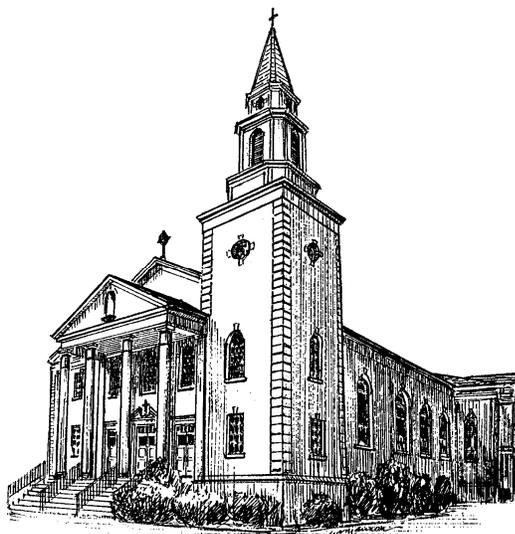


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church

December 24, 2017

*Fourth Sunday of
Advent*



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**

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*
Rev. Michael Barone, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Patrick W. Donohue, *In-Residence*
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*
Mr. Joel Condon, *Director of Music Ministry*
Mrs. Kathleen Sylvester, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA*
Dr. William J. Mascitello, *Pastoral Associate for Catechetics*
Mr. Rudy Asistin, *Business Administrator*
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*
Mrs. Mattea Truppe, *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

Eucharistic Liturgy

Saturday Eve: 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:45 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm
Holydays (except Saturday): 7:00 am, 8:45 am, & 7:30 pm
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 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, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, in the lower church.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Private confessions at any time. Please call the parish office.

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. 23 - Vigil
5:30PM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Sunday Dec. 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:45AM Raymond Crowe
10:00AM Angelo Aviles
12 Noon Emil and Felicia Beranja

Christmas Eve Masses
4:00PM Parishioners of St. Mary's
6:30PM Parishioners of St. Mary's
12:00AM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Monday Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
7:45AM Sister Joseph Cremin
10:00AM Patrick Langford
12:00 Noon Canlas Family (Living)

Tuesday Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
7:00AM Malu Canlas (Living)
8:45AM Bill Ramm

Wednesday Dec. 27 - St. John
7:00AM Nicolo Tarabocchia
8:45AM Rosina Marchetti

Thursday Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents
7:00AM Rose Farrell
8:45AM Anna and James Hans, Sr.

Friday Dec. 29 - Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
7:00AM Paul DiPaola
8:45AM John Walters

Saturday Dec. 30 - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30AM John Nicholson
5:30PM Ong Kim

Sunday Dec. 31 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:45AM Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM Charlie and John McMorro
12 Noon Alice K. Donohue

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 William O'Shea requested by Rose-his wife, and family.

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Lisa Marie Schlosser and Joan Alvarez.

Sunday – Dec. 24
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve Masses:
4:00PM, 6:30PM, and 12 Midnight

Monday - Dec. 25
Christmas Day Masses:
7:45AM, 10:00AM, and 12 Noon

Tuesday – Dec. 26
After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
5:30PM Basketball SH

Wednesday - Dec. 27
Feast of St. John
After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
7:00PM OLPH Novena LC

Thursday – Dec. 28
Feast of the Holy Innocents
After 8:45 AM Mass Rosary LC
1:00PM Knitters and Crocheters FDVRm
7:30PM Yoga (Linda) SFC

Friday – Dec. 29
After 8:45AM Mass Rosary LC
7:00PM Basketball SH

Saturday – Dec. 30
After 8:30AM Mass Rosary LC

Sunday – Dec. 31
Solemnity of the Holy Family
New Year's Eve

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Mass with Children's Choir
6:30 PM Mass
11:30 PM - Celebration of Carols
12:00 AM Midnight Mass with Adult Choir

Monday, December 25
Christmas Day

7:45 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12:00 Noon

**MASS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
THE MOTHER OF GOD**

Monday, January 1
9:00AM

From the Pastor



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The waiting is finally over. Presents have been purchased, wrapped and carefully placed under the tree. Cards have been sent to everyone we know and everything in sight has been decorated. We are prepared to welcome family and friends with an elaborate feast. Christmas is finally here. Let the celebrations begin.

But what are we celebrating? As we exchange gifts this Christmas, do we pause to remember the greatest gift of all? Do we remember that the whole reason for this season is the birth of child so many years ago? Do we place our hope in His promise of peace on Earth and eternity in Heaven?

In all the rushing around to get ready for this one day, it is so easy to forget what this one day is all about. In all the planning and preparations we have put ourselves through; we can lose sight of God's plan of salvation in all His preparation to make it all happen. In all the celebration of the secular holiday that Christmas has become, we may forget that this is first and foremost a Holyday; in fact one of the holiest days of the year.

What we celebrate is the Incarnation of our God, for our God is truly with us. He loves us so much that he came to live as one of us. He was born into this world just like you and me, and He died in this world that we might live forever with Him in His world. But the Incarnation is more than just an historical event. It is more than something that happened 2000 years ago. For our God is with us hear and now. If our hearts are open to the power of God's love, then the Christ-Child is born again this Christmas. If we truly place our hope in God's plan of Salvation, then we live in the wonder of the Incarnation each and every day of our lives.

On behalf of all the priests, deacon, and staff of the St. Mary's Church, I wish you and all your loved ones the most joyous holiday seasons, the most holy of Christmas days and the true blessings of living in the wonder of the Incarnation of our God.

Fr. Carey

Christmas Flowers



PLEASE don't forget to use your envelope marked for **FLOWERS** - it takes a **LOT** of flowers to make our church extra-special for Christmas!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

From Food Pantry

Again THANK YOU is in order to all who made our Christmas distribution possible. We gave out 50 baskets - along with turkeys or hams and certificates for Stop & Shop.

Thanks to Honiss School who recently held a collection for our pantry. To our Parishioners, we thank you for your most generous contributions throughout the year.

You have kept our Pantry going and hope it will continue.

Our thanks to all who worked on the baskets and to the Dumont DPW who helped deliver to our schools.

God Bless and have a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Anna Markert

From the Giving Tree

Our heartfelt thank you to all those who bought toys, clothes, gift certificates from our Advent Giving Tree.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who helped sort and packed all the gifts. Without your help none of these will be possible.

Josie Parrella



Parish Office Hours

During the days of the Christmas season, the parish office **will be closed** as follows:

Monday, Dec. 25,
Friday, Dec. 29, 2017 and
Monday, Jan. 1, 2018





PACT/Religious Education Program

St. Nicholas Project



A big “thank you” to those who participated in our PACT/Religious Education *St. Nicholas Giving Project!*

Let us keep the spirit of St. Nicholas alive – giving without expecting a return – during this Christmas season and throughout the upcoming year.

PACT/Religious Education e-mail and contact information

PACT families should receive regular updates and notifications via e-mail. To provide an e-mail address or keep other family contact information current, call us at (201) 384-3062 or e-mail religiused@stmarysdumont.org.

Confirmation Retreat



The *Confirmation Retreat* is Saturday, 1/27/18. Candidates arrive 10:00 a.m. Parents and sponsors arrive 4:00 p.m.

Remember to discard previously distributed schedules which have tentative dates listed for Confirmation Preparation.

First Holy Communion Parent Meeting



A *Parent Meeting* for those who have children receiving First Communion in the Easter season will be Tuesday, 1/30/18 at 7:30 p.m.

Final Confirmation Retreat Team Meeting



After the 10:00 a.m. Mass on 1/21. The retreat is Saturday 1/27/18.

We Are Living Stones Update



Thank you to the many generous parishioners who have made their commitment to the We Are Living Stones campaign.

Our Parish Goal	\$649,793.00
To Date: December 4, 2017	
Total Pledge	\$310,096.00
Total Amount Received	\$170,205.68
Number of Pledges	159

Remember our plan is to use the ***We Are Living Stones*** proceeds to build an **Elevator** inside the church.

The portion to be shared is \$87,705.68 (total after tithing goal of \$82,500) and the **parish share is \$43,852.84.**

ARE YOU REGISTERED?

We have people coming to St. Mary’s on a regular basis who need a form of some kind filled out and, when we check our records, we find that they are not registered parishioners. Before we could fill out and sign the form, you have to be a registered active parishioner for at **least six months**. The best way to know that you are registered is the fact that you receive collection envelopes, either on a regular basis or only at Christmas or Easter.

PLEASE – save yourselves and the parish staff a great deal of time and trouble – **come to the rectory office and register!**

Please Note:

All Masses will be in the upper church until Monday, January 8, 2018, Baptism of the Lord.



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Christmas Greetings

*The priests, the deacon, and the parish staff
extend their warm and joyful prayers and
best wishes to all the families of
St. Mary's
for a blessed Christmas Day
and
wonderful Christmas Season.*

