

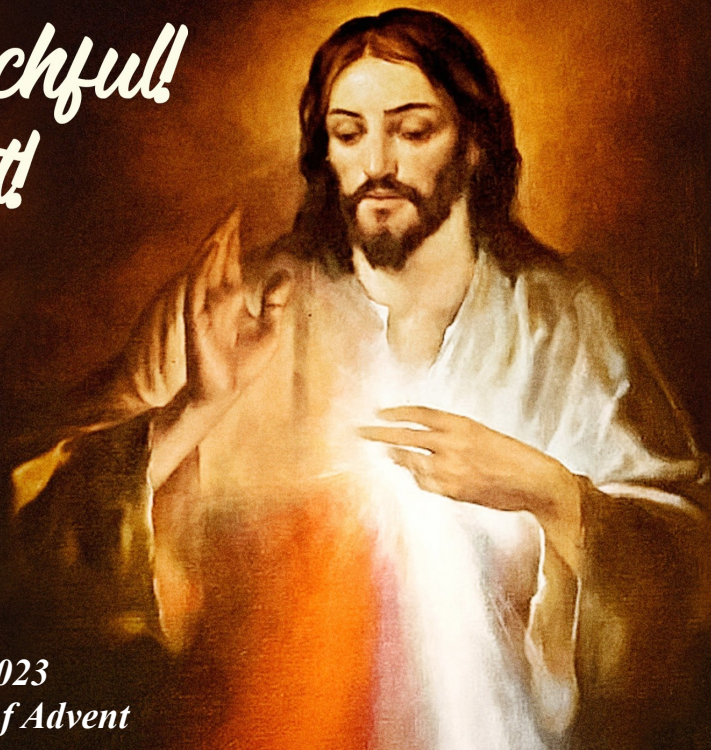
*The People of God called to form the Christian Community of*

# *St. Mary's Church*

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

## *Be watchful! Be alert!*

MARK 13:33



*December 3, 2023  
First Sunday of Advent*

©IPPC

### 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*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen A. Carey, *Pastor*  
Rev. David W. Milliken, *In-Residence*  
Deacon John L. Sylvester, *Permanent Deacon*  
Mr. Luis Chavez, *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*  
Sheila Romaine, *Religious Ed. Secretary & Safe Environment Coordinator*

### TRUSTEES

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

### CONTACT US

**Parish e-mail:** [info@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:info@stmarysdumont.org)  
**Parish Website:** [www.stmarysdumont.org](http://www.stmarysdumont.org)  
**Religious Education Office:** 201-384-0557, Ext. 20  
email: [religioused@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:religioused@stmarysdumont.org)  
**Director of Music:** email: [music@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:music@stmarysdumont.org)  
**Altar & Rosary:** email: [rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org)  
**Food Pantry:** email: [foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org)

**Online giving:** WeShare  
[stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com](http://stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com)

### EUCCHARISTIC 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, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, in the upper church.

### Sacrament of Penance

**Saturday:** 4:00 - 4:45 pm  
Private confessions at any time. Please call the parish office.  
**NO CONFESSIONS ON HOLY SATURDAY**

### 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!

# Weekly MASS Intentions

©JPPC

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 2 - Vigil</b>
5:30PM	Joan Mascarelli
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dec. 3 - First Sunday of Advent</b>
7:45AM	Sr. Eileen Franz
10:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12 Noon	Patrick and Katherine Pizzollo
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Dec. 4 - Advent Weekday</b>
7:00AM	John Smith
8:45AM	David R. Loza
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Dec. 5 - Advent Weekday</b>
7:00AM	In Thanksgiving Hannah Banzil (Living)
8:45AM	Michael McCormack
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dec. 6 - Advent Weekday</b>
7:00AM	Mathew and Mary Barry
8:45AM	Apolinar M. Suarez, Sr.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose</b>
7:00AM	Brendan M. Thornton
8:45AM	Joan Mascarelli
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Dec. 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
7:00AM	Breda Shine
8:45AM	George DiCostanzo
7:30PM	Robert Patetta (Living)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dec. 9 - Advent Weekday</b>
8:30AM	Mary Fitzgibbons
5:30PM	Joan Shea Mascarelli
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dec. 10 - Second Sunday of Advent</b>
7:45AM	Michael Coleman
10:00AM	Patrick Pizzollo, Jr.
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's



The **Bread and Wine** offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Joan and George Alvarez requested by their children

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn in praise of God and in memory of Dorothy and Nicholas Behr requested by their grandchildren.

## 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!

## This Week



### Sunday – Dec. 3

9:15AM RCIA Class  
10:00AM Choir and RCIA Dismissal  
1:00PM Annual A & R Christmas Luncheon  
Madeleine's Petite

### Monday - Dec. 4

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC  
8:00PM Basketball SH

### Tuesday – Dec. 5

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC  
5:00PM Irish Step Dancing SH/LS

### Wednesday - Dec. 6

After 8:45AM OLPH Novena & Rosary UC  
7:30PM Line Dancing SH

### Thursday – Dec. 7

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC  
5:30PM Irish Step Dancing LS  
7:00PM RCIA Class Rectory  
8:00PM Basketball (Tuy) SH

### Friday – Dec. 8

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary**

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC  
5:00PM Aramaic School  
8:00PM No Basketball SH

### Saturday – Dec. 9

8:00AM Korean School

### Sunday – Dec. 10

8:30AM PACT Angels Church/School  
10:00AM Choir and RCIA Dismissal  
1:00PM Simbang Gabi Practice SH  
1:30PM Baptisms

## Stewardship Reflection

### First Sunday of Advent

*"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - MARK 13:33*

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.





Some stores started selling Christmas decorations in early October. A couple of satellite radio stations started playing Christmas music the day after Halloween and I've already received my first Christmas card. It seems that every year, so many people try to start the Christmas season earlier and earlier and then, the day after Christmas, it's all over.

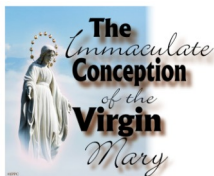
We seem to have it all backwards. Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. It is the beginning of the season of Advent, not the Christmas season. It is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ among us. But all too often, we are so busy sending cards, wrapping gifts and decorating everything in sight that we have no time to think about what we are really getting ready for.

Advent is a time of prayerful waiting and watching for the coming of Christ. It's a time to prepare our hearts to receive the greatest gift that God has given us; his only begotten Son. But all too often, we are so busy preparing our homes, we forget to prepare our hearts.

The celebration of Christmas really begins on Christmas Eve and we will continue to celebrate through all the days of Christmas until the Feast of Epiphany. I know its counter to everything that everyone is telling us but maybe this year we might try celebrate things in the proper order. Let's try using the Advent season to prepare spiritually for the celebration that is to come; the celebration of the Birth of our Savior.

**Fr. Carey**

## **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** **December 8th** **Holy Day of Obligation**



On Friday, Dec. 8th, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States and also the principal patroness of the Archdiocese of Newark. This feast proclaims our belief that Mary was conceived without sin, preparing her to be the Mother of the Lord.

Since this feast is a holyday of obligation, the Mass schedule for that day will be: **7:00 AM – 8:45 AM – 7:30 PM.**

## **The Advent Giving Tree**



We will again this year, with your support and generosity, will provide Gift Cards to families through The Nurturing Place (formerly The York Street Project) in Jersey City.

Here's an excerpt from Nikki Sherman's email of the Nurturing Place:

*This year, we will continue to follow the path we've taken since Covid...**GIFT CARDS**...the families were so touched by the generosity of you all last year, and we'd like to bring that same spirit to them in 2023. We all know things are tough out there, so every bit of help truly adds to the magic of Christmas for the children and their families.*

*Your past generosity has surpassed our expectations and we truly are the luckiest of all here at TNP to have been graced with your overwhelming generosity. You truly are the one of the kindest groups of people to have crossed our path over the years. I mean that wholeheartedly.*

They have about 60 children, in addition to approximately 25 moms they hope to assist this year.

**Gift tags are now available.** We invite you to please get a gift tag (or tags) and purchase the item that's being requested. Please drop off your donation and marked Giving Tree on the envelope to the parish office or to the collection baskets by **Wednesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.**

If there are any questions regarding the Giving Tree please call Josie Parrella at 201-384-0557.

## **Deanery Advent Penance Service**

This year, our Deanery **Penance Services** for the season of Advent are scheduled as follows:

- Monday, Dec. 4, 7:00PM Church of the Ascension, New Milford
- Monday, Dec. 11, 7:00PM Annunciation Church, Paramus
- Monday, Dec. 18, 7:00PM St. Therese of Lisieux, Cresskill

This service affords our parishioners to be reconciled with the Lord and each other through this sacrament of healing.



## ***PACT/Religious Education Program***

### **St. Mary's PACT/Religious Education Program**

We thank our parents and catechist for helping keep our parish PACT/Religious Education Program running! PACT is a priority here at St. Mary's. Recall that Religious Education is curricular for all Catholic children in Grades 1 through 8 (we even offer a section of Kindergarten). Do you know anyone new to St. Mary's who needs more information? New families may e-mail [religious@stmarysdumont.org](mailto:religious@stmarysdumont.org) or call (201) 384-0557 ext. 20

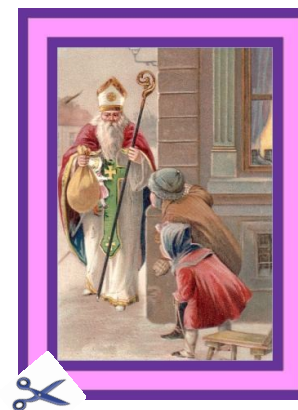
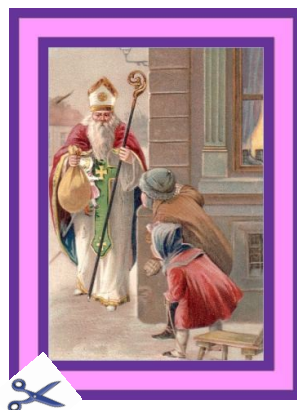
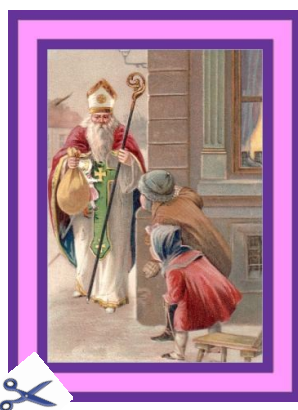
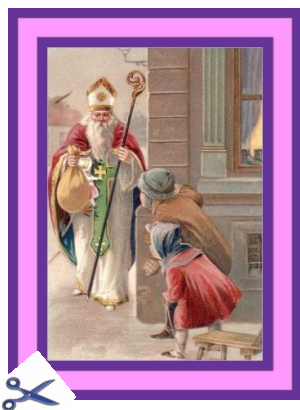
#### **First Penance**



First Penance was celebrated at St. Mary's on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Congratulations to our First Penitents and their families. Thank you to our catechist and our parents for their part in preparing our children for their First Penance/Reconciliation/Confession where we can all experience and come to understand God's infinite love and mercy.

#### **Confirmation Preparation**

Confirmation candidates have begun Monday Confirmation Preparation Sessions. Pray with us that our candidates, their families, and our entire parish family may experience an ever-deepening relationship with God through the power of the Holy Spirit.



#### **St. Nicholas Project 2023**

*Will you help me visit "the least of these who are members of my family" that Jesus spoke about...? There are children, families, women, and men who have had some pretty hard times this year... I am continuing the work of Jesus. I will need your help..."*

Once again, we are collecting gifts for OASIS Shelter for Women and Children in Paterson. Won't you join us in our efforts to helping to provide for some of their needs?

Bring gifts by Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> (St. Nicholas Day!) We need to deliver to Paterson early so please be generous, and please be early!

- \* Cut out the St. Nick pictures or tag your gift "St. Nicholas Project" and attach them to gifts with tape.
- \* Gift cards are always welcome, for example: regular Visa gift cards, pharmacies, and fast food or chains such as Dunkin Donuts or 7-11.
- \* Gifts should be unwrapped (wrapping paper and tape may be donated) and brought to the Religious Ed office or Rectory/parish office by St. Nicholas Day- 12/6/23.

Thank you and may we be guided by the example of Good St. Nick. For more information about him visit: [www.stnicholascenter.org](http://www.stnicholascenter.org)

Great saint of Advent, Nicholas, pray for us that we may be infused with the Spirit of generosity this Advent/Christmas and throughout our lives. Amen.

**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.

- Jaelon Magat...Sean Flanagan...Christopher Smaldone
Brian Manley...James Francis Ward...John Murray
Brandon Barhydt...Vincent Mazzilli...Anthony Dunkin
Joseph Ament...Jeffrey Steiner...Curtis Gardner

**Pray for Our Sick**

- John Ramzi...Rose O'Shea...Sean Hayes...Arvin Erd
Scott Tkacz...Caleb Jenkins...Hector Montero
James Pelletiere...Skylar Frye...Kathleen Oates
Anthony Montagnino...Danny Santulli...Ralph L
Myra D'Silva...Angela Darata...Concepcion Santos
Linda Moreno...Michael Hayes...Perfecto De Vera
Joseph Pierre-Antoine...Jeric Lalo...Camille Cabezas
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...Kathleen...Maureen...Marilyn I
Patricia Adone...Teresita Ariola...Jeannie Kweders
Jonathan Jacoby...Laura Kibala...Fergus Begley
Anthony Montalbano...Nick Marino...Brian O'Dowd
Paquale Manzo...Jane Galo...Lorraine M...Hather R
Raymond Pedalino..Audrey Maguire..Michael Vogt
Laura Labetti..Simone Borges..Anyaa..Eric Cola
Marcus Celeran...Brian van Westervelt Baby Wesley
Juan Guzman...John Romaine...Gary Barba...Fran D
Ryan Heckman...Cecilia L. Lim...Michele Patetta
Jacob Rivera...Jaxson Rivera...Helen de la Pena
Valerie Valverde...John Eckel...Patrick Cagney
Cathy Newman...Charles Jones...Alec Kerr
Ann Marie Maurice...Kathleen Marsala...John
Pat McKenna...Steve Riccardi

**Memorial Bricks for the St. Mary's Prayer Garden**

We are once again offering you the opportunity to order a brick for your family, friends and loved ones, living or deceased. If you'd like to place an order for the memorial bricks for the St. Mary's Prayer Garden, please fill out the form at the doors of the church and drop the form with payment in the parish office. The cost per brick is \$50.00.

The Deadline is December 15th.

**God's Plan for Giving**

"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 Sunday donations, treasure from our child and their good deeds for the weekend of November 25 - 26 will be in the future bulletin.



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 .We greatly appreciate your continued support to St. Mary's.

**Calling All Parents/Youth of St. Mary's Church !!!**

We are now putting together the cast for the Nativity for our annual Simbang Gabi (Advent Night Mass) celebration. Sign your children/yourself up for any of the following roles/positions:

- \*Angels (girls) and shepherds (boys), ages 3-12
\*3 Kings (3 boys) and Innkeepers (3 girls), ages 12-15
\*Stagehands

Watch them with pride as they participate in the "Greatest Story Ever Told"!

Simbang Gabi 2023 celebration will be held on Friday, Dec 22, at 7pm at St. Mary's, Dumont.

Rehearsals at Szelest Hall (gym) are on:

- Dec 10, Sunday at 1:15pm
Dec 17, Sunday at 1:15pm

Please leave your contact information by Dec. 1st with Mrs. Tatess Abad at 201- 486-5852 or the Parish Office at 201-384-0557.





**Come & Celebrate!**

*Simbang Gabi*  
*2023*

**Holy Mass at St. Mary's Church, Dumont**

**December 22, 2023, Friday, 7PM.**

**Followed by Christmas and Nativity Pageant at Szelest Hall.**

*"Encounter to Share the Light of Jesus"*

**280 Washington Ave., Dumont, NJ, 201-384-0557**

SPONSORED BY THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN LAY APOSTOLATE OF DUMONT (PALAD)





**Big  
50/50  
Raffle**

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. We 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> Prize will be 25% of the proceeds, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize will be 15% of the proceeds and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize will be 10% of the proceeds.

Please return the 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 7th, 2024, the Feast of the Epiphany.

We realize that the covid crisis has caused financial struggles for everyone 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.

