

## 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



# December 17, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

#### 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 Parish Website: www.stmarysdumont.org

Religious Education Office: 201-384-0557, Ext. 20

email: religioused@stmarysdumont.org

**Director of Music:** email: music@stmarysdumont.org **Altar & Rosary:** email: rosaryaltarsociety@stmarysdumont.org

Food Pantry: email: foodpantry@stmarysdumont.org

Online giving: WeShare stmarysdumont.churchgiving.com.



## **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

## Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve

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

## Monday, December 25 Christmas Day

7:45 AM Mass 10:00 AM Mass 12:00 Noon

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

Sunday, December 31, 2023

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:00 AM Mass 11:00AM Mass

#### 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

ST. MARY'S DUMONT

# Weekly AS Intentions

# This Week



Saturday Dec. 16 - Vigil

5:30PM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Sunday Dec. 17 - Third Sunday of Advent

7:45AM Rosemary Scalia 10:00AM Michele Harris

12 Noon In Thanksgiving Cachuela Family

Monday Dec. 18 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00AM John Fox

8:45AM George DiCostanzo

**Tuesday** Dec. 19 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00AM Dan Schettino 8:45AM George DiCostanzo

Wednesday Dec. 20 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00AM Evangelista Awen 8:45AM Lawrence Miloscia, Sr.

**Thursday** Dec. 21 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00AM Richard Schmude 8:45AM Ann Baranek

Friday Dec. 22 - Late Advent Weekday

7:00AM Mae Carey 8:45AM Jeffrey Karash

Saturday Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday

8:30AM Sr. Joan Cremin 5:30PM Patrick Hegarty

Sunday Dec. 24 - Fourth Sunday of

Advent

7:45AM Parishioners of St. Mary's

10:00AM Angel L. Aviles 12 Noon Bob Coberg

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00PM Parishioners of St. Mary's 6:30PM Parishioners of St. Mary's 12 Midnight Parishioners of St. Mary's



The **Bread and Wine** offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Ann and Dom Colavito, Mary and Vincent Filingeri requested by the Filingeri family.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn in praise of God and in memory of Daniel Markert requested by Anna Markert.

## **Recently Deceased**

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Peter McHugh and Caridad Nufable.

### Sunday - Dec. 17

8:30AM PACT Saints Church/School 10:00AM Choir and RCIA Dismissal 1:00PM Simbang Gabi Practice SH 7:00PM JWalk Meeting YRm

Monday - Dec. 18

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

Tuesday - Dec. 19

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:00PM Irish Step Dancing SH/LS 6:30PM Decorate the Church 8:00PM Basketball SH

Wednesday - Dec. 20

After 8:45AM OLPH Novena & Rosary UC

6:30PM Decorate the Church 7:30PM Line Dancing SH

Thursday – Dec. 21

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

11:00AM Mary Connolly's Memorial Mass UC

5:30PM Irish Step Dancing LS 7:00PM RCIA Class Rectory

8:00PM Basketball (Tuy) SH and Simbang Gabi Set-up

Friday – Dec. 22

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC 5:00PM No Aramaic School 7:00PM Simbang Gabi UC

8:30PM Simbang Gabi Nativity Pageant SH

Saturday – Dec. 23

8:00AM No Korean School

Sunday – Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

Masses: 4:00PM, 6:30PM and 12:00Midnight

# Church Decorating Many hands make light work!!!

Please join us on Tuesday, December 19 and Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30pm to decorate the church. On Tuesday, we will do the "heavy" stuff, trees and wreaths. On Thursday will be finishing touches.





Throughout the world, each culture has its own way of preparing to celebrate the great feast of Christmas. In the Philippines, the traditional way of preparing for Christmas is called Simbang Gabi. It is a Novena of masses at dawn beginning on December 16th and ending with midnight mass on Christmas Eve. The tradition was introduced by Spanish friars to allow the farmers to attend mass before going to work in the fields early in the morning. After mass and before work began, worshippers would share traditional Filipino foods of the holiday season.

While there are still Filipino communities that still observe Simbang Gabi with early morning masses, here at St. Mary's we have found a way to prepare for Christmas. On Friday evening, December 22nd we will have our traditional Simbang Gabi celebration. It will start with mass in Church at 7:00 pm followed by the sharing of traditional Filipino foods of the holiday season in Szelest Hall. Our gathering in Szelest Hall will also give the children of our parish the opportunity to show all of us the true meaning of the Christmas with their traditional Christmas Pageant.

This Christmas Pageant calls us to remember a simple story of faith, hope and love; the faith of a virgin who trusted the word of an angel, the hope of parents who brought forth a child into poverty, the love of a God who gave his Son to be our Savior. While Christmas is truly a special holiday for all children, we celebrate the fact that Christmas is about one special child, an infant born in a manger. And Christmas is all about the child in each one of us called to look with wonder and awe upon our new born king. We pray that the joy and wonder of Christmas be yours each and every day throughout the coming year.

## Fr. Carey

# Deanery Advent Penance Service

This year, our Deanery **Penance Service** for the season of Advent will be on 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.

## Parish Office Schedule

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

Friday, Dec. 22 Monday, Dec. 25, 2023 Friday, Dec. 29, 2023 and Monday, Jan. 1, 2024



#### 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!

# We Welcome the Newest Members of Our Parish Community



Haisley Mae Donegan Quinn Shay Donegan

# The Advent Giving Tree Thank You!!



Through the generosity of many St. Mary's parishioners, we are able to share joy to many families and individuals in need. This year, we partner with the Nurturing Place (formerly The York Street Project) in Jersey City. This is a tremendous help to the Nurturing Place to help them celebrate Christmas this year. Gift Cards were picked up on Sunday, Dec. 10th.

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

Josie Parrella

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# 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! Religious Education is a priority here at St. Mary's and 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 religioused@stmarysdumont.org or call (201) 384-0557 ext. 20

## **Confirmation Preparation**



Monthly Monday Confirmation Preparation is underway. Our next session is 1/8/24. Our retreat afternoon is Saturday, 1/27/24. For more information, consult the schedule that was distributed to candidates and their parents. Please pray for our candidates, their families, and our parish family that the Holy Spirit may draw us to an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church.

## St. Nicholas Project



We thank you for your abundant generosity this year with our St. Nicholas Giving Project run through our PACT/Religious Education Office. For more information about Oasis, a Haven for Women and Children visit https://oasisnj.org/

Good Saint Nicholas, pray for us that we may be infused with the Spirit of generosity this holy season and throughout our lives. Amen.

We will be starting a new list for Serving in the Military and Sick beginning January, 2024. If you would like our parish to continue to pray for family, friends or loved ones who are in the military, ill and in need of prayer, please call the parish office – 201-384-0557.

## 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 Haves...Arvin Erd Scott Tkacz...Caleb Jenkins...Hector Montero James Pellettere...Skylar Frye...Kathleen Oates Anthony Montagnino...Danny Santulli...Ralph L Myra D'Silva...Angela Darata...Concepcion Santos Linda Moreno...Michael Haves...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..Anya..Eric Cola Marcus Celeran...Brian van Westervelt Baby Wesley Juan Guzman...John Romaine...Gary Barba...Fran D Rvan Heckman...Cecilia L. Lim...Michele Patetta Jacob Rivera...Jaxson Rivera...Helen de la Pena Valerie Valverde...John Eckel...Patrick Cagney Cathy Newman...Charles Jones...Ann Marie Maurice Kathleen Marsala...Alec Kerr...John...Pat McKenna Steve Riccardi...Robert Baccollo...Joseph Wells Alice Widman...Carmelo Abbruzzesi...Jonel Tinio

## Stewardship Reflection

#### 3rd Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

## Are You Registered?

If you have recently moved or even if you have been attending for years, stop by the parish office and register.

## Why do you need to register?

There are many reasons such as:

- There's a feeling of becoming part of the parish community.
- You give the parish a chance to get to know you better.
- The parish will have a way to communicate with you by sending you emails or mails to keep you up-to-date on the parish news.
- **Registration is required** to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation or Penance, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Holy Matrimony.
- If you're planning to register your child(ren) to our religious education program, the families of those attending must be registered parishioners.
- When a person has been asked to be a Godparent or sponsor or if a parish needs verification of your status as a practicing Catholic, these can't be done if you're not registered. You need to be registered as an active parishioner for several months.

Registering is easy. Come to the parish office and register! Office hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm and closed for lunch 1:00pm - 2:00pm.

## 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)

	<u> 2023</u>	<u> 2022</u>
Collections: Dec. 2 - 3	\$7,561.00	\$7,962.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	2,580.00	
Total	\$10,141.00	<u>\$9,66900</u>
Building Fund	\$2,321.00	\$2,390.00
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Collections: Dec. 9 - 10	\$7,296.00	\$7,727.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>1,682.00</u>	2,196.00
Total	\$8,978.00	\$9,923.00

Treasure from our children: \$8.00

Here are some of the good deeds that the children of St. Mary's did as a way of showing their love of God and of our parish. We hope that they will always know how important what they do for God and for us truly is. Even though they are still young, they can give us a wonderful example to follow.

"I helped someone."
"I said my prayers."

"I talked with parents about lesson."



**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.

## 2024 Offerings Available

#### **Bread and Wine:**

March 10; Apr. 14 & 28; June 2; July 7; Aug. 11 & 18; Sept. 1 & 8; Dec. 8.

#### Sanctuary Lamp:

Jan. 14 & 21; Nov. 17; Dec. 1.

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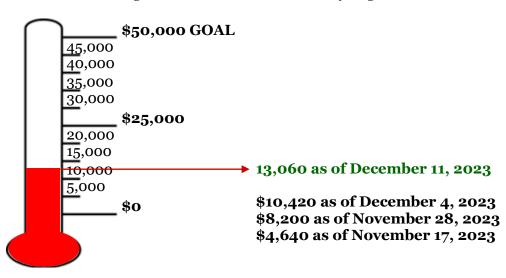


By now, most parishioners have received raffle tickets in the mail. We ask that you purchase what you can afford. If possible, sell others to friends and neighbors. We know many people give lottery tickets at Christmas. Consider giving a raffle ticket instead. We all need to be a little creative as we strive to make this special raffle a great success. If you need more raffle tickets, they are available at the Rectory.

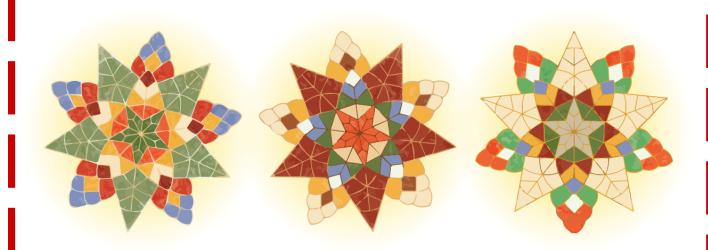
Tickets are \$20.00 each. There will be three (3) prizes  $-1^{st}$  Prize will be 25% of the proceeds,  $2^{nd}$  Prize will be 15% of the proceeds and  $3^{rd}$  Prize will be 10% of the proceeds.

Please return the raffle tickets and the money to the rectory or drop them in the collection basket 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.



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# Come & Celebrate!

# Simbang Gabi

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 Fesus'

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

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