

MASS INTENTIONS

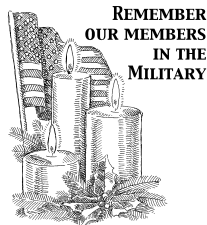
Saturday	December 27th
5:00 PM	John Daly
Sunday	December 28th
8:30 AM	Ethel Rohr
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Stephanie Nelson
6:00 PM	Lucinda Nee
Monday	December 29th
7:00 AM	Andrzej Witkowski
8:30 AM	Illuminada Acosta
12:00 PM	Goharik Grigorian
Tuesday	December 30th
7:00 AM	Solomon Ukazu
8:30 AM	Anna Sorrentino
12:00 PM	Luigi Facinelli
Wednesday	December 31st
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Stephen Greathead
5:00 PM	Solemnity Vigil Mass
8:00 PM	bi-lingual Latin-English Vigil Mass
Thursday	January 1st
10:00 AM	Solemnity Mass
12:00 PM	Solemnity Mass
Friday	January 2nd
7:00 AM	
8:30 AM	Sarah Davey
12:00 PM	Adnrew Kobel
Saturday	January 3rd
8:30 AM	Nellie Rooney
5:00 PM	John Daly
Sunday	January 4th
8:30 AM	Frank P. Haunss
10:00 AM	Parish Mass
12:00 PM	Maria Merone
6:00 PM	Estelita Campomanes

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

James Schnepf, Paul Matthew Larsen, Rosemarie Regalario, DW, Sally Flaig, Joseph Radison, Julian Rys, Janis Wallenstein, 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,

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,
 Lt. Brendan T. Cremins, US Navy

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH****SUNDAY – DECEMBER 28th**

-Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.

MONDAY – DECEMBER 29th

-Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas.

-Optional commemoration at the Masses of Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr.

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 30th

-Sixth Day within the octave of Christmas.

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 31st

-New Year's Eve.

-Morning Masses at 7:00 AM & 8:30 AM. There is no noon Mass today.

- Vigil Mass for the New Year's Holy Day – The Solemnity of Mary – 5:00 PM.

-Bi-lingual (English & Latin) Vigil Mass for the New Year's Holy Day – The Solemnity of Mary at 8:00 PM.

-New Year's Eve Party sponsored by the St. Lawrence Ruiz Society – Parish Hall – 9:00 PM.

THURSDAY – JANUARY 1st – 2009

-Feast of the Solemnity of Mary – a Holy Day of Obligation. In addition to yesterday's Holy Day Vigil Masses (5:00 PM & 8:00 PM) Holy Day Masses will be celebrated at 10:00 AM and 12:00 noon. There is no evening Mass on New Year's Day.

-Solemnity of Mary Holy Day collection envelope at the usual offertory time of Mass.

FRIDAY – JANUARY 2ND

-Commemoration at the Masses of Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nanzianzin, Bishops & Doctors of the Church.

SATURDAY – JANUARY 3rd

-Usual 8:30 AM Mass – Commemoration of the Holy Name of Jesus.

-Confessions – 4:00 to 4:45 PM.

-Vigil Mass of Epiphany – 5:00 PM.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Lou Meisner
 Sister Celine Marie Smith, IHM

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners;

Is it my imagination, or did the Christmas/ New Year season seem to rush upon us very quickly? But here it is again, a New Year, marked by the same frivolity and good cheer that has marked the last sixty three years (for me that is.)! Yet, down deep we know that 2009 will be much like the past year, with a full share of joys and sorrows.

Nonetheless, our Christmas celebration assures us that "there is something very new under the sun". Christmas is God's plunge into our history. In no other way has He identified Himself so fully with us than in the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus the Christ, whose birth we so recently celebrated. God plunged into our reality so that our destiny could be joined to His. What is important to God our Father is that we are created "in His image and likeness" and with us He is willing to share His eternal life.

Many of the things so important in this world have little or no importance in God's eyes. He made us as we are and our racial background, country of origin, language, skin tone, level of intelligence, economic achievement or type of employment mean little unless they can be used for the advancement of God's Kingdom. In fact, that variety only illustrates the almost unimaginable and glorious kaleidoscope of God's creation. All of us no matter how underestimated we might be in the eyes of the world are of infinite value to God. In Jesus, He invites and empowers us to break the cycle of sin and cast our lot with Him. That promise restores our hope at this time of the year.

Even those who do not know the message of the Gospel share something of that common human hopefulness, even in the face of tragedy and disaster. That hopefulness is an echo in our hearts of God's plan for us. It is in that context that all of our priests, our parish deacon, religious Sisters and our entire staff wish you and yours a blessed and peaceful New Year.

New Year's is also a time to give thanks for another successful parochial year. So many people work quietly and efficiently behind the scenes to help our parish thrive that if I were to attempt to name them here, I would run risk of missing someone. All of those men and women must be thanked because they are the backbone of our parish and school. A symbol of our thanks is the annual "Appreciation" Party for our parish volunteers. This year it will be on January 10th, beginning at 6:30 P.M. in the Church Hall. We try to contact everyone that has served during the year but there is always a chance that someone was missed. If you are an officer of a parish or parochial school society, or you served on any committees that organized parish events, or you were a volunteer at those events, or you serve in one of the liturgical ministries, please know that you are invited. So that we have sufficient refreshments for all, we simply ask that contact the rectory by December 31st or earlier and also indicate the group or ministry in which you are involved. Thank you

Monsignor McGuirl

School News

Classes resume Monday, 01/05/09.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

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

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.

BOOSTER CLUB WINNERS DECEMBER 2008

\$500 WINNER

H-14 Ken & Torie Woods

\$50 WINNERS

E-3 Pam Abikaram	I-3 Pullano & Lewandowski Families
D-28 Golden Family	A-9 Margaret Mary Byrnes
F-34 Dorothy V. Muller	H-10 Elizabeth McBride
H-13 Irma Dalton	A-16 Edward & Jane Gorski
J-2 Margot Pfohl	E-8 Joseph & Theresa Labay
D-40 Anthony Xuereb & Edna Velazquez	A-6 Pauline Magri
J-31 Jim & Mary Ellen Freeley	C-12 Graham & Diane McGinley
A-7 Sarah Jones	K-17 Bobbi Maline
G-23 Witold Sulewski	D-29 Patricia R. Bowe
D-38 Robert W. Meditz	I-35 Donald DiMarco

Many thanks to all for supporting the Booster Club this year and in the past. We are retiring the Booster Club and replacing it in 2009 with a 50-50 Raffle. Please consider supporting this new fund-raising effort. If you did not receive information about the new 50-50 Raffle in the mail, please pick up an information sheet/registration form, available at the doors of the Church, or call the rectory office for more information.

**Mark
Your
Calendar**

**Morning of Reflection
for
Liturgical Ministers
Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors & Ushers**

**Saturday, January 10, 2009
following the 8:30 AM Mass
School Basement**

**Presenter:
Father Frank Desiano**

Presenting.....

PARISH MISSION 2009

DOMINICAN PREACHERS:

Father Ron Henery, O.P.

Father Bob Vaughn, O.P.

FEBRUARY 7 - 12, 2009

Morning & Evening Presentations

Save these dates!

Watch the bulletin for further details!

