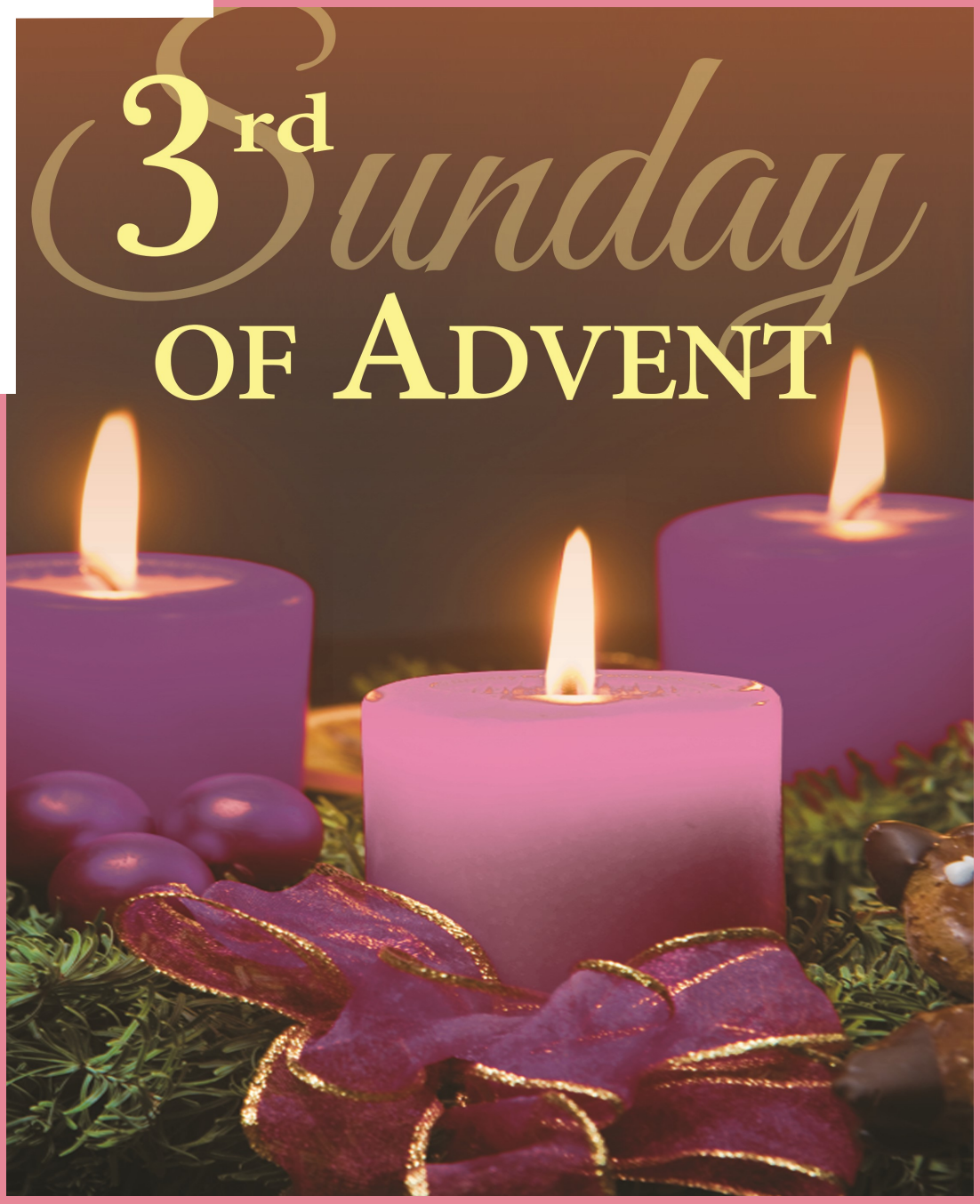
# Saint Mary's Church - Stony Hill
# Roman Catholic Church




December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

225 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069

Parish Office: (908) 756-6524
Website: www.stmaryswatchung.org

Email: parish@stmaryswatchung.org
www.facebook.com/stmaryswatchung

## SERVED BY:

**Very Rev. Brian J. Nolan, D. Min.,** Pastor
908-756-6524 ext. 12; pastor@stmaryswatchung.org

**Rev. Msgr. Eugene Prus,** Weekend Assistant

**Deacon Peter D'Angelo**
deaconpeter@stmaryswatchung.org

**Deacon Lawrence Duffy**
deaconlarry@stmaryswatchung.org

**Frank Capobianco**, Parish Buildings & Grounds
building@stmaryswatchung.org

**Catherine Cooney**, Director of Religious Education
908-756-6524 ext. 16; ccooney@stmaryswatchung.org

**Richard Dorsi**, Cemetery Sales
908-380-3321; cemetery@stmaryswatchung.org

**Nancy Finn**, Director of Development
908-756-6524 ext. 14; nancy@stmaryswatchung.org

**Suzanne Gallic**, Director of Music
suzannegallic@gmail.com

**Pat Manfredonia**, Parish Bookkeeper
908-756-6524 ext. 17; patm@stmaryswatchung.org

**Susan Minogue,** Organist
sminogue37@gmail.com

**Nancy Stoll**, Parish Secretary
908-756-6524 ext. 10; parish@stmaryswatchung.org

## PARISH ORGANIZATION LEADERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Bereavement Group** | *Cheryl Gatti* | *908-***285-0330** |
| **Cemetery Sales** | *Dick Dorsi* | *908-***380-3321** |
| **Cemetery Concerns** | *Pat Manfredonia* | *908-***756-6524** |
| **Children's Liturgy** | *Melissa Camiolo* | |
| | oloimac21005@gmail.com | |
| **Covenant Committee** | *Florence Larkin* | *908-***757-4029** |
| **Fifty-Five + Group** | *Pat Dorsi* | *908-***917-5709** |
| **Finance Committee** | *Nancy Finn* | *908-***756-6524** |
| **Food Pantry** | *Mary Ann & Tony Pangi* | *732-***764-0264** |
| **Food for the Needy (SHIP)** | *Bob Palasits* | *908-***757-5728** |
| **Knights of Columbus** | *Richard Blundin* | *732-***371-1093** |
| | *koc@stmaryswatchung.org* | |
| **Laudato Sí Study Group** | *Michael Rotolo* | *201-***826-6246** |
| | *michael.rotolo1@gmail.com* | |
| **Liturgical Ministries** | *Peter D'Angelo* | *908-***963-0436** |
| **Making Music - Praying Twice** | *Roseann Sicola* | *908-***755-2853** |
| | *makemusic@stmaryswatchung.org* | |
| **Moms & Tots** | *Paige Jasaitis* | *908-***753-0443** |
| **Morning Prayer Group** | *Mary Cooper* | *908-***561-0854** |
| **Music Ministry** | *Suzanne Gallic* | *908-***605-0097** |
| **Pro Life** | *Anthony Ingrassia, Jr.* | *732-***735-8843** |
| **RCIA/Adult Ed** | *Anthony Pangi* | *732-***764-0264** |
| | *a.pangi@aol.com* | |
| **Religious Ed. Grade K-6** | *Catherine Cooney* | *908-***756-6524** |
| **Religious Ed. Grade 7-8 & Confirmation Program** | *Sherry Hudzik* | *908-***668-4868** |
| | *lsbs383@gmail.com* | |
| **St. Ann's Soup Kitchen** | *Sheryl Szlosek* | *908-***616-2697** |
| **Stewardship Committee** | *Beth Mattiassi* | *908-***561-0993** |
| **Youth Ministry** | *Tina Kelly* | *908-***756-6524** |

# Welcome!

A warm welcome is extended to all who come to St. Mary's-Stony Hill to join together in this community of worship and praise to Almighty God. We are grateful to our faithful parishioners and welcome our neighbors and guests who visit us occasionally. We want you to know that you are always welcome!

All parishioners should be registered with the parish office. Please notify the parish if you change your address or move out of the parish. Certificates of eligibility to sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation will be given only to registered parishioners who are active and practicing Catholics.

# Mass Schedule:

**SATURDAY VIGIL:** 4:00 pm
**SUNDAY:** 7:30, 9:00 & 11:15 am
**DAILY:** Mon.-Thurs. & Sat.: 7:00 am; Fri.: 12:10 pm
Morning Prayers and the Rosary prayed daily at 8:40 am
**FIRST FRIDAYS:** check the bulletin or website for evening Mass schedule.
**HOLY DAYS:** VIGIL: 7:30 pm
DAY: 7:00 am, 12:10 pm & 7:30 pm

# Sacraments

**Baptism: 2ND & 4TH SUNDAY: 12:15 pm**
Arrangements must be made through the parish office at least one month in advance. Parents must be registered parishioners; sponsors must be practicing Catholics in good standing. If sponsors are from other parishes, a letter of good standing from their pastor is required.

**Reconciliation: SATURDAY: 3:00-3:45 pm**
Also by appointment. Confessional in the Narthex.

**Marriage:**
Please contact the parish office for an appointment at least one year in advance of the planned wedding date.

Additional information is available on our parish website: www.stmaryswatchung.org.

# Pastoral Care of the Sick and Homebound

Due to privacy laws, we are no longer notified when parishioners are admitted to local hospitals. We are happy to visit sick or homebound parishioners when requested by family members. Please call the parish office to make arrangements. Emergency sick calls can be made at anytime by calling the parish office and selecting "9". Please only use this option for genuine emergencies requiring a priest.

# Religious Education

We offer religious education for children of registered parishioners, who attend public school grades Pre-K thru 8. In addition, preparation for the Sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation is also provided for students who attend Catholic schools. Please check our website or contact the Office of Religious Education (908-756-6524 ext. 16) for information.

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** | **24** |
| **Late Advent Weekday**<br>**7 am Mass**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>7 pm Religious Ed. Classes | **Late Advent Weekday**<br>**7 am Mass**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>10 am MMPT | **Late Advent Weekday**<br>**7 am Mass**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>4 pm Religious Ed. Classes | **St. Peter Canisius**<br>**7 am Mass**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>No Senior Meeting | **Late Advent Weekday**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>**12:10 pm Mass** | **St. John of Kanty**<br>**7 am Mass**<br>8:40 am Rosary & Morning Prayers<br>**4 pm Mass** | **Fourth Sunday of Advent**<br>**7:30 am Mass**<br>**9 am Mass**<br>*No 11:15 am Mass today*<br>No Religious Ed.<br>**Christmas Eve**<br>**Vigil Masses: 4 pm, 6 pm 12 m** |

### Wedding Banns

Third Time

Heather Hurd and Seth Benge

### Bring a Smile to the Face of a Child!

It's time for St. Ann's Annual Toy Give-away. Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy. Toys can be left under the tree in the Parish Center by December 18th. If you would rather make a donation, we will happily shop for you. Please send checks to: Franciscan Charities c/o Ricciardi, 170 Deer Run, Watchung. Thank you and a blessed Christmas to your families!

### Christmas Gift Idea?

Have you considered a raffle ticket for that "hard to buy for" person on your Christmas list?

50/50 raffle tickets are available for purchase after all Masses! Tickets are $100 each — and only 300 will be sold! Drawing will be held at our Murder Mystery Dinner on February 24th. Thank you for supporting our parish fundraiser this year.

### Newly Baptized

We warmly welcome **Juliet Hart**, daughter of Michael & Danielle Ciarletta, who was recently baptized. May the flame of faith grow ever stronger in her heart!

### *Advent Reflections*

During the season of Advent, we will be posting a new reflection each day on our parish website and Facebook page.

We hope these daily reflections help you toward a more rewarding and fulfilling Advent journey.

### In Advent, prepare your heart like your hearth, Pope says

During Advent, we should prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus like we joyfully prepare our homes for a visit from a family member or friend, Pope Francis said Sunday, especially removing anything keeping us from Christ.

"When we await at home a visit from a loved one, we prepare everything with care and happiness. In the same way we want to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord: to wait for him every day with solicitude, to be filled with grace when he comes," the Pope said.

"The Savior we are waiting for is able to transform our life with the power of the Holy Spirit, with the power of love. Indeed, the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts the love of God, an inexhaustible source of purification, of new life and freedom," he said.

-CNA/EWTN News; Dec. 10, 2017 (excerpt)

## St. Mary's - Stony Hill
## Christmas Mass Schedule

*"O Come Let Us Adore Him"*

**4th Sunday of Advent**
**Saturday, December 23**

4:00 pm Vigil Mass — Msgr. Prus, celebrant

**Sunday, December 24**

7:30 am Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant
9:00 am Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant

*Please note there is no 11:15 am Mass the morning of December 24th*

**Vigil of Christmas**
**Sunday, December 24**

4:00 pm Family Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant
6:00 pm Mass — Msgr. Prus, celebrant
11:30 pm Christmas Caroling
12:00 Midnight Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant

**Christmas Day**
**Monday, December 25**

9:00 am Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant
11:15 am Mass — Fr. Brian, celebrant

## Your Sacrificial Offering

**Thank you and may God bless you for your continued support of our parish!**

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|---|---|
| Week of Dec. 9-10 | $7,216 | $8,605 |
| Immaculate Conception | $1,790 | $1,700 |

Stewardship
*a way of life*

## Stewardship Reflection

**"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"**

*- 1 Thes. 5:16 -18*

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations.

Be My WITNESS

"The work of evangelization enriches the mind and the heart; it opens up spiritual horizons; it makes us more and more sensitive to the workings of the Holy Spirit…" - Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 272

The week 3 session is entitled "Come Holy Spirit."

**The Holy Spirit, who is the principal agent of evangelization, leads, guides, inspires, and renews us. When we allow the Holy Spirit to work through us we become witnesses to Christ in word and deed.**

Please keep our "Be My Witness" participants in your prayers this week as they continue their journey to encounter Jesus Christ. If you want to learn more about the program, please call Nancy in the parish office at 908-756-6524 ext, 10).

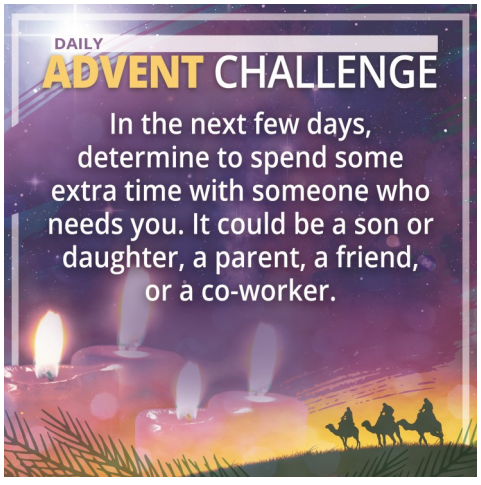
## IN AND AROUND THE DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

### Saint Peter's Gianna Center

We are very pleased to introduce you to the St. Peter's Gianna Center located in New Brunswick, NJ. The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women's health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Heath Care services. Please contact us at 732-565-5490 for more information.

### Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration

Commencing in the new year, Eucharistic Adoration will be held in the chapel at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center. Volunteer adorers and intercessors are needed Monday through Friday during business hours to pray for the intentions of the diocese. For more information or to volunteer, email evangelization@diometuchen.org or call Laura at 732-529-7932.



## Mass Servers

**Dec. 23 - 24**

| MASS | READER | EUCHARISTIC MINISTER | ALTAR SERVER |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saturday, 4:00 pm | D. Speeney | C. & M. Guerriero<br>T. Opalewski<br>G. Wise | B. & P. Przybylski |
| Sunday, 7:30am | T. Appert | Deacon Larry<br>J. & N. Ebler | Open |
| 9:00am | B. Tozzi | M. & M. Christian<br>Deacon Larry | P. Memoli |
| 11:15am | No Mass | No Mass | No Mass |

**TABERNACLE CANDLE BURNING**

**December 16 - 22**

**For our "Be My Witness" participants.**

***A time to heal... Let us pray for the sick:***

Rolando Ablan
Agapito Aquino
Joseph M. Angeleri
Josephine Balko
Jeanne Bellissimo
Eloy Bello
Rose Bello Buono
David Bestwick
Annabella Biondo
Anda Braun
Diane Brown
Genna Camiolo
Minnie Candelino
Marion Caparaso
Brian Carpenter
Lorena D'Amato
Calvin David
Gregory Frisoli
Denise Gilmartin
Barbara Giordano
Jennifer Gonzalez
Robert Gonzalez
Andrew Greiwe
Anthony Gottlick
Eric Hartman
Hans Hendriks
Laura Hinkley
Federico Jarantilla
Doris Kratson
Donna Kugelman
Eric LeGrand
Anthony Leone
Veronica March
Cornell Marino
Kesla Marie Martinez
Daniel McCaffrey
Grace Mitchell
Brenda Mittenhuber
Clare Murphy
John Oborne
Tom Opalewski, Jr.
Donna Palardy
Concetta Palasits
Walter Quense
Rolando Severino
Karen Shanahan
Rose Simone
Frank Skopowski
Bessie Sullivan
Marie Summa
Emma Szanicz
Pat Turner
Audrey Waldron

**PRAY FOR**

***Those in the Military… May God bless you for your service:***

L. Cpl. Joseph Butrico, USMC
Corp. Michael F. Hogan, USM
Pvt. David Lavery, USMC
Edward Paul Louis, USA
Eric Marsjanik, USN
Eric Merkle, USAF
Capt. Jason Milbrandt, USMC
Chaplain Robert Monagle, USAF
Sgt. Patrick Noll USMC
Pvt. Jonathan Sims, Natl Gd.
Capt. Daniel Szurick, USMC
Major John Voorhees, USA

**"...rejoice heartily in the Lord!"**

- Is. 61:2

***For The Week***

**MONDAY, December 18**
**Late Advent Weekday**
**Readings: Jer. 23:5-8/Mt. 1:18-25**
**7:00 a.m. James Sasso, Sr.**

**TUESDAY, December 19**
**Late Advent Weekday**
**Readings: Jgs. 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk. 1:5-25**
**7:00 a.m. For the Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. John Dalessio**

**WEDNESDAY, December 20**
**Late Advent Weekday**
**Readings: Is. 7:10-14/Lk. 1:26-38**
**7:00 a.m. Patricia Connolly**

**THURSDAY, December 21**
**Saint Peter Canisius**
**Readings: Sg. 2:8-14/Lk. 1:39-45**
**7:00 a.m. Reginald Cooper**

**FRIDAY, December 22**
**Late Advent Weekday**
**Readings: Sm. 1:24-28/Lk. 1:46-56**
**12:10 p.m. Arlene Behul**

**SATURDAY MORNING, December 23**
**St. John of Kanty**
**Readings: Mal. 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk. 1:57-66**
**7:00 a.m. Patricia Ann Moran**

**SATURDAY EVENING, December 24**
**Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent**
**2 Sm. 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom. 16:25-27/Lk. 1:26-38**
**4:00 p.m. Natalia Memoli**

**SUNDAY, December 24**
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**
**2 Sm. 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom. 16:25-27/Lk. 1:26-38**
**7:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish**
**9:00 a.m. John Waldron**

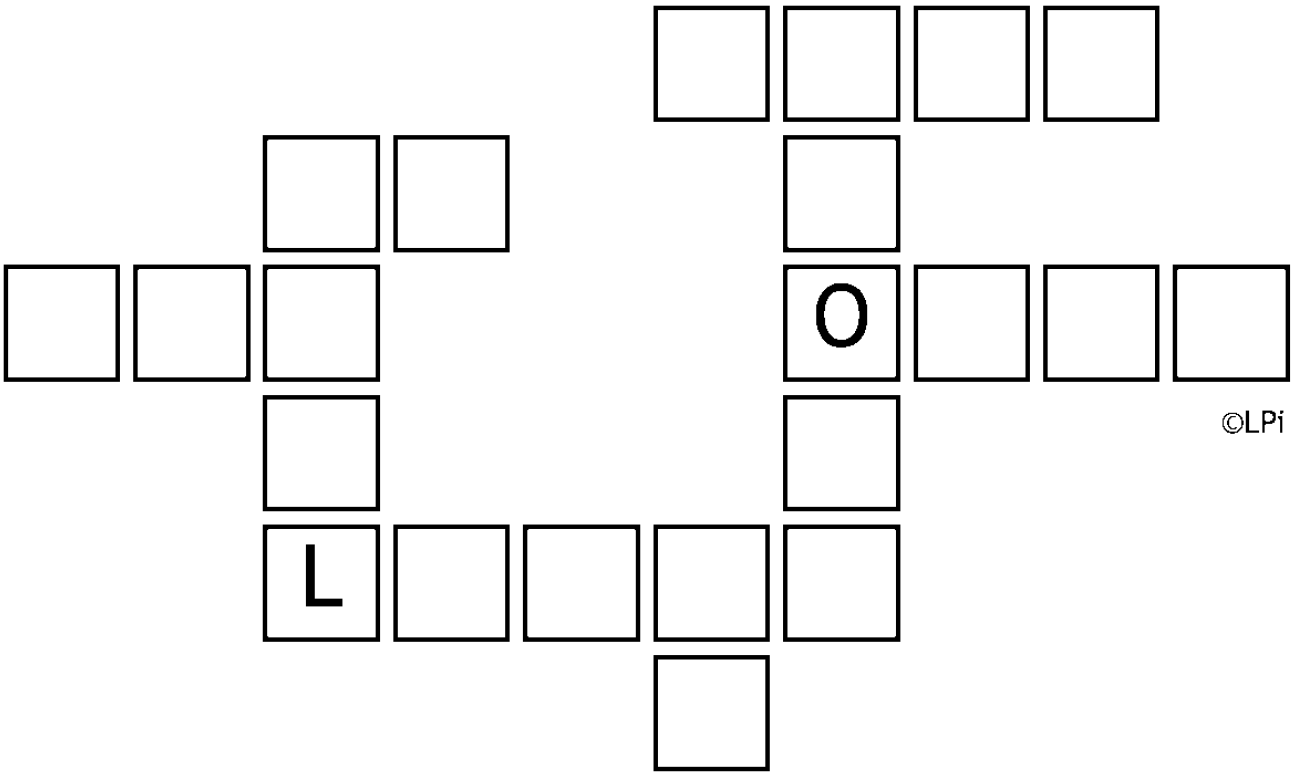
**SUNDAY EVENING, December 24**
**Vigil of Christmas**
**Vigil: Is. 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt. 1:1-25**
**Midnight: Is. 9:16/Ti. 2:11-14/Lk. 2:1-14**
**4:00 p.m. For all Families**
**6:00 p.m. For healing of those who suffer from addiction**
**11:30 p.m. Carols and Readings**
**12:00 Mid. For the intentions of all Priests**

KIDS CORNER

## Sharing the Gospel

John the Baptist prepared the way for the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He shouted in the desert, "Get your soul ready. The Lord is coming." Today John still warns you to get your soul ready for Jesus. Ask God to forgive you. Then forgive yourself and others. Shout to the world. Be a witness by your actions. Show that you believe in God.

## Puzzle

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

**He came only to tell about the light.**