



Solemnity of Mary

January 1, 2023

Masses for the Week

Saturday	<i>Vigil Solemnity of Mary</i>	5:00pm
Sunday	People of Parish	8:00am
Sunday	<i>Solemnity of Mary</i> <i>World Day of Peace</i>	10:00am
Monday	No Mass	
Tuesday	No Mass	
Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday	No Mass	
Friday	No Mass	
Saturday	Ron Diamond	5:00pm

Please Pray for Our Sick

Fanny Bonventre, Fr. Burke, Carol Dennin, Liz Ferro, William Fitch, Diann Keyser, Fred Kimlin, Lynne Lazzaro, Gandiva Mohinani, Lucy Padilla, Jeannine Riopelle, Marie Stein, Christopher Van Aken

Tithing \$2,482.00

Christmas Collection \$15,513.00

Solemnity of Mary

St Bernard of Clairvaux was once traveling with a poor, uneducated farmer, who noticed that the abbot kept his eyes cast downward. When the farmer asked why the saint wasn't looking at the beautiful countryside, Bernard explained that he wanted to avoid distractions while praying. In response, the farmer boasted, "I'm never distracted when I pray." The saint objected, "I don't believe it. Now let me make a deal with you. If you can say the Our Father without one distraction, I'll give you this mule I'm riding. But if you don't succeed, you must come with me and be a monk." The farmer agreed and began praying aloud confidently, "Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed by thy name..." Then, after pausing for moment, he asked St Bernard, "Does that include the saddle and the bridle, too?" One fundamental principle of the Judeo-Christian Tradition is that God desires a personal relationship with each of us. If this is true, then He is aware of our thoughts when we pray, but God is also aware of our thoughts when we are

not praying. In either case, it all belongs to God. Sometimes people will feel guilty for becoming distracted in prayer. This should not be the case for us since even the great Saint Bernard shows that distraction in prayer is the norm, not the exception. We must remember that God leads us in prayer and so any perfection in prayer that we attain comes from God's goodness and not our own weakness.

This weekend we celebrate, in part, Mary's prayerfulness. She is considered the first contemplative of the New Testament. After finding the young Jesus teaching in the temple after He had gone missing for three days, she "pondered these things in her heart." Perhaps if we spend more time following the example of our Blessed Mother, pondering the reality of the Incarnation in our world and in our hearts, we may come to find the things of the world that distract so to hold less of an influence on us than before.



Coffee Hour

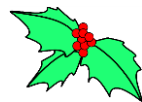
Join us for Saint Peter's Coffee Hour following the 10am mass on Sunday January 15th in the 1st Grade classroom of the school. There will be coffee, refreshments, and community.

Christmas Blessings

As we stop to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Father Kevin and the staff of St. Peter's want to take this opportunity to offer to you and your loved ones Best Wishes for a Happy and a Blessed Christmas. We are thankful for everyone's continued support and generosity to St. Peter's. Even during this past challenging year, our parishioners have remained faithful. May God's peace and joy be with you all in the New Year.



Christmas Thank You



There are many people to thank for our Christmas celebration. First of all, the ladies of the Rosary Altar Society who decorated the church and the sanctuary so that it once again had the lovely and solemn look that we are accustomed to. Thanks also to all those who donated money for Poinsettias in memory of their loved ones. Thanks to our music ministry, Patty, the choir, and the volunteers. Thanks to our lectors, ministers of Holy Communion, and our altar servers. Also,

thanks to all those involved in making our Christmas pageant so special. We are grateful to everyone for the generosity of their time and talents. Special thanks for the overwhelming generosity to the extra Christmas collection donations!

Catholic Communications Second Collection

A combined collection will be taken up next weekend the 7th and 8th. One segment used for the Catholic Communications Campaign and the second for The Catholic University of America. The Catholic Communications Campaign is the official Catholic presence in the media: In partnership with the diocesan communications offices, it has been our voice educating, entertaining, inspiring and informing the faithful about Gospel values. The second is for the Catholic University of America, unique among Catholic institutions of higher education in the United States. Please be generous in your contributions.



A Christmas Basket Thank You

Many thanks to all our parishioners who were so very generous to this year's Christmas basket & toy drive.

Through your generosity, we were able to distribute baskets of food to 21 families along with gifts for all the children. Thanks also to the Bloomington Fire Department for also supplying toys. Finally, we thank the team of dedicated parishioners who tirelessly gave of their time shopping, assembling and distributing the baskets

Rosary Altar Society Team one is scheduled

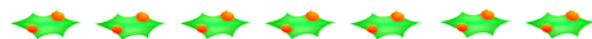


Christmas Flower Memorials

We wish to thank all who gave so generously to our Christmas Flower Memorial. Their gifts helped to make our church more beautiful this holy season. Please join our parish in remembering the following people in your prayers:

John Acker, Louise Acker, HJ Acker, Austin Family, Harold Bailey, Paul, Lena, Lynn May & Walter Bailey, John & Rosemary Becker, Martin & Louise Benjamin, Ken & Helen Bordenstein, William Brennan, Kay Bulla, Brandon, Elise Burkard, Busby Family, Jim Campion, James & Marie Campion, Arthur Carl, Patricia Carl, Carter Family, John & Katharine Cordts, John Cordts III, Francis & Nellie, James & Richard Coutant, Mary Craig, Margaret &

William Dalton, Thomas Dalton, Davenport Family, Archibald & Katherine Dean, Annmarie Deliveria, Anna Devine, Ronald Diamond, Louise Deitz,, Gerald FitzGerald, FitzGerald Family, Peter & Alice Furey, Gaynor Family, Don & Anne Gessner, Anne & Don Gessner, Lucy Giordano, George & Carin Goldstien, Estelle Hafner, George Hafner, Dave & Isabelle Hall, Eli Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Harrington, Annie Hartman, Addie Hassett, Joseph Hassett Sr., Neal Hassett, Bob Hein, Barbara & Harry Horn, Felix Sr., Rose & Lawrence Hosmer, Steve Houghtalen,, Robert & Carol Hughes, Edwin Jasinski Sr, Bill, Margaret & Meg Knott, James & Fran Kelly, Edward Koonz, Corrine Koonz-pushman, Paul & Josephine Lendvay, John Lesko, Anastasia Lesko, Charles & Julia Lewis, Mary & John Longendyke, Amos "Mac" MacCreery, Raymond & Adele Maday, Joe & Josephine McCabe, McCracken Family, Mitchell Family, Claire Mullan, Dorothea & Edward Murphy, Edward Murphy III, Robert & Helen Norton, Reginald & Marian Palen, Bill Parete, John & Mary Parete, Bob Peake, Milton Polinsky, Mary Polinsky, Warren, Virginia & Jim Prandoni, Robert Pugliese, Al & Ann Rippe, Carol Roosa, Eugene & Sally Roosa, Albert Sarrantonio, Alice Sarrantonio, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Satchell, Tom, June & Lisa Schatzel, Jamie, Harry & Gloria Shaw, Alice Sheldon, Tom & Mary Skidd, Mazie Smith, Frankie & Gerald Smosarski, Warner Strong, Teresa Skyes, Harry Van Wagenen, Rose Spadafora Wells, Bill Welsek, Bryan Wert, Wiejaczka Family, Michael William, Jean Williams, Amelia & Leo Zak



Dear Friends,
Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

This month, we celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into the world. Much like Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds in the bible, the life of each person who meets our savior today is radically changed.

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel which is translated, 'God with us' (Matt 1:23)" Your generosity is allowing us to show hurricane victims, Ukrainian refugees, Operation Shoebox recipients, and many more that God is with them. God bless you, and Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham President