

Dec 31 – Jan 13, 2019

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph • Rc: rectory chapel  
Our bulletin covers several weeks!

Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - **Solemnity of Mary- Vigil Mass**

3:30pm @ SJ

5:15pm @ SM

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> - **Solemnity of Mary**

r/o People of  
the Parish

8:15am @ SJ

10:15am @ SM

Jan 2 - 9am • J Rc **NO MASS**

Jan 3 - 9am • J Rc † Ann Driscoll

Jan 4\* - 9am • J Rc † Memorial Fund

**\*First Friday • 8am Adoration - 8:25am Rosary 8:45am - Benediction**

January 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>

• The Epiphany of the Lord - C •

3:30pm • J † Belfiore Family r/o Theresa Novak

5:15pm • M † Joseph Hama r/o Loretta Zienkiewicz

8:15am • J † Irene Mehalick r/o Bill & Rosemarie Fellin

10:15am • M † Victor Cicioni r/o Family

Jan 8 - 6pm • M † Edward McNamee r/o Verna Parker

Jan 9 - 9am • J Rc People of the Parish

Jan 10 - 9am • J Rc † Betty Beiber

Jan 11 - 9am • J Rc † Myles Hansburg

January 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>

• The Baptism of the Lord - C •

3:30pm • J † Eleanor Morrissey

r/o Bill & Kathleen Lynch

5:15pm • M † Edward McNamee r/o Stan & Marie Paskowski

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

10:15am • M † Joseph Tomtishen r/o Gene & Sherry Rejent

*Happy New Year* ♪ *Happy New Year* ♪ *Happy New Year*

❖ **STEWARDSHIP: M:** 12/16:S: 984; 12/23:S: 1409; Dues: 225;

Bldg Fund: 364; Energy: 5; Christmas Flowers: 10; Retired

Religious: 50; Immac. Conc.: 13; Christmas: 2021; Redners: 98

•**J:**12/16:S: 1138; 12/23:S: 1124; Dues: 115; Bldg Fund: 351; All

Saint's: 5; Energy: 50; Christmas Flowers: 35; Retired Religious:

100; Immac. Conc.:219; Christmas: 2611

**Holiday Office Hours:**

Office will be **closed** Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> thru Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**\*If there is an emergency Jan 1<sup>st</sup>-Jan 9<sup>th</sup> contact Fr. Tolentino.**

❖ **SMSJ Calendars for 2019 are here!** Take one home.

Thanks to Oravitz Home for Funeral, Inc. for sponsoring our calendars!

❖ **2019 Mass Book is open!** There are forms in the back of the church to fill out or call the parish office - \$10.00

‡ **Spiritual Corner**

**APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION GAUDETE ET**

**EXSULTATE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS**

**ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD**

**ACTIVITY THAT SANCTIFIES**

25. Just as you cannot understand Christ apart from the kingdom he came to bring, so too your personal mission is inseparable from the building of that kingdom: "Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness" (Mt 6:33). Your identification with Christ and his will involves a commitment to build with him that kingdom of love, justice and universal peace. Christ himself wants to experience this with you, in all the efforts and sacrifices that it entails, but also in all the joy and enrichment it brings. You cannot grow in holiness without committing yourself, body and soul, to giving your best to this endeavor. 26. It is not healthy to love silence while fleeing interaction with others, to want peace and quiet while avoiding activity, to seek prayer while disdaining service. Everything can be accepted and integrated into our life in this world, and become a part of our path to holiness. We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action, and to grow in holiness by responsibly and generously carrying out our proper mission. 27. Could the Holy Spirit urge us to carry out a mission and then ask us to abandon it, or not fully engage in it, so as to preserve our inner peace? Yet there are times when we are tempted to relegate pastoral engagement or commitment in the world to second place, as if these were "distractions" along the path to growth in holiness and interior peace. We can forget that "life does not have a mission, but is a mission".<sup>[27]</sup> 28. Needless to say, anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness. We are challenged to show our commitment in such a way that everything we do has evangelical meaning and identifies us all the more with Jesus Christ. We often speak, for example, of the spirituality of the catechist, the spirituality of the diocesan priesthood, the spirituality of work. For the same reason, in *Evangelii Gaudium* I concluded by speaking of a spirituality of mission, in *Laudato Si'* of an ecological spirituality, and in *Amoris Laetitia* of a spirituality of family life. 29. This does not mean ignoring the need for moments of quiet, solitude and silence before God. Quite the contrary. The presence of constantly new gadgets, the excitement of travel and an endless array of consumer goods at times leave no room for God's voice to be heard. We are overwhelmed by words, by superficial pleasures and by an increasing din, filled not by joy but rather by the discontent of those whose lives have lost meaning. How can we fail to realize the need to stop this rat race and to recover the personal space needed to carry on a heartfelt dialogue with God? Finding that space may prove painful but it is always fruitful. Sooner or later, we have to face our true selves and let the Lord enter. This may not happen unless "we see ourselves staring into the abyss of a frightful temptation, or have the dizzying sensation of standing on the precipice of utter despair, or find ourselves completely alone and abandoned".<sup>[28]</sup> In such situations, we find the deepest motivation for living fully our commitment to our work. 30. The same distractions that are omnipresent in today's world also make us tend to absolutize our free time, so that we can give ourselves over completely to the devices that provide us with entertainment or ephemeral pleasures.<sup>[29]</sup> As a result, we come to resent our mission, our commitment grows slack, and our generous and ready spirit of service begins to flag. This denatures our spiritual experience. Can any spiritual fervor be sound when it dwells alongside sloth in evangelization or in service to others? 31. We need a spirit of holiness capable of filling both our solitude and our service, our personal life and our evangelizing efforts, so that every moment can be an expression of self-sacrificing love in the Lord's eyes. In this way, every minute of our lives can be a step along the path to growth in holiness.

❖ **Prayer List Permission Form:** Names are placed on the prayer list, unless otherwise notified, for 60 days. After that time, a permission form must be re-submitted.

❖ **Pray for:** Fill out the forms, even if you're healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of need! •Victor Yanuskiewicz •Frank & Dorothy Hovanec •Joanne & Rose Aponick •Joe Tomtishen Sr. •Phil & Shirley Kennedy •John & Angie Ounfuer •Fr. Jim Torpey

❖ **Memorials @ M: Edward McNamee:** William & Lorraine Szablewski: \$45



Hear Our Prayer

❖ **Birthdays Blessings:** Ron Kosar: 1/1; Alison Monaghan: 1/2; Henry Kiernan: 1/3; Allison Wargo: 1/4; Matt Jones: 1/5; Margaret Dixon, MaryBeth Kosar: 1/6; Ann Biros, Julia Grohol, Donna Gulash, Joseph Mellon, Madelyn Reese: 1/7; Matt McFarland, Ed Thomas: 1/8; Madison & Teaghen Biros, Brendan Christman: 1/9; William Lynch, Kathleen Lynch: 1/10; James Weikel: 1/11. [We noted a number of birthdays listed for 1/1: if yours was missed, let us know]

❖ **2019 Envelopes:** will be at the office for any parishioner who did not pick up their contributions envelopes or were missed. Please call the office.

❖ **2018 Contributions:** if for tax purposes, you are in need of a report, contact the parish office.



❖ **@ J:** after the Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> Mass. Help with the gift of time to put our decorations away!

**@ M & J:** Take a poinsettia home with you or give it to a family member or neighbor, someone in need of a bit of cheer, they are so beautiful!

❖ **New Parishioner: (M)** Jillian Datchko & son, Brady

❖ **K of C Happenings:** next meeting January 20<sup>th</sup>.

❖ **St. Joseph's 50/50:** will resume in January. Extra tickets are available.

❖ **Woman of Grace Happenings:**

▶ **HOPE Ministry:** If you or someone you know in our community could use some temporary help with meals, errands, rides to church or appointments HOPE Ministry can help. HOPE Ministry is also seeking volunteers to help serve those in need. Call Nancy 215-801-5797 or Arlene 570-590-5810

▶ **Thank you** to all who donated to Brandon's Forever Home and Birthright. Your generosity was heartfelt and greatly appreciated. ♥

❖ **St. Mary: Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> drawing:** Evening Pa. PICK4 #  
Please call the office if you are the lucky winner! 570-889-3850

❖ **Epiphany Blessing Packets for 2019:** Will be available starting Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>. We provide the outline, the chalk & the incense. Bring a jar for holy water for blessing your home! They will be on the table at the back of church.



➔ **Alpha for Teens: New Teen Ministry for Schuylkill County** Schuylkill Catholic Young Church is the new Schuylkill County regional youth ministry of the Diocese of Allentown. Teens are invited to participate in the upcoming "Alpha" series, which includes free dinner. Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and meaning. Know a teen with questions about life? Invite them to Alpha. Please RSVP:

[annie@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:annie@allentowndiocese.org). Alpha will be held on Sundays from 6-8pm at the Frackville Youth Center (7 S. Broad Mountain Ave, Frackville) from January 27 through March 24. The series is free of charge. Dinner is included. If you would like to attend a parent meeting to learn more about "Alpha," to offer input on the new youth ministry in the county and to learn about the plans for the coming year(s), please email Annie Sarlo, the Director of Youth Ministry for Schuylkill County: [annie@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:annie@allentowndiocese.org). She will then contact those interested to set up a meeting.

❖ **SCRIP:** We've: \$25 & \$100 Amazon, \$25 Applebee's, \$10 Bath & Body Works, \$25 Bed Bath & Beyond, \$25 Boscov's, \$25 Cabela's, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$25 Dunham's, \$25 & \$10 Dunkin' Donuts, \$25 Gap/Old Navy, \$25 & \$50 Giant Foods, \$25 Home Depot, \$10 Long John Silvers, \$25 & \$100 Lowes, \$25 Macy's, \$25 Olive Garden, \$10 & \$25 Panera Bread \$25 PetSmart, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$25 Regal Cinema, \$10 Regal Cinema (Admit one), \$25 Sheetz, \$50 Sunoco, \$25 TJ Maxx/Marshall's, \$25 Walmart/Sam's, \$100 Walmart/Sam's, \$25 Weis, \$100 Weis.  
**We're taking orders/sell @ St Joseph's after mass.**  
**Contact the parish office to place an order!**

❖ **Redner's Save-A-Tape:** Save your receipts, put them in Sunday Stewardship. (M) benefit 1%. **For your receipts to count toward the church you must sign up at Redners service desk!**

⇒ **Marian Catholic Polar Plunge:** The 6th Annual "Be Cool for Our School" Polar Plunge to benefit Marian Catholic High School takes place on Saturday, January 26 at Mauch Chunk Lake in Jim Thorpe. Registration is \$35 and is open from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The first plungers hit the water at 12 noon. Registration is not limited to Plungers. Participants may register as a Chicken to show their support but stay dry. A commemorative t-shirt is included with a Plunger or Chicken registration. With the exception of Marian students, all Plungers must be 18 or older. The event is family-friendly and will feature a DJ. Food and beverage will be available for purchase. There is no fee for spectators. To pre-register or obtain information, email [mchspolarplunge@gmail.com](mailto:mchspolarplunge@gmail.com) or call Kathy Goff, 610-704-8037. Find us on Facebook: "MCHS POLAR PLUNGE".

▶ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

Jan 7 – A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION! Make 2018 the year you resolve to improve your marriage! Attend a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend and learn how. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org).

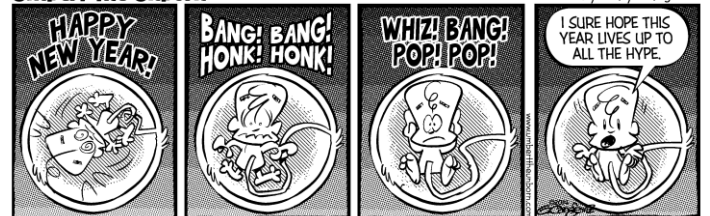
Jan 14 – ARE YOU WORN OUT FROM THE HOLIDAYS? WHY NOT GIVE YOURSELVES A GET-AWAY WEEKEND! Meals prepared! Time away from it all! A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend will offer you a chance to talk to and listen to that special someone who loves you. For information about call 1-732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org).

▶ **Master Craftsman**

You are invited to a special event "The Master Craftsman: God's Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)" co-sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church. Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God's guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope. The event will take place on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103). This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided. To register for this event, please visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman). For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at [Ffrias@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:Ffrias@allentowndiocese.org).

**Umbert the Unborn**

by Gary Cangemi



❖ **Outside Events:** • **St Paul UCC:** Service of Prayer for Christian Unity, Sun. Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm. Light Refreshments served from 11:45-12:45

Happy New Year