

Mission Statement: We the Roman Catholic community of St. Mary's, united in the Eucharist and under the guidance of St. Mary of the Assumption, strengthen our faith by praising God, proclaiming His word, sharing His love with all people and serving those in need. St. Mary: Pray for Us

Very Rev. Dominic G. Ciriaco, V.F. Pastor
Rev. Michael S. P. Trainor, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Patrick Donohue, In-Residence
Deacon John L. Sylvester, Permanent Deacon
Salesians of Don Bosco, Weekend Assistants
Mr. Joel Condon, Director of Music Ministry
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA
Mr. William J. Mascitello, Pastoral Associate

Mr. William J. Mascitello, Pastoral Associate for Catechetics

Mr. John Weiss, *Business Administrator* Ernesto Betancourt, *Parish Seminarian* Jesus Mesias Ramos, *Parish Seminarian* Mrs. Malu Canlas, *Pastoral Council Chairperson*

Mrs. Janet Kaine, Parish Trustee Mr. Michael Daly, Parish Trustee Parish e-mail: *info@stmarysdumont.org* Parish Website: *www.stmarysdumont.org*

Religious Education Office: 201-384-3062 e-mail: religioused@stmarysdumont.org

Director of Music: email: music@stmarysdumont.org

Transfiguration Academy: 201-384-3627 10 Bradley Avenue, Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Eucharistic Liturgy

Saturday Eve: 5:30 pm Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm Holydays (except Saturday): 7:00 am, 8:45 am, & 7:30 pm Weekdays: 7:00 am & 8:45 am Saturday: 8:30 am Holiday: 9:00 am on Major Civil Holidays

Religious Devotions

Miraculous Medal Novena: Saturday following 8:30 am Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament First Friday of the month, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, in the lower church. From September thru May.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm Private confessions at any time. Please call rectory.

Sacrament of Marriage

Common policy of the Archdiocese of Newark asks that arrangements be made one year in advance. Engaged couples must call to make an appointment to speak to a priest.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents should register for the Baptism Preparation Program at the rectory...even before the baby is born!

Catechumenate

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available to be celebrated with anyone in need. Please do not wait until death is imminent to contact the parish regarding an ill family member. Eucharistic Ministers and others serve our community by visiting and bringing Communion to the sick and homebound. Please call the parish office if you wish such a visit.

God's Plan for Giving - Tithing Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God. We ask half of this, or 5%, for your parish Church. The other 5% goes to your favorite charities.



Saturday	Dec. 20 - Vigil
5:30PM	Michael and Jim Sullivan
Sunday	Dec. 21 - 4th Sunday of Advent
8:00ÅM	Eileen O'Leary
10:00AM	John J. Hecker
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday	Dec. 22 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Alexander Marzo
8:45AM	Harold Urban
Tuesday	Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday
	St. John of Kanty
7:00AM	Jim Klarer and Family
8:45AM	Michael McCormack
Wednesday	Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday
8:45AM	Angel Luis Aviles
4:00PM	Gerard Reilly
6:00PM	In Thanksgiving from Rolando and
	Tita Joaquin
12:00AM	William O'Shea
Thursday	Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the
	Lord
8:00AM	Sr. Joseph Cremin
10:00AM	Emil and Felicia Beranja
12:00PM	John and Dianne Rubio (Living)
Friday	Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
8:45AM	William Ramm
Saturday	Dec. 27 - St. John
8:30AM	Bridget Fishwick
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Dec. 28 - The Holy Family of
	Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00AM	Paul DiPaola
10:00AM	Rose Mary Farrell
12 Noon	Ong Kim

In Loving Memory



The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Gerard Reilly requested by his wife and family.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Thomas Duffy requested by Betty and family.

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Setsuko Maria Akashi.

New Daily Mass Schedule

Beginning Monday, Jan. 5, 2015, there will be only one daily Mass at 8:00AM, Monday-Friday. Please make a note of this change.



Sunday – Dec. 21 7:30AM Feeding at Missionaries of Charity Soup Kitchen, Newark 8:30AM PACT Saints Session LC/School 11:00AM Confirmation Retreat Team Library After All Masses Transfiguration's Bake Sale Monday - Dec. 22 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC 5:30PM Basketball SH 6:30PM Decorate the Church Tuesday – Dec. 23 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC

3:30PM Children's Choir UC 6:30PM Decorate the Church 7:30PM Adult Choir Rehearsal Library

Wednesday - Dec. 24 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC Masses: 4:00PM, 6:00PM, and 12:00AM

Thursday – Dec. 25 Masses: 8:00AM, 10:00AM, and 12:00PM Christmas

Friday – Dec. 26 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC

Saturday – Dec. 27 After 8:30AM Rosary UC Feast of St. John

Sunday - Dec. 28 Solemnity of the Holy Family

777777777777777777 ****



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Mass with Children's Choir 6:00 PM Mass

11:30 PM - Celebration of Carols 12:00 AM Midnight Mass with Adult Choir Thursday, December 25, Christmas Day 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12:00 Noon

MASSES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

> Wednesday, December 31 5:30.P.M. - Vigil Mass

Thursday, January 1 9:00 A.M., and 11:00 A.M.



Greetings to everyone during this Advent Season! I would like to take this time to explain a few of the musical aspects of Advent, highlighting the origin and purpose of the popular hymn, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Manv mav be wondering, "Why haven't we been singing O Come, O Come, Emmanuel every Sunday of Advent?" It is certainly a valid question, since this hymn is most easily and readily associated with Advent. While the verses seem to refer to the coming of the Lord, as described in the Sunday readings and Gospels, they are actually adaptations of the "O Antiphons." These in turn correspond to the days in the Octave Before Christmas, which falls on December 17th through 23rd of each year (with the Christmas Vigil on December 24th completing the Octave). The O Antiphons each offer a title for the Messiah, and each refers to the prophecy of Isaiah: Wisdom (Sapientia), Lord (Adonai), Root of Jesse (Radix Jesse), Key of David (Clavis David), Rising Sun (Oriens), King of Nations (Rex Gentium), and Emmanuel (or, "God is with us"). These are certainly all appropriate to speak of for the entirety of Advent, but the anticipation and meaning is heightened when applied to that last week or so before Christmas. To intensify and bind the entire O Come, O Come, Emanuel hymn together as a complete package of praise, the Benedictine monks arranged the Latin verses in such a way that the first letter of each Messianic title spells out two words: Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia; forming the Latin words **ero cras**, which translates to "Tomorrow, I will come." How perfectly appropriate for the final days of Advent leading up to Christmas! As such, the intensity and deep meaning would be diluted or even lost if we were to sing this hymn too early on in Advent. With that, I hope everyone is anticipating the time when we will sing this hymn at mass, as well as the coming of the Lord at Christmas!

Take care, Joel

Parish Office Hours



During the days of the Christmas season, the parish office **will be closed** as follows: Wednesday, Dec. 24, Thursday, Dec. 25, Friday, Dec. 26,

Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2014 and Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015. Parish office is open on Saturday, Dec. 27th.

澿漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛**漛漛漛漛漛**漛漛 Volunteers Needed

法法法 Many hands make light work... On Monday, Dec. 22 and Volunteers ... Tuesday, Dec. 23 we will be decorating the church for the coming Christmas season beginning at 6:30pm. As you may remember from years past, there is a lot to 🛣 🛣 do – putting up trees, hanging wreaths and 羅 garlands, arranging poinsettia plants, etc. It is 🕷 a lot of work, but it is also a lot of fun since we gather with other parishioners to make our 🖫 🗽 home – our church – beautiful for Christmas. 🍇 Monday evening especially, we need a kinetic for the second secon 🖉 come and join us. ~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~

Christmas Flowers

PLEASE don't forget to use your 🗽 envelope marked for *FLOWERS* - it 🖇 ~ *~ *~ ^{*}~ *~ *~ *~ * ~ *~ *~ *~

* 染

A New Christmas Ornament to

envelope marked for *FLOWERS* - it takes a *LOT* of flowers to make our church extra-special for Christmas! *A New Christmas Ornament Celebrate the 100th!*White with an image of the S the Assumption. Cost is \$10. Limited quantities available. on sale in the vestibule and office *You Can Still Order:*The unique hand-crafted art created es for our parish of the "Little White Church and the state of the second se White with an image of the Statue of the Assumption. Cost is \$10.00 each 🗱 Limited quantities available. Will be on sale in the vestibule and parish *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ *~ * ~ *~ *~ *~

The unique hand-crafted art created especially 🗱 for our parish of the "Little White Church" our 🗱 current church and the statue of the Assumption. Each piece is approximately 1 🐺 1/2" deep and 6 " high. Cost: \$22 each or the 🐲 1/2" deep and 6 " high. Cost: \$22 each or the entire set for \$60.00. Please stop by the parish office to place your order. *************





especially for the 100th Anniversary of St. Mary's Parish. **W** It's a Red Glass ornament with gold kertering and artwork featuring the "Little White Church" on one side and our current church on the wher! Cost is \$7.00 each. Please stop by the parish office to order.





漛渀漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛漛

<u>Serving in Afghanistan</u>

We ask God to keep in his care all those who are serving overseas in our armed forces, especially in Afghanistan. They are listed below and we ask your prayers for them.

Wayne Lawton...Michael Bianco...Kyle Zownir Alicia Newball..Anthony Hacket, Jr. Donald Dickson...Anthony Dunkin Christopher Lynch...Brian Collins...Bobby Dellner Tyler Thompson...Michael Whitford James R. Melady...Ryan Shireman Joshua M LaBazzetta...Aidan Nugent Alvin Joseph Garabiles...Christopher Cookson Christopher Minayn...Christopher Kishbach Major David Christopher Pierson

If you have a relative serving in Afghanistan, please call the rectory so that we can add his/her name and offer a prayer for him/her.

We will be starting a new sick list beginning January, 2015. If you would like our parish to continue to pray for family, friends or loved ones who are ill and in need of prayer, please call the parish office – 201-384-0557

Pray for our Sick

Peter Ramzi...John Ramzi,...Joan Fleming...Marilyn Donald Trainor...Suzanne West...Dennis M...Millie Sr. Peggy McGaffney, SSND...Andrew DiCostanzo Sandra Lopez...Hailey van Weathering..Ray Miller Theresa Giacalone...Laura Widman Riccardi...Lynne Bob Jackson...Richard Fitzgibbon...Manul Llaguno Baby Antonia Carpenterie...Peggy Dunshee..Diana P Carmella Reilly...George DiCostanzo...Jim & Debbie Patricia Ercolano...Joseph Caldera...Mary Benecchi Robert Mascarelli...Kristi Marie Carbonaro...Tommy Angelina Uvenio...Marcus Flaherty...Joseph Sawn Eileen Flaherty...Marcia Arrigoitia...Lyla McMahon Rosemarie, William, & Mildred Dellner...Robin F. Miguel Padilla...John Scalice...Sean Fleming George O'Shea...Linda Byles Smith...Aixa Soriano Bonnie Likely...Teagan Davis...Richard Pazian Anthony...Rose O'Shea...Angie...Ginger...Lauren Marie Pochini..Richard McAllister..Legaspi Almeda John K....Maureen Kostka

<u>Rosary Linen Schedule for</u> <u>December and January</u>

Dec. 21 Catherine Kelly Dec. 28 Beverly Serafini Jan. 4 Eleanor King Jan. 11 Mary Boyle Jan. 18..Diane Gerrity Jan. 25 Sue Schettino

A Thought from Blessed Miriam Teresa:

<ক্তি> ব্রে১> ব্



God wills to become man. God wills to become man in a natural way - to be born of a human mother. God inclines toward Mary with infinite love, for He beholds in her a reflection of His splendor, as perfect as it is possible for a creature to achieve.

(G.P., p. 227)

Prayer for Canonization

Most Holy and Blessed Trinity, Whom Sister Miriam loved so ardently, grant that we, like her, may become ever more conscious of Your Divine Presence within our souls. We implore You to show signs that Your humble servant enjoys glory with You in Heaven, and to hasten the day when we may render her a public tribute of our veneration and love.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Offerings Still Available

Bread & Wine:

2015 - Feb. 1; June 14; July 19 & 26; Aug. 2, 9 16, & Aug. 23; Sept. 27; Oct. 4, 18 & 25; Nov. 15 & Nov. 22.

Sanctuary Lamp:

2015 - July 5; Aug. 2, 9 & 23; Sept. 6, 20 & 27; Oct. 4, 18 & 25; Nov. 15, 22, & 29, Dec. 6.





PACT/Religious Education Program

PACT Program St. Nicholas Giving Project

Last week we delivered our PACT/St. Nicholas gifts to Oasis Shelter in Paterson. The staff and the people who need the support of the shelter are always so grateful for our generosity. For more information about the work they do, visit http:// www.oasisnj.org/

<u>Save the date! First Holy Communion</u> <u>Parent Meeting</u>

The First Holy Communion meeting for parents is 2/10/15 in the Church at 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation Service Opportunities



One fun service opportunity is decorating our church for Christmas this Monday, December 22^{nd} and Tuesday, December 23^{rd} in the Upper

Church. Just come and help out at 6:30 p.m.



May the joy and peace of this Christmas Season be with you.

December may be a short school month, but it is among the busiest times of the school year, as we prepare our Christmas Advent services, our ", Lunch With Santa, and of course our Christmas Concert, at Conlon Hall.

With all of this going on, as well as your own family preparations, including the shopping for food and gifts and the like, its easy to forget the *"Reason for the Season"*. Although the saying is somewhat clichéd, the celebration of the birth of Our Lord can never be. The message of peace and the promise of salvation should never be taken for granted or be lost.

We often hear the questions "What does ___want ? Or "What should I get for ____?" The giving of gifts began with the giving of gifts celebrating the birth of Jesus to recognize Him, as the Son of God and Our Savior.

While we are asking what does ____ want, let's not forget to ask; *What does <u>Jesus</u> want?*

We at Transfiguration Academy wish all of you the best Christmas ever and look forward to a New Year filled with faith, hope and good will to all

<u>God's Plan for Giving:</u>

"The measure of your free-will offering shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you."

(Deuteronomy 16:10) ~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~

Since we have to submit the bulletin early, the collection for Dec. 13 - 14, treasure from our children's envelopes and their good deeds will be in the Dec. 28 bulletin.

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~

<u>Stewardship Prayer</u>

Dear Lord,

O Divine Giver of all gifts, grant us the daily graces we need to follow closely in the footsteps of Jesus in the way we live out our lives and make use of our gifts.

Daily, may we renew with You our small part of the world by allowing Your will to be accomplished in and through us.

Help us to trust in Your love for us and to grow in our fidelity and relationship with You.

We thank You for the trust You place in us as stewards of our personal gifts. May the Holy Spirit guide us in placing our time, talent and treasure at the service of each other so that together we may faithfully witness the Christian message and thus become your holy people. Amen.

Knights of Columbus

Upcoming Meetings - Our first meeting of 2015 will be on Monday January 5^{th} at 8PM.

New Year's Eve Party – A sumptuous cocktail hour with a cold shrimp bar, dinner including surf & turf including pasta, salad, rolls, dessert, coffee and beverages with a champagne toast at midnight. Live music provided by *In Harmony*, featuring the music of the 50's and 60's. The evening runs from8:30PM to 1AM. The cost is only \$75 pp. Reservations and payment in advance required. Email your reservation to kofc1345reservations@gmail.com and mail your check to PO Box 211, Dumont NJ 07628. The check should be made out to the Twin-Boro Columbian Club.

The Council is located at 61 Armour Place, just off Prospect Avenue in Dumont and we're open on Friday evenings from 8-11PM. Why not stop in and learn more about the good works of the Knights of Columbus!

Hall Renting & Catering - Planning a party soon? Call Bob DeWald at 201-264-6290 for information or email kofc1345rentals@gmail.com or check our website: www. kofc1345.org



<u>Christmas Greetings</u>

The priests, parish staff and the

members of our Pastoral Council

extend our warm and joyful prayers

and best wishes to all the families of

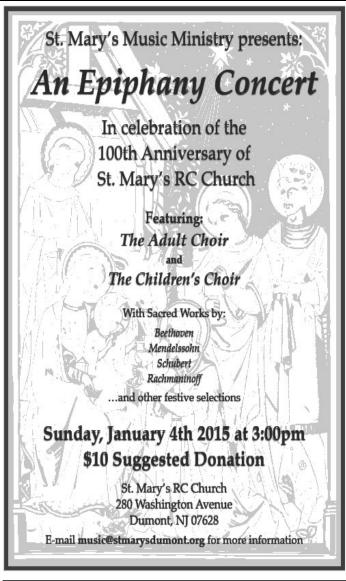
St. Mary's for a wonderful

Christmas Day

and

Christmas Season.





Save the Date

<u>Centennial Anniversary</u> <u>Dinner Dance Gala!!</u>

It may be several months away, but we are asking our parishioners to save Saturday, **May 16, 2015.** We will bring our 100th anniversary year to a close with a joy-filled celebration at 5:30PM Mass, followed by a dinner dance at Colonial Inn in Norwood. The cost of that dinner dance will be \$85 per person. You can reserve your seats in two ways: 1) you can pay for each person up front, or 2) you can pay in monthly installments. The second option may be easier for couples.

Right now, we are just asking everyone to save the date – May 16, 2015!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This week at home

Monday, December 22, 2014 *O Rex Gentium*, O King of the nations

Both of today's readings tell of improbable births. In the First Reading from 1 Samuel, we hear of Hannah, who had been sterile, but upon praying to the Lord she bore Samuel. In the Gospel, Mary visits Elizabeth, who in old age bears a child. As Mary meets Elizabeth, she proclaims how God has come to her in her lowliness. In these days before Christmas, you might want to make Mary's prayer yours. Consider praying the *Magnificat* each evening before the family meal. Today's Readings: 1 Samuel 1:24–28; Psalm: 1 Samuel 2:1, 4–5, 6–7, 8abcd; Luke 1:46–56.

Tuesday, December 23, 20134 St. John Kanty, Priest *O Emmanuel*, O Emmanuel

John of Kanty (1390–1473) was a humble priest who shared what he had with the poor. He was able to do so because he placed his trust in God. Today's Gospel portrays the trust that Zechariah, John the Baptist's father, had in God. After John the Baptist was born, Zechariah would not allow the baby to be named after him. The child's name would be John, the name given by the angel. Is our trust in the Lord evident to others? Today's Readings: Malachi 3:1–4, 23–24; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 8–9, 10 and 14; Luke 1:57–66.

Wednesday, December 24, 2014 Blessed Be the Lord!

Today's Gospel contains the Canticle of Zechariah. You have been encouraged to pray the words of the *Magnificat*, the Canticle of Mary, at the evening meal. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Canticle of Zechariah (the *Benedictus*, Luke 1:67–79) is prayed during Morning Prayer. Consider adding this prayer to your daily prayers. People from around the world celebrate the Nativity of the Lord in various ways. What are the traditions that you cherish? Today's Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Luke 1:67–79.

Thursday, December 25, 2014 The Nativity of the Lord

Even though you have read and heard the story of Jesus's birth many times, try to take a few minutes alone today to reflect on verses 8–14 from today's Gospel. In these verses, heaven reaches out to the shepherds, penetrating their senses and emotions. The glory of the Lord shines before them, and they are fearful. The angels sing and they leave with haste to find the Savior. How do you allow the message to reach your senses? Today's Readings (Mass during the Night): Isaiah 9:1–6; Psalm 96:1–2, 2–3, 11–12, 13; Titus 2:11–14; Luke 2:1–14.

Friday, December 26, 2014 Feast of St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Stephen died as Jesus did: falsely accused and condemned to death because he spoke the truth fearlessly. Do people in your community face discrimination for their beliefs? Pray for all who face discrimination for proclaiming their faith and belief in Jesus Christ, especially those who face a martyr's death. Can you recall the names of some modern-day martyrs? Today's Readings: Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59; Psalm 31: 3cd–4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Matthew 10:17–22.

Saturday, December 27, 2014 Feast of St. John,

Apostle and Evangelist

We might be surprised to read an account of the Resurrection just two days after Christmas. This reading clearly links the Incarnation with the Resurrection, a unity celebrated throughout Christmas Time. Considering the connection of Christmas to Easter may enrich our celebration. We may move beyond just celebrating the birth of an infant to rejoicing that God loved us enough to send his Son to die and rise for us. Today's Readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.



© Liturgy Training Publications. 1-800-933-1800. Written by Michael R. Prendergast. Illustrated by Cody F. Miller. Scripture quotations are from *The New Revised Standard Version Bible: Catholic Edition*, copyright © 1993 and 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Permission to publish granted by the Archdiocese of Chicago on March 12, 2014.

