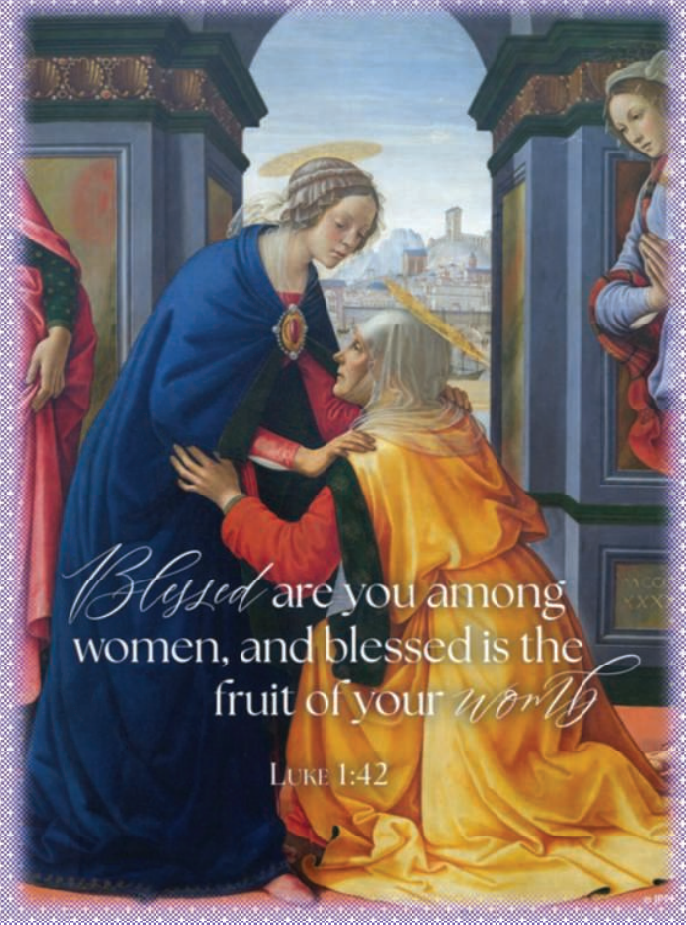


The People of God called to form the Christian Community of

St. Mary's Church

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

December 22, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your *womb*

LUKE 1:42



CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Tuesday, December 24,
Christmas Eve**

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

**Wednesday, 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

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

9:00 AM Mass, 11:00AM Mass

Weekly **MASS** Intentions

©JPPC

Saturday	Dec. 21 - Vigil
5:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	Dec. 22 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:45AM	Rosemary Scalia
10:00AM	Sr. Joan Cremin
12 Noon	Michael McCabe
Monday	Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Martin Family (Living)
8:45AM	G. Robert Coberg
Tuesday	Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Francis Martin
8:45AM	Charlie and John McMorrow
	Christmas Eve Masses
4:00PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
6:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Wednesday	Dec. 25 - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
7:15AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12:00PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Thursday	Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
7:00AM	Matthew Hayes
8:45AM	Malu Canlas (Living)
Friday	Dec. 27 - St. John
7:00AM	Kevin White
8:45AM	John Sullivan and Karen Camporeale
Saturday	Dec. 28 - The Holy Innocents
8:30AM	Mae Carey
5:30PM	Anna and James Hans
Sunday	Dec. 29 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Kathleen Callahan Lisa
12 Noon	Joe Tumaneng



The **Bread and Wine** offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of the Deceased Members of the Markert and Quigley families requested by Anna Markert.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn in praise of God and in memory of Bob and Joan Mascarelli requested by Bill and Linda Ebenhack.

This Week



Sunday – Dec. 22

10:00AM Choir UC

Monday – Dec. 23

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

7:00PM RCIA Rectory

8:00PM Basketball

Tuesday – Dec. 24

Christmas Eve

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

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

Wednesday - Dec. 25

Christmas Day

Masses: 7:45AM, 10:00AM and 12:00PM

Thursday – Dec. 26

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

Friday – Dec. 27

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC

8:00PM Basketball

Saturday – Dec. 28

Sunday – Dec. 29

10:00AM Choir UC

PALAD EB FDVrm

2025 Offerings Available

Bread and Wine:

Mar. 30; Apr. 6 & 13;

Sanctuary Lamp:

Mar. 30; Apr. 27; Aug. 31; Oct. 19.

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.

Recently Deceased

We ask your prayers for our recently deceased Michael Hayes.



For some, the Christmas season started back in September when certain stores started selling holiday decorations. Most people at least waited until the Thanksgiving turkey was finished but that might not have stopped them from getting up early the next day for all the Black Friday sales or making plans for Cyber Monday.

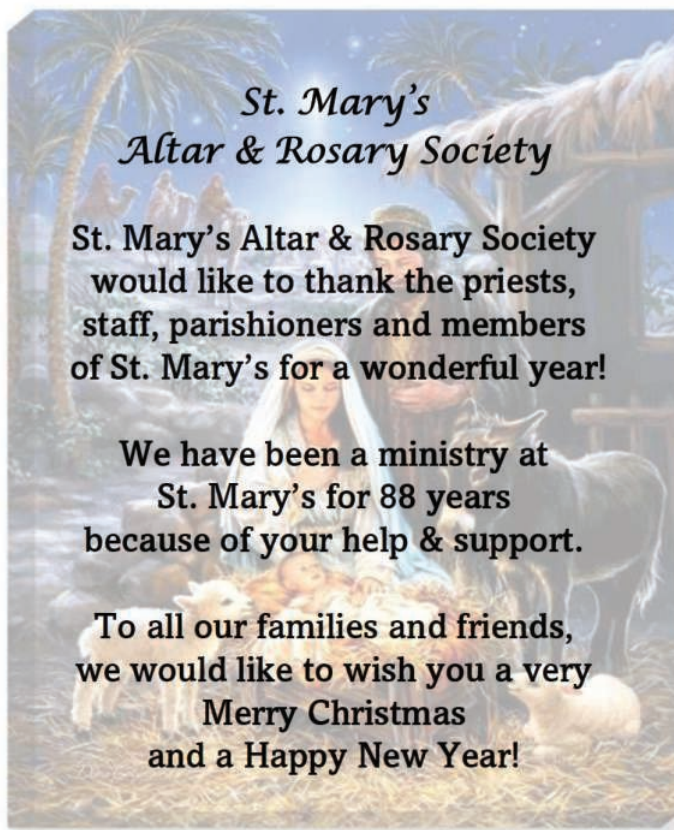
But once the first candle of the Advent wreath was lit, it seemed that everyone was given permission to whole heartily throw themselves into the Christmas season. I even have a few friends who mail all their Christmas cards the day after Thanksgiving and have had all their shopping done since Halloween. So many people spend so much time getting ready for one day that they fail to understand that the Christmas season does not start really until Christmas Eve. The days and weeks leading up to Christmas is the season of Advent; a time of prayerful waiting for the coming of the Lord.

The season of Advent is a great gift that we all too often fail to recognize. It is a time to focus on all the gifts we have received from our loving God. It is a time to focus on the greatest gift we have received from our God; the gift of his only begotten Son. Christmas reminds us that the Son of God was born in space and time but more importantly it reminds that, if we truly open to the power of God's love, the Son of God is continually reborn in hearts each and every day.

The same people who think the Christmas season starts so early think that it ends the very next day. They forget that Christmas Day is celebrated for eight days; for a full octave and the Christmas season is with us until early January when we celebrate the Feast of Epiphany. Just as they miss the gift of the Advent season, they miss the full meaning of the real Christmas season.

We still have a couple of Advent days to enter into the prayerful waiting for the coming of our Savior. We also have the entire Christmas season to celebrate the gift of God love for us. On behalf of all the priests, deacon and staff of St. Mary's Church, I wish you and all your loved ones the most joyous Christmas seasons and all the blessings of living in the wonder of the Incarnation of our loving God.

Fr. Carey



Parish Office Schedule

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

- Tuesday, Dec. 24
- Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024
- Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024 and
- Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025





PACT/Religious Education Program

PACT/Religious Education Program:

Our PACT/Religious Education Program is curricular for all children in grades one through eight. We have a family-centered program. Although there are fewer sessions than traditional programs, one parent or guardian attends from each family at each session. There is also a commitment for working at home. Our program is not an old school "drop off and pick up" classroom model Religious Education Program. Prioritization of the program by parents is critical to the success of our PACT/Religious Education Program.

For more information, e-mail religious@stmarysdumont.org or call us at (201) 384-0557 ext. 20

PACT/Religious Education Program:



Parents of families who have not received these e-mails should notify us that you are not receiving e-mails. Call (201) 384-0557 Extension 20 or e-mail religious@stmarysdumont.org.

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 collections, on-line giving and treasure from our children for the December 14 - 15 weekend will be in the next week's 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.

Stewardship Reflection

4th Sunday of Advent

*"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy."
(LUKE 1:44)*

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.



Safe Environment Corner

November 18th has been designated by the United Nations as *World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence*. The establishment of this national day helps to increase international awareness about the sexual abuse of children. Additionally, it reminds everyone to continue to develop prevention strategies and to bring healing, and justice for our survivors and their families (USCCB 11/2024)

Anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and to provide support to survivors of sexual abuse. Call the Coordinator for the Office of Accompaniment in the Archdiocesan Department for the Protection of the Faithful at 201-407-3256.

IT'S MEGA-RAFFLE TIME

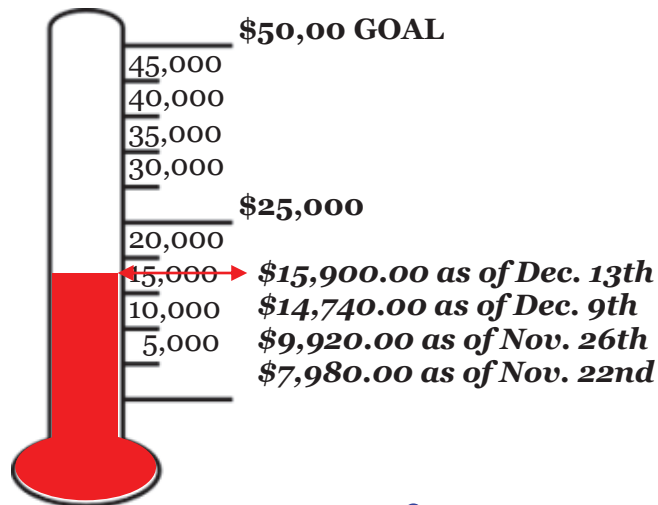
Once again, St. Mary's is hosting a big 50/50 Mega Raffle. When we did this for the past four years, the pot exceeded \$45,000. It would be great if, this year, we could reach \$50,000. I'm sure everyone would like to win a share of such a large pot.

By now, most parishioners have received raffle tickets in the mail and some already purchased the tickets.

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.

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. We are most grateful for whatever each family might be able to do. If you need more raffle tickets, they are available at the Rectory.

Please return the raffle tickets and the money to the rectory or put in the collection basket in church. The winning tickets will be pulled on January 5th, 2025, the Feast of the Epiphany.



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 Murray...Anthony Dunkin...Lorenzo Cortezano
Joseph Ament...Brandon Barhydt

Pray for Our Sick

John Ramzi...Rose O'Shea...Arvin Erd...John M. Kathleen Oates...Ann Marie Maurice...Myra D'Silva Brian O'Dowd...Perfecto de Vera...Patricia O'Neill Ted Widman...Arsenia Carrasco...Margaret Manley Michele Patetta...John Romaine...Anne Picciano Robert Baccollo...Jonel Tinio...Gary Barba Carmelo Abbruzzesi..Baby Colton Lewis...Anya Perla Biron...Skylar Frye...Scott Tkacz...Sean Hayes N. Diamond...Perla Biron...Ryan Heckman...Kevin Patricia Adone...George Taylor...Tom Aquino Josefina Caoli...Jeanne Kwederis...Miss Giusi S. Mariantonia D...Fran D...Lourdes Santamaria Daniel Robbins...Theresa Hong...Lorraine Rolanti Carole Chittenden...Alisen Herman...Fidel Ronque Jing Santamaria...Nicole Sorce...Audrey Maguire Baby Jason Aldo...Jeannine...Billy Schweizer Baby Valentina Victoria Duffy...Wilbert Buco Dorothy Faulkner...Anthony Montagnino Carlos San Juan...Helen de la Pena...John Eckel, Sr. Mila Paras...Sam & Joan Amorosso...Ron Dunkin Marianito Briones...Dafina Stewart...Dolores Awid Sally Ariola...Karen Dean

Sick and Homebound Visit

If you or know someone who can't come to the church and wanted to receive communion, do confession, or wanted to talk to a priest, please call the parish office at 201-384-0557. Fr. Carey will be glad to visit you.

Patient Privacy Reminder

A reminder to all parishioners, due to Patient Privacy regulations, hospitals cannot notify us when our parishioners are in the hospital. Please let us know or have someone call us so that one of the priests can visit you. Thank you for your understanding.

Two Weeks Left



Food Pantry News

The St. Mary's Food Pantry would like to thank the following groups and individuals for their support during 2024. We could not have helped the many families and seniors without their efforts.

So in no particular order, our angels are:

Father Carey, Father David, Deacon John

Dory Weiss-Parish Secretary

John Weiss - Business Administrator

Kathy Sylvester-Pastoral Associate for Liturgy/RCIA

Abner Buensalida, Rich Romaine & Dom Torio - Maintenance

Beth Meloscia and the Youth & Young Adult Ministry

The Parishioners of St. Mary's and residents of Dumont

Shop Rite of New Milford & Inserra Supermarkets

The Boy & Girl Scouts of Dumont

Our Confirmation Candidates

The Philippine Nurses Assn. of New Jersey

Bergen Office of Food Security

Janine Aiello, Erin Alloca, Nick Alloca, Phil Alloca,

Mary Auriti, Ben Basil, June DiGirolamo, Karen Ebenhack,

Jai Rafael Gallardo, Jamie Garguilo, Melissa Gracey, Nath Gurjar,

Sonali Gurjar, Joey Hakim, Ann Hamilla, Andrew Hershkowitz,

Jake Lee, Alex Mendler, Margaret Molder, Cathy Pacana & family,

Ryan Rivas, Laura Sobek, Ryan Soto, Grace Tagliareni,

Nick Tabano, Jake Vietri & Nick Zelna

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All!

Anna, Denise & Lynne

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*

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.

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!

Catechumenate

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are prepared to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you, or someone you know, would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available to be celebrated with anyone in need. Please do not wait until death is imminent to contact the parish regarding an ill family member. Eucharistic Ministers and others serve our community by visiting and bringing Communion to the sick and homebound. Please call the parish office if you wish such a visit.

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