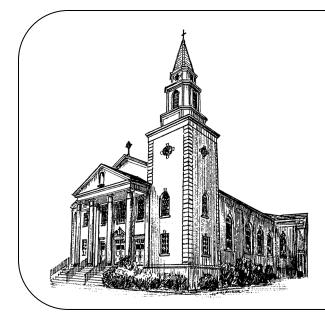
The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

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: religioused@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



280 Washington Avenue, Dumont, NJ 07628 Parish Office: 201-384-0557 Fax: 201-384-4986

ST. MARY'S DUMONT



Saturday Dec. 19 - Vigil Parishioners of St. Mary's 5:30PM Sunday Dec. 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent **Grace Ward** 7:45AM 10:00AM Pat Langford Bernice Nagy 12 Noon Dec. 21 - Late Advent Weekday **Monday Bob Vernieri** 7:00AM 8:45AM Ann Baranek Dec. 22 - Late Advent Weekday Tuesday 7:00AM Jeffrey Karash Pat and Emily Tavalacci 8:45AM Wednesday Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday Nunzia Regina 7:00AM 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 Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord **Friday** Sr. Joseph Cremin 7:45AM Hanley and Ryan Family 10:00AM 12:00PM Judith Schaffroth Saturday Dec. 26 - St. Stephen 8:30AM Maria Luisa Canlas (Living) 5:30PM Bill Ramm Dec. 27 - The Holy Family of Sunday Jesus, Mary and Joseph 7:45AM Parishioners of St. Mary's 10:00AM Alicia K. Donohue

In Loving Memory

Richard Delia, Jr.

12 Noon

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.

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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 I 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.

<u>2021 Available Offerings</u>

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,

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

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.



ST. MARY'S DUMONT



PACT/Religious Education Program

<u>Virtual Religious Education/ PACT</u> <u>Program Update</u>

Thank you to our parents and catechists for your patience as we navigate virtual Religious Education this year! At this time, we are working to improve the way communication between catechists and families takes place. For more information, call (201) 384-0557 extension 20 or e-mail religioused@stmarysdumont.org

PACT Contact Information and E-mail Addresses

Families in our Religious Education program who need to update e-mail addresses or other contact information, call us at (201) 384-0557 ext. 20 or e-mail us at

religioused@stmarysdumont.org



Virtual/Zoom meetings will be scheduled for mid-January for parents of St. Mary's parish children in PACT or Catholic schools who will prepare to receive the First Penance, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation in 2021.



Supporting St. Mary's

We know that regular expenses continue in your family, as they do in your parish family. We appreciate your consideration and whatever help you can offer as you continue to support St. Mary's.

There are a number of ways you can support the parish:

- You can mail your contribution to the parish.
- You can drop your envelopes off in the kitchen mail box at the back of the rectory at any time or bring it to the parish office weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm.
- You can make a donation online, using the following link:

stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com

We deeply appreciate the continued love and support you give to St. Mary's.

Listed below are the names of our friends or loved ones since March, 2020 who are Serving in the Military and Sick . Should the name(s) be removed or if you want to add new names on the list who are in need of prayer, please call the parish office at 201-384-0557 and we will start praying for them. If you want their name to be added to our Prayer Chain, please let us know that as well.

Serving in the Military

John Eckel III..Jaelon Magat..Sean Flanagan Steven Serpa...Brian Manley...Steve Sullivan Christopher Smaldone...James Francis Ward Brandon Barhydt...Joseph Ament...Jeffrey Steiner Anthony Dunkin...Brandon Dellner...Bobby Dellner

Pray for Our Sick

John Ramzi..Rose O'Shea..Sean Hayes..Scott Tkacz James Carney...Michael Curran...Hector Montero Hailey van Weathering..Lyla McMahon..Tom Phelan Anthony Montagnino...Sandy Tolentino...Cris Kelly George DiCostanzo...Myra D'Silva...John Scalice Angela Darata...Dennis Murray...Gabriel Pappas Nancy Caggiano..Joseph Pierre-Antoine Sally Ariola Eric Granada..Mr. & Mrs. Joe Paquiz..John Weiss,Sr. Kristi Carbonaro...Riley Suapengco... Frank Uvenio Rosemarie, William and Mildred Dellner Ed DeFreese

St. Mary's Prayer Garden Brick Order

If you would like to order a brick in our Prayer Garden, please stop by the parish office and fill out the form.

The cost per brick is \$50.00. The deadline is Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020.

Our Heartfelt Thank You to...

the many parishioners who purchased gift cards for our Advent Giving Tree.



Cards were picked up on Sunday, Dec. 13th. This is a tremendous help to the Nurturing Place to help them celebrate Christmas this year.

With your generosity we reached our goal.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year!

Josie Parrella



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 \checkmark collection boxes in church. The winning tickets will be pulled on January 3^{rd} , 2021, the \checkmark 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.

