

The People of God called to form the Christian Community of
St. Mary's Church

December 20, 2020

**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. Thomas Pendrick, *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. John Weiss, *Business Administrator*
Beth Miloscia, *Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Dory Weiss, *Parish Secretary*

Mrs. Janet Kaine, *Parish Trustee*
Mr. Michael Daly, *Parish Trustee*

Parish e-mail: info@stmarysdumont.org
Parish Website: www.stmarysdumont.org

Religious Education Office: 201-384-0557
Extension 20
email: religiously@stmarysdumont.org

Director of Music:
email: music@stmarysdumont.org

Mass Reservation email:
contactus@stmarysdumont.org

Online giving: WeShare
stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com

RESERVATION IS REQUIRED!

CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Thursday, December 24
Christmas Eve**

4:00 PM, 6:30 PM and
12:00 AM Midnight Mass

**Friday, December 25
Christmas Day**

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

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

**Thursday, December 31
Vigil Mass 5:30 PM**

**Friday, January 1, 2021
9:00 AM and 11:00 AM**



Saturday	Dec. 19 - Vigil
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Dec. 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:45AM	Grace Ward
10:00AM	Pat Langford
12 Noon	Bernice Nagy
Monday	Dec. 21 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Bob Vernieri
8:45AM	Ann Baranek
Tuesday	Dec. 22 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Jeffrey Karash
8:45AM	Pat and Emily Tavalacci
Wednesday	Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Nunzia Regina
8:45AM	Angel Luis Aviles
Thursday	Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Joanne Kennedy
8:45AM	Alfred DuPlessis
	Christmas Eve Masses
4:00PM	Gerard Reilly
6:30PM	Nancy Regina
12:00AM	John and Filomena Keefe
Friday	Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord
7:45AM	Sr. Joseph Cremin
10:00AM	Hanley and Ryan Family
12:00PM	Judith Schaffroth
Saturday	Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
8:30AM	Maria Luisa Canlas (Living)
5:30PM	Bill Ramm
Sunday	Dec. 27 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Alicia K. Donohue
12 Noon	Richard Delia, Jr.

In Loving Memory

The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses and the Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Gerard Reilly requested by his wife and family.



Mark Your Calendar

On Saturday, December 26th, we welcome the new Vicar for Bergen County, Bishop Michael Saporito at St. Mary's. He will be the celebrant at the 5:30PM Mass. If you're planning to attend that Mass, please don't forget to make a reservation.

Updates

Masses:

Sunday Masses:

In order to attend Sunday Mass, you must make a reservation by calling the parish office at 201-384-0557 by 12:00noon on Friday or by emailing us at contactus@stmarysdumont.org.

You will receive confirmation of your reserved spot. Masses are at 5:30pm on Saturday, 7:45am, 10:00am, and 12:00pm on Sunday. We continue to live stream the 10:00am Mass on Sunday for those who are at home.

Daily Masses:

Our daily masses are at 7:00am and 8:45am Monday to Friday and 8:30am on Saturday. You don't need to make a reservation to attend our daily masses.

Guidelines:

Please follow the following guidelines while visiting the church to ensure the safety of everyone at this time.

- ◆ Enter the church by way of the propped open side doors.
- ◆ All visitors must wear a mask at all times.
- ◆ All visitors must use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving the church.
- ◆ All visitors must maintain a 6-foot social distance from others at all times. Please sit only in designated pews. Members of the same household (living together) should sit together in designated areas. No one may sit in the marked off center of the pew.
- ◆ Please do not leave anything behind in the church such as tissues, papers, gloves, etc.
- ◆ If you are sick or have been in contact with someone who is sick, please do not visit the church at this time and wait the required 14 days.

Volunteers:

We need two volunteers to check in people at each Sunday. Email Kathy Sylvester at kathy@stmarysdumont.org if you can help.

2021 Available Offerings

Bread and Wine

Jan. 24; Feb. 7 & 14; Mar. 7; Apr. 11; May 9 & 16 ; Jun. 6 & 20; Jul. 4 & 11; Oct. 3 & 17; Nov. 14.

Sanctuary Lamp

Mar. 21; Apr. 25; May 2 & 23; Jun. 6; Jul. 4 & 11; Aug. 1 & 29; Sept. 12 & 26; Oct. 17 & 24; Nov. 14 & 21.

From the Pastor

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The past few weeks have made it painfully clear that medical experts were right when they warned of Covid-19 surges due to travel and family gatherings for the Thanksgiving holiday. As a result, many of us are carefully considering how to safely celebrate Christmas. As with Thanksgiving, many cherished family tradition may have to be postponed till next year. With the promise of effective vaccines so close, we all need to take the necessary steps to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

The steps taken here at St. Mary's include carefully following state regulations as well as the directives issued by the Archdiocese of Newark. As I write this, state regulations limit attendance at a given mass to 150 people. It is essential that everyone reserve space to ensure that we do not exceed that number. St. Mary's is fortunate in that our lower church can also be used to accommodate an additional 150 people who can view the mass via live stream and can also receive communion. As we do each Sunday, our 10:00 am mass on Christmas day will be live streamed for those who choose to watch from home.

Conversations with a number of parishioners have made it clear to me that many people are afraid that the large crowds that usually show for Christmas may make it unsafe to attend mass on Christmas Day. I understand your fears and so does God. Please remember that the obligation to attend mass on Sundays and holidays like Christmas has been dispensed until further notice. Also, the celebration of the birth of Our Lord is too great to be contained in one day. The church celebrates Christmas for 8 days. If you feel uncomfortable attending mass on December 25th, I invite you to come to mass any day during the Octave of Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

If you choose to come to the 5:30 pm on Saturday, December 26th, I am pleased to let you know that we will be welcoming the new Vicar for Bergen County, Bishop Michael Saporito, as our celebrant. Bishop Saporito was ordained to the episcopacy last spring and as regional bishop, he is making pastoral visits to all the parishes in the county.

Along with all the priests and staff of St. Mary's, I pray that you and your loved ones will have a happy and safe Christmas. Please remember that we are encouraged to protect ourselves from covid this year, so we may all celebrate Christmas for many years to come.

Fr. Carey



St. Mary's Food Pantry



Dear Parishioners:

Thank you for your generous donations throughout this year. We were able to give hope and support to many families and seniors because of your kindness.

The St. Mary's Food Pantry wishes you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy 2021.

Parish Office Schedule



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

Thursday, Dec. 24 and Friday Dec. 25, 2020

Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020 and Friday, Jan. 1, 2021.

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Christmas Flowers

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





THANK YOU to our parishioners who already purchased the raffle tickets.

To those who haven't purchased the raffle tickets, you still have time. **REMEMBER** to purchase only what you can afford. If possible, sell others to friends and neighbors. I know many people give lottery tickets at Christmas. Consider giving a raffle ticket instead. We all need to be a little creative as we strive to make this special raffle a great success. If you need more raffle tickets, they are available at the Rectory.

Tickets are \$20.00 each. There will be three (3) prizes

- 1st Prize will be 25% of the proceeds
- 2nd Prize will be 15% of the proceeds and
- 3rd Prize will be 10% of the proceeds.

Please return raffle tickets and the money to the rectory or drop in one of the collection boxes in church. ***The winning tickets will be pulled on January 3^d, 2021, the Feast of the Epiphany.***

I realize that the covid crisis has caused financial struggles for many families in our community. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you might be able to help your parish and be assured that we are most grateful for whatever each family might be able to do.



We are **25.2%** of our goal!