

J.M.J.

Dear Parishioners,

2016 will be bringing some changes to our parish. First, Richard Quick will be retiring from being the superintendent of our cemetery. Rich has done a tremendous job the last 23 years for Saint Mary's. When he took over the cemetery in the fall of 1992 it was not in the shape it is in today, to say the least. The cemetery has been his second home, which his family can attest to. When a flood hit about 10 years ago, Rich dutifully cleaned up all of the mess and put the cemetery back to the state it was before the storm. He has not just been there in times of trouble, but day in and day out. He has taken many phone calls and did his best to assist families in their time of need. I pray that he has many years of time with his family, and his great hobby of golf. Job well done my friend.

Please note that as of January 1st we will no longer have a superintendent for the cemetery. We have a contract with a grave digger and we are working on contracts for lawn maintenance. Please be considerate during this time as we adjust to the future without Rich in this role. I thank Gina for stepping up to assist in many of the day to day operations of the cemetery.

Rich is not the only one leaving us in the New Year. Dr. Mary Ellen Hubbard is becoming the director of music at Saint John's in Goshen. We congratulate her on this promotion and thank her for her many years of service to Saint Mary's. Music is an important part of worshiping God, and her shoes will not be easy to fill. Please pray as we start the interview process to find a new organist and music director.

We also have another part time job opening in the New Year. Our school building is in need of a cleaner Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings. If you or someone you know is interested please let us know.

May we rejoice always in the Lord this Gaudete Sunday, faithfully trusting in our Savior.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

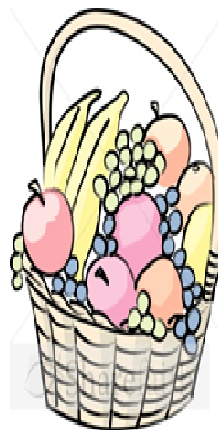
Reconciliation Monday is December 14th from 4pm until 8pm with a small break from 6:15pm until 6:45pm



The Knights of Columbus are hosting a pancake and sausage **Breakfast with Santa today, December 13th** from 8am until 12pm in the Church Hall.

Adults \$7 Children \$5. Children 3 and under

FREE! Bring your cameras to take pictures with Santa!



Christmas Food Baskets

With all your generous donations, we will be able to feed 80 families for Christmas this year!

We will be collecting turkeys and hams on **Thursday, December 17th** from 5:30pm until 7pm or during office hours in the parish office.

In the spirit of Christmas, we are continuing our tradition of a "GIVING TREE." We are supporting both the local Elks Lodge and the Port Jervis High School Rotary Interact Club in their efforts to provide winter outerwear items for children and teens in our community. A donation of \$10 or more would be greatly appreciated; every \$50 will sponsor one child. Please see the Christmas tree in the narthex. They may be returned in the attached envelope, in the collection basket or at the parish office, by Monday, Dec. 14th.

F.A.I.T.H. will have a planning meeting on *Wed., Dec. 16th* at 6pm.



Please join Little Lambs on **Tuesday, December 22nd** in the Church Hall for our Annual Silent Auction and Christmas Pageant. The Auction will open at 9:00am with winners called at 10:00 and the Pageant beginning at 10:30. A milk and cookie reception will follow the pageant.



Your baby is making progress developing all of his external features and internal organs. His brain is functioning at 40 days. His mother can hear his heartbeat now on an ultrasonic stethoscope. His milk-teeth buds are present at 6 1/2 weeks. It has been reported that a 2 month old baby can suck his thumb.

From this moment onward, your spiritually adopted baby grows and refines his body, but everything he needs to survive once he is born is already present by the end of the eighth week.

Our parish will once again have a bus to Washington, DC for the March for Life on January 22nd. We are offering seats for \$25. If you cannot make the trip, please consider sponsoring another person who may not be able to go due to financial reasons.

Essay Contest! All children in grades 7 through 12 are invited to enter. Theme is "Dignity of the Elderly". For guidelines and more information, call the parish office.

Empowering Port Jervis at 11 Fowler Street will once again provide a safe and warm place for the homeless to go and provide warm beverages and soup. They are in need of volunteers to continue to run the warming station this winter. If you would like to volunteer, please call Evan 718-576-0219 or 845-856-3991.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, December 14 (John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church)**
9:00am Frank A Scales, by wife and family
- Tuesday, December 15**
9:00am Anne Morey, by Dr. Jane Brooks
Thomas Maikowski, by Pauline and Rob Kreckel
- Wednesday, December 16**
9:00am Charles Kakritz, by wife Josephine
- Thursday, December 17**
9:00am Helen Costic and Frances Lovelace, by Cheryl Lovelace
- Saturday, December 19**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, December 20 (4th Sun. of Advent)**
8:30am Robert Beach, Sr., by the Adamcik family
11:30am Anthony and Antoinette Peloso, by Joseph and Angela Portella

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Marion Rohner, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Andrea Fedoruk, Sandy Osbourne, John McKean, Lisa Donahue, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Maureen Hildebrandt, William Quinn, Mary Ellen Piper, Jeannine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Tonya Addy, Gloria Hicks, Thomas Gumaer, Jr., Ashley Avella, Amelia Quinn, Leon Logan, Theresa Kavanagh, Angela Grillo, Grace Maillet, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Mary E Smith, Fontano family, Sally Hanstine, and Diana Kuhn.

The collection for December 5/6 was \$5,010.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for December 19/20

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	P. CAL	A. WITKOWSKI, L. AVELLA, H. ECKES	Q. KRENTZ, V. WITKOWSKI, E. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	T. WEBB	A. STASILLI, N. STASILLI, T. CALVARIO, V. LIVINGSTON	N. WEBB, A. WEBB, J. MALDONADO
11:30AM	D. COTUGNO	T. MARION, R. DENNINGTON	A. COLLADO, R. COLLADO, E. TRUJILLO