The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church



Stained glass window Nativity Scene from the former St. Mary's convent chapel.

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



Saturday	Dec. 24 - Vigil
	Christmas Eve Masses
4:00PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
6:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12:00M	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the
	Lord (Christmas)
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday	Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
7:00AM	Malu Canlas (Living)
8:45AM	Sr. Joseph Cremin
Tuesday	Dec. 27 - St. John
7:00AM	Graduating Class of Dumont High
	School 1978 (Living and Deceased)
8:45AM	Bill Ramm
Wednesday	Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents
7:00AM	Anna and James Hans, Sr.
8:45AM	Bridie and John Fishwick
Thursday	Dec. 29 - Fifth Day within the
	Octave of the Nativity of the
	Lord
7:00AM	Paul F. DiPaola
8:45AM	Joel Johny (Living)
Friday	Dec. 30 - The Holy Family of
	Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
8:45AM	Larry Dannen Felser
Saturday	Dec. 31 - Seventh Day within the
	Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30AM	Charlie and John McMorrow
5:30PM	Joel Johny (Living)
Sunday	Jan. 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the
	Holy Mother of God, the
	Octave Day of the Nativity of
	The Lord
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Adele Consentino
12 Noon	In Thanksgiving-Iguico and Canlas
	Families.

In Loving Memory



The Bread and Wine offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of the deceased members of the Quigley family.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in praise of God and in memory of Angel Rubio requested by the Rubio family. This Week

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

Monday - Dec. 26 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 7:30PM RCIA Class

Tuesday – Dec. 27 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:30OM Irish Step Dancing SH/LS 8:00PM Basketball SH

Wednesday - Dec. 28 After 8:45AM Mass OLPH Novena and Rosary UC

Thursday – Dec. 29 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

Friday – Dec. 30 After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 8:00PM Basketball SH

Saturday – Dec. 31

Sunday – Jan. 1 New Year's Day Masses: 7:45AM, 10:00AM and 12:00Noon

> <u>Stewardship Reflection</u> By David Baranowski

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, Christmas

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us..." JOHN 1:14

God made us to be in relationship with Him. He loves each of us individually. Through sin, our relationship with God was broken. He gave us Jesus to restore our relationship. Being a disciple of Jesus we are given the model to obtain eternal life in Heaven. Christmas isn't about the material gifts we receive, it's about the love that God, Our Father, gave us by giving us His Son, Jesus – the best gift we could ever receive.

Parish Office Schedule

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



Monday, Dec. 26, 2022 Friday, Dec. 30, 2022 and Monday, Jan. 2, 2023

Recently Deceased

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased parishioners Vilma Rusnak and Timothy O'Keeffe.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 25, 2022



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. After two years of worrying about covid, we are hoping that this year we can have a more normal celebration of Christmas. Christmas is finally here.

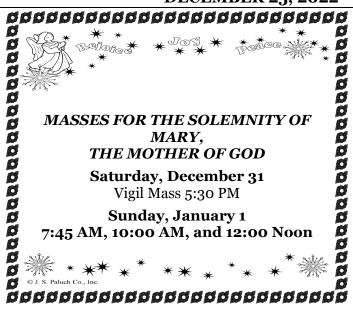
But the question remains; what are we truly celebrating? As we exchange gifts this Christmas, do we pause to remember the greatest gift of all? Do we remember that the whole reason for this season is the birth of child so many years ago? Do we place our hope in His promise of peace on Earth and eternity 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 all too easily lose sight of God's plan of salvation and all God's preparation to make it 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. 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 you 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



<u>Holy Hour with Eucharistic</u> Adoration - January 6th

On Friday, January 6th, we will have a Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration beginning at 6:00pm in the Upper Church. Reposition will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please join us and spend some time with Jesus.

Retired Religious Retirement Fund

Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "We remember the many people who believe in the Retirement Fund for Religious, thanking them in prayer for their great generosity and compassion." God bless you for donating to last week's second collection. We received \$2,622.00.

Visit **retiredreligious.org** to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. * * *





PACT/Religious Education Program

Religious Education at St. Mary's

Our PACT/Religious Education Program is offered to St. Mary's families with children in grades 1-8 who do not attend Catholic school. Parents of families new to our Religious Education Program attend a brief program orientation here at St. Mary's. For more information call (201) 384-0557 ext. 20 or e-mail us at religioused@stmarysdumont.org. Registration and participation at St. Mary's parish is required.

Sacrament Preparation Programs

Sacramental preparation for children at St. Mary's is for those who attend our PACT/Religious Education Program or a Catholic school. Candidates are prepared at separate sessions to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion (Eucharist) First Penance (Reconciliation/Confession) and Confirmation. Children do not automatically approach the sacraments if they are in a certain age or grade level, but are prepared for sacraments as they develop a relationship with the Lord in his community, our Church.

<u>Re-engagement in our parish:</u> <u>Volunteering at St. Mary's Religious Education</u>

People from many different walks of life volunteer as catechists and in other ways here at St. Mary's Religious Education. Busy people and less busy, in college, starting new jobs, retirees, parents, grandparents, single people.... The commitment to be here at St. Mary's as a program volunteer averages an hour or two per month. There are some volunteer requirements including an application with a background check and attendance at a Protecting God's Children session here or at another parish or school in our Archdiocese of Newark. Call us at (201) 384-0557 ext. 20 or e-mail religioused@stmarysdumont.org.

Confirmation Preparation



Confirmation candidates and their parents are reminded to check the St. Mary's e-mail blast each week and PACT/Religious Education e-mails for possible service opportunities. Contact the person running event via the e-mail provided for more information.

SAVE THE DATE - The Confirmation Retreat Experience will be here at St. Mary's on Saturday, 1/21/2022 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Parents and/or sponsors join us at 4:00 p.m. The day concludes with the acceptance of candidates at the 5:30 p.m. mass which we all attend together.

<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."

(Det	euteronomy 16:10)		
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	
Collections: Dec. 10 - 11	\$7,727.00	\$6,746.00	
Weekly On-Line Giving	2,196.00	802.00	
Total	<u>\$9,923.00</u>	<u>\$7,548.00</u>	

Electronic/Online Giving is a convenient no hassle method, of making your Sunday offertory to the church.

For more information or to sign up you can visit **stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com** from WeShare company. You can also contact the parish office for more details.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

()NLY TWO WEEKS LEFT!!!

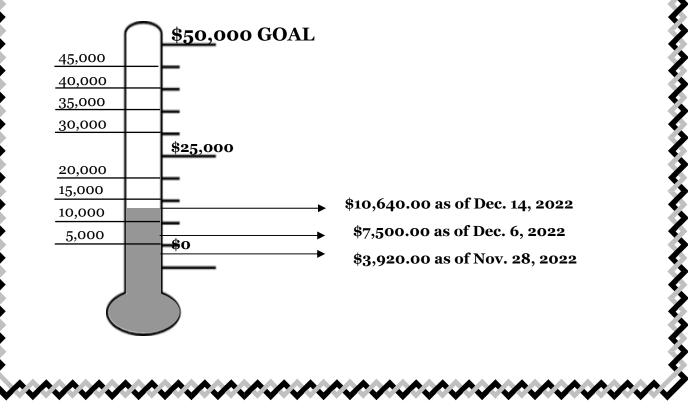
<u>IT'S MEGA-RAFFLE TIME</u>

By now, most parishioners have received raffle tickets in the mail. We ask that you purchase 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, 2^{nd} Prize will be 15% of the proceeds and 3^{rd} Prize will be 10% of the proceeds.

Please return raffle tickets and the money to the rectory or drop in the collection basket in church. *The winning tickets will be pulled on January 8th, 2023, the Feast of the Epiphany.*

Like so many families in our parish, the covid crisis has caused a serious financial strain for St. May's. This special raffle will help us make up some lost ground. 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.





SAVE THE DATE

ST. MARY'S BEEFSTEAK DINNER FUNDRAISER SATURDAY 2/11/22 @ 7:00

Featuring:

NIGHTINGALES & Esteem Entertainment



INSTRUCTED LINE DANCING

BASKET RAFFLE

50 /50 RAFFLE

TICKETS \$60 PP



Donate a Basket

Volunteer

Monetary Donations Accepted **RESERVATION FORM TO FOLLOW**

For More Info Call Sheila – 201-384-0557 - Ext. 20 religioused@stmarysdumont.org

THANK YOU!

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society would like to thank the priests, staff, parishioners and members of St. Mary's for a wonderful year!

We have been a ministry at St. Mary's for 86 years because of all your help & support.

To all our families and friends, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Food Pantry News

The St. Mary's Food Pantry would like to thank the following groups and individuals for their support during 2022. We could not have helped the many families and seniors without their efforts. So in no particular order, our angels are:

Father Carey, Father Pat, Father Tom (deceased) Deacon John, Dory Weiss-Parish Secretary, John Weiss - Business Administrator Kathy Sylvester-Pastoral Associate for Litugy/RCIA Abner Buensalida & Jose Lopez-St. Mary's Maintenance Beth Meloscia and the Youth & Young Adult Ministry The Parishioners of St. Mary's, Janine Aiello, Erin Alloca, Nick Alloca, Phil Alloca, Mary Auriti, June DiGirolamo, Matthew DiGirolamo, Karen Ebenhack, Melissa Gracey, Lynda McGowan, Margaret Molder, Irene Murphy, Mary Normoyle, Cathy Pacana, Shamil Roca, Sheila Romaine, Maryann Russini, Laura Sarmiento, Laura Sobek &. our Confirmation Candidates

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Anna, Deníse & Lynne

Serving in the Military

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

John Eckel III...Jaelon Magat...Sean Flanagan Brian Manley...James Francis Ward...John Murray Christopher Smaldone... Brandon Barhydt Steve Sullivan..Joseph Ament...Jeffrey Steiner Anthony Dunkin...Vincent Mazzilli

<u>Pray for Our Sick</u>

John Ramzi...Rose O'Shea...Sean Hayes...Arvin Erd Scott Tkacz...Caleb Jenkins...Hector Montero James Pellettere...Skylar Frye...Kathleen Oates Anthony Montagnino...Cris Kelly...Danny Santulli George DiCostanzo...Myra D'Silva...Angela Darata Nancy Caggiano...Michael Hayes...Perfecto De Vera Joseph Pierre-Antoine...SSND Wilton...Jeric Lalo Diane Lang...Mariantonia DiCostanzo...Anita Hucke Kristi Carbonaro...Carol Anne Barry...Ted Widman Joseph Vaccaro...Dorothy Peterson...Jim Nicholas Barbara Castaldi...Nicholas Ippolito...Tina Fortalesa Frank Martin...Tienne Myers...Guia Mirabueno Hector Montero, Jr ... Kevin Rainey ... Mary Quilter Michael Falcone...Mary Ann Ragone...Rose Klenck Patricia Adone...Teresita Ariola...Jeannie Kweders Jonathan Jacoby...Laura Kibala...Fergus Begley Anthony Montalbano...Nick Marino...Brian O'Dowd Gabrielle Napoleone...Paquale Manzo...Jane Galo Raymond Pedalino..Audrey Maguire..Michael Vogt George Tarlac...Laura Labetti...Simone Borges Marcus Celeran...Mikkel Leutgeb...Viktor Bagang Camille Cabezas...Juan Guzman...Victoria Healey Pat Stella...Concepcion Santos...Ralph L...Marilyn I Lorraine M...Kathleen...Maureen...Joseph DiLascio Hather R.

Bread and Wine: Mar. 26; Sept. 24; Oct. 1, 15 & 22; Dec. 10 & 17.

Sanctuary Lamp: Jan. 29; Apr. 23 & 30; May 21; Jul. 2; Sept. 10 & 17.

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K of C Lecture Program # 3

Debbie Provencher, Director of The Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center, in Hackensack, will present a program on the work and the mission of the Center, in the council Hall, on Sunday, January 15th, 2023, at 1:30 PM. Her talk will be followed by a question-and-answer period, and light refreshments will be served. All are welcome.