

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph /Rc: rectory chapel

Jan 14 • Noon • Rc •

† Joseph Gydish r/o Family

Jan 16 • 6pm • Rc •

† Nicholas & Anna DeBalko r/o Daughter, Joyce

• Jan 17/18 • 2nd Sunday of the Year

4pm • J • † Josephine Libassi r/o Gladys/Marilyn/Angela

5:45pm • M • † Joseph Aponick r/o Zarcufsky Family

8:15am • J • † George Revak r/o Helen/David Mehalick

10am • M • † Bruce Johnson r/o Anna Boluskie



❖ **STEWARDSHIP: M:** S: 1107; Dues: 555; Campaign: 125;
J: S: 1823; Dues: 400; Campaign: 1831

Offered through myEoffering: M: \$43 • J: \$456.

Christmas: M: 6071 • **J:** 3789; **New Year: M:** 430 • **J:** 581

Stewardship of time, talent & treasure!

❖ **SCRIPTURE:** Is 55:1-11; 1 Jn 5:1-9; Mk 1:7-11 • Next
Week: 1 Sam 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a; Jn 1:35-42



Hear Our Prayer

Prayer List: Forms are at Church, the parish office, online. Fill them out & get them in, even if you are healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of illness! If you are family member and

do not have power of attorney or guardian-ship, we suggest: write their initials in the Book of Intercessions!

Pray for: **Marge Krupilis • Dorothy Yanuskiewicz**

• **John Washko • Rose Ann & Tracey Aponick • Jean & Alice Jarzinko • Joseph Washko • Ed & Sally McNamee**

• **Jennifer Gilliam • Margaret Burns • John Zakavage**

❖ **Birthday: Ron Kosar:** 1/15; **Bill Rydzy, Kim Shatalsky, Mike Dziak, Irene Mehalick** (90 years young!), **Helen Mehalick:** 1/16; **Gloria Gydish, Tony Kelmalis:** 1/18.



Congratulations **Chris & Nicole Reese**, on the birth of your daughter, **Madelyn Ann**, on 1/7/15!

❖ **Altar Servers:** To memorialize one, they are \$200 each! We seek adults to serve: Family/Father/Sons. See Fr.

❖ **St. Joseph's 50/50:** January tickets are: \$2 @! December winner: **Donna Gulash** \$89.

❖ **St Mary's: Jan. 1, 2015 PA 4, 7pm #, \$1,000: 6434**
Winner: **Vanessa S.** Congratulations!!

Our next drawing: **St. Patrick Day: Tues, March 17th.**
Tickets sellers/buyers needed!

❖ **"Women of Grace":** continues the journey with women gathering for 16 sessions alternating btw Sheppton & Ringtown. We expect a deeper prayer life to enhance the lives of participants and families, including the parish family.

❖ **Knights of Columbus:** Next meeting 1/25, 11:30 @ Parish Office.

❖ **Year of St. Mark's Gospel continues!**
Read your Bible!

❖ **Flowers:** *last weekend @ M:* In Memory of **Joseph Aponick.**

❖ **Stewardship:** *No one can do everything, everyone can do something!* Offer in Stewardship the offering of a gift you've given to someone you love!

❖ **Interested in our Catholic faith?** Think about discerning the Catholic faith? Ask, encourage, invite! Share the gift of faith!

❖ **Men's Spirituality:** We're working to establish a "King's Men" regional group that will encourage men to be accountable to the Lord, His Church & each other & live as men of prayer. This is a group distinct from the Knights of Columbus council recently established. We encourage participation in either/both.

Reflection: Baptism of the Lord: One of the gifts we give at the time of baptism is the gift of a book of remembrance. It gives parents/godparents to put a treasure book of pictures, thoughts, reflections together from the time that they became a believer, baptized in Christ, 'til just before they reach the age of reason (age 7/8) and ready for First Holy Communion. Think about your baptism. Who was there? What was it like for our parents/godparents to dream for us while we slept and dreamt with the angels and saints whispering to us of the plan God has for us.

Do you still have your baptismal candle? Light it this weekend. (and on the anniversary of your baptism.) See in the gift of this light the promise that God loves us so deeply that from the days of our infancy until now that love is reaffirmed over and over again, day in and day out.

Why do we baptize so early? Well think about the time when Jesus became a full member of the chosen community: he was only 8 days old! Imagine! If infants could share in the fullness of the people of Israel, why shouldn't they do the same with life in Christ! Yes, Jesus was baptized by John when we was about 30 yrs old, but that isn't what determines for us full entrance into the Body of Christ. Christ died & lives again for ALL, no matter how young/old we are. What a gift, this Catholic faith of ours. Be proud of it, enjoy it and live it!

Be a saint...what else is there?

Fr. Jim & 🐾

frjim.stmj@gmail.com

Welcome Fr. Brennan for Mass this weekend as I am on my annual retreat.

❖ The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism.
-St. Ambrose of Milan

❖ **Visit us on the web: stmarystjoseph.net**
"Like" us: facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc



❖ **SCRIP:** Assist your parish: We've \$25 Amazon, \$25 Applebee's, \$10 Arby's, \$10 Burger King; \$10 Bed, Bath & Body, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$25 Cabela's, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$10 Denny's, \$10 Domino's, \$10 Dunkin Donuts, \$25 Giant, \$25 Home Depot, \$25 iTunes, \$5 KFC, \$25 Weiss, \$10 Long John Silver's, \$25 Lowe's, \$25 Old Country Buffet, \$25 PetSmart, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$25 Regal Theatres, \$25 Sheetz, \$10 Taco Bell, \$100 & \$25 Walmart & \$10 Wendy's on hand. on hand. Contact the parish office. When you purchase from us, you receive the **full** value of the card, we receive % on each. We're looking for disciples to take a Mass @ month to offer them.

❖ **Service of Christian Unity:** next Sun, Jan. 18th at St. Paul's UCC Church, Ringtown. Light lunch served from 11:30 -12:45. Service begins at 1pm.
Join us for this time of prayer for Unity and Peace.

❖ **Baptismal Anniversary Prayer: Prayer to our Patron Saint:** Great St. (*Name of your Patron Saint*), who at my Baptism was chosen as my guardian and under whose patronage I became an adopted child of God and solemnly renounced Satan, his works and allurements, assist me by the thy powerful intercession in the fulfillment of these sacred promises. Help me to love God above all things and always to live in the state of grace. Finally, obtain for me the grace of a happy death, so that thou mayest welcome me into Heaven for all eternity. Amen.

❖ **Bulletin:** For years, our bulletin covers have come from an outside source. In the coming weeks, we're doing our own. Ad space is available. Know of someone who might sponsor an ad & help us? We offer space for a reasonable rate. We seek ads for a year, prices vary by size. With this, we can maintain & help fund the lease of a new copier. Contact or refer someone to the parish office.



❖ **Giving Tree:** Thanks for your generosity, the gifts are being delivered this week to our support organizations: Birthright Frackville & the Catholic Social Agency, Hazleton

❖ **Church Cleaning/Decorating:** Who takes down the decorations at your house? We need you to help take them down as your parish!

Know of our prayers of thanks to all who did great and small tasks! We take our decorations down **this Sun: Jan. 11th** after Mass!

❖ **Mass on Sunday evenings?** We had a good representation, with a number of families (with children) attending. We'd consider this as an option, putting the word out throughout the region. Let us know.



❖ **Parking @ St. Mary's Ramp:** the area at the end of the ramp is for drop off/pick up. Parking close makes it hard for others to use the ramp. When spring arrives, we hope to have the borough mark the area off clearly. Until then, as so many have done, drop off/park away, please.

❖ **A Word of Thanks:** Your Christmas/New Years Stewardship generosity shows your dedication to the place called your parish home. While I am away on retreat this week, know that I will be offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for you and your intentions.

Living stewardship of time, talent & treasure is, as indicate, the hallmark of our faith. **Fr. Jim** [*p.s. star thanks the many who extended greetings, gifts & best wishes for her birthday.*]



With the **Baptism of the Lord**, the Season enters into what the Latin title calls: "tempus ordinarium," [ordinary time]. It is to convey the sense that this time of the year is measured or numbered time & we're not in a given season: Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter. There is no 1st Sunday of Year, as the Baptism of the Lord is our entry into what is now called "ordinary time". Until Lent: Ash Wed. this year is Feb. 18, Easter: March 27th!

❖ **Inspiring:** With the funerals of good parishioners during Christmas: Eleanor Weikel & Joseph Aponick, both members of St. Mary's, we looked back to remember that last year we had three good parishioners go "home" last year: George Kakalecik, Catherine Murray, & Joseph Mattes. When we looked back at the bulletin from last year, we found this powerful witness of one of their children about what they learned: we share it again this year: "life lessons":

- Attend Mass every Sunday & wear your Sunday best.
- Do good deeds often for loved ones & people you don't know.
- Fly the American flag to honor veterans.

- Hold your children & grandchildren close to your heart & keep them warm & safe.

❖ **Christmas Flowers:** [we add the following to complete our list]: Deceased of Sullivan/Opanel Families.

❖ **St John Paul II: His Five Loves:** Copies that remain after this weekend, we'll take the names off of them and make them available to any who might want to pass them on! We also have copies of the cd: "what's so great about being Catholic" to pass on/listen to.

If you've read the book, enjoyed the gift, put your thoughts down and pass them so that we can share them. We hope you enjoyed the "gift" for all that you do to keep your parish family faith-filled.



❖ **Outside Events:** ☞ Marian HS Open House: 7-8th graders thinking about high school: Sun. 1/25 @ 1-3pm: Call 570-467-0641. Drawing towards \$500 tuition assistance! ☞ Bingo: Sheppton Fire Co: 1/11: 1pm ☞ **"Gun @ Week for a Year"**: Sheppton & other Area Fire Co.'s: \$30 each. 384-4746.