

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 – The Nativity of Jesus/Christmas Day**

9:00am St Patrick’s Parishioners  
5:00pm **NO VIGIL**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 – Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

8:00am Cindy Timerson – Family  
10:00am Floyd & Louise Newert – Priscilla Feneck

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 – St John, Apostle & Evangelist**

NO MASS

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28 – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29 – St Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr**

NO MASS

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30**

NO MASS

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31 – St Sylvester I, Pope**

5:00pm Harold Adams – Dick & Judy Strauss

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

10:00am Kate Manley – Gwen Courser  
5:00pm **NO VIGIL**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 – Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00am Joan Bennett – Pearl Simmons

10:00am Peg Smith – Sharon DeNardo

*In your kindness, please pray for all the deceased members of our parish family.*

**Please pray** for the safe return of our soldiers who are stationed in areas of harm. Our hope is that they, as well as all our other young men and women, return home safely, and soon.

*\*Marcus Bolen\*Connor Bush\*Tanner Bush\*Matthew Eck\*Jennifer Gillian\*  
\*Jason Green\*Stephen Paul\*Jared Twist\**

**Readings for Dec 26-Jan 2**

Sun. Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:41-52  
Mon. 1Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a,2-8  
Tues. 1Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18  
Wed. 1Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35  
Thurs. 1Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40  
Fri. 1Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18  
Sat. Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
Sun. Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a,5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**Saturday, December 25**

**Sunday, December 26**

Coffee Hour  
No Religious Ed Classes

**Monday, December 27**

9:30am Legion of Mary Mtg – Center

**Tuesday, December 28**

3:00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy – Chapel

8:00pm AA Mtg

**Wednesday, December 29**

9:30am Rosary – Chapel

**Thursday, December 30**

6:30pm Choir Practice – Church

**Friday, December 31**

6am-5pm Adoration – Chapel

**Saturday, January 1**

**Sunday, January 2**

Coffee Hour  
NO Religious Ed Classes

**Liturgies December 18 & 19**

Budget.....\$4,500  
Collection.....\$5,148  
Deficit/Surplus .....+\$648

**In Our Community**

Please remember the Pantry as you do your shopping. The following items are needed: peanut butter, jam/jelly, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, jello, pudding, canned pasta meals, boxed - dried potato and noodle dinners, cake/brownie mixes, toilet paper.

**You may request to light the Infant of Prague Candle or the Sanctuary Candle** by calling the Parish Office. Each candle burns for 2 weeks. Donation \$10. **OR Flowers for the Altar.** The donation is \$50 per week.

**The Infant of Prague Candle**

*Burns for Bill Skardinski  
Given By his sister, Elsie*

**WINTER WEATHER REMINDER**

For your safety, please be reminded that if the Jordan-Elbridge Schools are delayed or closed, DAILY Mass will be cancelled. Please listen to your favorite weather source for this information. **IN EXTREME WEATHER, PLEASE WATCH CHANNEL 9 OR 10 TO SEE IF WEEKEND MASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED BEFORE HEADING OUT TO MASS.**

**Altar & Rosary News**

JoAnne Decker, Pres. 315-224-0245  
[jsdecker2019@gmail.com](mailto:jsdecker2019@gmail.com)

**Prayers are Requested for:** Marge Austin, ZAB, Gerald Bigness, Matt Bower, Lilly Cashin, Tim & Susan Daly, Penny Dwyer, Kayla Elliott, Kenna Elliott, Becky Fichter, Lynn Ford, Hildegard Gunnip, Reese Hathaway, Jim Heirholzer, Christine Holbrook, Kaitlin Keller, Mike Kinch, David LaPrairie, Marilyn McLaughlin, Carolyn Mangin, Dave & Jane Maitland, Teresa Moore, Louis Nagy, Kristin Nolan, Manny Perez, Nico Petrocci, Connie Skutt, Terrissa Strange, Marianne Strauss, Phillip Ulrich, Nora Vincent, Robert Zelas, Chuck & Peggy Zellars, Dawn Zingaro *Please call the Parish Office to request that someone be added to our list. (Prayer Shawls are also available upon request.)*

**LECTOR & EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNION MINISTER SCHEDULE**

December 24 & 25

**LECTOR:**

4pm D. Zingaro  
10pm R. Henderson  
9am T. DiRenzo

**COMMUNION MINISTER:**

4pm D. LaPrairie  
10pm K. Scott  
9am A. Speck

December 26

**LECTOR:**

5pm **NO VIGIL**  
8am T. DiRenzo  
10am R. Dygert

**COMMUNION MINISTER:**

5pm **NO VIGIL**  
8am A. Speck  
10am M. Heck

January 1-2

**LECTOR:**

5pm **NO VIGIL**  
8am B. Dristle  
10am R. Henderson

**COMMUNION MINISTER:**

5pm **NO VIGIL**  
8am A. Speck  
10am M. Heck

**PLEASE turn off your cell phone** before entering the church to preserve the spirit of prayer and reverence. Thank you.



**Knights of Columbus News Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month @ 7pm. Please contact Dick Strauss, Grand Knight for information

**Christmas Schedule 2021**

**Christmas Eve – Fri, Dec 24**

4:00 pm Vigil Mass  
9:30 pm Carols  
10:00 pm Mass at Night

**Christmas Day – Sat, Dec 25**

9:00 am Christmas Mass

**Feast of the Holy Family**

Sat, Dec 25 **NO VIGIL MASS**  
Sun, Dec 26 8:00 & 10:00 Mass

**Mary, the Mother of God**

Fri, Dec 31 5:00 pm Vigil Mass  
Sat, Jan 1 10:00 am Mass

**Epiphany**

Sat, Jan 1 **NO VIGIL MASS**  
Sun, Jan 2 8:00 & 10:00 Mass

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
I wish to sincerely thank you for your support and kind comments on our Christmas Liturgies. In particular, the Altar decorations, the music, and the ceremonies. I must especially thank our organist, Steve Uhnak, and our choir for the wonderful music at our Masses. I want to thank the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, and Altar Servers for their prayerful and reverent service at our Masses. I thank the Food pantry volunteers and the many other parish ministries for sharing their time, talents, and services with our people. Thank you to all those who teach our children in our Religious Education program and give a tremendous witness of faith to our children and their families. Thanks to all my staff for their hard work and loving concern for our people throughout the year. Thank you to the Legion of Mary for their visits to the sick and infirm with Holy Communion, and those who offer funeral luncheons to those in need. Thank you to the Liturgy Committee for decorating the church all year so beautifully. I want to thank all of you for your support, affirmation, and so many kind words to me personally, which continually fill me with joy and gratitude for the privilege of being your pastor. Many thanks for your gifts during the holidays, your cards, and your greetings. I wish you and your families a blessed and happy new year.  
*Love, Fr. DeLorenzo*

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

Our weekend Liturgies are celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family to inspire each of our families to become holy. The prayers and homily of the Masses are directed to asking God's rich blessings upon each of your homes and your loved ones. Our families are so important to us, and we pray that God's blessings may be upon them specially to unite those families that are split over differences, bitterness, or misunderstandings. Let us pray, too, during our Liturgies that the dignity and sacredness of family life will be restored not only in the minds and hearts of our people but of people all over the world.

**THE STORY OF THE POINSETTIA**

On Christmas eve a child was seen crying - rubbing her eyes with dirty fists. She wished to visit the Christ Child's crib and present a gift to the Infant.

But she had nothing. As she sobbed a figure appeared and pointed out that some weeds with interesting leaves growing nearby would be suitable, as it wasn't the gift itself that was important but the love that caused it to be given.

Doubtfully the child pulled the weeds and went toward the crib. Suddenly her hands held bright red flowers - the poinsettia - as the green leaves changed into red. Since then the poinsettia has become the Christmas flower.

**MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD**

On this first day of the year, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. We have shared the joy that was bestowed on us with the celebration of the Incarnation of the Son of God on Christmas. Let thoughts of Mary this day remind us that we should say "yes" to the coming of Jesus into our life, our hearts, and our homes each day. May we treasure his presence in the coming year as Mary did in her lifetime.

**The Vigil Mass for the Holy Day will be held on Friday, December 31 at 5pm, and on Saturday January 1 at 10am.**

**NEW YEAR'S PRAYER**

Do not fear what may happen tomorrow. The same loving Father who cares for you today will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginings. *St. Francis de Sales*

**VISIT TO THE MANGER**

We invite each family during this Holy Season of Christmas to come forth to the Christmas manger and together offer a prayer that God will bless and keep you all safe in His care.

**HOPE APPEAL 2021**

We are very near to making our Hope Appeal assessment of \$20,775.03. I am asking that all our parishioners please make a gift or pledge to the appeal before the end of the year. For every gift over our goal 100% will be returned to St. Patrick's. We will use these funds for the restoration of our church windows. Please use the pledge form that was sent directly to your home or pick one up at the parish office. God bless you.

**Religious Ed –**

All classes (for children and accompanying adult) meet after the 10am Mass, from 11:00 -12:15, for PreK – 9<sup>th</sup> grade.  
Class Dates for December and January: 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30. No class on 12/26, 1/2.

**Thank you!**

The response to our "Service Sunday" was outstanding! The "many hands" helping with sorting Food Pantry potatoes, oranges, and paper products and those working with the Liturgy Committee to prepare the Church for Christmas certainly "made light work"! The cards signed by the families were delivered to "The Home", an assisted living facility in Auburn, and provided a bit of extra cheer for the residents. This outpouring of love is a beautiful gift for the Christ Child!

**Urgent Prayer Request:**

The Supreme Court is deliberating on *Dobbs vs Jackson Women's Organization* (Mississippi), a landmark case that could overturn the *Roe vs Wade* ruling in 1973, freeing states to enact abortion laws based on the values of their citizens, most of whom oppose abortion. Please continue to pray for each judge and those on their legal teams to be open to the Holy Spirit and vote to protect our most vulnerable citizens...preborn babies.

*This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 1 John 5:14*

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

### **This is how it happened.....**

I just finished the household chores for the night and was preparing to go to bed, when I heard a noise in the front of the house. I opened the door to the front room and to my surprise, Santa himself stepped out from behind the Christmas tree. He placed his finger over his mouth so I would not cry out. "What are you doing?" I started to ask. The words choked up in my throat, and I saw he had tears in his eyes. His usual jolly manner was gone. Gone was the eager, boisterous soul we all know.

He then answered me with a simple statement. "TEACH THE CHILDREN!" I was puzzled; what did he mean? He anticipated my question, and with one quick movement brought forth a miniature toy bag from behind the tree. As I stood bewildered, Santa said, "Teach the children! Teach them the old meaning of Christmas. The meaning that now-a-days Christmas has forgotten." Santa then reached in his bag and pulled out a FIR TREE and placed it before the mantle. "Teach the children that the pure green color of the stately fir tree remains all year round, depicting the everlasting hope of mankind; all the needles point heavenward, making it a symbol of man's thoughts turning toward heaven." He again reached into his bag and pulled out a STAR. "Teach children that the star was the heavenly sign of promises long ago. God promised a Savior for the world, and the star was the sign of fulfillment of His promise." He then reached into his bag and pulled out a CANDLE. "Teach the children that the candle symbolizes that Christ is the light of the world; and when we see this great light, we are reminded of He who displaces the darkness." Once again, he reached into his bag and removed a WREATH and placed it on the tree. "Teach the children that the wreath symbolizes the real nature of love. Real love never ceases. Love is one continuous round of affection." He then pulled from his bag an ornament of himself. "Teach the children that I, St Nick (Santa Claus)

symbolizes the generosity and good will we feel during the month of December." He then brought out a HOLLY LEAF. "Teach the children that the holly plant represents immortality. It represents the crown of thorns worn by our Savior. The red holly represents the blood shed by Him." Next, he pulled from his bag a GIFT and said, "Teach the children that God so loved the world that HE gave HIS only begotten SON..." Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift. "Teach the children that the Wise Men bowed before the Holy BABE and presented HIM with gold, frankincense and myrrh. We should always give gifts in the same spirit of the Wise Men." Santa then reached into his bag and pulled out a CANDY CANE and hung it on the tree. "Teach the children that the candy cane represents the shepherds' crook. The crook on the staff helps to bring back strayed sheep to the flock. The candy cane is the symbol that we are our brother's keeper." He reached in again and pulled out an ANGEL. "Teach the children that it was the angels that heralded in the glorious news of the Saviors' birth. The angels sang 'Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will toward men.'" Suddenly I heard a soft twinkling sound, and from his bag he pulled out a BELL. "Teach the children that as the lost sheep are found by the sound of the bell, it should ring mankind to the fold. The bell symbolizes guidance and return."

Santa looked back and was pleased. He looked back at me and I saw that the twinkle was back in his eyes. He said, "Remember, teach the children the true meaning of Christmas and do not put me in the center, for I am but a humble servant of the One that is, and I bow down to worship HIM, our LORD, our GOD....Praise Jesus!!!