

*JMJ*

Dear Parishioners,

This week we will focus on the different levels of Church worship during the year. The highest being a solemnity which holds the highest rank among Church celebrations and there are 24 days so marked on the annual liturgical calendar. It is a day that recalls and glorifies an important event in the life of Jesus and the most significant mysteries of the Catholic Christian faith: Christmas, Epiphany, Easter (the Easter Octaves including Divine Mercy Sunday), Pentecost, Holy Trinity, Ascension, Corpus Christi, Sacred Heart, Christ the King. So, too, honored as a solemnity are the days associated with the Blessed Mother: the Immaculate Conception, the Assumption, the Annunciation and Mary, Mother of God. Some saints are acknowledged with a solemnity: Saint Joseph, the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Saints Peter and Paul and All Saints Day.

In addition to every Sunday, the Catholic Church prescribes holy days of obligation, which include certain solemnities. In the United States there are six holy days of obligation: Mary, Mother of God, the Ascension, the Assumption, All Saints, the Immaculate Conception and Christmas. While all holy days of obligation are solemnities, not all solemnities are holy days of obligation. For example, the celebration of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is a solemnity but not a holy day of obligation. The same is true of the solemnity of St. Joseph and the solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul.

So, just what distinguishes a solemnity? The celebration begins with evening prayers on the day before and some, if a holy day of obligation, have a vigil Mass. If the solemnity falls on a weekday, the daily Mass looks much like a Sunday liturgy, including three readings, the Gloria and the Creed. All the prayers of the Mass reflect on the event or person being celebrated. These added liturgical elements help to embellish the special attention given the event or person.

Celebrations identified on the Church calendar as a feast typically honor a special saint, such as one of the apostles. Other saints assigned a specific feast day include Saints Simon and Jude, Saint Stephen, the Holy Angels. Important events in Christian history are likewise identified as feasts: the Baptism of the Lord, the Conversion of St. Paul, the Transfiguration, the Visitation, the Presentation of the Lord, the Holy Family, the Birth of Mary, the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran in Rome, the Holy Innocents, the Triumph of the Holy Cross, and the Chair of Peter. A feast that falls on a weekday is not preceded with a vigil Mass, the Creed is not obligatory and most feasts are fixed dates on the calendar.

The third category of celebrations and those most representative of what we call “feast days” are properly known as memorials. Memorials are identified as either obligatory, those that must be celebrated universally on an assigned day, or optional, meaning it is up to the celebrant as to whether that particular saint is celebrated. All memorials are fixed on the annual calendar. Memorials most often honor and focus us on the pious life of a saint. If Scripture mentions the particular saint, then the Mass readings on that day are taken from the applicable Scripture, such as, on the obligatory memorial of Saint Martha the readings are from John (chapter 11) or Luke (chapter 10). If the saint is not mentioned in Scripture, then the readings are the ordinary, or normal, readings assigned for that day.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

**The 2nd collection this weekend is for the Catholic Charities Campaign for Charity and Justice.**

**The Thanksgiving morning Mass will be in the Church at 9am.**

**Holy Hour for vocations every Monday from 5:30-6:30pm. Confessions will be heard at this time as well.**

***Liturgical Ministers for November 25/26, 2017.***

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	L. AVELLA	N. SMITH, K. BOBISH, T. WEBB	N. WEBB, A. WEBB
8:30AM	M. LATINI	V. LIVINGSTON, T. CALVARIO	J. LEGATO, J. LEGATO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	M. ADAMCIK, D. LIVINGSTON, H. MARINARO, J. SNELLINGER	DJ PERRIN, S. CUELLO, A. ST. LOUIS

Pies that were ordered from **S.M.A.R.T.** are available in the Narthex.



**Christmas Food Baskets**– We are collecting non-perishable items for Christmas food baskets. Please place all items in the blue bins in the Narthex.

We are happy to announce that we have access to **Formed** for another year! You can create your own account **FREE** of charge at [Formed.org](http://Formed.org) and use our parish access code **WXXVJT** to gain access to multiple programs, movies, ebooks, and audios.

St. Mary's is pleased to introduce a confidential service available at a minimal fee to our parishioners. This program, the Parish Counseling Network (PCN), entitles parishioners to 6 sessions with a Professional Clinician who can help with a variety of individual and inter-personal issues. Please call the parish office for more information to access services.

**F.A.I.T.H. invites all parishioners to**  
**Sounds of the Season**  
**An evening of Christmas Caroling**  
**Monday, December 11th**  
**Join us for all or part**  
**of the night!**

**Meet at Bon Secours @ 4:15; St. Joseph's Place @ 4:30**  
**Water's Edge @ 5:30**

**Back to church for pizza then more caroling in town**  
**\*all times are approximate\***

**E-mail Danielle: [daninyg89@frontiernet.net](mailto:daninyg89@frontiernet.net)**

***Simplify your Christmas Shopping!*** St. Mary's Little Lambs is holding its 5th annual St. Nicholas Faire on Sun., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The faire will be held from 9:30-2:00 in Sacred Heart Hall at St. Mary's Church, 48 Ball Street in Port Jervis. Don't worry about waiting in line at the Mall as you visit the faire filled with unusual hand crafted items lovingly created by Mouse Works, Solaria Farms, Tonio and Tinos Bow Ties, and others. You'll be shopping close to home as you have the opportunity to purchase items from vendors representing Young Living Essential Oil, Holy Bears, 31 Gifts, Lula Roe, Pampered Chef, Stella and Dot, and more. There will be a free children's craft table, free raffles throughout the fair, a special performance by St. Mary's Children's Choir at approximately 12:45 p.m., and a visit from St. Nicholas, himself!. Hungry? No problem! The staff and parents of St. Mary's Little Lambs will be cooking up and selling breakfast and lunch. And don't forget to stop by the Santa Lucia Bake Sale. For more information call Eileen at 845 858-4208.

Have you considered a Catholic Elementary School for your child? Are you interested in learning more about Catholic schools serving children in grades Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 in Rockland County? **TOURING TUESDAYS** are universal open houses held at all regional and participating parish-based Catholic elementary schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York. Financial aid and scholarships are available. **TOURING TUESDAY** dates for the 2017/2018 school year are as follows: November 15, December 5, January 9 & 30, February 13, March 13, and April 24. Please call (646) 794-2885 to RSVP or visit [www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org)

## ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, November 20**  
9:00am Olga and Harry Agnes, by Joseph and Angela Portella
- Tuesday, November 21 (Presentation of the B.V.M.)**  
9:00am Sean Riordan, by Betty Hartmann
- Wednesday, November 22 (Cecilia, virgin and martyr)**  
9:00am Michael Canfield, by Staff of St. Mary's Little Lambs
- Thursday, November 23 (Thanksgiving)**  
9:00am Mary McLaughlin, by Rayola McLaughlin  
John Ritzel, by the Webb family
- Saturday, November 25**  
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's Christopher Retallic, by mom and dad
- Sunday, November 26 (Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe)**  
8:30am Stephanie and Allan Tooley, by sisters  
11:30am Nick Marinaro, by Patti Ibrami



*The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, in memory of Thomas Chuckran by the Quick family.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Sue Fitzsimmons, Barbara Straub, Robert Cinerar, Sandy Osbourne, Theresa Kavanagh, John McKean, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Thomas Davies, Pat Arnold, William Gaide, Sue Arnold, Steve Wilkinson, William Thomas, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Dotty Lynch, Jesse G Smith, Charlie Gard, Marge Evans, Kaitlyn Smith, Jerome Smith, Joseph Fritts, Patricia Meinhold, Susan Upton, Devin Upton, Kathy Drane, Jenna Smith, Danielle Devore, Jennifer Utz, Jacqueline Hamilton, Tonya Cannon, Jack Shannon, Ryan O'Connor, and Peter Billman.

***Career Opportunity***– The Knights of Columbus is seeking a candidate for a career opportunity representing their insurance program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, please contact Bill Schneider, General Agent at 914-420-6836 or [wiliam.schneider@kofc.org](mailto:wiliam.schneider@kofc.org).

The collection for November 11/12th was \$5,291.50.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.