

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Saturday, December 17

5:30 pm For Peter Jurusik by Zimmerman Family
For Linda Alianza by Alianza Family

Sunday, December 18

8:00 am For Kathleen Cunningham by Ronceray Family
9:30 am For Deacon John Meyer by Nyman Family
11:00 am For Robert DiClemente & Grazia Marchesani
by DiClemente & Cresi Families
For Faustino Gonzalez by his wife & children

Monday, December 19

8:45am For Joan Hogan by Bill Betz

Tuesday, December 20

8:45 am For the sick

Wednesday, December 21

8:45 am For Peace

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's
6:30 pm For Martin, Helen & James Lynch by Mangiaracina Family
10:00 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

9:30 am For Gregory Haar by Connallon Family
11:00 am For Louis & Gisleda Mangiaracina and
Sam & Marge Leonardis

MINISTRY SCHEDULE *December 24, 25, 2016*

Christmas Eve - Saturday, 4:00 pm

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: Help Needed

Eucharistic Ministers:

Altar Servers: Ryan Weber

6:30 pm

Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: Help Needed

Eucharistic Ministers:

Altar Servers: Help Needed

10:00 pm

Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: Help Needed

Eucharistic Minister:

Altar Servers: Help Needed

Christmas Day - Sunday 9:30 am

Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski, Deacon Bob Head

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: Help Needed

Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed

Altar Servers: Help Needed

11:00 am

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Greeter: Help Needed

Lector: TBD

Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed

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 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski

6:30 pm Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski

10:00 pm Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

7:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Ray Lopatesky

9:15 am Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

10:45 am Celebrant: Rev. Slawomir Tomaszewski

12:15 pm Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Chajkowski

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

Current Year	Last Year 2015
December 11, 2016: \$2,393 Envelopes used: 52	December 13, 2015: \$3,040 Envelopes used: 72
Retired Religious: \$603.00 Envelopes used: 6	
Supermarket Gift Cards December 11, 2016 Sales: \$3,570 Profit: \$178.50 YTD Total: \$6,469 # of families: 14	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



MARY AND JOSEPH AWAIT THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Mary and Joseph...imagine the numerous thoughts that must have gone through their minds during the months that they awaited the birth of the child promised them by God. They understood that it would be a special child – the Son of God. Imagine what pressure that must have put upon them as they like all new parents try to figure out just how are they going to manage. Their early days would be ones of challenge from the beginning as they sought to comprehend the fact that God intervened in dramatic ways in their lives. Then there was the challenge of the journey to Bethlehem and seeking a place for this special child of God to be born.

Throughout the stories of the announcement of Jesus' birth through the Christmas events not one word is recorded for Joseph and Mary's only words were to the angel who announced to her she was to be the mother of God - "Let it be done...as you have said."

I believe those words of Mary tell us a lot about her absolute faith in God, even when things seem impossible. Mary should give us all hope during this Christmas season. This year again we celebrate the feast of Christmas in a world torn by strife. Many people are homeless and exiled due to war and violence. We live in a world that makes us fearful and anxious. Yet into this world, God was born as a child in Bethlehem as the savior of the world. Mary faithfulness and calmness of spirit gives us hope this year. We need Mary's hopeful spirit that helps us understand that in spite of the difficulties that we face and the world faces, the birth of Jesus her son into the world was a world-changing event. Christmas helps us realize the love that God has for us and it reminds us that God will never forget us. May Mary help us have peace of heart this year as we celebrate the birth of Jesus into the world as our savior and the God who loves us and promises us eternal life...Fr. Joe



CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S DAY (Mary Mother of God) both Sundays

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Saturday: 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. & 10 p.m.
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Sunday - NO 8 A.M. MASS --- masses 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.

The following weekend is the Celebration of Mary the Mother of God --- We will have our regular schedule of Masses: Dec. 31 Sat. 5:30 p.m. Jan 1 Sun – 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK...

“At every Mass we assert that we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There is not a better time to reflect in joyful waiting than the quiet season of Advent, which comes before the celebration of Christmas. There is no greater model of joy for us than Our Blessed Mother, Mary.”

SAVE THE DATE - Pot Luck Lunch...

St. Mark's Annual Pot Luck Lunch Sunday January 22 - 12:00 pm. Help us welcome our newest parishioners! Sign-ups on the poster in the gathering space...it is not too early! Plan to be with us for this favorite event.

“BE RICH IN GOOD WORKS” – UPDATE --- \$18,460

We currently have \$18,460 pledge towards the parish goal of \$10,000. Thank you very much. If you have not yet made a pledge this year, please do so it is not too late. Now that we have surpassed our goal we are guaranteed to receive 50% of the funds over, the goal amount returned to St. Mark's. Please consider making a pledge before Christmas. Your donations will help many in our diocese who rely upon this appeal each year.

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: "God sent forth his Son", but to prepare a body for him, he wanted the free co-operation of a creature. For this, from all eternity God chose for the mother of his Son a daughter of Israel, a young Jewish woman of Nazareth in Galilee, "a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary." The Catechism of the Catholic Church 488

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).



FOOD PANTRY STATUS...

The Long Valley Food Pantry is about to enter the critical winter season - - in very good shape, thanks to the generosity of St. Mark's (and the other churches that participate). Now let's try our best to keep it that way. Hearty soup, hot cereal, baby food, pasta/sauce, etc. would be especially helpful at this time of year. But as always, anything you can donate will be appreciated.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Ahaz receives from Isaiah a prophecy that he will be successful in war and is urged to ask for a sign that the prophecy is true. The sign is "The virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel."

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul greets the Romans by pointing out that Jesus is the Christ who was promised to them in Scripture. He, Paul, is the apostle favored with the task of spreading the name of Christ to all.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

In a brief, straightforward, simple narrative, Matthew recounts the events leading to Jesus' birth. He details the appearance of the angel in a dream to Joseph and stresses that "All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophets."



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.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP RECREATION EVENTS..

TABATA STYLE STRENGTH & CARDIO...

A high intensity workout protocol with Kim Rainforth. All sessions held at the Senior Center. Class is designed for active ages 14-99. January 9-March 20 from 3-4 pm with a nonrefundable fee of \$100. Deadline date to register is January 4th.

DANCE CARDIO....

For everyone including seniors. Tuesdays, Jan. 10-March 21 from 12:30-1:15 pm. Or Thursdays Jan. 12-March 23. Nonrefundable fee of \$56. Classes will be held at the W.T. Senior Center. Register no later than Jan. 6th. For info on any of these classes go to www.wtmorris.org or call office (908) 876-5941 or email recreation@wtmorris.com

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

COPING WITH LOSS GROUP...

This FREE ongoing group is designed to provide support, education, and resources to those who are coping with the loss of a loved one.

Where: 41 East Mill Road, Long Valley,

When: 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm. No Cost

Pre-register: <http://drpeggydelong.com/services/community-services>

For information: Contact Peggy DeLong (908) 672-6344 or peggydelong@comcast.net or <http://drpeggydelong.com>



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 Andalaro, 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, Catherine DiPasquale, 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, 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 Piloni, 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

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.



