St. Philip the Apostle

488 Saddle River Road
Saddle Brook, NJ
07663

Rev. Bruce Janiga
Pastor

Rev. Kajetan Klein
Parochial Vicar

December 13, 2020

Religious Education & RCIA
Peter K. O'Brien M. Div., Director
Elaine Mogerman, Secretary
201-843-2240
reled@stphilipsb.org

God's Special Children Rel. Ed
Monica Maniscalco, M. Ed, Dir.
917-992-7904
Instruction for Special Needs Children

Music Ministry
Basil Pizzuto, Director
201-615-5299
Francesca Kubian, Adult Choir
Barbara Weiner, Children's Choir

Trustees
Dr. Richard Filipek
Camille Tritto

Sunday Mass Schedule
5:30pm (Saturday Evening)
7:00am,10:00am, 12:00pm

Weekdays / Saturday
7:00am & 8:30am

Holy Days
5:30pm (Eve)
7:00am, 8:30am
12:10pm and 7:30pm

Rectory
201-843-1888
Fax: 201-368-9161
E-mail: ourparish@stphilipsb.org
website: www.stphilipsb.org

Parish Office Staff
Dina Kudlack
Tricia Regan

Reconciliation
Private Reconciliation
Call Rectory

Devotions
Temporarily Suspended

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 12th
7:00 am † Stephen Stonczer
8:30 am † Giuseppe Mattera
5:30 pm For the People

Sunday, December 13th
7:00 am † Evelyn K Alaimo
10:00 am † Leichtnam Family
12:00 pm † Mary J. Hughes

Monday, December 14th
7:00 am † Marie Perrone
8:30 am † Eugene Vitale & Rudolph Lalak Sr.

Tuesday, December 15th
7:00 am † Frank Scerbo
8:30 am Living & Deceased Members of the Kyle, Marchese & Mende Families

Wednesday, December 16th
7:00 am † Theresa Hansen
8:30 am † Joseph Ceccacci

Thursday, December 17th
7:00 am † Eberto Bauta
8:30 am † Stella Rosty Bednarz & Baby

Friday, December 18th
7:00 am † Josephine LaPore
8:30 am † Joseph Ceccacci

Saturday, December 19th
7:00 am † Ellen Coady Florek
8:30 am † Emelia Dudsack
5:30 pm † Barbara Nelson

Sunday, December 20th
7:00 am For the People
10:00 am † Mary Jane Hughes
12:00 pm † Richard Tulipano

The *hosts* used in the holy sacrifice of the Mass have been offered for the month in loving memory of **Frank Ramsay**, donated by Agnes Ramsay.

The *wine* used in the holy sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for the month in loving memory of **Margaret Cwynar,** donated by the Donofrio Family.

The *Sanctuary candle* will burn in loving memory of the **Lomangino & Mongelli familes**, donated by the Lomangino family.

The Holy Family candle will burn in loving memory of **Michael & Norbert Small**, donated by Nancy Small.

The candle at the shrine of St. Jude will burn in loving memory of the **Gara & Soden Families**, donated by Nancy Gara.

The candle at the shrine of St. Elizabeth will burn in loving memory of **Andrzej Bryjak**, donated by Diane Soltys.

The candle at the shrine of St. Anthony will burn for **Carmen & Alfred Price** donated by Pat and Bill Major.

The candle at the shrine of St. Therese will burn in loving memory of **Edward F. Kugler Jr.** donated by Kim Carroll.

Please pray for the sick members of our parish:

- Betty Agnello
- Millie Antenucci
- Richard Ardito
- Jacob Berard
- Nancy Buckley
- John Choma
- Baby Luke Coloianni
- JoAnn Daleo
- Jim Fasano
- Larry Gulitti
- Marie Kenny
- Wanda Kozloski
- MaryLou Krukar
- Rude Krukar
- Claire Kwiatkowski
- Beverly Kunz
- Justin Langfield
- Dorothy Leider
- Mary Mattera
- Elenore Mazzola
- Bill Meurer
- Jackie Meurer
- Kelly Ann Morris
- Lena Pizzullo
- Mary Sestanovich
- Stephen Stupalski
- Pamela Swenson
- Carol Zastrow

Weekly Collection

12/6/2020 Collection:	*$3,128.00*
December Assessment Collection:	*$458.00*
Buildings & Grounds Collection:	*$185.00*
Faith Direct Monthly:	*$2,212.90*

Thank you for the continued support of our Church.

Please Pray for the Deceased

Gloria Pinelli

Advent Message From the Pastor

MARANATHA

COME LORD JESUS

Praised be Jesus Christ!

We have arrived at the Third Sunday of Advent. In the pre-Vatican II era this Sunday was known as Gaudete (*Rejoice* in Latin) Sunday. Based on the prayers and readings of the day the liturgical color for the day was rose, instead of violet. But in 1969 Pope Paul VI approved a new calendar in which the four Sundays of Advent were all celebrated in violet, allowing for the option of rose vestments for those who wished to continue to wear them. This change was not very well publicized as more than fifty years later religious goods manufacturers continue to make Advent Wreaths with three violet and one rose, often referred to as "pink," candle. Here at St Philip's we follow the current Vatican directives using violet, the color prescribed for all four Sundays of Advent.

Later this week the focus of our formal prayers at Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours shifts to the second focus of Advent: preparing to celebrate Christ's birth. Our "Maranatha" becomes "Come, Emmanuel" as the immediate preparations for Christmas begins. Here at St Philip's the flowers have been ordered and a plan is in place to switch our decorations from the purples of Advent to the whites, golds and other festive colors of Christmas. These decorations will remain for the Christmas Season which ***begins*** on December 25. Join us in celebrating the "twelve days of Christmas" by keeping your own decorations up through Epiphany. And please don't forget to contribute to our "Christmas Flower Collection."

Since we do not know how many people we will have for Masses at Christmas we have begun to use a **reservation system** for weekend Masses. We started accepting reservations for all Masses last week in a trial attempt to see how the system works. We are using a company called Event Brite. You may make reservations for Christmas Masses through our website. If you don't have an internet connection or feel more comfortable, you can call the Main Office during business hours and our staff will take your reservation.

Traditionally the Christmas Eve Masses are the most crowded and since we are limited in capacity because of the pandemic we want to facilitate a smooth process. If we get more than our limit in reservations (132) we will offer seating in the auditorium where we will be live-streaming Christmas Eve Mass from the Church. Holy Communion will be distributed in both spaces. Reservations will only be accepted one week at a time and you may only reserve spaces for members of your household. Our hospitality team will work out the logistics of where each group will sit. We feel that this is a fair way to accommodate our regular parishioners whose frequent attendance and support helps us stay open. At the same time we are always happy to welcome visitors as well.

A considerable portion of our annual budget - **$19,00** is accounted for in our Christmas collection. Last year we received over $25,000. As you know, like many other churches we have experienced a significant drop in Sunday offertory because of the coronavirus. We have made some significant cuts in expenses for the year but we are still looking for ways to meet our expenses. I am aware that some families might not be able to give as much as they have in the past because of their own financial difficulties, but I am praying that others might be able to give a larger Christmas gift to St Philip's as a result of the blessings received this year. Please know that I am always thankful for your generosity and for that, you are all always in my prayers.

Finally, next weekend we will have the Blessing of the Bambinelli at all Masses. This tradition goes back to 1969 when Pope Paul VI initiated it. Pope John Paul II popularized it during his pontificate. We invite you to bring the baby Jesus from your nativity set to church next week, carefully wrapped in swaddling clothes for protection, and we will bless them.

In the Lord's Love,
Fr Bruce

Lectionary Spirituality

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
Second Reading: First Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Once again, we encounter John the Baptist in today's gospel. He "came to testify to the light" (v.7), who is the one promised by God long ago through the prophets. John's presence and preaching stir up the hopes of the people. They suspect he might be "the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet" (v.25), individuals expected to be sent by God to the people. But John tells them, and us, that the one coming "after me" (v.27) is more than that. The one who is to come is the Son of God, our Redeemer.

Today's text from Third Isaiah is considered a foreshadowing of the mission of Jesus. "The spirit of the Lord God" (v.1) is upon him. He has been anointed and sent. He comes to bring "good news" (v.1), the gospel, to those in darkness. The time of his visitation marks a new era in world history, a time when those who are in need of God's healing grace will receive it and when justice will "spring up" (v.11) on the earth.

Paul calls the Thessalonians to persevere in their faith. "Pray without ceasing" (v. 7), he advises. In his prayer for them he prays that God will "make you perfectly holy and may you…be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (v.23). God is faithful, Paul tells us, and "he will also accomplish it" (v. 24). Writing with an expectation of an imminent return of the Lord Jesus, Paul exhorts them to live lives of holiness as they await his return. Two thousand years later we still anticipate his return and so are called to live with that same hope, cooperating with the grace of God in our lives.

For reflection: How does my baptismal anointing unite me with Christ in the mission to bring good news to the world? God desires to make us holy and blameless, do I regularly seek God's grace to grow in holiness? Or am I content to stay as I am?

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The fourth part of Matthew Kelly's *Prayer Process* is "Peace". He tells us to "Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed (against yourself, another person or Him) and to fill you with a deep and abiding peace."

At the Last Supper Jesus offered his disciples his peace, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives …" After the resurrection Jesus appeared to his disciples and greeted them, "Peace be with you." Biblical peace is more than the absence of war; it is something that makes us right in our relationship with God and with others.

Asking for forgiveness is the first step to achieving peace. And in order to grow in our relationship with God we need to be reconciled. God's forgiveness brings about a sense of peace. God's forgiveness is freely given and the experience of it brings us closer to God as it is also an experience of God's love. As in a healthy human relationship experiencing forgiveness deepens our relationship, so too do we grow closer to God by admitting our offenses and accepting his peace.

Kelly tells us, "the goal is to develop the ability to have intimate conversations with God during this time set aside for prayer." Many people feel uncomfortable talking about having an intimate relationship with God, but that is what the Church tells us is God's desire. God wants to be known and loved by us in the deepest way. The way to develop this relationship is through prayer, when we speak our own hearts to God.

Beyond asking for forgiveness Kelly advises us to also ask to be filled "with a deep and abiding peace." Often we notice that those who have a rich prayer life have a sense of peace about them.

Over the next week spend some time with God reflecting on the gift of abiding peace that only he can give.

Welcoming Christ at Christmas

In the coming weeks, many more people than usual will be coming through our church doors for Christmas holidays. Many of these people are searching for a place—a community—where they can express their faith. Please remember that just as we have sung in the past and will sing again that "All Are Welcome", we have the opportunity not to judge but to be Christ-like; warm and welcoming to ALL this Christmas. Remember, we can't complain that more Catholics don't come to Mass and then give them a reason not to come back by the way we treat them when they show up at Christmas.

Each year it is the responsibility of the pastor to make a report to the parish similar to the president's State of the Union. This report represents what has happened over the past year at St Philip's. On the back of this page is a brief summary of our financial statement. Unfortunately, because of lost income due to the COVID19 shutdown, we incurred a deficit of $21,205 last year. During the first half of the fiscal year, from July – December, we were doing well. But then the virus struck and we were forced to close down for several months. Fortunately some people still mailed in their contributions and others had already signed up for electronic giving so their donations continued to provide us with support. But our expenses also continued.

I am particularly grateful to our Finance Council for their advice and assistance in reviewing costs and revenues and helping to make some difficult decisions with regards to staffing and other expenses during these trying times. While some positions were eliminated, other staff members had their hours cut or were furloughed. We also benefitted from the federal payroll protection loan program.

In the first half of the year we continued to offer book discussion groups, Adult Faith Formation sessions, Senior Citizens' Masses and a Bereavement Support Group. But once the lockdown happened we had to put these events on hold. We quickly adapted to video recording Masses and uploading them to our YouTube page and we sent our bulletin out via e-mail. And when we were allowed to reopen for public Mass we took every precaution. We installed UVC lights in our HVAC system to break down the virus and invested in an electrostatic sprayer to sanitize the pews between Masses.

One good thing that came out of this experience is our Hospitality Team. This group of volunteers greets you at the door and checks your temperature before allowing you to enter the church where you are asked to sanitize your hands and register. Then a team member will escort you to a designated seat. Many people have commented on how well we are working in trying to keep people safe and how friendly our team is. We intend to keep them on board when we return to "normal."

Over the past year we baptized 20 new parishioners and 33 children received First Holy Communion. We also had 32 Confirmation candidates and three couples were married at St. Philip's. Sadly, we had forty-seven funerals, but this number is fewer than last year.

We had some new experiences this year that helped raise money and also assisted in community building. Our Food Truck Festival was a success. As was the Fish & Chips Drive Thru. Look for more events like these when we are allowed to fully reopen.

Our Building and Grounds Subcommittee has a lengthy list of deferred maintenance items that need to be addressed and the Building and Grounds Fund will help us cover these expenses. In the meantime, I'd like to ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your weekly donation so that we can continue to pay down our debt to the archdiocese and invest some money in capital repairs and expenses. The imminent sale of the convent will result in a good deal of money but we don't want to use it to pay off our debt and have nothing left to pay for needed repairs such as the pillars in front of the church and the steps on the choir side of the church. Our stained glass windows are also in need of serious attention.

Several other items are worth noting. Our Post-Baptismal Ministry is keeping in touch with the families of children who were baptized at our parish over the past 15 months or so. Once the COVID19 pandemic is ended we plan on having some gatherings for parents and their young children. Our Bethany Ministry keeps in touch with those who recently lost loved ones with CareNotes mailed to them at various times during the first year after their loss. And they sponsor the annual Mass of Remembrance.

The Greek word for church, ekklesia, has as its first meaning the assembly, only secondarily does it refer to the place where believers gather. St Philip's Church is more than bricks and mortar, we are a living community of faith. We exist because of the believers. I thank you for being part of our community of faith and encourage you to look for new ways to grow in that faith. *Fr Bruce*

ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE CHURCH

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

REVENUES	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
RENTAL INCOME FROM SCHOOL BUILDING	386,545	378,966
SUNDAY, CHRISTMAS, AND EASTER COLLECTIONS	366,488	446,004
FUNDRAISING REVENUES BEFORE EXPENSES	97,596	152,440
SCHOOL TENANT EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS - UTILITIES & SNOW REMOVAL	43,757	45,989
DONATIONS, GIFTS, AND OTHER RESTRICTED REVENUE	36,010	35,627
ARCHDIOCESAN ASSESSMENT COLLECTION *(SEE EXPENSE BELOW)*	25,431	27,874
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REVENUES	20,755	21,571
SOCIETY INCOME - HOLY NAME, ROSARY, ST. VINCENT DEPAUL	19,567	21,073
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	10,676	8,835
CANDLE REVENUES	6,664	7,980
BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERAL FEES	2,900	3,650
TOTAL REVENUES	**1,016,389**	**1,150,009**
EXPENSES		
SALARIES, BENEFITS, PENSION COSTS, AND PAYROLL TAXES	467,871	492,273
BUILDING, UTILITIES, AND EQUIPMENT COSTS	125,825	128,580
ARCHDIOCESAN ASSESSMENTS	116,916	117,588
FUNDRAISING EXPENSES	74,956	99,478
CONTRACTED AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	55,332	67,920
LITURGICAL, OFFICE, AND RESIDENCE SUPPLIES	51,886	83,692
SOCIETY EXPENSES - HOLY NAME, ROSARY, ST. VINCENT DEPAUL	17,609	16,730
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXCLUDING SALARIES AND BENEFITS	16,315	31,880
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	14,359	12,125
CONTRIBUTION TO ARCHDIOCESAN SCHOOL PROGRAM	-	94,741
TOTAL EXPENSES	**941,069**	**1,145,007**
SURPLUS FROM OPERATIONS	***75,320***	***5,002***
LOAN PAYMENTS TOWARDS ARCHDIOCESAN DEBT	-96,525	0
(DEFICIT)/ADDITION IN AVAILABLE CASH AT YEAR END	***(21,205)***	***5,002***

NOTE: This financial summary does **NOT** include extraordinary and non-recurring items including grants from the Archdiocese, capital campaign donations, capital improvement expenses, and other one-time expenses. This summary is intended to reflect the results of operations only.

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St Philip's Respect Life Ministries

For some, the Christmas season can be a challenging time marked more by distress and loss, than joy and wonder. Please join us on December 20th at 7PM in the Saint Philip's Chapel for **Blue Christmas**, an evening of reflection and support. The evening is an opportunity for those experiencing grief, loss, and challenges, to offer up loneliness, sorrow, and pain to God this holiday season. Together, we will find hope and comfort in knowing we are not alone.

Helping Hands

Food Pantry Collection

The food pantry at Sacred Heart is now accepting food donations. But out a sense of concern for the safety of our volunteers we have decided to continue collecting only financial contributions at this point so as to not put our volunteers at risk from handling the many bags of food. Next weekend is the usual time for donations. Cash or checks, placed in an envelope marked "Food Pantry" can be placed in the baskets near the doors of the church. Last month we collected $650.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

December 13—Third Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving…please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

Save a Life: Give Blood

At this time of year blood supplies run dangerously low. Because of the pandemic the Bloodmobile cannot come to us but you can still go to them. Consider donating blood as a Thanksgiving gift and help save lives. Contact Vitalant Donor Center in Paramus. 877-25- VITAL or visit their website: vitalant.org

"To imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps"

A Short Christmas Tree Blessing

Leader: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.
Leader: Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.
All: Amen.
Leader: My brothers and sisters,
amidst signs and wonders
Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea:
his birth brings joy to our hearts
and enlightenment to our minds.
With this tree, decorated and adorned,
may we welcome Christ among us;
may its lights guide us to the perfect light.
The leader then says this prayer with hands joined:
Leader: Lord our God,
we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.
We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets,
and the wisdom of the Scriptures.
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.
Let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.
The lights of the tree are then illuminated.
The leader concludes the rite by signing
himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:
Leader: May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever. Amen.

—Adapted from Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers

Tune into the
Music Ministry *Virtual*
Christmas Concert
on our youtube channel:
Saint Philip the Apostle
Saddle Brook
this Sunday, 12/13 at 3pm.

Christmas Mass Schedule

As you make plans for celebrating Christmas we wanted to inform you of the schedule of Masses.

Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 10:00 pm
Christmas Day: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon

A copy of the schedule was mailed to all registered parishioners. Please note, reservations for Christmas Masses are required. Reservations will open on our website or by calling the office beginning December 18th.

Blessing the Bambinelli

We invite you to bring your "baby Jesus" to church Dec 19/20. We will have a special blessing of the Bambinelli at all Masses.

Celebrants for December 19/20

December 19	5:30PM	Fr. Bruce
December 20	7:00AM	Fr. Kajetan
	10:00AM	Fr. Bruce
	12:00PM	Fr. Kajetan

Christmas Luminaries

We will be offering Christmas luminaries this Christmas season. Luminaries may shine for a living or deceased loved one. All luminaries will be displayed around the church on Christmas Eve during the 10 pm Mass. If you would like a luminary to shine for one of your loved ones, please fill out a luminary form (additional forms available on the back tables of the Church after Masses or at the Rectory). Please return with your $5 donation to the Rectory by Sunday, Dec 20.

Help Wanted

St Philip's is looking for individuals familiar with video recording and editing to join our team recording weekend Mass so we can continue to stream it on our website and broadcast it on local cable television. Please contact Fr Bruce if you are interested.

Opaltek Sale

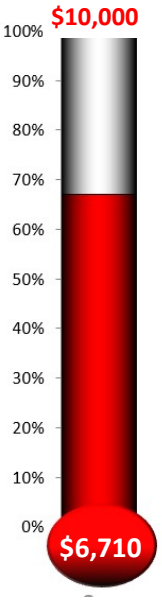
We will be selling opaltki after the Masses on **Dec. 13th & 20th**.

An opaltek is Christmas Bread or Christmas Wafer. It reminds us of a beautiful old custom of Polish Catholics who share it on Christmas Eve before supper as a symbol of love, unity and fraternity expressing their mutual best wishes.

Parish Christmas Raffle

Please take a chance & support the St. Philip the Apostle family. *The drawing takes place immediately following the 12pm Mass on Sunday, December 13th*. The current jackpot is **$6,710**.

Each ticket is $10 each. If you would like, additional tickets, they are available at the Rectory office. Please return your tickets by mail or drop them at the hospitality desk. What a wonderful Christmas present winning would be!



Other Ways to Donate to St. Philip's

St Philip's and amazonsmile

St Philips is an Amazon Smile charity. This means that when you make a purchase from Amazon, after designating us as your "Smile" charity, we will receive a donation of 0.5% from Amazon based on ***any*** purchase you make. You only have to sign up once and then make your purchases through the Amazon Smile link. While it doesn't sound like a lot of money, it can add up to a considerable amount if enough people participate. Please share this message with anyone you know who shops at Amazon.

Sign up by visiting the link on our webpage or visit Amazon's Smile page and search for St Philip the Apostle, Saddle Brook.

Text to Give

We recently signed up for a "Text to Give" program that allows people to make a donation to our parish using their cellphones. To securely make a gift to St. Philip the Apostle, text a dollar amount to (201) 733-4101. You will be asked to complete a one-time registration page with your billing and contact information. After this registration, you can give any time by texting a dollar amount to our phone number.

Eventually we will be able to accept credit card payments for Mass cards and other Main Office transactions.

Have You Considered Faith Direct?

Do you wish to make life easier by donating electronically to St. Philips? Consider an online enrollment at Faith Direct. No envelopes!

gofundme venmo

Thank You for your Support!!

Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

Kerry Weber, ***America***

December is dedicated to the Divine Infant.

HELP X OUT XMAS!
Use "Noel" instead.
It has the same number of letters.

The Light of the World

There was a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light,so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light: he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ~John 1: 6-9

G	O	A	F	Z	A	H	G	S	G	O	D	Z	L	I
W	E	W	D	K	A	A	S	R	A	F	L	Z	P	J
N	O	E	Z	I	J	E	P	Z	Q	H	N	S	G	K
U	O	R	S	Z	N	O	P	K	K	W	Y	G	F	J
P	A	S	L	T	X	Q	H	K	G	R	M	A	N	G
V	E	N	I	D	M	G	C	N	L	I	G	H	T	H
M	W	W	M	G	O	M	V	B	J	R	K	C	K	M
R	P	G	E	Z	C	S	V	R	B	Z	V	M	B	M
V	B	Q	N	F	B	O	Y	R	N	V	I	K	E	L
S	O	G	F	N	J	F	B	Z	A	E	X	C	L	A
R	T	I	R	H	I	H	P	Y	M	N	R	S	I	N
D	R	K	C	T	W	V	B	J	E	B	Z	E	E	L
X	U	N	S	E	T	Y	A	R	C	A	B	N	V	A
R	E	E	J	T	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	T	E	B
L	T	M	J	N	R	N	I	P	T	I	X	A	D	T

GOD	TRUE	PROPHET	WORLD	SENT
MEN	VOICE	JOHN	WITNESS	MAN
LIGHT	BELIEVE	MESSIAH	TESTIFY	NAME

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God Bless Our Troops

- ★1st LT Claire Betterbed
- ★CPT Elizabeth Betterbed
- ★LT Thomas Betterbed, DDS
- ★PFC. Joseph Camilleri
- ★CPL Joseph Decker
- ★CPT Erik J. Filipek
- ★PFC Andres Guerrero
- ★SPC Ben Hansen

Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in You will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of Your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise You for Your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flu season is upon us.

Particularly this year as we also struggle with the Covid19 pandemic, it is important that we protect ourselves and others by getting vaccinated. For some, it is a matter of life and death.

RCIA—Four letters that stand for the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*. It is a process where non-Catholics explore our faith and are invited to become members of the Catholic Church. Are you someone who…

- Has expressed an interest in being baptized?
- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child but has not completed the sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation?

We gather for 10am Mass & meet afterwards. If you, or anyone you know would be interested in joining us, please contact the Religious Formation office with your name & phone number. We are excited to journey with you as we explore the Catholic faith together. Call 201-843-2240

Readings for the Week

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18B-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38