

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



Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve

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

Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day

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

MASSES FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

Thursday, January 1, 2026

9:00 AM Mass, 11:00AM Mass



Weekly **MASS** Intentions

©JPPC

Saturday	Dec. 20 - Vigil
5:30PM	Johanna and James Joyce
Sunday	Dec. 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:45AM	Nancy Florio
10:00AM	Michele Harris
12 Noon	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Monday	Dec. 22 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Claire Miloscia
8:45AM	John Scalice, Sr.
Tuesday	Dec. 23 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Ann Baranek
8:45AM	Emil and Felicia Beranja
Wednesday	Dec. 24 - Late Advent Weekday
7:00AM	Joan M. Bello
8:45AM	Angelo Aviles
	Christmas Eve Masses
4:00PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
6:30PM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
12:00AM	Parishioners of S. Mary's
Thursday	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
Friday	Dec. 26 - St. Stephen
7:00AM	Purissima de Ausen
8:45AM	Malu L. Canlas (Living)
Saturday	Dec. 27 - St. John
8:30AM	Sr. Joseph Cremin
5:30PM	Richard Delia, Jr.
Sunday	Dec. 28 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:45AM	Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00AM	Arcenia Kim Ong
12 Noon	Michael and Michael McCabe



The **Bread and Wine** offered at this week's Masses are given in memory of Lawrence, Sr. and Claire Miloscia requested by the Miloscia family.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn in praise of God and in memory of the deceased members of the Markert and Quigley families.

This Week



Sunday – Dec. 21

10:00AM & 12:00PM Choir
10:00AM OCIA Kids
11:00AM OCIA Teens

Monday – Dec. 22

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC
6:30PM Decorate the Church
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal
8:00PM Basketball SH

Tuesday – Dec. 23

After 8:45AM Mass Rosary UC
6:30PM Church Decorating
7:00PM OCIA

Wednesday - Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Masses

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

After 8:45AM Mass OLPH Novena and Rosary UC

Thursday – Dec. 25

Christmas Day Masses

7:45AM, 10:00AM and 12:00 Noon

Friday – Dec. 26

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

Saturday – Dec. 27

Sunday – Dec. 28

10:00AM & 12:00PM Choir
10:00AM OCIA Kids
After 12:00PM Mass PALAD EB Meeting FDVRm

Available 2026 Offerings

Bread & Wine: Feb. 1; May 17; Aug. 23 & 30; Nov. 29; Dec. 13 & 20.

Sanctuary Lamp: May 24; July 26; Aug. 2, 23 & Aug. 30.

Parish Office Schedule

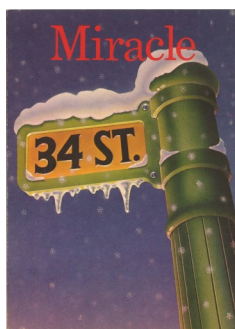
During the days of the Christmas season, the parish office **will be closed** as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Thursday, Dec. 25
Friday, Dec. 26
Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025 and
Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026





Many years ago, the Christmas card I sent to friends and relatives was somewhat unique. A sign for 34th Street with the word MIRACLE graced the front of the card. Inside was a rather long message I'd like to share with you.



There are two kinds of people. Those that believe that once a year, on the eve of December 25th, a short, fat, white-bearded old man dressed in loud red pajamas, is flown all over the world by a bunch of wingless reindeer in order to stuff a wild assortment of presents into carefully hung stockings and under overly ornamented evergreen trees...and those that don't believe all that.

There's also a third kind of people made up of a strange collection of the first two kinds of people. Those that believe in the truly impossible. Those that believe in the real miracle of miracles. Those that still believe it's possible to have...

Peace on Earth and Good Will to All.

May the miracle of Christmas be with you and your loved ones throughout the coming year. Merry Christmas!

Fr. Carey

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.

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.

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

We will be starting a new sick list beginning January, 2026. If you would like our parish to continue to pray for family, friends or loved ones who are ill and in need of prayer, please call the parish office – 201-384-0557

Pray for Our Sick

John Ramzi...Rose O'Shea...Arvin Erd...Gary Barba
Brian O'Dowd...Margaret Manley...Tom Aquino
John Romaine...Anne Picciano...Lorraine Rolanti
Skylar Frye...Scott Tkacz...Sean Hayes...Antonio S.
N. Diamond...Heather S...Robert Delia
Anthony Montagnino...John Eckel, Sr...Marie F.
Teresita Ariola...Allan Austria...Daniel Thornton
Dolores Awid...Chelsea Schwerzler...Myra D'Silva
Stacey Juhlin...Peter Halecky...Patricia Adone
George & Gerry Taylor...Frank Babiera...Anya
Karen and Jerry Kastner...John R...Jonel Tinio
Michelle Irimia...Richard Hogan...Luisa Castro
Rosario Pingul...Bonifacio Riguerra
Ryan McHugh...Baby James Thomas Formoso
Paul Bernard Francois...Wilberto Guilgerto Canlas
Revan Thrawn Wrage...Nerizza Flores Hooper
Laura Poznanski Clark...Lemuel Magusara
Filip Pindulic...Baby Eli Antar...Maureen Donohue
Judy Sweeney...Nellie McHale...Jenifer Mayer
Virgilio Malapit...Michael O'Neill...Nelly Mayorga
Kris Telesmanich...Jose Nicholas de la Pena

Sick and Homebound Visit

If you or someone you know can't come to the church and would like to receive communion, do confession, or would like 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.



PACT/Religious Education Program

First Delivery: St. Nicholas Project



Last week, we made our first delivery of St. Nicholas Project donations to Oasis in Paterson.

More information about Oasis may be found at oasisnj.org:

Oasis provides food, clothing, and counseling

to help women and children meet their basic needs. We provide educational classes for women and academic after-school programs for children to help them thrive. We address the inequalities facing women and children who live in poverty.

PACT/Religious Education Contact Information

Parents of PACT/Religious Education families are asked to update changes in their contact information with our Religious Education Office. Have you changed your e-mail address? Have a new cell phone? Moved? Please keep us updated with new contact information. As parents were reminded in our PACT sessions this year, each parish family receives a weekly e-mail blast with important parish information. If you do not receive this e-mail, please let us know. E-mail religiousused@stmarysdumont.org or call us at (201) 384-0557 Extension 20.



Confirmation Preparation



Monday Confirmation Preparation sessions have begun. Please pray that the Holy Spirit guide our candidates, their families, and our parish family as we prepare candidates for full initiation in our Church.

Empowering God's Children

Parents are reminded that this year, we are covering *Lesson 3: Boundaries: You Have Rights! And Lesson 4: Secrets, Surprises and Promises in the Empowering God's Children program.*

An e-mail link was sent to parents who opted to cover these chapters at home so they can indicate completion of this year's program. Thank you for helping us to provide safe environments for all of our children.



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 five 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 4th, 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany.



Two Weeks Left



Gun Violence Incidents in 2025

Last Sunday St. Mary's marked the 13th anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, which claimed the lives of 20 children, six staff members, the mother of the shooter and the shooter.

Gun violence is not confined to mass shootings, or even intentional shootings. If not handled or stored properly, firearms often lead to injuries and, sometimes, death. Like all shootings, lives are changed forever.

In 2024 there were 1,462 incidents of accidental shootings. Attaching a name and an age makes the incident more than a statistic – and may break our heart. Below are a few of the incidents that occurred this year.

Gregory Zecca accidentally shot and killed his 13-year-old son in Naples, Florida on July 19. ●On July 7 a three-year-old was seriously wounded by the accidental discharge of a firearm by a 13-year-old in a relative's house, in Mims, Brevard County, Florida (the child is expected to recover). ●A 4-year-old boy, Chosen Morris, died on February 12 after accidentally shooting himself in the head with a handgun he found in his parents' car in Davenport, Florida. ●On March 21 a 23-year-old woman in Lakeland, Florida was injured after a gun went off while her 19-year-old friend was handling it. ●At the Florida Mall, Orange County, on February 16 there was an accidental discharge of a firearm as a man in his 20's adjusted his weapon and injured himself. ●Daryvan Kvon Spell, 31, of Jacksonville, Florida, was charged with child neglect and culpable negligence after his son, a 2-year-old, accidentally shot himself in the head while playing with a handgun he found in the drawer of a nightstand as his mother slept. He died Easter Sunday, April 20. ●On May 14, Joselyn Esparza, 15, of South Dallas, Texas, accidentally shot herself with a gun brought home by her 14-year-old brother while recording a social media video.

"As bishops, we support measures that control the sale and use of firearms and make them safer -- especially efforts that prevent their unsupervised use by children or anyone other than the owner -- and we reiterate our call for sensible regulation of handguns." Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, November 2000.

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)

	2025	2024
Collections: Dec. 6 - 7	\$9,140.00	\$6,640.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>2,616.00</u>	<u>1,849.00</u>
Total	<u>\$11,756.00</u>	<u>\$8,489.00</u>

Treasure from our children: \$6.00

Below 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 talked with parents about lesson."
"I helped someone." "I said my prayers."
"I clean."***



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

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Report Financial Misconduct Confidentially

If you suspect financial misconduct, use **EthicsPoint**, an independent and confidential reporting tool that helps the Archdiocesan community address issues while promoting positive parish, school and workplace environments. Visit www.rcan.org for the hotline and reporting link.

Christmas Greetings

On behalf of all the priests, the deacon, and the parish staff, we wish you and all your 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.



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 at least **three 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ST. JOHN'S COUNCIL #1345
61 ARMOUR PL. DUMONT
PRESENTS
2025
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
DECEMBER 31 | 8 PM - 1 AM
WITH LIVE MUSIC BY
TK WALKER & COMPANY
OPEN BAR THROUGHOUT
*** CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT ***
NOISEMAKERS AND DECORATIONS
TIMES SQUARE BALL DROP FEATURED ON LARGE SCREEN

<p>Buffet Dinner Included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assorted Hors D'oeuvres Shrimp Cocktail Steak Pizzaiolo w/mushrooms Chicken Champagne Penne w/Broccoli Aioli Linguine and Clams Eggplant Rollatini Sausage & Peppers Grilled Vegetables Roasted Potatoes Coffee & Tea Dessert 	<p>\$125 per person advance payment required</p> <p>For Tickets Call or Text: Ken Armellino 516-220-9333 Anthony Marti 917-602-3797 or email KofC1345Reservations@gmail.com</p> <p>Buy Online at: KofC1345.square.site</p>
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\$10 DISCOUNT PER PERSON IF PAID BY 12/1/24

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/OCIA*

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. Lawrence Miloscia, *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 Order 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