

Dec. 26/27, 2015

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



Dec 28 • 6pm • J Holy Innocents

[BLUE CHRISTMAS MASS]

† Jule Marie Mastandrea

Dec 29 • 9am • Rc † Helen Stoffa



Dec 31 • 3:30pm • J † Albert Gius

r/o Tom/Donna Sarnoski/Family

• 6pm • M † Nancy Blackwell

r/o Ney & Possessky Families

Jan. 1 • 10am • J † Nancy Robel r/o Jason & Tonya Martz

Jan. 2/3 • Epiphany • Year C

3:30pm • J † Belfiore Family

r/o Theresa Novak

NO SAT: 5:15pm Mass @ M

8:15am • J † Eugene & Helen Recla r/o Daughters/Families

10am • M † Violet Baranowsky r/o Pat Frye

N.B.: Sun Evening 5:15pm @ St Paul's UCC, Ringtown

† Anthony Piniuk r/o Mary Balkiewicz



♦ STEWARDSHIP: M: S: 1181; BF: 212; Campaign: 195;

• J: S: 1571; BF: 298; Campaign: 100

• myEoffering: M: \$149 • J: \$60

Stewardship of time, talent & treasure!

♦ Scripture: Holy Family: Sir 3:2-6; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52

• Mary, Mother of God: Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

• Epiphany: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

• Baptism of the Lord: Is 40:1-5,9-11; Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7;

Lk 3:15-16; 21-22

♦ Fill out the forms, even if you're healthy

& would like to be prayed for in times of need!.... • John & Ann Biros • Richard

Buczowski • John Washko • Dorothy

Yanusiewicz • Rose Ann Aponick • Jean Jarzinko • Joseph

Washko • Grace Snover • Vickie Hartz • Ann Lewis • Bob Fellin

• Gordy Weikel • Kathy Milefsky • Phil & Shirley Kennedy

• Bill/Flo Steele • Theresa Szott • Helen Mehalick • Margaret

Krupilis • Barbara Green • John Zakavage • Geri Sarno

♦ NEW MAILING ADDRESS:

84 N Center St., Ringtown, Pa. 17967

[No PO Box!]

NOTE the parish office will be open on an as-needed basis only through Jan. 4th!

Regular Parish Office Hours: Mon & Wed: 4-7pm;

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

♦ Birthday Blessings: Jacob Johnstone, Desiree Milosh,

Ruth Ann Brouse, Joe Tomtishen: 12/27; Patrick Loftus:

12/28; Jacque Ramos, Carol Stancik: 12/29; Dianne Fulton:

12/30; Roseann Evangelista, Ed Opanel: 12/31.

♦ Year of St. Luke's Gospel: Pray your Bible!

♦ St. Joe's 50/50: Dec. drawing next weekend!

♦ Stewardship: No one can do everything, everyone can do something!

Make an offering of a gift in gratitude for all God has done for us!

♦ Choir @ M: There are some great voices, we can hear you, why not join us in giving praise and thanks to God! Practice resumes after the holidays. We meet 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 Sat: 1/16 @ 3:30 Mass @ J.

♦ Adult Ed: resumes after the holidays!

Reflection: Holy Family/New Year 2016: Thank God for the gift of the family. Not the one that is described as the "new normal" but the true family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph!

Magnificat prayer guide provides a quote of Pope Benedict when he tells us the family is a necessary good, an indispensable foundation for society & a unique good for children, who are meant to be the fruit of the love of parents.

Where else can we get that than from a relationship between a man and a woman, created by God, made by nature to fit perfectly together and the fruit of that: a child.

No better time to turn to the Holy Family for our inspiration, strength & hope to remind the world that they don't make us: we add to it! It's something we've been doing since the birth, life, death & Resurrection of Jesus.

So what is there to do? Stand against the tide, speak to your children/grandchildren about moral "relativism", ask them questions to get them to think about that which will challenge them instead of them telling us the way it is! Truth, shared in love, can be freeing for all.

As always, our prayer: Jesus, Mary & Joseph, pray for us!

• Be a saint...what else is there? •

Fr. Jim 🐾 & Peaches

frjim.stmj@gmail.com

♦ SCRIP: We've \$25 Applebee's, \$25 Cabela's, \$25 & \$100 Weis, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$10 Denny's, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$10 Dunkin' Donuts, \$25 Home Depot, \$25 Sheetz, \$25 Lowe's, \$25 Giant, \$10 Long John Silver's, \$25 PetSmart, \$25 Walmart, \$25 Olive Garden, \$25 Dunham's Sports, \$25 Red Robin, \$10 & \$25 Regal/United Artists Theatres, \$50 Sunoco on hand. Contact the office, we'll get them to you.



♦ Flowers: at the altar at Christmas are offered in honor & in memory of those you've designated in our Christmas Flower Offering. Thank you!

♦ Interested in our Catholic faith? Ask, encourage, invite! Share the gift of faith!



♦ 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.

♦ Collection: Local Poverty Relief: Your generosity has brought in \$2,200 to assist our local food pantry & St. Vincent de Paul Society. You can contribute through the Christmas Season: mark your contribution: Poverty Relief.

♦ St Mary's: next \$1K Drawing: Valentine Day, 2016! Tickets available! See a seller after mass!

♦ Ministry: We're in need of disciples to step up for ministry, extra-ordinary minister of communion, lector, servers. If we don't, regretfully, we'll have to bring some ministry to an end.

♦ facebook.com/stmarystjosephrcc

♦ Visit us on the web: stmarystjoseph.net

❖ **Calendars:** for 2016...hoping to have them for Epiphany!

❖ **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 a must!** Contact: Sue Crawford @ 570-384-5732.



❖ **Yankee Candles, Crosses:** 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!

❖ **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@.

❖ **Grand Raffle @ J:** Parish Picnic Sponsors are sought so that we can get our ticket out early! See the board on the wall at Church, sign up to sponsor one or several gift cards. We'll order the cards, you'll get the credit, the parish gets the % of the purchase & the winner gets a great gift card!

Mercy

❖ **Year of Mercy:** Proclaimed by Pope Francis to fashion our year around living, receiving & extending mercy.

As our gift to you, the Magnificat Year of Mercy Companion Book is available. 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.



Blue Christmas Mass

... **THIS Mon, Dec. 28, 6pm** 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....

❖ **Epiphany Blessing Packets:** for your home blessing for 2016! We provide the outline, the chalk, the incense, the water: you mark the doorpost!



❖ **Giving Tree:** If you're one of those: after Christmas Sale Hunters, purchase items then! We accept them during the Christmas Season & beyond! No matter: bring gifts unwrapped, we'll make sure they get to Birthright Frackville & the Catholic Social Agency, Hazleton.

❖ **Post-Christmas Sales:** Why not look at one or more of those "deals" and pick one up for the parish block party! Bring them to us, we'll store 'em!



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

❖ **Christmas Gifts:** Books have been reserved for active & participating families in the parish. Written by **Matthew Kelly, Rediscover Jesus.** It is our prayer that the book inspire what it is meant to do: Rediscover the Lord Jesus! The books are a gift for you who make so many things possible in the journey of living and loving our Catholic faith!

❖ **Year-end giving:** As we come to the end of the year, consider an offering to your parish! If you pay taxes to the gov't, why not reduce them by a tax donation to your parish family.

Masses: with Holiday/Holyday Mass so close to the weekend, we're offering Sun night Mass! Thus, our schedule for next week:

Sat: Jan. 2: 3:30pm @ M

[No 5:15pm Mass]

Sun: Jan 3:

8:15am @ J; 10am @ M

Sunday Evening: 5:15pm @ Rintown: St. Paul's UCC Church, Ringtown

The following weekends: 5:15pm Sat. & 10:30am Sun. @ St. Paul's UCC, Ringtown

❖ **Socks/Gloves:** We've been made aware that a great need among the poor/homeless are socks & gloves. So the month of Dec/Jan for us is sock & glove month. New: all sizes, all ages are needed: even some colorful ones for the high school age children! Let's make it a sock/glove storm with more than they ever dreamed! Disciples to organize/deliver are needed.

❖ **Christmas Blessings:** on behalf of our secretary, **Mary**; our bookkeeper, **Susan**; our music minister, **Marie**; all involved in **Ministry and Service** & in my own name, know that our prayers are with you & all in our parish & community, this Christmas Season & into the New Year. Know that we are grateful for the blessings you bring into our lives.

Fr. Jim, 🐾 & Peaches

❖ **Removal of Pews/Closing of Church:** St Mary's Tile, Painting & renovation work is set to begin next week, Jan.3rd! St Mary's will be closed 3 weekends & 4 weeks. Funerals will be held at St. Joseph's. **Sat./Sun. Mass will be celebrated at St. Paul's UCC Church, 100 E Main St, Ringtown.** Join us!

Sunday morning Mass will be offered at **10:30am!** **Next week: 1/3: No Sat. Mass @ 5:15, Mass will be celebrated Sun! The 2 weeks afterward: Mass is Sat.!**

Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi



❖ **Outside Events:** ☉ **2016 Calendar Sale:** \$10@, Benefits Trinity Academy; 570-462-3927 ☉ **Shepton Fire Co: Bingo:** 1/3/16 @ 1pm. ☉ **Extraordinary Ministers needed for Schuylkill Medical Center:** Contact Fr. Zelonis @ 570-429-0701.