

Cry out with joy and gladness, for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel .

December 13, 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 12

5:30 pm For Bill Dondiego by Monteverde Family

Sunday, December 13

8:00 am For Olive Seton by St. Mark's Heath Village Ministers

9:30 am For A Special Intention by Nyman Family

For Stephen Nichols by Paula Field

11:00 am For Robert DiClemente by Cresci Family & Mom & Dad

Monday, December 14

8:45 am For Vince Laconis

Tuesday, December 15

8:45 am For Grandma Anna by Fanny Magdalino

Wednesday, December 16

8:45 am For Peace

Saturday, December 19

5:30 pm For Joseph Malchitsky, Thomas & Thomas Iannarelli
by Santorelli Family

Sunday, December 20

8:00 am For Bill Dondiego by Cronin Family

9:30 am For Bob Dotson, Jr. by McGrath Family

11:00 am For Andrzej Kapitula by Joann McElwaine

MINISTRY SCHEDULE *November December 19, 20, 2015*

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: Tom Morley

Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Scarda, Barbara Burke

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 8:00 am

Celebrant: Rev. Dan Chajkowski

Greeter: Jacqueline & Austin Harvey

Lector: Jim Scott

Eucharistic Ministers: Carmen Veras, Carne Purwin

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday 9:30 am

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Greeter: Need Help

Lector: Emily Wu, Kevin Mullin

Eucharistic Minister: Tony Piombino, Angel Nowak

Altar Servers: Isabella DiLizia

Sunday 11:00 am

Celebrant: Rev. Dan Chajkowski

Greeter: Kathy Yates

Lector: Dina Carmelengo, Al Escudero

Eucharistic Ministers: Charlotte Skoczylas, Claire Liskiewicz

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:**

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PARISH

Saturday, December 19

5:00 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski

7:00 pm Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Sunday, December 20

7:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

9:15 am Celebrant: Msgr. Peter McHugh

10:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Ray Lopatesky

12:15 pm Celebrant: Rev. Dan Chajkowski

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

Current Year	Last Year 2014
December 6, 2015: \$2,851.54 Envelopes used: 59	December 7, 2014: \$3,412 Envelopes used: 70
Parish Debt Reduction: \$1,103.00 Envelopes used: 29	Parish Debt Reduction: \$712 Envelopes used: 33
Supermarket Gift Cards Week of December 6, 2015 Sales: \$1,500 Profit: \$75 YTD Profit: \$5,982.50 # of Families: 7	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 more easily project your future contributions.

You can sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code: **NJ484**, or by mailing a paper enrollment form available in the parish office.

God Bless You,
Fr. Joe





JUBILEE OF YEAR OF MERCY...Dec 8 2015 – Nov 20 2016

Pope Francis introduced the Year of Mercy in a papal document entitled "Misericordiae Vultus." The opening paragraph states: "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him. The Father, "rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4), after having revealed his name to Moses as "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ex 34:6), has never ceased to show, in various ways throughout history, his divine nature. In the "fullness of time" (Gal 4:4), when everything had been arranged according to his plan of salvation, he sent his only Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary, to reveal his love for us in a definitive way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father (cf. Jn 14:9). Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God."

Throughout this Year of Mercy Pope Francis asks us to make it our special work to come to understand that Jesus reveals God's mercy to us. The challenge is for us to appreciate the gift of God's mercy in our lives and to extend that gift of mercy to one another. Sometimes we let our preoccupations with worldly things distract us from showing mercy to others. Advent calls us to put aside the distractions and focus on preparing for Jesus' face of the Father's Mercy. May this week of Advent be for us a time of welcoming others and sharing with them the hope and mercy that are truly gifts from God...Fr. Joe

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE EPIPHANY POT LUCK LUNCH SUNDAY JANUARY 3RD AFTER THE 11 A.M. MASS...

SIGN UP IN THE GATHERING SPACE...HERE ARE MORE DETAILS...

Directions for Epiphany Pot Luck Lunch

St. Mark's Epiphany Pot Luck Lunch is a tradition at St. Mark's. It's a wonderful time for all of us to get together after the holidays in a relaxed, stress free way and to welcome our newest parishioners. Signup sheets are in the gathering space. Please look for the letter of your last name – this will tell you what your family should bring. It's important to let us know what dish you'll be bringing to share so we don't have a lot of duplicates.

Plan your dish serving approximately 8-10 people. If it's a hot dish, please bring it hot, we will have sternos set up, but we are not able to heat things up. Please also bring your dish in the disposable aluminum pans that will fit into the sterno set ups. A half tray size is perfect (approx. 9x13)

You can bring your dish when you arrive to the lunch at noon, or drop it off before you go to 11:00 mass and we'll keep it warm with the sternos.

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION...Monday Dec 14

Join us for a holy hour at OLM church each 2nd Monday of the month at 7-8 p.m. The theme this month will be on the Year of Mercy.

ST. MARK'S ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE...

Wednesday - December 16th at 7 p.m. Accept the Mercy of Jesus through the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come early and join in the tree lighting service with our Junior Youth Minister at 6:45 p.m.

Other parish services this week:

St. Luke's – Monday - December 14th at 8 p.m. & OLM - Tuesday Dec. 15th at 7:30 p.m.

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS...Next weekend Dec. 19 & 20

We will be offering a blessing for expectant/adopting parents at all masses on the weekend of Dec. 19 & 20 please invite members of your families and friends who might like this blessing. Pray for young families, expectant parents and all who witness to the value of life.

SERVING CHRIST IN OTHERS...Catholic Charities

Mary* went to a Catholic Charities food bank in Maine looking for help. She thought her life was so messed up that it was beyond fixing. The staff at the food bank understood she needed something more than a meal. They asked Mary to help pack the bags of food. Now she is a regular volunteer and talks about the joy she has in helping out. As one of the staff said, "I think we're feeding more than bellies." Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Paterson also maintains several food pantries throughout our diocese which helps feed the hungry. Your donation to the Bishop's Annual Appeal will make certain this good work continues. If you have not made a pledge please do so through the diocesan website www.2015appeal.org and credit it to St. Mark's.

THE PILLARS OF STEWARDSHIP... Hospitality, Prayer, Formation and Service.

The second pillar of stewardship is Prayer. We must set aside time for personal prayers and family prayers, remaining ever mindful that all the time, talent and treasure that we have comes from the Lord. (This is the 2nd of 4 articles).

SUPPORT RETIRED RELIGIOUS...PRIESTS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS...

Next weekend part of our Extended Catholic Obligations collection will be used to support the yearly collection to help our retired religious in our country who worked for many years in our Catholic institutions. Please help them.

...IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES - 3rd Sunday of Advent, December 12-13

Down through history, God provided us with a roadmap. He foretold various signs and conditions through His prophets. These prophets spoke of things that mankind should watch for so that the Messiah would be recognized and believed. These signs or prophecies were given to us in the Old Testament written hundreds of years before Jesus' birth. There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament that Jesus fulfilled through His life, death and resurrection. For example - The Messiah would be Born of a Virgin - The Prophecy - Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God... But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough that you weary human beings? Must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

The Fulfillment - Matthew 1:20-23 - *Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."*

About the prophecy: The situation of the southern kingdom of Judah in the 730's BC was very grave and the future of the kingdom was in doubt. Isaiah's sign seeks to reassure Ahaz, King of Judah, that he

need not fear the invading armies of Syria and Israel in the light of God's promise to David (2 Sm 7:12-16). The name *Jesus* means "God saves." Jesus will save God's people, not from the Romans, as was expected, but from sin. Because he is the Son of God, Jesus literally can be referred to as "God with us."

WHY WE ARE CATHOLIC...

We are Catholic because we believe: The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them. It is the most fundamental and essential teaching in the "hierarchy of the truths of faith." The whole history of salvation is identical with the history of the way and the means by which the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, reveals himself to men "and reconciles and unites with himself those who turn away from sin." The Catechism of the Catholic Church paragraph 234.

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON TO BE HONORED IN CONVENT STATION...

The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth cordially invite you to join them for the Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Seton Associate Commitment Ceremony. Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, January 2, 2016, at Holy Family Chapel, Convent Station, NJ at 11:00 am. The Mass will be followed by a light lunch in the study hall of the Academy of Saint Elizabeth. The Heritage Room at the Motherhouse will be open for a display of Mother Seton memorabilia. For more information call 973-290-5470. In case of inclement weather call (973) 290-5478. Snow date is January 9, 2016.



DYFS CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE GIFTS...

Your unwrapped gift with the angel tag attached to the package is due **this Wednesday, December 16th**. Please remember to check off your name. God bless you for making a child happy this Christmas.

NATIVITY STORY...

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join us for the Nativity Story which will take place before the 4:00 pm mass on Christmas Eve (at 3:30 pm)

Practices will be held on Monday, December 21st from 4-5:30 pm and Tuesday, December 22nd from 4-5:30 pm. Children will be asked to be at church at 3:00 pm on Christmas Eve. Sign up and help bring this beautiful celebration to life!

ANTIOCH FOOD SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE POSTED IN GATHERING SPACE...

As always, our candidates, Peers and team could use your help in feeding us while we are on this year's Antioch Retreat. This beautiful tradition has helped us to have a wonderful Antioch experience, year after year. Please take a moment to sign-up for a much-needed food item. Your support is very much appreciated! Thank you.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS...

If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one toward the flowers that will be on the altar this Christmas season, there are Flower Envelopes both in your envelope packet and on the center table in the gathering space.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Zephaniah urges the people of Jerusalem to rejoice because the Lord is in their midst. He conveys the message that God will love and protect those who have remained faithful to him.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Paul encourages the Philippians to be ready for Christ. He tells them not to worry about their concerns, but to instead ask God's help and allow his peace to fill their hearts and minds.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist answers people who ask him what they should do, leading some to believe he was the Messiah. John clearly states that he will be followed by one so powerful that "I am not fit to loosen his sandal strap."



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, 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, Daniel DePaul, Krish Dharia, Charles & Ellen Eichler, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, George Foehner, Joseph Forlini, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Claudia Kallmeyer, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Anne Kindt, Raymond McCarthy Jr, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Lenore, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Helene Mackie, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy, Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Jim Owens, Dennis Paradise, John Parker, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Piloni, Martha Towne Riley, Clifford Reynolds, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Tommy Scheffler, Ann Senftinger, Kurt Shubert, Rhonda Soto, Judy Stone, Debbie Trepkau, Debra Vitale, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile,

Every now and then we try to update our prayer list of names of the sick and special intentions. We have alphabetized the names in the hopes of making them easier to read. There are some names that we in the parish office cannot associate with a person who made the request to pray for them. Please look over the list and if you requested prayers for a person please either call the office or e mail Fr. Joe to let us know if you wish to continue to be on this prayer list.

