

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent



Saturday, December 3

10:45 am Mass at Heath Village
5:30 pm For Connor Mullin by McGrath Family

Sunday, December 4

8:00 am For Josefa Silfa-Herrera by Madaras Family
9:30 am For Deacon John Meyer by Nyman Family
11:00 am For Peter Silvain, Sr. by Schmitt Family

Monday, December 5

8:45 am For Persecuted Christians

Tuesday, December 6

8:45 am For Peace

Wednesday, December 7

8:45 am For Julia Dugan by Monteverde Family

Thursday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

8:45 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's
7:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's

Saturday, December 10

5:30 pm For Richard Steen by Madaras Family

Sunday, December 11

8:00 am For Mary Darter by Eileen Stokes
9:30 am For Stephen Nichols by Paula Field
11:00 am For Mass of Thanksgiving by Skoczylas Family

MINISTRY SCHEDULE December 10, 11, 2016

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode, Deacon Bob Head
Greeter: Help Needed
Lector: Tom Morley
Eucharistic Ministers: Nancy & Mike Lennon, Barbara Burke
Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 8:00 am

Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski
Greeter: Help Needed
Lector: Tony Cretella
Eucharistic Ministers: Rick Gebbia, Mark Vetterl
Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday 9:30 am

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode
Greeter: Help Needed
Lector: Sarah Murray
Eucharistic Minister: Eric Woelfel, Tony Piombino, Angel Nowak
Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday 11:00 am

Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski, Deacon Nick Ardito
Greeter: Help Needed
Lector: Sharon Donovan
Eucharistic Ministers: Ed Michonski, Lorraine Fleming, Andrew Marley
Altar Servers: Help Needed

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families.

Mass Candles: For Harmony in the World by Skoczylas Family,

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PARISH

Saturday, December 10

5:00 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski
7:00 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski

Sunday, December 11

7:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Ray Lopatesky, Deacon Jim Jones
9:15 am Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski
10:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode
12:15 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski, Deacon Ton Gibbons

ST. MARK'S NEEDS \$5,280 PER WEEK TO MEET OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Current Year	Last Year 2015
November 27, 2016: \$2,887 Envelopes used: 51	November 29, 2015: \$2,069 Envelopes used: 65
November Online Donations: \$8,313	November Online Donations: \$9,685
Supermarket Gift Cards November 27, 2016 Sales: \$1,650 Profit: \$82.50 YTD Total: \$6,071.50 # of families: 10	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Mark the Evangelist through Faith Direct, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NJ484 Thank you for your continued support of our parish family! God Bless You, Fr. Joe





THE VOICE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST...

John the Baptist appears in our Gospel today calling upon people to repent and prepare for the coming of the Lord. His message is as valid today as it was when he first proclaimed it on the banks of the Jordan River. During Advent, we are called to put aside the distractions around us to see clearly the coming of the Lord. Jesus comes to us in the persons we meet each day. Jesus comes in the persons who challenge us each day. Jesus comes into our heart through our prayer to strengthen us like John the Baptist so that we can fulfill the mission that we have to be his disciples in the world. To be disciples who like John sometimes are called to proclaim a message that not all like to hear. In our world torn by strife and turmoil, we are to be the voices for justice for all people. We have to call for an end of war and oppressions of people that only cause further problems in the world. This Advent season pray for the courage to let your voice be heard. Let others know by your words and deeds that your voice is that of Jesus' disciple. Seek to bring about peace and not division. See to unite people and not alienate them. Be a voice in the spirit of John the Baptist to let others know that only by turning to the Lord can we hope to bring about a transformation of hearts and minds in our time...Fr. Joe

ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT...TODAY!!!

Join us today in the church @ 4 p.m. come out and enjoy an afternoon of Christmas music featuring the choirs of St Mark's church, Church of Messiah Bell Choir, St. Theodore's church and the Joyful Silvertones and the Americana Troupe. All of these groups have been with us before and you will enjoy this afternoon. All ages are welcome. Free will donation.

HOLY DAY REMINDER...DEC. 8 FEAST DAY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY...

Masses at St. Mark's on Thursday December 8 are: 8:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Vigil mass at OLM on Wednesday December 7 at: 7:30 p.m.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK..."Much that is true of human relationships is also true of our relationship with God. Human relationships of friendship or marriage need time, attention, and care for them to continue and to grow. The same is true of our relationship with God. We have been called to union but we need to respond. As we turn to God in conversion or in a deeper awakening, besides turning away from deliberate sin—which deforms the soul, blocks the relationship and offends the Person who has sacrificed His life for us—we need to positively build the relationship by paying attention to the One who loves us. Prayer is at root simply paying attention to God." - Ralph Martin

“BE RICH IN GOOD WORKS” –

Thank you to all who made their pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. We are on our way to meeting our goal of \$10,000 to help our diocese ministry to those in need. If you have not yet made a pledge please take a pledge envelope from the table in the gathering space and complete it and put it in the collection basket or you can help our Bishop's Appeal and help St. Mark's through your On-line gifts go to www.2016appeal.org. Thank you. Fr. Joe

WHY WE ARE CATHOLIC...

We are Catholic because we believe: Jesus was born in a humble stable, into a poor family. Simple shepherds were the first witnesses to this event. In this poverty heaven's glory was made manifest...To become a child in relation to God is the condition for entering the kingdom. For this, we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become "children of God" we must be "born from above" or "born of God". Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us. The Catechism of the Catholic Church 525-526.

FIRST RECONCILIATION...

On Friday, December 2, our 2nd grade students, listed below received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. We are so pleased and proud of them and their wonderful families. May God continue to richly bless them as they continue to grow in their faith.

Morgan Beaumont, Brooke Bell, Maddie Buchanan, Madison Candura, Andrew Charles, Jake Donlon, Olivia Gaskill, Sydney Hammer, Anne Horutz, Marlena Jonkoski, Cameron Jute, Christian Jute, Cara Kaminski, Jayson Laucella, Sean Laucella, Claire Locke, Kevin Masterson, Logan Miller, Brianna Morgan, Brielle O'Keefe, Brendan Roehrig, Evan Schwartz, Kayla Vanko, Cameron Westrick

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS...NEXT WEEKEND...

On the weekend of December 10th & 11th we will offer a blessing for expectant or adopting parents at each mass. Please invite those who you know who would like this blessing.

SAVE THE DATE – POT LUCK LUNCH...

St. Mark's Annual Pot Luck Lunch Sunday, January 22nd 12:00 pm. Help us welcome our newest parishioners! Sign-ups to start this weekend. Plan to be with us for this favorite event.

HOLIDAY PARTY FOR MORRIS COUNTY FOSTER KIDS...

One of our young parishioners is on The West Morris Central Girls Lacrosse team that is sponsoring a service project to raise money for a Holiday party for 220 children in the Morris County Foster program. They are selling car magnets for \$7 each. You can purchase a car magnet from the plastic container on the bulletin table in the gathering area. We are also accepting any cash donations. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly at [\(908\) 852-3741](tel:9088523741). Thank you.

YOU'RE INVITED! Book Club Christmas Social - Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00 pm. - OLM Parish Conference Room In addition to our regular meeting we are hosting a Christmas Wine & Cheese Social - other snacks and refreshments will also be available. This month we will share our interpretations of William Paul Young's, The Shack! Join us as we come together to grow in mind, spirit and above all community. The book club meets once a month, from 7 - 9 pm in the OLM Parish Conference Room. Each month's selection comes from a participant and newcomers are always welcome. Membership is Free! All we ask is that you come with an open mind and heart and that you read the book. Feel free to bring a friend!

Please let us know if you will be joining us December 14th. Josephine at jcmariem.192@gmail.com or [908-797-1635](tel:9087971635) and Jason at solomoja@me.com

NEW JERSEY'S ADOPTION LAW HAS CHANGED...

Beginning January 1, 2017, adoptees and certain relatives will be able to obtain a copy of their original birth certificate without a court order. The birth certificate will include the names of the birth parents who placed children for adoption unless a birth parent requests their name be omitted. The New Jersey Catholic Conference has established an "Adoption HELPLINE" for anyone in need of assistance at [609-989-4809](tel:609-989-4809).

LONG VALLEY COLUMBIETTES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE...

The Long Valley Columbiettes will hold their annual home baked Christmas cookie sale after all masses next weekend December 10 and 11. Many local organizations benefit from the proceeds of this fundraiser. Thank you for your support.

COLLEGE AGE RETREAT, MARIANIST FAMILY RETREAT CENTER, CAPE MAY POINT, NJ...

This retreat is designed to bring young people together of college age (17-22). So whether you are in college or working come join us to renew your spiritual life, deepen your relationship with God and to meet new friends. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences peer group discussions, Eucharist, and lots of fun...

Cost: \$130/person, double occupancy. Register at: www.capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829. Some financial aid is available. Questions, call Anthony Fucci, Center Director, 609-884-3829 or email mfr@capemaymarianists.org

Community News 

CHRISTMAS TREES AVAILABLE...

St. Paul's Abbey, on Route 206 one mile south of Newton, has thousands of Christmas trees ready to choose and cut 7 days a week until December 23rd, 9 am to 4 pm. We also have the Abbey Gift Shop with many items that make ideal Christmas gifts, including books, statues, jewelry and more.

HOLIDAY VENDOR FAIR...

Mansfield Cub Scout Pack 222 will be holding their 3rd annual Holiday Vendor Fair, Saturday, December 10 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Mansfield Elementary School in Port Murray (off Rt. 57). Come on out and do some early holiday shopping.

LETTERS TO SANTA... W.T. Recreation has made arrangements with Santa to accept mail for delivery to the North Pole. Township youngsters are encouraged to write a letter to Santa. Parents may either place the letter in the red drop box at the Recreation Dept. at 50 Rock Road or the W.T. Library, or mail to W.T. Recreation Dept. Attn: Santa Claus. All letters should include the child's first and last name and complete return address so that a response may be mailed.

Deadline is December 15 (no exceptions). Questions? Call 876-5941.

NEEDED...

Life Choices Pregnancy Center needs stairway gates, cribs, pack and play, bassinets, carriages, car seats, clothes size infant to size 14. Call Judy 908-399-7305

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

In this beautiful passage, a messianic prophecy, Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Paul reveals to us the necessity of living in peace and harmony. His words "Accept one another, then, as Christ accepted you, for the Glory of God" are as needed today as they were in Paul's own time.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus. Clothed in a garment of camel's hair, he baptizes the people in the Jordan River, but warns the Pharisees in ringing tones that they must give evidence that they mean to reform.



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, John Andaloro, Tony Atkins, Charlie, Baby Natalie Rose Bassett, Kenneth Bernisky, Luz Bracero, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Arlene Cichlar, Hannah Clark, Emily Condit, Kaitlin Cross, Natalia Danilczuk, Krish Dharia, Ellen Eichler, Connie Elliott, Rick & Nicholas Fania, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Nora Goodman, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Claudia Kallmeyer, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Margaret Leon, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Helene Mackie, Wayne Marks, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene Madelyn S., Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Jim Owens, Dennis Paradise, Arlene Parikh, Rev., Raymond Pavlick, Nicky Pilosi, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Jeff Schpiner, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile



