

# NATIVITY of MARY

313 E. WALL STREET • JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN 53545-3047

## Rectory

313 E. Wall Street  
Janesville, WI 53545-3047

Website ..... [www.nativitymary.org](http://www.nativitymary.org)  
Phone ..... (608) 752-7861  
Father Rob Butz ..... (608) 620-9910

Pastor ..... Rev. Robert Butz  
Email: [pastor@nativitymary.org](mailto:pastor@nativitymary.org)  
Dir. of Pastoral Outreach.....Sr. Ruth Brings  
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Parish Secretary .....Sharlet Collins  
Email: [psec@nativitymary.org](mailto:psec@nativitymary.org)

## St. Mary School

307 E. Wall Street  
Janesville, WI 53545-3047

Phone ..... (608) 754-5221  
Principal .....Matthew Parish  
Secretary .....Sue Vodak &  
Sue Dickman

## Religious Education

Phone ..... (608) 752-7861  
Coordinator .....Kathy Hookham

## Prayer Network

Mary Ann Venable.....(608) 754-5284

## Janesville/Milton Mass Times

Nativity of Mary .....Sat. 4:30 pm  
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 am

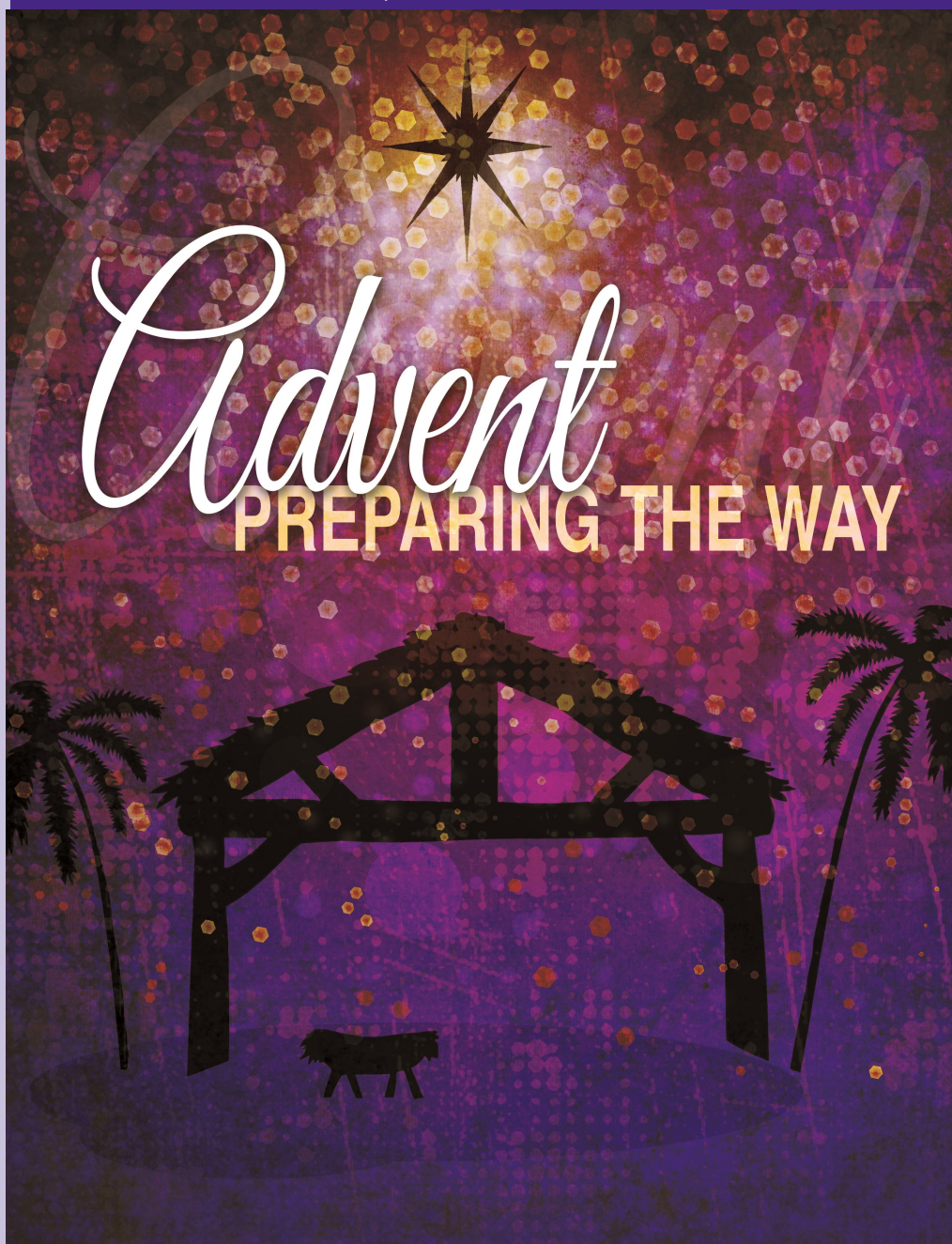
St. Patrick .....Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 7:30 & 10:00 am

*Spanish Mass* - Sun. 5:00 pm

St. John Vianney.....Sat. 5:00 pm  
Sun. 8:15 & 9:45 am

St. William.....Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 8:00 & 10:30 am

St. Mary - Milton .....Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 9:00 am



*We, the Catholic family of Nativity of Mary, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Through worship, the sacraments, fellowship, evangelization and outreach, we will share the word of Christ in our community. -Mission Statement*



## NEWS & NOTES

### From the desk of Father Rob .....

**Communal Penances Approaching:** Advent is a needed time of the year. It is a season in which we prepare for the joy of our Savior's birth. Advent is also a penitential season, as which as God's people we are reminded through the color purple. The Catholic parishes in Janesville will be celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation communally. The sacrament is one of healing and gives us the grace to live what Jesus revealed. Our communal Penance will be this coming Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 9:30 AM. Also, St. Patrick will also celebrate communal Penance on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM. As always, we will continue to offer the sacrament individually on Tuesday evenings at 5:00 PM and Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM. Prepare for the coming of the Lord!

**Saints Corner:** The background of saints vary widely. The native Chichimeca young boy, Juan Diego, was chosen as the one Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to. This young man (from today what is Mexico) was commissioned to be a witness of Our Lady to the local bishop. This coming Thursday is the feast of another young person, St. Lucy. She was born and lived on the island of Sicily. When Lucy was very young, she secretly made a vow of virginity to God. Not very many people do that! Later in her life, a young nobleman sought her hand in marriage. When she rejected him, the man was enraged and turned her over to the authorities on account of her being a Christian. Lucy was imprisoned and tortured horribly. After these trials, she was executed by the sword in 305 AD. May we have the strength to look to Jesus in the midst of our trials and sufferings, regardless of our age.

Have a blessed week!



**Bless Our Priests Collection**—Make sure to remember the retired priests of our diocese by making a gift to the Bless Our Priests collection. This collection is used to directly support all retired priests welfare including the rising cost of healthcare, long-term care and medical costs. Please return your gift in the envelopes located at the entrance of the church. Your generosity supports retired priests from all 11 counties of our Diocese!

**Incense Alert!** With special seasons like Advent, incense is used as a visual aid to remind us of the sacredness of this holy season. 'Things are different' as servers like to tell me.

Incense will be used at the 4:30 and 10:30 Masses during Advent. As always, the 8:30 AM Sunday Mass is incense free. We will use incense through Sunday, January 6, which is the Epiphany of the Lord.

## NEWS & NOTES

### St. Mary School



**School News:** On Thursday (11/29) St. Mary's hosted Detective Tom Bechen to lead a seminar entitled "Raising Digital Kids." The presentation went through the continual importance of internet safety and had tips for helping parents to navigate technology and their kids. We were extremely grateful for his time and plan to do a follow up in the Spring. On Saturday (12/1) the School walked in the Jolly Jingle Parade. Around 50 St. Mary School students, families, and friends showed up to walk by our incredible float designed by Sarah Hodge and St. Mary Student Council.

**Advent at St. Mary School:** St. Mary School kicked off the first week of Advent by collecting Baby Items (diapers, wipes, sippy cups) and making time for a student led school-wide Advent prayer that occurs each morning. As per St. Mary's tradition, the school mitten tree is in the lobby, where students, families, and even Parishioners can bring in mittens or hats to donate. On Dec. 6 St. Nicholas visited the school leaving oranges for the students, while they worked with their prayer partners on a special Advent project. Every year, each of the middle school grades picks a family from ECHO to sponsor and on Friday the kids went to Target to fulfill the Christmas wishes for these families in need. This is one of the most special things the students do. All money is donated by the students and their families. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our school and the various projects we do.

#### Upcoming Events:

12/12: Christmas Program at 1:00; 5:30 (3k-2nd);  
6:30 (3rd-8th)  
12/18: Strings Concert (6:30)  
12/20: Band Concert (7:00)  
12/21-1/1: Christmas Break  
1/4: Student Art Showcase at JPAC - open to all!

### SCRIP REMINDER

**SCRIP** cards are available for purchase in the school office and after Mass twice per month ..... next up, the weekend of December 15th/16th.

*Thank you for supporting your parish and school!*

## MONEY MATTERS

### Money Counts for 2018-2019

	Received	Budgeted	Variance
<b>Week 23</b>			
12-02-2018	14,886.50	16,719.81	-1,833.31
<b>2 YTD</b>	\$245,809.45	269,996.59	-24,187.14

## FOCUS ON FAITH

### Please Pray For Our Parishioners:

Barbara Allen, Bill, Peter Barrett,  
Bill and Judy Bever, Valerie Boggs,  
Karen Bullis, Noah Cotter, Jeanette Durant,  
Linda Fredell, LeeAnn Gilligan, Gerri, Jackie H.,  
Alice Jensen, Caroline McNally, Pat,  
Max Rammer, Phyllis Rice, Madelynn Schieve,  
Colleen Schroeder, Edna Thorp, Kelly Dooley,  
Trewartha, Peter Weirich, Lola Williams,  
Avalon Widner, Lucille Willegal



### Traveling Chalice

*This week the Traveling Chalice will be hosted by the Hanus family.*

Any questions regarding our Traveling Chalice program may be directed to: Colleen at 868-6386 OR [irishcatholic56@gmail.com](mailto:irishcatholic56@gmail.com).

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday evening from 5:00 - 6:00 pm and Saturday morning from 9:30-10:30 am.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call us at 752-7861 when a loved one has a serious illness.

**Weddings:** Please contact the rectory six months in advance. One party must be a parish member in good standing.

**Infant Baptism:** Registered members of the parish are welcome to arrange for their baby's baptism by signing up for the necessary preparation program for parents.

### RCIA

Please call anytime if you would like to discuss Catholicism and see how joining the Church may offer you a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

### Catholic Women's Club

Contact Jan Bier at 752-4387 for more information.

### Knights of Columbus

Meetings held 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. Contact Ed Gilligan 449-6468 for more information.

### Bulletin Deadline

Mondays at 9:00 AM. Please contact the Rectory at 752-7861.

## SCRIPTURE

### Second Sunday of Advent

"Every valley shall be filled  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.  
The winding roads shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."  
- Lk 3:5-6

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"In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar...and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee...and Lysanias was tetrarch of..." Did you need to pinch yourself awake during the first few lines of this Sunday's Gospel? John the Baptist received quite a prelude today as Luke described the religious and political leadership of the time period. Scripture is divinely inspired, and we believe that everything that made it into the Bible is there for a reason. These lines remind us of an important truth. The Christmas story isn't a fairy tale or nursery rhyme. It's not a parable we say to give meaning to the holiday. At Christmas, God's presence is made tangible in a precise moment in time. The birth of Christ is a historical event. As precursor to Jesus' preaching, the ministry of John the Baptist is also a historical event.

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John's call to repentance and the forgiveness of sins happened in a particular time and place. But that does not mean it is limited to first century Palestine! God continues to move in our daily lives. What we hear in today's Gospel - and what we anticipate at Christmas - occurs in our daily lives. God works in concrete ways in time and space. He did that 2,000 years ago, and He continues to do so today!

This Sunday, examine your own Christmas preparations. Is there anything you need to repent of before the Christmas season? Are there low points in your life, valleys to "be filled" by the love of God? Are their mountainous obstacles in your spiritual life? How can they be "made low"? Are you making decisions that have moved you away from God? This Advent season is the time for them to "be made straight and ? made smooth." Prepare the way in your heart for Christ today!

### Readings for Sunday, December 9, 2018 Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9 / Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 / Lk 3:1-6



### Readings for Next Sunday, December 16, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a / Phil 4:4-7 / Lk 3:10-18

### Would You Like A Pastoral Visit?

**REMINDER:** If you, a family member or someone you know is confined or hospitalized and would benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact your parish office and let them know. Staff does not always know of hospital admissions for a variety of reasons and often has no way of knowing of other situations in which a parish contact would be beneficial.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Men's Silent Preached Retreat**  
February 1st (Fri.) – February 3rd (Sun.) 2019

**Theme: "Witness of the Redeemer:  
Mission to a Wounded World"**

Redemptorist Retreat Center  
www.redemptoristretreat.org  
1800 N Timber Trail Lane  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066  
262-567-6900

To be a witness of the Redeemer is to commit oneself to the person of Jesus and his mission, to His teachings and attitudes. Consider spending a weekend at the beautiful Redemptorist Retreat Center in Oconomowoc, WI. Join men from our parish for renewal, reflection, fellowship, peace and quiet time with our Lord. Carpooling is available. A donation of \$210 includes room, board & materials. To register, call Santo Carfora at 756-1815, or the retreat center.

## Toy Collection for ECHO

Be a part of ECHO's holiday tradition by donating new, unwrapped toys to their Christmas Toy Drive. New, unwrapped toys can be placed at the front entrance of church or the elevator entrance door **by Sunday, December 16, 2018.**

### WISH LIST

Learning games	Baby toys
Board games	Barbie/baby dolls
Puzzles	Cars & Trucks
Art supplies	Legos
Coloring books/crayons	Sports equipment
Books	Kids' jewelry/watches
Cool bedding/sheets	Shoes/slippers
Fleece blankets	DVD's—new releases
Stuffed animals	Store/movie gift certificates

Donate holiday wrapping paper, gift bags and bows, too. Cash donations in a marked envelope can be placed in the collection box. To donate your time, please call Fran at ECHO 754-5333.



**Project 16:49** is accepting donations for Rock County's 300+ local, unaccompanied homeless youth. There are many ways to help support the program during the holiday season, including making a holiday meal, sponsoring an outing (bowling, pizza, movie night) and more. Please call 608-931-5627 for more information, or visit us on the web at [www.project1649.org](http://www.project1649.org).

## Taize' Prayer



*Christ, circle round us.  
Christ, may your light surround us.  
Shine in our living.  
Fill our hearts with great thanksgiving.*

Our parish Advent gathering song will summon us to Taize' Prayer on **Monday, December 10 at 7:00PM**. As always, our time together will be a chance to un-crowd our hearts and minds, refresh our spirits—and offer a welcome respite from the *busy*-ness of these days of preparation for Christmas. Come and bask in the light of candles and the warmth of friendship, raise your voice in simple and prayerful songs, attend to God's message in Scripture, and listen in silence for God's voice.

*"Rejoice and be glad that so great and good a Lord, on coming into the Virgin's womb, willed to appear despised, needy, and poor in this world, so that men who were in dire poverty and suffering great need of heavenly food might be made rich in him."*

*-- St. Clare of Assisi*

## December Youth Group

**Who?** St. Mary School & RE Students, 6th-8th grades

**Where?** St. Mary School Gym

**When?** Friday, December 21st from 6:30-8:30 pm

**Activities?** Prayer, Dodgeball, Snack. We'll be making holiday placemats for a meal that our High School youth group will be serving at the GIFTS Men's Homeless Shelter on December 22nd.

*Our Youth Group is in need of help with supervising and organizing our monthly events. Whether you can help one time or each month, we would love for you to join us!*

If any parent is able to donate a snack or beverage, please contact Jennifer McBride at 608-741-8909. Thank you!





# WHAT'S HAPPENING



The **ADULT CATHOLIC SPIRIT CLUB** will meet at noon, Wednesday 12 December 2018, at St. John Vianney's Marian Hall. A potluck dinner will be served and you are asked to bring a dish to share, along with your own table service. Our program begins at 12:45 p.m. and you're in for a treat! The St. John Vianney school children's choir, directed by Claire Spiegelhoff, will present "Christmas in Song". Please come and enjoy hearing these delightful young voices at this very special time of year. They will definitely put you in the "Christmas spirit". Blood pressure screenings will be available from 11:30 am to 12 noon. Looking forward to seeing you at this Christmas gathering. For more information, call Ginny at 608-752-4442.

**2019 Calendars**—Please pick up a "Feasts and Saints" 2019 calendar, located at each entrance to the church. A very special **"THANK YOU"** to McDonald Law Office for generously donating these calendars to our congregation again this year.

Thank You. 

## Blest Art

On behalf of the Palestinian Christian families in the Bethlehem area, my family, and my staff, we wish to express our sincere appreciation for your trust. Thanks to the support of your parish, our total sales were \$3,354.00. We are grateful for your understanding, your interest and especially for your kind hospitality during our visit with you. Faithfully yours in Christ,  
- Jeryes Qumseya, President of Blest Art

## Youth Group ©LPI

### High School Youth Group

**Saturday Dec 15, 6:30-9:00**

Meet at the Nativity House for Dinner and prayer, and then we will move to the gym for Dodgeball/Basketball!!

AND

**Saturday Dec 22, 5:30-7:30**

Serve dinner to the homeless men at the GIFTS Men's shelter. This counts as service hours if you need them for school.....also service hours for Heaven as we could all use those!!!



## Join in the Song!!!

You are invited to be part of the **Children's Choir** for the **Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Mass**

Only 2 Practices!

**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm – 4:15 pm**  
**and Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:30 am – 12 noon.**

Students will be part of the choir, which will sing before and during the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

Questions?? Contact Bob Craig (752-7861 ext 17). No pre-enrollment is necessary, but to ensure enough materials for all participants, I would appreciate the call.

## **Please note: Lifetouch Directory Pictures**

Please note, if you had your portrait taken for our pictorial directory, but did not order any extra pictures, then your free 8 x 10 will be delivered to the rectory office. (If you did order additional pictures, these will be delivered to your home, including the free 8 x 10.) Call before stopping by to be sure someone is available to assist you 752-7861.

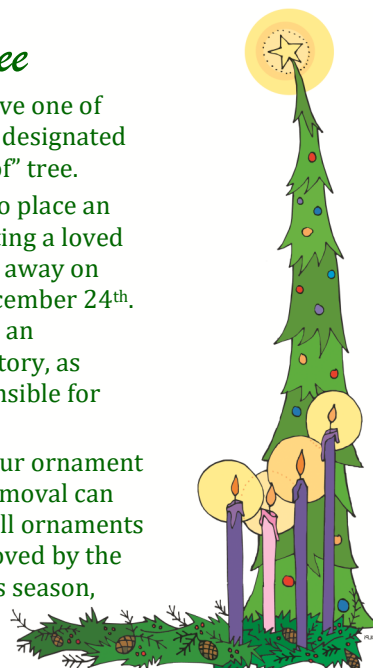
If you were unable to attend our photography dates or times, let Lifetouch assist you in scheduling a session at a nearby location. Once photographed, your image will be provided back to us. Call them at 1-866-756-0281, 9 am-5 pm EST for more information.

## Memorial Tree

This year we will have one of our Christmas trees designated as our "In Memory of" tree.

We encourage you to place an ornament representing a loved one who has passed away on the tree starting December 24<sup>th</sup>. (please do not bring an ornament to the rectory, as we cannot be responsible for its care)

Also, please label your ornament with your name. Removal can be at any time, but all ornaments will need to be removed by the end of the Christmas season, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



## Mass Intentions

♥ = Living

### Sunday, December 9

8:30 AM John Donagan

10:30 AM Parishioners of Nativity of Mary

### Monday, December 10

No Mass

### Tuesday, December 11

12:10 PM Richard & Nancy McCann

### Wednesday, December 12

8:15 AM Doreen Trunnelle

### Thursday, December 13

8:15 AM Celene Hying

### Friday, December 14

8:15 AM Gene Wagner

### Saturday, December 15

4:30 PM Elmer & Dorothy Ambrose

### Sunday, December 16

8:30 AM Maynard Dunham

10:30 AM Parishioners of Nativity of Mary

## Parish Event Calendar

### Monday, December 10

11:00 AM Centering Prayer, Nativity House

7:00 PM Taize' Prayer, Church

### Tuesday, December 11

10:30 AM Faith Sharing Group, Nativity House

5:00-6:00 PM Reconciliation, Church

7:30 PM Knights of Columbus Meeting, Nativity House

### Wednesday, December 12

7:00 PM Choir Practice, Church

7:30 PM Knights of Columbus meeting, Nativity House

### Friday, December 14

8:45-9:45 AM Holy Hour (Adoration), Church

### Saturday, December 15

9:30-11:30 AM Communal Penance &  
Private Reconciliation, Church

3:00 PM Youth Christmas Choir Practice, Church

6:30 PM High School Youth Group, Nativity House

### Sunday, December 16

9:00-11:00 AM Knights of Columbus Breakfast,  
Fellowship Hall

## CLUSTER CORNER

**ALL ACTIVITIES ARE OPEN TO MEMBERS  
OF ANY PARISH IN THE CLUSTER**

### December 10 11:00 AM

Centering Prayer, Nativity of Mary, Nativity House

### December 10 6:30 PM

Catholic Saints School Band Christmas Concert, St. William

### December 10 7:00 PM

Taize' Prayer, Nativity of Mary, Church

### December 10 2:00 PM or 6:00 PM

Rejoice! Advent Study, St. John Vianney, Marian Hall, thru Dec17

### December 11 10:30 AM

Faith Sharing Group, Nativity of Mary, Nativity House

### December 11 Noon-5:00 PM

Adoration, St. William, Benediction at 5:00 PM

### December 11 6:15 PM—7:00 PM

Adoration and Devotions in Spanish, St. Patrick

### December 11 6:00-7:00 PM

Adoration, St. John Vianney

### December 12 9:00-10:00 AM

Women's Scripture Study, St. John Vianney, Marian Hall

### December 12 Noon-2:00 PM

Adult Catholic Spirit Club, St. John Vianney, Marian Hall

### December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

St. Patrick, 5:30 PM Music, 6:00 PM Mass, 7:00 PM Music

### December 13 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Adoration, St. Patrick

### December 13 6:00-8:00 PM

St. Patrick, Father Tim's Advent Series

### December 14 8:45-9:45 AM

Holy Hour, Nativity of Mary

### December 15 9:30-11:30 AM

Communal Penance & Private Reconciliation, Nativity of Mary

### December 15 6:30-9:00 PM

High School Youth Group, Nativity of Mary, Nativity House

### December 15-16

Blood Pressure screening, St. John Vianney, after Mass

### December 16 9:00-11:00 AM

Knights of Columbus Breakfast, Nativity of Mary, Fellowship Hall

	<u>Monday</u> 12/10	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u> 12/16
<b>Nativity of Mary</b>		<b>12:10 pm</b>	<b>8:15 am</b>	<b>8:15 am</b>	<b>8:15 am</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>8:30 &amp; 10:30 am</b>
St. John Vianney	8:15 am	5:15 pm	8:15 am	8:15 am	8:15 am	8:15 am 5:00 pm	8:15 & 10:00 am
St. Patrick		5:15 pm	6:00 pm	8:00 am	8:00 am	4:00 pm	9:00 am 12:00 Noon en Español
St. William		5:15 pm	8:30 am	7:30 am	7:30 am	4:00 pm	8:00 & 10:30 am
St. Mary's Hospital		2:00 pm					
St. Elizabeth Nursing Home							9:15 am
St. Elizabeth Manor Footville							11:00 am