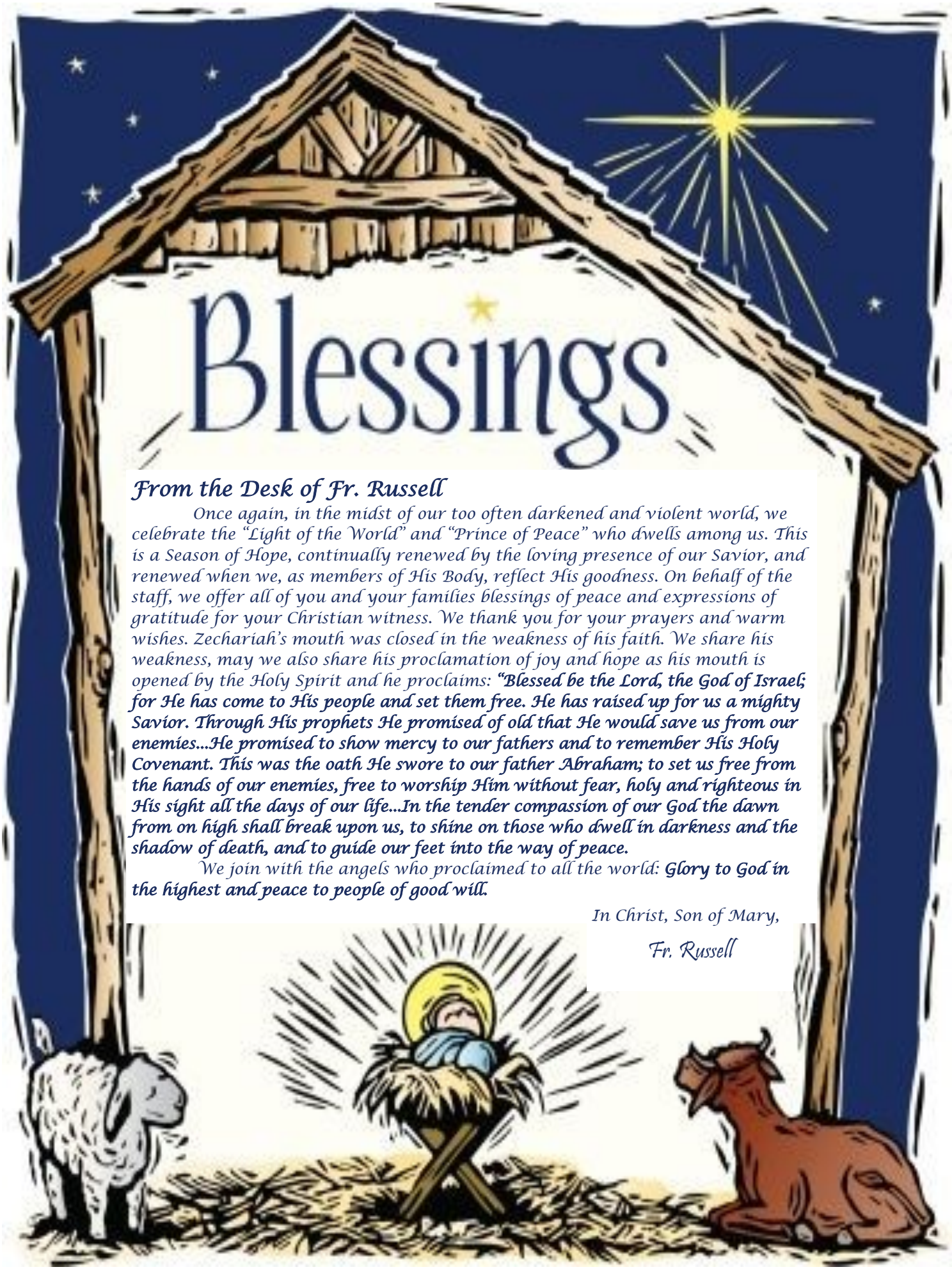
The Nativity of the Lord

ST. MARY CHURCH DEKALB, ILLINOIS

December 22, 2019



From the Desk of Fr. Russell

Once again, in the midst of our too often darkened and violent world, we celebrate the "Light of the World" and "Prince of Peace" who dwells among us. This is a Season of Hope, continually renewed by the loving presence of our Savior, and renewed when we, as members of His Body, reflect His goodness. On behalf of the staff, we offer all of you and your families blessings of peace and expressions of gratitude for your Christian witness. We thank you for your prayers and warm wishes. Zechariah's mouth was closed in the weakness of his faith. We share his weakness, may we also share his proclamation of joy and hope as his mouth is opened by the Holy Spirit and he proclaims: ***"Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; for He has come to His people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Savior. Through His prophets He promised of old that He would save us from our enemies...He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember His Holy Covenant. This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham; to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship Him without fear, holy and righteous in His sight all the days of our life...In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.***

We join with the angels who proclaimed to all the world: ***Glory to God in the highest and peace to people of good will.***

In Christ, Son of Mary,

Fr. Russell

25TH WEEK OF FISCAL YEAR 2019 - 2020

Our Weekly Offering Week Ending 12/13/2019

Sunday Offertory	$	8,894.14
Donations	$	249.99
Guardian Angel	$	70.00
School	$	25.00
Capital Improvements	$	35.00
Immaculate Conception	$	1,084.00
Diocesan Appeal	$	290.00
Military	$	50.00
Thanksgiving	$	45.00
Cemetery	$	25.00
Flower Memorials	$	400.00

Thank You for Your Contributions!

2019 Lancer Raffle Ticket Winners

12/16 - Jen & Lance Earl - $20.00
12/17 - Heather Collins - $20.00
12/18 - Janann McGirr Elliott - $20.00
12/19 - Bob Dobiliauskas - $20.00
12/20 - Amanda Elliott - $20.00
12/21 - Randy Sulaver - $20.00 - **Donated Back!**
12/22 - Luetkebuenger Family - $30.00 - **Donated Back!**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST MARY SCHOOL

2019 Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24 - Vigil Masses
5:00 PM Vigil Mass in English
6:30 PM Vigil Mass in Spanish
10:00 PM Vigil Mass in English

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25
9:00 AM Mass in English
12:00 PM Mass in Spanish
1:30 PM Mass in Vietnamese

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Wednesday, January 1, 2020
9:00 AM Mass in English

Feast of the Epiphany
Saturday, January 4, 2020
4:30 PM Vigil Mass in English
Sunday, January 5, 2020
8:30 AM Mass in English
10:30 AM Mass in English
4:00 PM Mass in Spanish

Readings for the Week of December 22, 2019

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/ Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/ Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/ Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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PARISH MONTHLY TITHE

St. Mary Parish's tithe for the month of November is **$410.04.**

$205.02 will be donated to:
Hope for Haiti

and **$205.02** will be donated to:
St. Vincent de Paul

Advertiser of the Week

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Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary Church through your advertisement in our bulletin.

Advent Saint for the Year

Pick a new saint for the new Liturgical year. There is a saint right now in Heaven just waiting to be your special companion/helper for this new year. We will once again have an opportunity to pick a saint to be our companion for the year. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will lead you to choose the Saint that he wants you to have. Slips of paper with the names of saints will be in baskets located at both entrances to the church. Please take one and spend the year getting to know your saint!

St. Nick Program

The St. Vincent de Paul Society again asks for your help to brighten the Christmas Holidays for the children of our pantry clients through our ST. NICK PROGRAM. With your generous help we hope to benefit more than 300 children in need by providing gift cards for the families to purchase toys or clothing. Without your support and assistance, we could not continue this worthwhile ministry. Contributions should be included in the SVDP envelopes marked "ST. NICK" and placed in the Sunday collection. Please make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support in "Helping us Help Others" in the name of Jesus Christ.

Classes are on January 2, January 23, February 6, February 20, March 5, March 19, and April 2 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Office Presentation Room. A Bible and a Catechism of the Catholic Church should be obtained for class. Program materials are provided.
For more information call the Parish Office (815)758-5432.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Rockford/Madison/Milwaukee Ministry

Give your spouse a special gift this Christmas by signing up for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on January 24-26 in Brookfield, WI, February 14-16 in Geneva, IL or March 13-15 in Madison, WI. For more info go to: **alifetimeoflove.org** or call **(888) 574-5653.**

Para un fin de semana en espanol por favor llamen a Candelario y Emilia al **815-375-4250**.

The parish staff wishes to extend to the entire St. Mary Church community a very blessed Christmas & New Year.

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25.

On Thursday, December 26 and Monday, December 30 the office will close at 12:00 PM.

The office will again be closed on Tuesday. December 31 and Wednesday, January 1.

Regular hours resume on Thursday, January 2 at 9 am.

"God's love is generous, life-giving, and forever. As humans made in God's image, we are called to imitate the eternal giving and receiving of love that is the Holy Trinity.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"Another Look at Contraception"

Stewardship

When he discovered that Mary was with child, Joseph resolved to end their engagement with as little disgrace as possible. But obedient to the voice of God, he changed those plans and became instead the protector of the child Jesus and His mother, Mary. God grant that I may be as open to the leading of the Holy Spirit!

In today's Gospel, we hear that Jesus will be named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." The mystery of the birth of Jesus is supremely a mystery of love. May each Christmas find us more and more like Him: more humble, more holy, more happy and more full of God.

Your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helped those who are poor and suffering to find Emmanuel and they also came to know that "God is with us."

St. Mary Church
Advent & Christmas Decorating

Please consider helping decorate the church for Advent & Christmas.
No experience is needed!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23 - 9:00 am - until finished
Receive, unwrap, and prepare flowers for set-up, decorate church
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5– 5:30 pm - until finished
Take down Christmas Decorations

Please call the parish office 815.758-5432 for more information.

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COURT # 996
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A BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON

This week's schedule…

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NO Religious Ed (MC)
1:30 PM Vietnamese Mass (CH)
2:45 PM - 5:30 PM Vietnamese Ministry Social Time (C)
3:00 PM Hispanic Reconciliation (CH)
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Hispanic AA Group Meeting (PCN)
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hispanic Posadas (G)
Masses in English 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM (CH)
Mass in Spanish 4:00 PM (CH)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

NO SCHOOL
7:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
NO Scheduled Reconciliation in English (CH)
8:30 AM - Church Decorating - Flowers (CH)
5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hispanic Posadas (G)
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hispanic AA Group (PCN)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO SCHOOL
NO 7:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
NO Scheduled Reconciliation in English (CH)
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Vietnamese Christmas Celebration Set-Up (C)
5:00 PM Mass in English (CH)
6:30 PM Mass in Spanish (CH)
10:00 PM Mass in English (CH)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
NO SCHOOL
NO 7:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
NO Scheduled Reconciliation in English (CH)
9:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
12:00 PM Mass in Spanish (CH)
1:30 PM Mass in Vietnamese (CH)
2:45 PM - 8:00 PM Vietnamese Ministry Christmas Celebration (C)

NO 24 Hour Eucharistic Exposition (CH)

The power of prayer We pray for St. Mary parishioners, relatives, and friends who are suffering from illness, also for those who are homebound, hospitalized, or confined to a care facility, especially:

Giana Anderson, Matt Anderson, Jackie Balon, Lori Baert, Pat Beck, Patricia Budzinski, Mary Clarbour, Debbie Coffland, Ben Coniglio, Donna Dalwam, Joe Diedrich, Horst Erker, Michael Esposito, Yale Factor, Bobbie Fitch, Beth Fixmer, Missy Flores, Fr. Karl Ganss, Justin French, Judi Glover, Rita Hammett, Eric Hanson, Kathleen Hiatt, Ruth Higgins, Peggy Hoyt, Joann Schoo Irving, Col. Thomas Z. James, Julie Jones, Joan Judkins, Patsy Kelahan, Rev. Richard Kramer, Carolyn Kustron, Ginger Lange, Henrietta Lobner, Brayden MacNeille, JoAnn MaKarrall, Bob Marcheschi, Matt Marcheschi, Timothy McMillan, Mary Lou Murphy, Louis Mustari, Mary O'Brien, Tom O'Brien, Orlando Moises Pulido, Betty Ramsdell, Carol Reed, Joel Rivera, Jeff Salazar, Marlene Salazar, Richard Salazar, Steve Stach, Jim Theisen, Leah Theisen, Ray Theisen, Justin Valdez, Jerry Vasko, Abel Viland, Nancy Watson, Robert White, Tom Wicker, David Young

If you know of a person in our parish who is homebound and would like to receive a card of encouragement, or to have a name added to or removed from the prayer list, call the parish office at 815.758.5432.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

PARISH OFFICE CLOSES AT NOON
NO SCHOOL
7:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
7:35 AM Reconciliation in English (CH)
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Alive in His Love Prayer Group (CHP)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

NO SCHOOL
7:00 AM Mass in English (CH)
7:35 AM Reconciliation in English (CH)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:35 AM - 9:30 AM Eucharistic Exposition (CH)
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Legion of Mary Children's Group (SJOS)
12:00 PM - 10:30 PM Teen Winter Formal (C/G)
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Hispanic AA Group (PCN)
Reconciliation in English 8:35-9:15 AM & 3:30-4:15 PM (CH)
Masses in English 8:00 AM & 4:30 PM (CH)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

NO Religious Ed (MC)
1:30 PM Vietnamese Mass (CH)
2:45 PM - 7:00 PM Vietnamese Ministry Holy Family Celebration/ Social Time (C)
3:00 PM Hispanic Reconciliation (CH)
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Hispanic AA Group Meeting (PCN)
Masses in English 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM (CH)
Mass in Spanish 4:00 PM (CH)

Locations: (B) Bethany Room, (C) Cafeteria, (CHP) Chapel, (CH) Church, (E) Emmaus Room, (G) Gym, (LRC) Library Resource Center, (MARI) Marian Room, (MC) Ministry Center, (OC) Off Campus, (PCN) Parish Center North, (PWR) Parish Work Room, (PR) Presentation Room, (SAR) St. Anne Room, (SJM) St. James Room (Private), (SJ) St. John Room, (SJOA) St. Joachim Room, (SJOS) St. Joseph Room, (SL) St. Luke Room, (SM) St. Mark Room, (SMR) St. Matthew Room, (YC) Youth Center

For the latest, up-to-date information about our parish, please "Like" our facebook page! You can find it at www.facebook.com/StMarydeKalbIl/ or check out our website: http://stmarydekalb.org

Eucharistic Exposition

There will be NO Eucharistic Exposition on December 25-December 26 January 1-January 2

"Go Cadets Nights" at Marmion Academy

All 5th-8th grade boys are invited to attend Marmion Academy's upcoming Go Cadets Night in Marmion's Alumni Hall Gymnasium located at 1000 Butterfield Road, Aurora. On Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020 the basketball Go Cadets Night will take place. The Sophomore game begins at 5:30 PM and Varsity at 7 PM. The Marmion Cadets will take on the St. Charles East Fighting Saints at both events. 5th-8th boys will be treated to FREE admission and more! Please visit <http://marmion.org/games> for additional details and to register.
Questions? Please contact Bill Dickson, Director of Admissions, at 630-897-6936 or bdickson@marmion.org.

Liturgical Roles

Lectors

December 24-Christmas Eve

5:00 PM Jean Petesch
10:00 PM Ron Matekaitis

December 25-Christmas Day

9:00 AM Mike Tritle

December 28/29

4:30 PM Dan Cabrera
8:30 AM Mike Tritle
10:30 AM Diana Fohrman

Ushers (Please volunteer at Christmas Masses)

4:30 PM Dave Roliardi, Craig Vitkus, Keith Anderson
8:30 AM Chuck Albertson, Dan Cliffe, Doug Davis, John Sauter, Donald Moizo
10:30 AM Duane Rapp, Jim Zenz, Mark Farris, Nicholas Singer, Lance Farris, Michelle Mershon, Andrew Miller, Rick Sullivan, Toby Woodruff

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist for December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 PM
Captain Diana Fohrman
Chapel Robin Hansen
Cup 1 Linda Ball
Cup 2 Marlo Larson

10:00 PM
Captain Steve Riippi
Chapel Leslie Matekaitis
Cup 1
Cup 2

December 25-Christmas Day

9:00 AM
Captain Diana Fohrman
Chapel Joan Metzger
Cup 1 Helen Traglia
Cup 2 Doug Schumaker

December 28/29

4:30 PM
Captain Cheryl Wieczorek
Chapel Robin Hansen
Cup 1 NO CUP
Cup 2 NO CUP

8:30 AM
Captain Michael Hynek
Chapel Tom Lehan
Cup 1 Tom Matya
Cup 2 Steve Smith

10:30 AM
Captain Lori Kedzie
Chapel Karen Federici
Cup 1 Tom Kedzie
Cup 2 Teri Lorek

Cantor Schedule

December 24 - Christmas Eve

5:00 PM Youth Choir
10:00 PM Tammy Farrell

December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00 AM Joe Harmon

December 28/29

4:30 PM Emily Egeland
8:30 AM Sarah Taylor
10:30 AM Cecilia Aspengren

January 1-Mary, Holy Mother of God

9:00 AM Joe Harmon

January 4/5

4:30 PM Teresa Fuller
8:30 AM Michael Hynek
10:30 AM Tammy Farrell

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 23 (St. John of Kanty)
7:00 AM † Cathy Baldin

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
5:00 PM † Mary Lou Cahill
10:00 PM † Maggie & David Driesbach

Wednesday, December 25 (The Nativity of the Lord)
9:00 AM † Ellie Marie Palmer
† Patricia Collin
12:00 PM † Romualdo Alcantar (Spanish Mass)

Thursday, December 26 (St. Stephen)
7:00 AM † Gus & Virginia Hertle

Friday, December 27 (St. John)
7:00 AM † Jack Hudson

Saturday, December 28 (The Holy Innocents)
8:00 AM † Theodore & Nick Jackiw
4:30 PM Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary

Sunday, December 29 (The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)
8:30 AM † Jane Anderson
10:30 AM † Deceased Members of the Jack & Joyce Wright Family
4:00 PM Yolanda Hopkins (Spanish Mass)

The Holy Innocents Feast Day - December 28

According to the Gospel of Matthew, King Herod ordered the slaughter of all infant boys under two years old in Bethlehem in order to destroy an opponent to his rule. This is the account in Matthew's words: ***"After the Magi had left, the angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command 'Get up, take the child and His mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him.' Joseph got up and took the child and His mother and left that night for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I have called my son.""*** Once Herod realized that he had been deceived by the astrologers, he became furious and ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, making his calculations on the basis of the date he learned from the astrologers. The horror of the massacre and the devastation of the mothers and fathers led Matthew to quote Jeremiah***: "A voice was heard in Ramah, sobbing and loud lamentation; Rachel weeping for her children; no comfort for her, since they are no more."*** (Matthew 2:18). Rachel was the wife of Jacob (Israel). These innocent victims gave testimony to the Messiah and Redeemer, not by their words but by their blood. They triumphed over the world and won their crown without having experienced the evils of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

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