with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, confessions, litany to the Sacred Heart, and benediction. Mass begins at 8:00pm ending with prayers for healing and anointing.

Campaign Information

We want to give updated totals for the Capital Campaign Realizing the Dream so that the parish will know the pledges/actual money that we have received thus far and how the money has been and is being spent.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total amount in pledges made (\$886,066.16), Number of families who have pledged (440), Average pledge per family (\$2,013.79), Cash collected thus far (\$216,127.99), Expenses paid thus far (\$114,148.36), and Cash on hand (\$101,979.63).

Pledges for one time donation are still gratefully accepted.

Explanation of Expenses

- 1) Total amount paid to Lynch Development Associates for Preliminary Feasibility Study, Actual Capital Campaign and costs related to both - \$86,881.36
2) Rectory roof repair - \$15,000.00
3) Church roof repair - \$12,267.00

Lynch Development Associates was the lowest of three bids that we received for the Feasibility and the Capital Campaign. This cost is approximately 9.8% of the total that has been pledged. That is less than the typical 10% that is projected for the cost of a Feasibility Study and a Capital Campaign.

Campaign Prayer

God of all goodness, in every generation, you gather your people together in peace and bind them as one in prayer, in community and in ser-vice. For almost one hundred years, you have united the people of St. Mary's as one parish family. We are men and women, adult and children, coming from the four corners of the earth, speaking different languages, yet bound together through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through your good-ness and the generosity of those who have come before us, we have been blessed in our present home - our church - for almost fifty years.

Now is the time for us, the people of St. Mary's gathered at this time in our history, to ensure that what we have received from those before us may be preserved for those who will come after us. In prayer and in reflection, we now realize the greatness of your bounty and we accept the challenge of offering our time, our talent and our treasure so that we can preserve for future generations what we have been fortunate enough to receive from those who have built before us in faith and trust.

Send your Spirit upon us, O Lord, that we may be cheerful as we accept joyfully this next phase in the life of our parish. Help us to share a portion of our gifts, so that we, as a parish, may realize the dream and preserve for those who come after us what we have received in gratitude.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PALAD Corner

The Simbang Gabi celebration last Friday was a fitting testament of the Christmas spirit: an abundance of joy, togetherness and sharing. We thank all of you who joined in the celebration. And of special mention are the people - there are so many of them - who worked long hours and so unselfishly to make it the success that it was. On behalf of the EB, we extend to you our profound gratitude.

The \$50 winner of the 6th Lucky Weeks Club drawing is Bruno Stevens of Hollis Hills, NY. Kathy Alvarez sold the winning ticket.

St. Mary's Senior Residence Information

As you can see, the work on the St. Mary's Senior Residence continues and we want to be sure that we answer any questions that you may have. If you have a question regarding the construction, please e-mail the rectory at info@stmarysdumont.org with your question. If we do not know the answer, we will do all that we can to find the answer. Please pray for the ongoing success of the construction.

