

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK:

Mon 12/22: 1Sm 1:24-28/ Lk 1:46-56
Tue 12/23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/ Lk 1:57-66
Wed 12/24: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,16/
 Lk 1:67-79
Thu 12/25: Is 52:7-10/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18
Fri 12/26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Mt 10:17-22
Sat 12/27: 1 Jn 1:1-4/ Jn 20:1a and 2-8
Sun 12/28: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Col 3:12-21/
 Lk 2:22-40

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All the Men and women fighting for our country in the military services, all the elderly, homebound, sick and hospitalized members of our parish family, especially the following: Patricia Adams, Kim Bailey, Shirley Barbato, Sharon Birch, Phyllis Brady, Jack Bulisok, Flo Cabo, John Correll, Kevin Cyburt, Frank Daly, Ida Fallon, Gloria Fenik, John Frieko, Josephine Gallo, Joseph Guydo, Deborah Hockey, Mary Ann Holtz, Carol Houghton, Rosemary Kiser, Dorothy Kleinosky, Madeleine Krueger, Bob Mardis, James McCabe, James McCaffrey, Loretta Meyers, Ethel Pavlik, Anna Petro, Stephanie Poltrack, Atlas Rea, Charlotte Rollins, James Rovon, Marion Saia, Maria (Petro) Sanders, Joseph Serafin, John Slovikovski, John Sweeney, Joe Taresco,

If any of the above has sufficiently recovered and can be removed from the list, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

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SERVERS: December 24-25

WED 4:00 PM Nick Gjurich & Quinn Larkin
8:00 PM Jacob Corona
THUR 10:30 AM Lauren & Mackenzie Kozak

SERVERS: December 27-28

SAT 4:00 PM Noah Rastall & Jacob Corona
SUN 8:00 AM Max Smith
10:30 AM Autumn McClain, Angelina & Ariel Pribozie

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LECTORS: December 24-25

WED 4:00 PM Students
8:00 PM C. Vavrek
THUR 10:30 AM P. Molchany

LECTORS: December 27-28

SAT 4:00 PM R. Maser
SUN 8:00 AM D. Krumenacker
10:30 AM E. Haggerty

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST: December 24-25

WED 4:00 PM (Plate) M. Clark, B. Nagle, P. Balagusz
 (Cup) K. Carney, M. Carney, C. Pribozie
8:00 PM (Plate) N. Vavrek, Ja. Bulisok, J. Bulisok
 (Cup) D. Kozak, C. Vavrek, S. Mihelic
THU 10:30 AM (Plate) B. Williams, C. Williams, C. Barto
 (Cup) D. Tedjeske, J. Aspey, P. Molchany

December 27-28

SAT 4:00 PM (Plate) J. Bulisok, H. Balagusz, C. Fuska
 (Cup) N. Vavrek, B. New, R. Maser
SUN 8:00 AM (Plate) C. Hobbs, J. Kuswara, G. Krumenacker
 (Cup) A. Reynolds, M. Carney, D. Kozak
10:30 AM (Plate) A. Kozak, C. Pribozie, B. Nagle
 (Cup) J. Aspey, C. Williams, B. Williams

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GREETERS: December 24-25

WED 4:00 PM (ST) Corona Family
 (VP) B. Tran
THU 10:30 AM (ST) E. & C. Barto
 (VP) M. Wissinger
December 27-28
SAT 4:00 PM (ST) D. & V. Hummel
 (VP) F. Petro
SUN 8:00 AM (ST) M. Carney
 (VP) R. & A. Albert
10:30 AM (ST) E. & C. Barto
 (VP) J. Bell & Family

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INCOME

DECEMBER 13-14, 2014

Sunday Envelopes	\$3,882.00
Loose	970.27
Energy/Fuel	220.00
Religious Retirement	67.00
Christmas Offering	25.00
Christmas Flowers	218.00
Holy Day	568.00
Toy Sale	230.00
Parking	70.00
Votives	10.00
	<u>\$6,260.27</u>

2014 Christmas Club YTD Total: \$2,348



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
OUR PARISHIONERS
WHO ARE**

**CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS
WEEK DECEMBER 29-JANUARY 4:**

Elizabeth Dugan, Peter Gallo, Sally Pantano, M.
Veil Griffith, Richard Petrosky, James Vizzini,
Jane Janiga, Eleanor Krueger, Phyllis Fusko.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: The Catholic Charities office is located at 321 Main Street, Suite 5G in the Seifert Professional Building, Johnstown. The staff is trained to assist individuals and families with a variety of problems, challenges and decisions, and some temporal needs in a confidential manner. Call 535-6538 for an appointment.

SILENT PRAYER GROUP: Our parish has a group of people who will earnestly pray for any needs you might have. This is a telephone prayer chain. If you have a special need about which you need prayer, call Pat @ 539-7928 or the Rectory Office @ 536-6110. State first name of person in need and the intention or need. We will gladly pray for them. **If you would like to join this special ministry, please call the Rectory Office.** Thank you!



INVITED: Join the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament for an evening with Mary Caster as she performs titles from her album, *By Faith*, along with some new songs. **The concert will be held Sat, Jan 3, 2015 at 7:30PM!** For more information on Mary, visit her website at www.marycastnermusic.com. A free will offering will be received afterwards.



**LITTLE ANGEL
LEARNING**

CENTER: The Little Angel Learning Center at Visitation Church has openings for children ages 6 weeks to school age. Large individual classrooms for each age level; full-size gymnasium for large motor skill activities; hot meals and snack included in daily fee; CCIS accepted; school-age summer program; loving, caring and qualified teachers and staff; hours 6:00 AM-6:00 PM. For more information and to schedule a tour, please call Barbara @ 535-2341.



**PARISH RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION—
JANUARY
SCHEDULE:**

January 4—Class
January 11—Class
January 18—Class
January 25—Home Study & 9th Grade
Baptismal Retreat, 8 AM-11 AM.

New Year Resolutions:

Do any of your New Year Resolutions, include how you want to become closer to God? It is noble to want to lose weight, get out of debt or become more organized but it is also very important to be *intentional* about growing in your Faith.



JOY: THE TRUE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

“With the angel’s greeting to Mary— ‘kaire’ in Greek means ‘be joyful’—so the New Testament begins,” he said. “We could say that the first word of the New Testament is ‘be joyful,’ ‘be happy,’ in other words. This is the true meaning of Christmas: God is near us, so near that He became a child.” The Holy Father then highlighted “we realize that today’s world, where God is absent, is dominated by fear, by uncertainty.” Nonetheless, “the words ‘be joyful because God is with you and with us,’ truly open a new time.”

“Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not the expensive gifts that call for time and money. We can communicate this joy simply with a smile, a kind gesture, a little help, or forgiveness. And the joy we give will certainly come back to us...Let us pray that this presence of the liberating joy of God shines forth in our lives.”

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON –

Christmas is not a single day; it's a season. It is a period in which to enter more deeply into the mystery of the One who came to become one of us - to save us from our sins.

So often Christmas day seems to come and go very quickly, and with it, the spirit of the Christmas season can be lost in the process of cleaning up, finishing leftovers, traveling or returning gifts. There is a religious value to these days after Christmas which we can give ourselves to with simply a little focus. Having prayed that our Lord might come to us, we can let the reality of his coming enter into our daily lives. We do that by savoring the story and

letting his being one with us become a more conscious reality as these stories intersect with our daily lives. In the rush of Christmas, did I take time to imagine myself there in the stable, and take it all in, as a personal witness. What happened within me as I beheld my Savior so small, so vulnerable, with such tiny fingers and with such a breath that would one day expire on the cross, but would be raised to breathe the Holy Spirit into his followers and into us all?

Perhaps the Feast of the Holy Family is a time to ask for graces for our family. This might be a wonderful time for us to contemplate the hidden life of Jesus.

The many years he lived in a fairly ordinary way, place him in solidarity with our ordinary day to day lives. He knew work, he knew service, he had friends and he loved family. Jesus knew the grief of the loss of one who had held him and nurtured him and became an earthly father to him.

Reflections like these, no matter how they occur in our week, will allow Jesus to come very close to us in the days of the Christmas Season.



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY— ST. THOMAS BECKET

8:00 A.M. Edgar Reynolds
(Req. by Family)

TUESDAY— 6th DAY- OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY

8:00 A.M. Prayer/Communion Service

WEDNESDAY— ST. SYLVESTER I, POPE

6:00 P.M. George Krueger
(Req. by Family)

THURSDAY— SOLEMNITY OF MARY

10:30 A.M. Dee Golias
(Req. by Husband, Jim & Family)

FRIDAY— Ss. BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

8:00 A.M. Deceased of the Baroni Family
(Req. by Georgie Jakovcic)

SATURDAY— ST. JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST

11:00 A.M. Valley Pike Manor – NO MASS
4:00 P.M. Basil Balagusz
(Req. by Family)

SUNDAY— THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 A.M. Polly D'Ettore
(Req. by Shirley Machowski &
Charlie Kerrigan)

10:30 A.M. Intentions of Parish Family

SANCTUARY CANDLE: For the Intentions of Pat
Barnhart & Kevin Cyburt Req. by Visitation
Parish Family

MASSES FOR SUNDAY: Saturday 4:00
P.M.
Sunday 8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Sat. 3:30
P.M.
Sunday 7:30 A.M. and Sunday 10:00
A.M.

INFANT BAPTISM: Arrange in advance
for pre-baptismal instructions. **COMMON
POLICY FOR BAPTISM:** The parents must
attend an instruction/preparation class
on the Sacrament of Baptism.
Arrangements are made through the
Parish Office. Catholic Sponsors need a
letter from their Pastor stating they are in
full communion with the Catholic
Church.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: By
appointment with the Pastor at least
nine months prior to the date of
marriage.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Done after any
Sunday Mass when requested.

MEMBERSHIP: Please contact the
Rectory Office to register as a member.