

# Dec. 12/13, 2015

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



Dec 14 • 6pm • Rc • John of the Cross  
† Joseph Casey

Dec 15 • 9am • Rc • † Thomas Barrett, Jr.

Dec 16 • Noon • Rc • † Charles & Eileen Mengers

Dec 18 • 6pm • Rc • † Elizabeth Morris

## Dec. 19/20 • 4<sup>th</sup> S Advent • Year C

3:30pm • J † Stanley & Mary Michalik  
r/o Al & Joanne



5:15pm • M † Bill Lorah, Sr.  
r/o Wife, Pauline

8:15am • J † George Mehalick  
r/o Helen Mehalick & Family

10am • M † Eleanor Weikel r/o Son, Gordon



❖ **STEWARDSHIP: M:** S: 1243; Dues: 475; Campaign: 1025;

• **J:** S: 1421; Dues: 419; Campaign: 281

• myEoffering: M: \$55 • J: \$250

*Stewardship of time, talent & treasure!*

❖ **Scripture:** Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18;

• Next Week: Mi 5:1-4a; Hab 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

❖ Fill out the forms, even if you're healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of need!

.... • John Biros • Roy Gius • Richard

Buczowski • Mary Balkiewicz • Bea Gius • John

Washko • Dorothy Yanuskiewicz • Rose Ann &

Tracey Aponick • Jean & Alice Jarzinko • Joseph Washko • Ed

& Sally McNamee • Jen Gilliam • Grace Snover • Vickie Hartz

• Ann Lewis • Bob Fellin • Gordy Weikel • Kathy Milefsky • Phil

& Shirley Kennedy • Bill/Flo Steele • Theresa Szott • Emily

Milewski • Helen Mehalick • Margaret Krupilis • Barbara Green

• John Zakavage

❖ **NEW MAILING ADDRESS: 82 N Center St., Ringtown, Pa. 17967 [No PO Box effective immediately]**

N.B: Parish Office Hours: **Mon & Wed: 4-7pm;**

**Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 4-6pm**

❖ **Birthdays Blessings:** James Johnstone: 12/13; Barb Hoffman: 12/14; Mary Beth Ambrose, Ann Opanel: 12/16; Jeanette Irwin: 12/17; Dolores Oscovitch, Jim Ambrose: 12/18; Jonathan Casella: 12/19.



Eve: 3:30pm @ J

4pm @ M

Christmas  
-Mass-  
Schedule

7pm @M (Candlelight)

**Christmas Day: 10am @ M**

❖ **Year of St. Luke's Gospel** began! Pray your Bible!

❖ **St. Joe's 50/50:** Dec. drawing underway!

❖ **Stewardship:** *No one can do everything, everyone can do something!* Make an offering of a gift in Advent expectation of Jesus' coming in glory!

❖ **Choir @ M:** There are some great voices, we can hear you, why not join us in giving praise and thanks to God! Practice continues: Wed @ 6pm.

❖ **Amazon Purchases: Smile:** visit our webpage or Facebook: hit the smile, taking you to your amazon page, the parish receives 5% on your purchase! We're using St Mary's to filter all purchases, if you'd like credit to go to St Joseph's, let us know. No cost to you!

❖ **Knights of Columbus:** meet next Sun, 12/20 @ parish office after 10am Mass.

❖ **Adult Ed:** Session this Mon., Dec 14 @ 6:30pm @ Rc after Mass. Our topic: **Christmas Memories/History down through the Ages!**

**Reflection: 3<sup>rd</sup> S Advent C:** The people ask the Baptist: "what are we to do?" Dorothy Day said this: "Christ proposed, certainly, that the works of the Christian were the works of mercy. He laid it down as commands, not counsels..."

The Baptist began preaching what Jesus fulfilled: Share our food and clothing. Be grateful. Don't whine. When we follow that formula, we'll do for the least what Jesus commands us. Advent is a great time to begin to practice what Jesus commands.

It's hard: we struggle just to get through our days. We rush from one thing to the next. We fall into bed, sleep a wee bit, get up (often late) and begin our hectic routine all over again. Aren't we doing enough, we ask?

John, as the precursor, says: the minimum is never enough. When we ask the question, God wants us to answer in such a way that we expect a change will occur. Hint: God doesn't need to change. He doesn't ask the question. He loves the invitation for us to embrace the invitation to make our lives about others. Now that's change!

● Be a saint...what else is there? ●

Fr. Jim 🐾 & Peaches

frjim.stmj@gmail.com

❖ **SCRIP:** We've \$25 Applebee's, \$25 Cabela's, \$25 Weis, \$10 Bed, Bath & Body, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$10 Denny's, \$25 iTunes, \$25 Home Depot, \$25 Sheetz, \$25 Lowe's, \$10 Long John Silver's, \$25 PetSmart, \$25 Walmart; \$10 Pizza Hut, \$10 Taco Bell on hand. Contact the office, we'll get them to you.



❖ **Flowers:** Celebrating? For the main altar &/or tabernacle: \$75+, side altars: \$25+. Contact us via the parish office.



❖ **Orange Ribbons:** Wear one as a sign of support that we wear the "color" that the "people of the Cross" wear when they're martyred.

❖ **Interested in our Catholic faith?** Ask, encourage, invite! Share the gift of faith! ❖ See us: [stmarystjoseph.net](http://stmarystjoseph.net)

❖ **Collection: Local Poverty Relief: updated total:** Your help allows us to assist our local food pantry & St. Vincent de Paul Society. Updated deposit: **\$1055 @ J & \$1109 @ M.** You can continue to do so in the coming weeks. Mark it: **Poverty Relief.**

❖ **Ministry:** We need adults to step up for ministry, otherwise we'll end ministry service. Will you complain loudest when, after review, we are mandated to cut back for lack of participation? CH CH: what's missing?

❖ **St Mary's:** next \$1K Drawing: Valentine Day, 2016!

❖ **Oplatki:** are available at Church, they are \$3 per pack.

❖ [facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc](https://www.facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc)

❖ **Religious Ed:** Classes for grades 1-8 are held Sunday mornings at St Joseph's: 9:15-10:15. 2 yr prep for Confirmation: see schedule. **Weekly Mass attendance is a must!** Contact: Sue Crawford @ 570-384-5732.



donated by John/Dolly Zakavage (M) & Bob Bruno (J)

❖ **Yankee Candles, Christmas Cards, Crosses:** benefits St. Mary's, are available. Prices vary! Crosses are handmade &

donated by John/Dolly Zakavage (M) & Bob Bruno (J)

❖ **Integrity Restored.com** Children age 7 porn finds them! IR provides education, encouragement & resources to break free from porn, heal relationships, help parents prevent & respond to porn that devastates lives/families. To fight: **covenanteyes.com:** enter the code *Patrick* for a 30 day trial. Put this on our computers, laptops & mobile devices. The price? Saving our lives, family, marriages, faith: priceless!



**3:30pm @ St Joseph**  
**5:15pm @ St Mary**

❖ **Immaculate Waters: Hand/Body**

**Lotion:** Lavender, Rose & Unscented. Favors, graces continue to be reported. Have a favor granted? We've heard about many small & great favors received! ...Our Lady's intercession reveals Christ's healing. The offering is \$10@.

❖ **St. Nicholas Shoes:** are filled! You'll find them under the Advent Wreath, enjoy!



**Mercy** ❖ **Year of Mercy:** Proclaimed by Pope Francis, began this past week, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, as we marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniv. of the closing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council. In making this proclamation, the Pope wants us to fashion our year around living, receiving & extending mercy.

As a gift, the parish has made available the Magnificat Year of Mercy Companion Book. It will take us through the year. Giving us a weekly breakdown: Sunday: Poetry; Monday: Meditation; Tuesday: Saints; Wednesday: Catechesis; Thursday: Witness; Friday: Scripture; Saturday: Devotion. A great way to start your day!

We also have a prayer card, composed by Fr. Ezaki, a priest from our diocese to pray through this year of Mercy. Copies are at the entrance to Church. First come, first served.



❖ **Monday, Dec. 28, 6:30pm** a quiet Mass in the Christmas Season for any who experience the "blues" during these days. Join us if you are suffering while the world says: "be happy." If only....



❖ **Christmas Cards... for our parish elders:** Drop a card in stewardship or mail to them: **St Mary's:** Anna Kaczmarczyk, Bill/Florence Steele, Joan Opanel, Dorothy Yanuskiewicz, Jeff/Madelyn James, Jean Dolan; John Washko, John Zakavage

• **St Joseph's:** Catherine Lorenz, Catherine/Steve Hovanec, Irene Mehalick, Mary Yadinskie, John Biros, Josephine Devaney.

...for our priests: \***Fr. Potts:** St. Ursula Church, 1300 Broadway, Fountain Hill, Pa. 18015; \***Mmgr. O'Connor:** St. Patrick Church, 4<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa 17901; \***Mrs. Schware:** 1507 Sage St. Allentown, Pa 18103; \***Fr. Brensinger:** 15207 Kutztown Rd., Kutztown, Pa. 19530; \***Fr. Slezak:** 424 Sugarloaf Heights Rd., Drums, Pa 18222; \***Fr. Brennan:** 368 W. Main St., Girardville, Pa. 17935 \***Fr. Zelonis:** St. Clare of Assisi Rectory, 250 E. Hancock St., Saint Clair, Pa 17970 \***Mmgr. Handges:** 215 W. Arch St., Pottsville, Pa 17901 \***Fr. Winne:** Newman House, Lafayette College, 119 McCartney St., Easton, Pa 18042

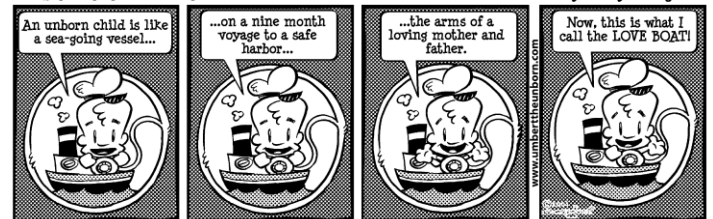


❖ **Giving Tree:** Take a tag (or two) from the "tree", purchase the item for pregnant/unwed parents, bring it unwrapped (gift 'bags' might work), leave it at the tree! They'll be left out throughout the season. You helps Birthright Frackville & the Catholic Social Agency, Hazleton.

❖ **Church Cleaning/Decorating:** We're cleaning and decorating NEXT Sun, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> after Mass. Join us to help! Bring a bucket/cleaner, work gloves & a willing spirit to help prepare the Church for our family of faith to welcome those who join us for the birth of the Savior.

**Umbert the Unborn**

by Gary Cangemi



NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Eve: 3:30pm @ J; 6pm @ M;  
1/1/16: Day: 10am @ J



**Masses:** with Holiday/Holyday Mass so close to the weekend, we're offering you a chance to attend Sun night Mass! Thus, our schedule for two weeks:

**Sat: Dec. 27 & Jan 2: 3:30pm @ J;**

**[No 5:15pm Mass]**

**Sun: Dec. 28 & Jan 3: 8:15am @ J; 10am @ M**

**5:15pm @ M**

❖ **Christmas Novena** is prayed Dec. 15-24<sup>th</sup>! Use yours from years past. Some extras at the entrance to Church.

❖ **Outside Events:** ☉ **2016 Calendar Sale:** \$10@, Benefits Trinity Academy; 570-462-3927 ☉ **Bach & Handel Chorale:** St. John's, 12/12 @ 3pm. ☉ **Christmas Caroling:** 12/21 @ 7pm, meet at St. Paul's, Ringtown. ☉ **Trinity Academy Christmas Program:** 12/21 @ 6:30pm, Marion HS. ☉ **Shepton Fire Co: Bingo:** 1/3/16 @ 1pm.