



# Community of Faith

Dec 16 – Jan 5

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph

## Tuesday, 12/17

Weekday

8:00am M Anna Milefsky r/o M/M Dan Milefsky Jr.

9:00am J Simon Rajkovac

## Wednesday, 12/18

Weekday

8:00am M Anna Milefsky r/o Donald Donchak

9:00am J Rita Molnar

## Thursday, 12/19

Weekday

8:00am M St. Mary & St. Joseph's Parishioners

9:00am J Roy Gius r/o Joe Schneider & Linda Kellock

## Friday, 12/20

Weekday

8:00am M Edward Sr., Sophie & Edward Jr. Kayes  
r/o daughter, Virginia (Christmas Blessing)

9:00am J Paul Marth

## Saturday, 12/21

St. Peter Canisius

8:00am M Theresa Kochenash

9:00am J Edward Schwartz

### 4<sup>th</sup> S of Advent • Year A

3:00pm J Carmen Fierro r/o Theresa Novak

4:30pm M Dec'd members of Balkiewicz

& Jarzinko Family r/o daughter, Mary

## Sunday, 12/22 4<sup>th</sup> S of Advent • Year A

9:00am J George Mehalick r/o Helen Mehalick

10:30am M ILM Kayes Family r/o daughter, Virginia



## Tuesday, 12/24 Christmas Eve

3:00pm & 7:00pm @ J

4:30pm & midnight @ M

## Wednesday, 12/25 Christmas Day:

9:00am @ J

10:30am @ M

## Thursday, 12/26 No Mass

## Friday, 12/27 No Mass

## Saturday, 12/28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00am M Louis Senensits

9:00am J Robert Schuster

### Holy Family • Year A

3:00pm J Vickie Hartz

4:30pm M Joseph Scodari

## Sunday, 12/29 Holy Family

9:00am J Rudolph Sentiwany r/o granddaughter, Carol

10:30am M IMO Joe & Rosie Aponick r/o Tracy & family



## Tuesday, 12/31 New Year's Eve

3:00pm @ J Audrey Sutton

4:30pm @ M William Lorah Jr. r/o wife, Marjorie

## Wednesday, 1/1 Solemnity of Mary

9:00am @ J Anna Ifkovits

10:30am @ M Jennifer Gilliam

## Thursday, 1/2 Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:00am M Carol Galgon

9:00am J Anthony Grabarits

## Friday, 1/3

Weekday

8:00am M Paul Marth

9:00am J William Lorah Jr. r/o Bettee Shamany

## Saturday, 1/4

St. Ambrose

8:00am M Herman Dreisbach

9:00am J John Sickonic

### Epiphany of the Lord • Year A

3:00pm J Mrs. Lorenz r/o Madeline Bradford

& Heather Conti

4:30pm M Rose Aponick r/o Tracy, Billy Jo & Joey

## Sunday, 1/5 Epiphany of the Lord • Year A

9:00am J Thomas Gulash r/o Donna Gulash

10:30am M Victor Cicioni r/o family



Parish office will be closed during the holidays. December 24<sup>th</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>.

If there is an emergency please see Fr. Dominic.

### Liturgy & Worship

The Son of God was conceived and made man on Annunciation Day, the day on which the angel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she was to be the Mother of God.

Having preordained from all eternity that the Word of the Father would be made man in order to redeem men, the Blessed Trinity chose a Mother for Him and endowed her with privileges and graces that she might be a worthy tabernacle for Son of God.

Mary is truly the Mother of God. She conceived Him in her womb, she gave Him birth, nourished Him, educated Him and gave Him all the care that the tenderest mother could give her child.

Her heart had to be His compensation for all the praises of the angels and her beauty had to surpass the marvels of heaven.

You are all beautiful and immaculate, O Virgin Mother, because on your face shines the splendor of your Divine Son.

“Mary, by the very fact that she brought forth the Redeemer of the human race, is also in a manner the most tender mother of us all, whom Christ our Lord designed to have as His brothers”!

Pope Pius XI

### ❖ LAST 2 SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:

M: \$1919 J: \$2538

Upcoming Collections: January: Solemnity of Mary, Dues, Weekly, Building Fund

❖ **Pray for:** Living: Victor Yanuskiewicz • Frank & Sylvia Hovanec • Dorothy Hovanec • James Barrett • Dolly Zakavage • Jaden Leiby



### ❖ K of C Happenings:

Rosary @ J: 1/5 prior to Mass

Rosary & Meeting @ M: 1/19

❖ **Flowers:** for the Christmas Season is given by all who donated through our Christmas Flower offering.



**A Christmas message from Fr. Dominic**

My dear brothers & sisters in Christ,  
In our Advent journey we have been accompanying the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph as they make their pilgrim way to Bethlehem, as Saint Paul says: "The grace of God has appeared, saving all".

Christ was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Christmas Day in Bethlehem, more than two thousand years ago. The manger scene is one of the most typical and moving expressions of Christian piety. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, of Palestine, in a poor stable and was placed by His holy Mother in a manger. The night was cold and dark, but a brilliant light shone in the darkness and angels appeared, sing: "Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace among men of good will". (Lk 2:14)

In the near fields, shepherds were watching their sheep when an angel invited them to go seek the infant. The shepherds hastened to the stable. Prostrating themselves before Jesus in adoration, they offered Him their gifts. A wondrous star also appeared in the heavens of the East. The Magi saw it and left their distant homes to follow it to Bethlehem. In Bethlehem the star stood over the place where the child was. Rejoicing, the Magi entered the house and worshiped the Holy infant. Then, opening their treasures they offered Him gold, frankincense and myrrh.

As Christ humbled Himself for us we are called in return to humble ourselves in His presence. In order for us to embrace and see the fullness of the Lord's glory we must embrace humility something which is often a challenge in many of today's families. Embracing humility ...letting go of our wants and desires is the only way we can experience true joy. May peace, joy and Happiness be yours during this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year!

*Father Dominic Pham*

*"One difference between Christ and other men is this: they do not choose when to be born, but He, the Lord and Maker of history, chose His time, His birthplace, and His Mother". Saint Thomas Aquinas*

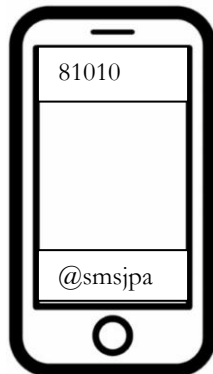
**❖ Important messages from the Parish:**

We have set up a text alert system to notify parishioners about anything important going on in the parish. Messages are from Fr. Dominic or messages from the parish office. To start receiving messages you will need to text a message to the number below followed by the message. **If you were already getting alerts in the past you do not need to sign up again. You have been added to the new group.**

See example

Enter number 81010

Text this message: @smsjpa



**❖ Christmas Table:** @ M: We have our Yankee Candles, and new this year is the Christmas puzzles. The Christmas table also features beautiful handmade rosaries benefiting The Sisters of the Poor.

**❖ Oplatki: \$3 per pack.** If you've haven't used this beautiful Eastern European Custom, guides are included.

**❖ 50/50 Winner for November:** Nancy Sokolofski \$71 Congrats!

**❖ Church Decorating @ J:** Mark the date: Sun, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> after the morning Mass. Take pride in your parish, help to bring out boxes, hand the greens, and get the church ready for friends/family.

**❖ St. Mary's: New Year's Day: \$1K Drawing:**

Buyers & Sellers needed: \$2 for 10 chances to win: PA 7pm #4 Good luck! Thanks for helping your parish out! Winning \$1k, what a nice way to start off the New Year!

*Lucky Winner call the parish office!*

**❖ Envelopes:** for St. Joseph's & St. Mary's Parishioners are at Church. Please, if you have a neighbor/relative that you can take the box for, drop it off. Those who support the parish by attendance & stewardship receive the full benefit of "active membership."



**@ M:** has been set up. If any parishioners have any suggestions for topics to be addressed by the council, they should be submitted via email/phone call to the office, or by placing your suggestion in the suggestion box located at the back of church.



to the family of **(M)** Jennifer Gilliam  
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord...

**❖ 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

**▶ Spaghetti Dinner:** 12/29, Help support Sara Osilka's charity efforts for Pencils of Promise. The Money raised will be used to build schools in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Ghana & Laos. It will be held in St. Mary's Hall, 11:30am-3:00 pm. Cost \$10 and includes dinner roll, a salad, refreshments, and a baked good. Eat in or take out available. There will be raffle items and music.

**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!

*Fr. Dominic & the parish staff would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas & Happy & Healthy New Year!*

