

ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISH

Roman Catholic Churches of St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. Joseph



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**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 24, 2023**

Pastor: Rev. Rees W. Doughty
pastor@stmariannecope.com

Weekend Assistant: Rev. Robert Phelps

Deacons: Leonard Farmer, Anthony Ferraiuolo, Joseph Lieby, John Pelella

Faith Formation Director: Mary Ellen Tiernan
metiernan@stmariannecope.com

St. Thomas of Canterbury Church
340 Hudson Street
Cornwall on Hudson, NY 12520

St. Joseph Church
4 Saint Joseph's Place
New Windsor, NY 12553

stmariannecope.com

Parish Office
845.534.2547 · FAX 845.534.1357
office@stmariannecope.com

Mass Schedule
at St. Thomas of Canterbury Church

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, noon

Daily Mass:
Monday-Saturday, 8:30 am

Confession
Saturday: 9-9:45 am or by appointment

St. Marianne Cope Outreach Ministry
outreach@stmariannecope.com

Prayer Chain
prayerchain@stmariannecope.com

Offertory: Thank you for your generosity and continued support of the parish!

Dec 9/10: \$6,247.00

Online Giving: \$2,125.10

Immaculate Conception: \$2,400.00

In addition to cash/checks, envelopes, or automatic bill payment for your donations, **Online Giving**, through debiting your credit card or bank account, is available. Visit the "Donate" tab on the website.

A Note from Fr. Rees...

On behalf of the priests, deacons, and staff of St. Marianne Cope Parish, I wish everyone a blessed celebration of Our Lord's Nativity! Merry Christmas!

Christmas Eve Carols:

- ~ All parish children, grades K-5, are invited to come on Christmas Eve at 3:30 pm to learn a special song for the Christmas Eve 4 pm Mass.
 - ~ Those attending the 8 pm Christmas Eve Mass are invited to come at 7:40 pm for a period of caroling and special music performed by our choir.
-

Your contributions to the **Christmas Flower Fund** allow us to decorate the church so beautifully for the Christmas season. Extra envelopes are available at the entrances to the Church. Donations can be made in memory or honor of a loved one and envelopes can be placed in the offertory. All envelopes will remain on the altar for the Christmas season and the intentions included at Christmas Masses.

Do I have to go to Mass twice?

This year, with Christmas falling on Monday and our Christmas Vigil Masses on the Sunday night before, the Church asks us to be attentive to our obligation to celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Advent that same weekend. Obligation suggests that a grave sin is incurred if we miss a Sunday Mass, but more to the point, it speaks of necessary graces that come to us from completing our Advent preparation with its final Sunday. There is no "two-fer" by which coming to the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve "counts" for both obligations.

Thank you to everyone who took a tag from our **Christmas Garland of Gifts** to help those in need through Project L.I.F.E (living independently for everyone). Project L.I.F.E. provides emergency housing to homeless families and the help they need to transition to permanent homes. Over 300 gifts were collected, along with wrapping paper, bows, and gift bags!

The **Outreach Ministry** is in need of soup, paper towels, laundry detergent, and hygiene products (shampoo and conditioner). If you can assist, please contact John at outreach@stmariannecope.com or 914.953.0047.

Due to early holiday print deadlines for the bulletin, **offertory amounts** will be reported a week later through mid-January.

The **Parish Office** will be closed December 25-26.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

TOMORROW YOU SHALL SEE HIS GLORY

"Hodie scietis quia veniet Dominus; et cras videbitis gloriam Eius," (Ex 16:6-7).
Today you shall know that the Lord will come; and tomorrow you shall see his glory.

THE LITURGY OF TODAY addresses us with these words: it is the eve of the Nativity of Christ. It is the last day of waiting, a day of deep joy, since the Lord is about to come, and we will see him, as every year, in that unusual place of his birth: in a stable, in a manger. This is, in fact, the place that men "assigned" to him: the inhabitants of Bethlehem and, in a certain sense, all men. And God chose this same place for his Son. This reality must be carefully meditated upon, and we will do so during midnight Mass.

Now, according to the custom on Christmas Eve, I wish to express my most cordial wishes to you. At this moment, I formulate them above all as Bishop of Rome, and I wish to address them to all Romans. Yes, I want these wishes of mine to reach each one of you, because today is a day on which every man approaches the other man.

I want these wishes of mine to arrive at every home, every family. In the Christmas festivities one feels more the need of being close to the members of one's family, in the warmth of the domestic hearth. Let me, too, therefore, join in this union of hearts of yours.

I wish for the parents that what they desire for their children may come true. I wish for the young that the humanity, that is, "the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour" (cf. Tit 3:4) may be revealed to them in a particular way.

With the same wish I go spiritually to every parish of Rome and to all the Houses of men and women Religious.

I address especially nomads, the sick, the suffering, the old, the abandoned, the underprivileged, all those who are alone and far from their families, in order that they may accept the love that Christ offers them for the salvation of every man.

My wishes extend, furthermore, to all environments of work, study, artistic activity, scientific research and every human activity.

I knock at the doors of the various Institutions of community life, in its multiple aspects, and I say "Peace to men of good will", because it was this message that was proclaimed in the cave of Bethlehem.

I invite everyone to the meeting at midnight, the Christmas vigil, for the loving banquet which the Saviour of the world has prepared for us.

I address particular words of gratitude and brotherly communion to the Priests, the Bishops, and the Cardinal Vicar of Rome.

Beloved Brothers and Sisters!

May that which today's liturgy announces to us take place in our lives: let it happen, therefore, that we may know, accept, and live in the depths of our conscience the truth that "the Lord has come".

Let us accept it "today" remembering that this today is the essence of all our life on earth. And that "tomorrow" we will be able to see his glory and participate in it!

*Angelus address of St. John Paul II on Sunday,
24 December 1978 at St. Peter's Square, Rome.*



Christmas blessings from the North Pole!



The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Mass Schedule

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
4 PM AND 8 PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS
8 AM, 10 AM, AND NOON

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Dec 25: *The Nativity of Our Lord*

8:00 Celebrant's Intentions

10:00 Celebrant's Intentions

12:00 Celebrant's Intentions

Tues, Dec 26: *St Stephen*

8:30 +Norma Jean D'Arrigo by Michael and family

Wed, Dec 27: *St John*

8:30 +Humberto Mamawal Sr and +Humberto

Mamawal Jr by Linda Siner

Thurs, Dec 28: *The Holy Innocents*

8:30 +Maria Coelho and +Catherine Sousa by family

Fri, Dec 29: *St Thomas Becket*

8:30 +Katherine Lehmann by Alexander and Patricia

Milne

Sat, Dec 30

8:30 +Nick Corea by Mary Lou Corea

4:30 +Ruben Rivera by Elliott Gaztambide; +Ruth

Niedermeier by Ed and Pat Perry

Sun, Dec 31: *Feast of the Holy Family*

8:00 +Gary Ricci by Hickey family

10:00 +Rafael Luciano by Deb Klein

12:00 The People of the Parish

Two intentions will be accepted at the Saturday, 4:30 Vigil Mass. The Sunday Mass at noon will be offered only for the People of the Parish. The offering for an unannounced Mass is \$10; for an announced Mass: \$15.

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading I — 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Here we have both an oracle of Nathan the prophet and a prayer of David the king. The throne of David shall endure forever.

Reading II — Romans 16:25-27

This section is a doxology, or prayer of praise to the “only wise God”, as the author puts it, who acts through Jesus Christ.

The Gospel — Luke 1:26-38

The wonderful mystery of the Annunciation of Mary, the First Joyful one of the Holy Rosary. Mary's Son will be, according to Archangel Gabriel, “the Most High”. He will take the throne of David forever.

Read **Bishop Barron's Advent Reflections** on the parish website, stmariannecope.com. These are daily reflections for the Advent season.

Masses: The book for announced Masses for 2024 is open. Please contact the parish office staff for available dates/times. The Parish offers Mass the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 am for the deceased who are remembered in our **Perpetual Mass Enrollment**. These Holy Souls will be included in the prayers of the liturgy for a period of one year. The offering is \$30 and includes a leatherette memorial Mass folder.

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