

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 20th
5:00 PM	Stephen Hoffman
Sunday	December 21st
8:30 AM	George VanNostrand
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Robert Almeida
6:00 PM	Karl & Louise Nee
Monday	December 22nd
7:00 AM	Louis & Pauline Pfohl
8:30 AM	Anne Daly
12:00 PM	Mary Jane Karras
Tuesday	December 23rd
7:00 AM	Karl Sippenauer (45th Anniversary)
8:30 AM	Micahel, Caroline, Michael Sassi, Jr. & Roland Pugliese
12:00 PM	Henry Jaggiello
Wednesday	December 24th
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Christmas Eve
12:00 PM	
Thursday	December 25th
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Christmas Day
12:00 PM	
Friday	December 26th
7:00 AM	Margarita Sandoval
8:30 AM	Thomas P. Sweeney (Birthday Remembrance)
12:00 PM	Lucille Coppola (Birthday Wishes-Living Intention)
Saturday	December 27th
8:30 AM	Philomina Karcher (9th Anniversary)
5:00 PM	John Daly
Sunday	December 28th
8:30 AM	Ethel Rohr
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Stephanie Nelson
6:00 PM	Lucinda Nee

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

James Schnepf, Paul Matthew Larsen, Rosemarie Regalario, DW, Sally Flaig, Joseph Radison, Julian Rys, Janis Wallenstein, Barbara (Brower) Essig, Larry Kelly, Marian Burgel, Madeline Guido, Jack & Madison Lewinger, Frankie Villani, Anna Roth, Josephine Kelly, John (Jack) Sullivan, David Glass, Maureen Crowley, Teodora Tamburelo, Bob Lancer, Amy Algieri, Mary Hanley, Rose Bruno

Please pray for those in our armed services, especially:

Edy Claudio & Robert Claudio
 Stephen Deere
 Captain Eileen Gillespie U.S. Army
 Sgt. Bryan Jiencke, USMC
 S/Sgt. Teague A. Liming, USAF
 Staff Sgt. James McKeon, US Army
 Pvt. Jonathan Mezzancello
 SPC Larry Saume

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Dennis Burke
 Luigi Berletti
 Juana Cordova
 Mrs. Clarice Cibbarelli
 Steve Vanek
 Kevin Acer
 Marie DiRisco

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

BANNS III—Marc Palumbo— OLM
 Julianne LoMacchio—St. Ephrem's, B'klyn

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**SUNDAY – DECEMBER 21st**

-Fourth Sunday of ADVENT.
 -Monthly Filipino Mass at 2:00 PM. All are welcome.
 -Monthly Teen Mass – 6:00 PM. Social in the Parish Hall following the Mass.

MONDAY – DECEMBER 22nd

-CCD Confirmation Class I – Convent at 6:45 PM.
 -Scripture study/prayer group – rectory meeting room at 7:30 PM.

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 23rd

-“Holy Spirit” prayer group – rectory at 9:00 AM.
 -Cub Scouts – Parish Hall at 7:15 PM.

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 24th

-Christmas Eve . Morning Advent Masses – 7:00 & 8:30 AM. No Mass at noon.

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Eve Masses at 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM and Midnight.

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 25th - CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Masses at 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

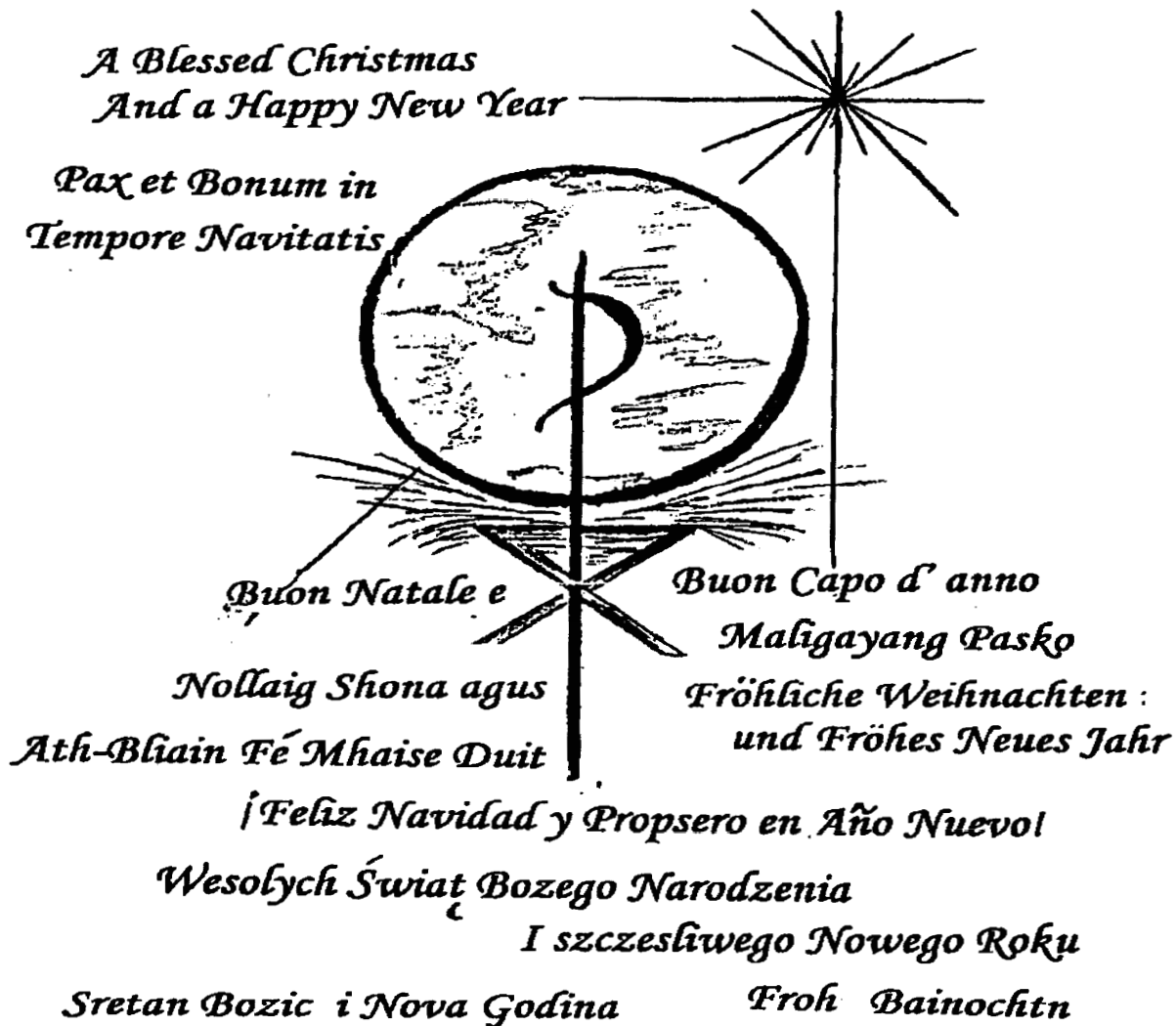
(There is NO EVENING MASS on Christmas Day.)

FRIDAY – DECEMBER 26th

-Feast of St. Stephen – First Christian Martyr
 -Usual weekday Masses at 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM - & 12:00 noon.

SATURDAY – DECEMBER 27th

-Feast of St. John – Apostle & Evangelist.
 -Confessions – 4:00 to 4:45 PM.



The greetings above come from the entire staff of Our Lady of Mercy Parish and School. The design was originally drawn in 1974 by Sister Mary Deborah McVeigh, G.N.S.H. at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Jackson Heights. I have used it many times in the last thirty-four years because it symbolizes the full message of Christmas.

Jesus was born in humble circumstances in a stable in Bethlehem, which is symbolized by the manger. Yet this Child born in poverty is the Light that shines forth in the darkness, symbolized by the star and its rays. To that Star flock people of every land and tongue, symbolized in the various greetings: English, Latin, Italian, Filipino, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Croatian and Gotcheer. Our Church is "Catholic" because all are welcome and find their unity around the Eucharist, which is Jesus' continuing Presence in the Church veiled under the appearances of bread and wine. This is symbolized by the large Host resting on the manger. The manger and the upright staff form the Chi-Ro, the two Greek letters that are abbreviations for the word Christ in Greek. This sign often appears on vestments and in Church décor as a short-cut for writing the word, Christ.

All of our priests, religious sisters, our deacon and our entire parish and school staffs wish all of our parishioners, their friends and visitors a Blessed and Joyful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Monsignor John A. McGuirl



THANK YOU

Thank you very much for your continued generosity to our Giving Tree project. Numerous gifts were donated to our special charities as well as to our local families that we help throughout the year. You have shown the great hospitality of our community and the love of Jesus through your donations. May God continue to bless all of us!

Wish List

Bridge to Life is in dire need of warm clothing for the upcoming winter months to include winter jackets & snowsuits ranging from six 6-9 months to 12 years. Also needed are layette items, namely infant gowns, stretchies, hooded towels, crib sheets, receiving blankets & diapers, (up to size 5). Cribs and car seats, (not older than 5 years), are desperately needed to avoid babies sleeping with their moms & allowing moms to take their new borns home from the hospital. Please help those less fortunate than we are with your donations and needed prayers. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a blessed & Healthy New Year. Please call Ginny/Irene at 718-463-1810.

The Teen Club Christmas Party will be on December 21st from 7 to 9 pm, following the 6:00 pm Teen Mass. Teens grades 8 and up are welcome. Join us for food and beverages, desert and hot chocolate, games, Christmas music, gift wrapping, an ipod play list contest and more fun! Bring your ipods and cookies for a cookie exchange! Merry Christmas to all of our Teens. **(See flyers in Church for more details.)**

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children’s Liturgy of the Word will not be held on December 28th or January 4th. Our program will resume on January 11,2009.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Our Wednesday classes will not be held on December 24th, December 31st or January 7th. We will resume classes on January 14th.

**THE MEMORIAL WORSHIP FUND OF
OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
Forest Hills, New York**

MANY THANKS for donations to the Parish Memorial Worship fund giving in loving of

George E. Spohr, Sr.
Merry Christmas
We miss you and love you
Ann and children

ANNOUNCING.....

PARISH MISSION 2009

**THE
DOMINICAN
PREACHERS
ARE COMING!**

FEBRUARY 7 - 12, 2009

Watch the Bulletin for further details!

MANY THANKS FOR THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF

Robert Malm

Philomina Karcher (9th Anniversary)

George Van Nostrand

Henry Jagiello

Andrew Cariello

Joseph J. Zambiasi

Deceased Members of the
Morison & Frank Families

Annie Vecchione & John Vecchione, Jr.

Deceased Members of the
Pawlak & Killian Families

Deceased Members of the
Freeley & Dubiel Families

John J. McGrath

Kay Butler

In Memory of My Father

The Gorman, Diskin &
Markey Families

Maria & John P. Calbo
Leo, Lillie & Renee Lobel

Sr. Teresa Clare McAuliffe

Eleanor Shavel &
George L. & Elizabeth Schaber

Carolyn Ryan

REQUESTED BY

The Malm Family

Harvey & Sue Karcher

Loving Wife Mary
Daughter Michele & Family
Son Glen & Family

July & Joseph Zalner

Love You, Carolyn

The Makin, Zambiasi &
Schuyler Families

Frank & Ann Morison

The Vecchione Family

Ilona Z. & John F. Killian

Mary Ellen & Jim Freeley
& Annette Dubiel

Katherine M. McGrath

Her Loving Daughter, Susan

Carol & Pat Gorman

Elizabeth & Arthur Lobel

Her Niece, Eileen Simko

Howard Shavel

Robert Ryan

LIVING INTENTION

50th Anniversary Remembrance
Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Facinelli

Mrs. Facinelli