CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS & A HEALTHY, HAPPY 2020
FROM ALL OF US, TO ALL OF YOU, OUR FAITHFUL AND LOYAL
PARISHIONERS, FRIENDS AND VISITORS

Buon Natale - Gëzuar Krishtlindjet - Joyeux Noël
Jwaye Nwèl - Giáng sinh vui vẻ - sretan Božić
Maligayang Pasko - Fröhliche Weihnachten

New Year's Day 2020
Mary, Mother of God
A Holy Day of Obligation
Holy Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve-December 31st

5:00 p.m. - English in Church

New Year's Day-January 1, 2020

10:30 a.m. - Italian in Church
12:00 p.m. - English in Church
1:15 p.m. - Spanish in Church

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH - DECEMBER 29, 2019

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday- December 30, 2019 - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Special Intention
9:00 a.m. Simon Prekpalaj

Tuesday- December 31, 2019 - Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord - St. Sylvester I, Pope
8:00 a.m. Tereza Ivezaj
9:00 a.m. Cesar A. Lopez

Wednesday- January 1, 2020 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
10:30 a.m. Cesaria & Sebastiano Failla
12:00 noon Pashka Camaj
1:30 p.m. Special Intention

Thursday- January 2, 2020 - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church
** Only one mass at 9 a.m.**
9:00 a.m. Mary Wisniewski
** No 7 p.m. evening mass**

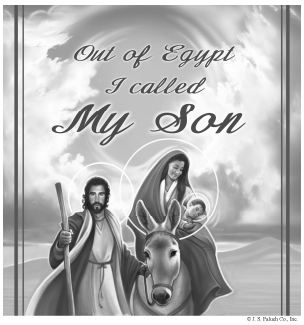
Friday- January 3, 2020 - Christmas Weekday - Holy Name of Jesus
8:00 a.m. Rosa & Patricio Grosso
9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Saturday- January 4, 2020 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
9:00 a.m. John & Aga Vukaj & George & Mare Tinaj
5:30 p.m. File Curanaj
7:00 p.m. For all Parishioners of St. Lucy's Parish

Sunday- January 5, 2020 - Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Luigi & Paolina Reda
9:00 a.m. Javier Herrera
9:15 a.m. Simon Prekpala
10:30 a.m. Antonio C. Moschetta
12:00 p.m. Giuseppe Arduini
12:45 p.m. Creole Mass - Center Chapel
1:15 p.m. Ambrosio Rosas & Gerardo Gomez

Best Wishes & Blessings to
Ded & Elizabeth Gerimci
Married on December 14, 2019

TODAY'S READINGS



First Reading — Those who honor and comfort their parents shall never be forgotten (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14).
Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128).
Second Reading — You are called into one body. Bear with one another; forgive one another; let Christ's peace control you (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]).
Gospel — Joseph rose, took the child and his mother, and fled to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Friday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

We welcome
Natalia Mohabir, Arthur Coyotecatl & Charlotte Torres
Baptized on December 15, 2019
into the Roman Cathoic Church
and our Parish community of St. Lucy

✝ *In Memoriam* ✝

The candle in honor of the Blessed Mother burns this week in memory of
Mildred, Anthony, Phil & Brandy Capano
Requested by Roseann Cirelli

The candle in honor of St. Joseph burns this week in memory of
Bek Alija Gerimci
Requested by Ded & Elizabeth Gerimci

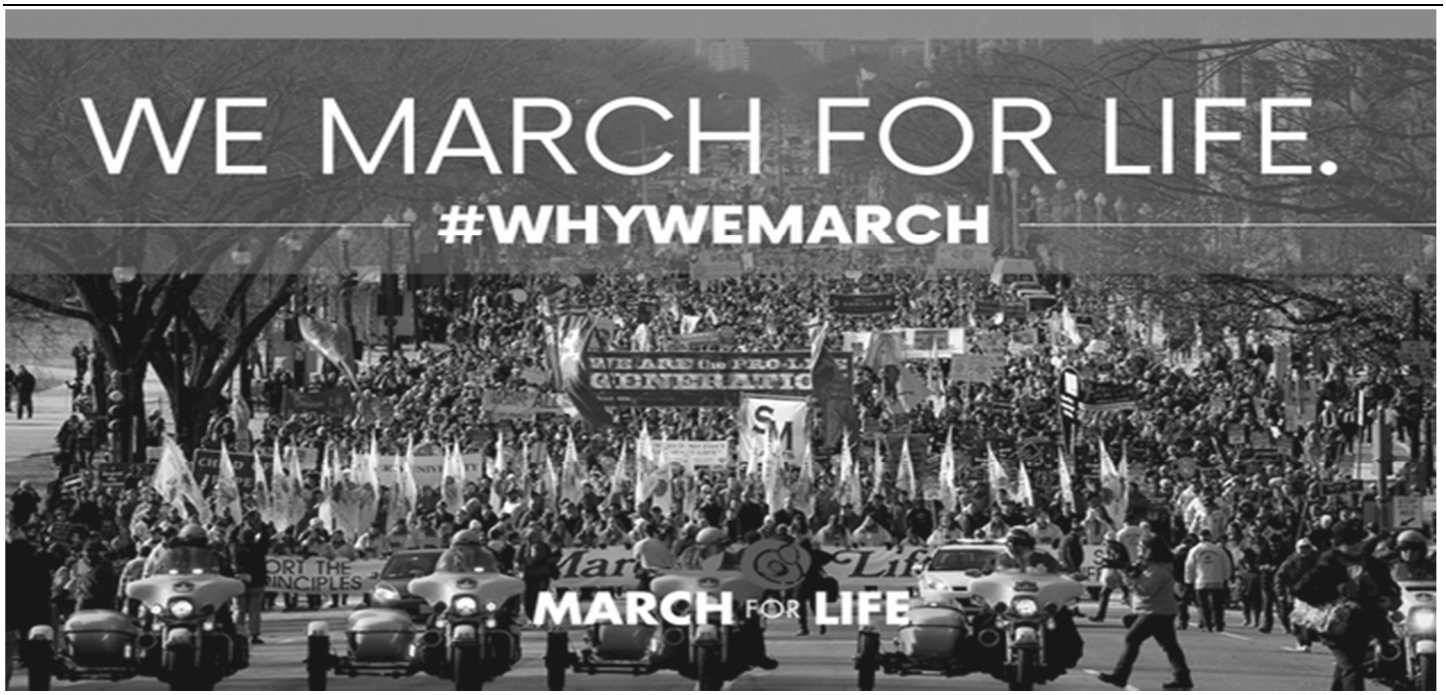
The Sanctuary Lamp by the tabernacle burns this week in memory of
Prendish Gega
Requested by Elizabeth Gerimci

Message from Father Pergjini:

'O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of the family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, yours Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever." This is the opening prayer of Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph for this Sunday December 29, 2019. As I read this prayer and try to write a few words for our bulletin, came to my mind a humble and saintly couple, whom I knew many years ago in New Rochelle, New York. They were faithful practicing Catholics who raised ten children with dignity and love. They told me many beautiful stories of their lives which I treasure with great joy today, and one of them I am sharing with you. They were invited to a party in Manhattan. One of the guests asked them, "How many children do you have? With great joy they responded: "We do have ten children." The one who asked the question looked at them with a big surprise. He asked the second question: "Is it not embarrassing today to have ten children?" The humble couple simply looked at each other. They knew the answer very well. There was no need to consult each other what should be said. The wife, with her joyful eyes said to the one who asked the second question: "More children here on earth, more will be in heaven." There were no more questions. This couple died a few years ago. May they rest in Peace. The way they lived to the end, an end, without End, was truly a life to imitate the Holy family, delighting one day in eternal rewards. "More children here on earth, more will be in heaven." Yes indeed, it was a powerful answer. The goal of our life is the Eternal Life not our earthly and selfish comfort. To have and raise ten children was not an easy journey for the humble couple. Today it is unthinkable to imagine a family with ten children. I am sure there are exceptions but still a few. For people of faith everything is possible because they imitate the virtues of the Holy Family in the bonds of charity and looking toward the Eternal goal. It is sad that today we live in a time that family has the painful reality of a "broken family." Few days ago I read that the United States has the highest rate in the world of children living in single-parent households. I was not surprised at all to read this sad news. I frequently see single parents who come to arrange baptisms, registering their children for religious program, and attending Holy Mass on Sundays. Majority of them are single mothers. I often hear from their children saying: "I could not come last Sunday at church because I had to go to my father. He sleeps late." I just look at them in silence and there is nothing to say. I do pray for the single parents and their dear children who are innocent victims. The sad reality of the single parents is a powerful wakeup call to remind to all of us that the family is the original cell of social life. A family needs the presence of a father, mother, children, and in the center of the family must be Christ. The Catechism of our Catholic Church states beautifully that: **"The family is the community in which, from childhood, one can learn moral values, begin to honor God, and make good use of freedom." (CCC 2207)** The feast of the Holy Family inspires all of us to have firm hope invoking the intercessions of the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph. Their holiness, humility, and prudence is to be imitated by couples who look toward the goal of our entire life: "The Eternal Rewards." The Venerable Vietnamese Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan, who was imprisoned by the Vietnamese Communist government for thirteen years. In those dark years of his imprisonment he wrote: "For me to live is Christ, it is Mary and Joseph. Mary my mother, Joseph my father, give me your eyes to contemplate Jesus; give your hearts and spirits to understand him and to be impassionate for him. " May we all take refuge in these spiritual and encouraging words of the Vietnamese Cardinal looking the powerful presence of Christ, in the scripture, in the sacraments, confession, Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and the sacrament of matrimony, through the eyes of the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph. Holy Family pray for our families! Amen!

Mensaje del Padre Pergjini:

"Oh Dios, que se complació en darnos el brillante ejemplo de la Sagrada Familia, concede gentilmente que podamos imitarlos al practicar las virtudes de la vida familiar y en los lazos de la caridad, y así, en la alegría de tu casa, deléitate un día con recompensas eternas. Por medio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos." Esta es la oración de apertura de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José para este domingo 29 de diciembre de 2019. Al leer esta oración e intentar escribir algunas palabras para nuestro boletín, me vino a la mente una pareja humilde y santa, a quien Lo supe hace muchos años en New Rochelle, Nueva York. Eran fieles católicos practicantes que criaron diez hijos con dignidad y amor. Me contaron muchas historias hermosas de sus vidas que atesoro con gran alegría hoy, y una de ellas la comparto con ustedes. Fueron invitados a una fiesta en Manhattan. Uno de los invitados les preguntó: "¿Cuántos hijos tienen? Con gran alegría respondieron:" Tenemos diez hijos ". El que hizo la pregunta los miró con gran sorpresa. Hizo la segunda pregunta:" ¿No es vergonzoso hoy tener diez hijos? " La humilde pareja simplemente se miró el uno al otro. Sabían muy bien la respuesta. No había necesidad de consultarnos lo que debía decirse. La esposa, con sus ojos alegres, le dijo a quien hizo la segunda pregunta: "Más niños aquí en la tierra, más estarán en el cielo". No hubo más preguntas. Esta pareja murió hace unos años. Que descansen en paz La forma en que vivieron hasta el final, un fin, sin Fin, fue realmente una vida para imitar a la Sagrada familia, deleitándose un día con recompensas eternas. "Más niños aquí en la tierra, más estarán en el cielo". fue una respuesta poderosa. El objetivo de nuestra vida es la Vida Eterna, no nuestro consuelo terrenal y egoísta. Tener y criar diez hijos no fue un viaje fácil para la humilde pareja. Hoy es impensable imaginar una familia con diez hijos. Estoy seguro de que hay excepciones, pero todavía algunas. Para las personas de fe, todo es posible porque imitan las virtudes de la Sagrada Familia en los lazos de la caridad y mirando hacia la meta eterna. Es triste que hoy vivamos en un tiempo en que la familia tiene la dolorosa realidad de una "familia rota". Pocos Hace años leí que Estados Unidos tiene la tasa más alta en el mundo de niños que viven en hogares monoparentales. No me sorprendió en absoluto leer esta triste noticia. Frecuentemente veo padres solteros que vienen a organizar bautizos, inscriben a sus hijos para el programa religioso y asisten a la Santa Misa los domingos. La mayoría de ellos son madres solteras. A menudo escucho a sus hijos decir: "No pude ir el domingo pasado a la iglesia porque tenía que ir con mi padre. Duerme tarde". Solo los miro en silencio y no hay nada que decir. Rezo por los padres solteros y sus queridos hijos que son víctimas inocentes. La triste realidad de los padres solteros es una poderosa llamada de atención para recordarnos a todos que la familia es la célula original de la vida social. Una familia necesita la presencia de un padre, madre, hijos, y en el centro de la familia debe estar Cristo. El Catecismo de nuestra Iglesia Católica afirma maravillosamente que: **"La familia es la comunidad en la que, desde la infancia, uno puede aprender los valores morales, comenzar a honrar a Dios y hacer un buen uso de la libertad." (CCC 2207)** La fiesta de lo Santo La familia nos inspira a todos a tener una firme esperanza invocando las intercesiones de la Santísima Madre y San José. Su santidad, humildad y prudencia deben ser imitadas por parejas que miran hacia la meta de toda nuestra vida: "Las Recompensas Eternas". El venerable cardenal vietnamita Nguyen Van Thuan, encarcelado por el gobierno comunista vietnamita durante trece años. En esos años oscuros de su encarcelamiento, escribió: "Para mí vivir es Cristo, son María y José. María, mi madre, José, mi padre, dame tus ojos para contemplar a Jesús; entrega tus corazones y espíritus para entenderlo y sé apasionado por él ". Que todos nos refugiemos en estas palabras espirituales y alentadoras del cardenal vietnamita que mira la poderosa presencia de Cristo, en las Escrituras, en los sacramentos, la confesión, el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa y el sacramento del matrimonio, a través de los ojos de la Santísima Madre y San José. ¡Sagrada Familia reza por nuestras familias! ¡Amén!



Friday, January 24, 2020

Our parish will attend the march in Washington, D.C. Please join us in the fight to protect and respect the dignity of human life, from conception to natural death. We as marchers will bring our prayers and the pro-life message to our nation's capitol. Morning Holy Mass at 5:30 a.m. in the Church and the bus will depart at 6:00 a.m. ***sharp.*** We will return around 10 p.m.

Bus fee: $50.00

Donations are also accepted to cover the students' bus fees

To make reservations, please come to the rectory

with the bus fee by **January 15th**

For more information, please contact the parish rectory office at 718-882-0710

Thank you from Monsignor Becker, Father Rodrigues and Father Pergjini-

As we still continue to celebrate the Christmas season with joy and hope, and welcome a new year filled with God's grace and many blessings , we thought to write few thank you words to you dear faithful people of St. Lucy. Msgr. Frederick Becker, Fr. Urbano Rodrigues and I would like to thank all of you for your beautiful cards and thoughtful gifts that you gave us for Christmas. It will take us a long time to eat all the goodies that you gave us, and this is a sign that you love us. We are grateful and thankful for being in your life and serving you in this beautiful parish.

We specifically wish to thank the ushers, the Extraordinary Ministries of the Eucharist, the lectors, the English and Spanish choirs, under the directions of Jhasoa Agosto, Madelena Cruz, and Victor Vargas, the sacristans, the altar servers, and many humble volunteers who made the Christmas celebration so beautiful. We want to especially thank Jhasoa Agosto for producing our beautiful Parish Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols last week which truly brought our parish into the spirit of this beautiful season.

Finally we thank you for being such beautiful people. During this time with you we have seen so much goodness among you and true Christian spirit that humbles us to think that we are at your service. You are truly a pleasure to serve, and we humbly ask you to keep us in your prayers, that we may always serve you faithfully in the Lord Jesus. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones throughout the New Year.

Gracias de parte de Monseñor Becker, el Padre Rodrigues y el Padre Pergjini-

Como todavía seguimos celebrando la Navidad con alegría y esperanza y la bienvenida a un nuevo año lleno de la gracia de Dios y muchas bendicio-nes, hemos pensado escribir algunas palabras de agradecimiento a usted querido pueblo fiel de Santa Lucía. Monseñor Frederick Becker, Fr. Urbano Rodrigues y yo nos gustaría agradecerles a todos ustedes su hermosas tarjetas y regalos reflexivos que nos dieron para Navidad. Nos llevará mucho tiempo para comer todas las golosinas que usted nos regalaron, y esto es una señal que nos aman. Estamos amablemente agradecidos por estar en su vida y servirle en esta hermosa parroquia.

Específicamente, queremos agradecer a los ujieres, los ministerios de extraordinario de la Eucaristía, los lectores, los coros de español e inglés, bajo la dirección del Jhasoa Agosto, Madelena Cruz y Victor Vargas, los sacristanes, los servidores del altar y muchos voluntarios humildes que hicieron tan bella la celebración de Navidad. Queremos agradecer especialmente a Jhasoa Agosto por producir nuestro hermoso Festival Parroquial de Nueve Lecciones y Villancicos la semana pasada, que realmente llevó a nuestra parroquia al espíritu de esta hermosa temporada.

Finalmente gracias por ser esa gente hermosa. Durante este tiempo con ustedes hemos visto tanta bondad y el verdadero espíritu cristiano que humi-blemente nos hace pensar que estamos a su servicio. Usted son verdaderamente un placer servirlos, y humildemente le pedimos que nos mantenga en sus oraciones, para que podemos siempre servirle fielmente en el Señor Jesucristo. Que Dios lo siga bendiciendo a usted y sus seres queridos durante todo el año nuevo.

NEW WEEKDAY
MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning January 1, 2020, there will be only one morning Mass on Saturday mornings at 9 a. m. Also, during the summer months, from July 1st through Labor Day there will be no 8 a.m. Mass Monday through Saturday. The Sunday Mass schedule remains unchanged.

All Night Adoration

First Friday, January 3rd beginning at 8 p.m. until 6 a.m. Saturday morning
Followed by the celebration of Holy Mass
Adoration will take place in the chapel of St. Lucy's Center
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(corner of Bronxwood and Waring Ave.)
We invite all parishioners to attend and volunteer during the night.

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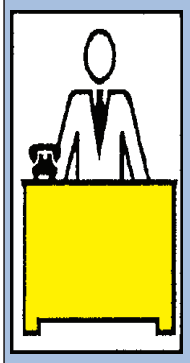
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WHY IS IT
A man wakes up after sleeping
under an ADVERTISED blanket
on an ADVERTISED mattress
and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
brushes his teeth
with ADVERTISED toothpaste
washes with ADVERTISED soap
puts on ADVERTISED clothes
drinks a cup
of ADVERTISED coffee
drives to work
in an ADVERTISED car
and then . . . .
refuses to ADVERTISE
believing it doesn't pay.
Later if business is poor
he ADVERTISES it for sale.
WHY IS IT?