



MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8:00AM -BIAGIO, TERESA, SAL & FRANKLIN PELLIGRA AND STELLA & TONY CARAFOLA
-r/o Roseann Chrzanowski
- 10:00AM -FRANK MOSCARELLO
-r/o Rosalie & Sam Mantle
- 11:30AM -KEAVENEY & LEAHY FAMILIES
-r/o Pat Keaveney

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 8:00AM -SUSANNE D'AUGUSTE
-r/o Janet Snyder

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

- 8:00AM -DORIS DYSON
-r/o Scott & Debbie Dyson

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 8:00AM -DOMINICK DE NARDO
-r/o Phyllis & Chuck Cirbus

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 9:00AM -SUSANNE D'AUGUSTE
-r/o Laura Jean Palma
- 5:00PM -ANTHONY & ANTOINETTE DE BENEDICTUS
-r/o The DeBenedictus Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

- 8:00AM -ABERLARDO GARRIDO
-r/o The Gonzalez Family
- 10:00AM -CARMELA SOUZA
-r/o De & Joe Passaretti
- 11:30AM -ROSALIE MOSCARELLO
-r/o Roseann Chrzanowski

VOTIVE LIGHTS - IN MEMORY OF

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Muriel, Leslie & Anna Roberts | Michael Kelsall |
| Juan Antonio "Tony" Medina | Charles Mitchell |
| Rosalie & Frank Moscarello | Howard Whitford |
| Peter & Susan Colombo | Joseph L. Esposito |

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Mark & Kelly Chrzanowski | Teresa & Michael DeLuca |
| Ryan, Julia & Lydia | Jennie Cona |
| Ed & Mary Black | Judy Sacco |
| Janet, Kristen, Ariana Kelsall | Karen Jackson-Ally |
| Help & guidance for Michael & Jonathan | |
| Help & guidance for Carolyn | |
| For successful open heart surgery for Joe x2 | |
| Health for my husband, me & our family | |
| Spiritual help & forgiveness | |
| Thank you for all our blessings | |
| Health & help for all dear friends | |
| Please cure & keep me free from fear, anxiety, panic & anxiety | |



HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Mass - 3rd Sunday of every month
Next Mass - January 21st at 8:00 a.m.
Meeting - following the Mass.

WEB PAGE

For updated bulletin information, please go to www.mhr-parish.org.

TABERNACLE LIGHT



Tabernacle candle in the Church burns this week in loving memory of Robert LeMaire & Leo LeMaire
r/o Mother and Wife

PARISH SICK LIST



Rev. Edward J. Struzik, Shannon, Hayley & Brett Lawrence, Jacqueline Braniff, Christina Pulido, Sophie Wojtaszek, Janice Sanborn, Marie Velleneuve, Beth Morris, Renee Burke, Joseph Peabody, Veronica Balmore, Billy Sherwood, Jr., Peter Skujins, Cindy Junquet, Kenneth Kramer, Timothy McGravey, Beatriz Castillo, Dolores Nee, Michael Guariglia, Marieann Poplaski, Lucy Littlefield, Jean Marie Brigandi, Elena Coumo, Gabino & Maria Rodriguez, Alice Gorres, Johnny Gibbs, Barbara Celia, Ida Morales, Maryann Hughes, Emilie Matlosz, Germaine Raimo, Luddy Demsia, William Armstrong, Fr. Gregory Moore, Sandra Steinberger, Frank Roberts, Barbara Bradshaw, Fred Morrone, Larry & Marie Fama, Lenny Gatti, Sumanta Chowdhuri, Nicole E. Montagna, Nico Oneto, Kathleen O'Brien, Debbie Archibold, Alex Berg, Wendy Oates, Robert C. Pederson, Marie Scifo, Patrick Barry, Toni O'Rourke, William Sohor, Robert Pedersen, Robert Conte, Jose Pacheo, Margaret Malloy, Rose LaFergola, Kathleen Lau, Anne Slate, Kimberly Perry, Jackson Christian Thomas, Miguel Ley, Marie Ciezbka, Betty Pulido, Charley Goldsmith and Louis Martinez.

We ask Almighty God and our Blessed Mother, Mary to comfort and heal the sick. If your loved one recovers and our prayers for them are no longer required, please call the parish office to have their name removed. Thank you.

PRE-BAPTISM CLASS



Please call the Parish Office to register.
The next Pre-Baptism class will be held Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING OVERSEAS

- Jason Del Duca, U.S. Air Force
- Krystal L. Godowski, U.S. Army
- Matthew B. Kaplan, U.S. Army
- Michael Lanzafama, U.S. Army
- Richard A. Lapp, U.S. Navy
- Douglas Leo, U.S. Army
- Michael J. Sanzone, U. S. Army
- Mark G. Sieczkowski, U. S. Navy
- Thomas Welch, U.S. Army

COUNTERS NEEDED



Are you available Monday mornings? If so, please consider helping to count the weekly collection. It will take about two hours of your time once a month. We are in need of two more counters. Call the parish office ASAP if you could help.

PRAYER GARDEN PAVERS



Leave a lasting legacy this Christmas Season with your name or custom inscription on a personalized brick or recognize family or friends with a lasting message that will be seen for generations to come.

Commemorative paving stones will be installed in the renovated Crucifix Prayer Garden opposite the entrance to the Church. You can review the plan on the poster boards in the vestibules of the Church as well as pick up an order form.

- 4 x 8 paver is \$125.00
- 8 x 8 paver is \$200.00

There is an additional cost of \$25 if clip art is added.

Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information, please call Tom Caporaso at 908-461-2247.

2018 BOX ENVELOPES



Please take a moment after Mass today to pick up your new set of boxed envelopes for 2018. They are located in the Parish Hall. If you can't find your envelopes, please call the parish office.



STEWARDS OF OUR TREASURE

Weekend of December 16/17, 2017: \$6945
Weekend of December 17/18, 2016: \$7511
Additional Immaculate Conception Collection: \$113
Additional Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious: \$35
Additional Christmas Flowers Collection: \$105

OFFICE STAFF EMAILS



Irma Knox - Parish Secretary
 MHR1987@aol.com

Janet Snyder - Finance Manager
 mhr2012bkr@aol.com

Debbie Dyson - Parish Catechetical Leader
 mhrccd@yahoo.com

Barbara Orsucci - Assistant Religious Education Office
 mhrccd1993@aol.com

Adult Faith (LIFT) - Patrick Corbitt
 mhradultfaith@gmail.com



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Our Most Holy Redeemer Conference exists primarily to help those in financial need. This is made possible by the generosity of our Parishioners each month; **thank you.**

If you or someone you know needs help, please call 732-566-9334. *Everything is completely confidential.*

Food Pantry

Groceries collected every weekend at Mass.

During the month of November the St. Lawrence Food Pantry helped 236 adults and 132 children. This includes Thanksgiving Baskets. Thank you for your generosity.

The St. Lawrence Food Pantry would like to give a special thank you to Most Holy Redeemer Church for all of you who donated food for the baskets. We appreciate your generosity, and so do our clients.

PASTORAL COUNCIL



The next Pastoral Council meeting is scheduled for, Monday, January 29, 2018, 7:15 - 9:00 p.m. in Desmond Hall.

Advent

Fourth Week in Advent



Christ, may come. **Amen.**

Blessed God, we await the coming of your Son our Savior. In this last week of our waiting, bring us to greater love of our family by learning to give to one another greater respect and honor, that our homes may be happy, joyful places into which your Son, Jesus



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve
5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25th – Christmas Day
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1, 2018 – New Year's Day
8:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m.
(January 1, 2018 is not a holyday of obligation this year)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Special thanks to Emily Hayes and her assistants for organizing once again our Parish Giving Tree. This is a wonderful charitable effort and I ask God's blessing on, not only our organizers, but also on all our Parishioners for making the effort to contribute gifts which will help make someone's Christmas a little brighter.

Secondly, my thanks to our Holy Name Society, especially our President, John Kibbler and Bill "Santa Claus" Keller, for hosting the annual "Cookies with Santa". The kids really get excited and I'm grateful to our Society for organizing this heartwarming event.

God Bless Us All!
Fr. Carina

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25th and will reopen on Tuesday, December 26th at 8:30 a.m.



New Brunswick, NJ

We are very pleased to introduce you to the Saint Peter's Gianna Center located in New Brunswick, NJ. The Center is dedicated to offering truly prolife women's health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. For more information, please visit <http://www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter> or contact us at 732-565-5490.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Christmas Gift



Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for our spouse? Why not give yourselves a Marriage Encounter Weekend.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage.

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held January 26-28, 2018.

Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Please call 732-904-9636 for registration and information or visit us at: www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org for more information.

YOU CAN SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE!

Retrouvaille – A lifeline for troubled marriages



Has your marriage become unloving or uncaring – your relationship grown cold, distant – thinking about a separation or divorce? Are you already separated/divorced but (both of you) wish to try again – then the Retrouvaille program may help you.

RETROUVAILLE (Rediscovery) sponsored by the Family Life Office/Diocese of Metuchen consists of a weekend experience for couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions.

The next program begins the weekend of **February 9-11, 2018**. All inquiries are confidential. For more details, please call the Family Life Office 732-243-4573, Rich & Annette Colasuonno at 732-236-0671 or Tom & Pat McTague at 732-583-4468 (evenings).

**JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF**

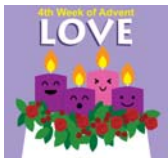
*"Blessed are those who mourn for
they shall be comforted"*

Grief is a long process of untangling ourselves after the loss of a cherished loved one. WHO AM I NOW? HOW DO I FIND THE STRENGTH TO GO ON? The program is offered as a support for all persons who have recently lost a loved one and are struggling with the mourning process. Let us help you as you help yourself.

**The Group will be meeting MONDAY EVENINGS
for seven (7) weeks.**

PLACE: St. Thomas Parish Hall
One St. Thomas Plaza
Old Bridge, NJ 08857
BEGINS: January 18, 2018
ENDS: February 26, 2018
TIME: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
CONTACT: Deacon Patrick
732-251-4000, ext. 8218

No fee. Pre-registration required.



HIS WORD TODAY
by Rev. William J. Reilly
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017

"Do not fear, Mary. You have found favor with God. You shall conceive and bear a son, and give Him the name Jesus. Great will be His dignity and He will be called Son of the Most High."

The great moment in the history of salvation, began with the visit of the angel Gabriel and the invitation to be the mother of Jesus. It is not surprising that Mary hesitated, questioned and then consented. Wouldn't you? Her response 'I am the maidservant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you say' redirected the course of human history.

The celebration of the Bethlehem event tonight, allows us not just to recall what happened, but to imitate Mary and permit the Lord to touch our lives in a truly special way. Our traditions and customs are rich as we relive Jesus' entering our lives again. The Simbang Gabi celebration of Filipino Catholics or Las Posadas of Latin Catholics lead us to the stable cave to meet and adore the Lord of history, the Lord of today. We have been praying 'Come Lord Jesus' for the four weeks of advent. Today, we welcome Him with joy.

As we celebrate this special night, may we be ready to open our door not just to Joseph and Mary, but Christ who comes to us.

REFLECTING ON THE WORD

Promises made are empty words unless there is evidence that they are kept. When we say: "I'll call you," do we? When we say, "I'll visit you," do we? It's only after the call is made or the visit takes place that it is clear our words had meaning. The same is true for marriage or religious vows, priestly promises, and the other commitment we make. When we see that vows and promises are kept and commitments are lived, we know that the words were true and not empty.

David wants to build a house for the Lord, but God has other plans. God will establish a house, a lineage that will last longer than any house David could build. God will be a father to David. David will be a son to God. When Gabriel visits Mary, the angel announces the fulfillment of that promise: "You will conceive in your womb and bear a son . . . the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father . . . and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:31a, 32b, 33b). The letter to the Romans affirms this: The mystery that was kept secret, God's promise to David, is made manifest through Jesus Christ.

Advent reminds us of God's promise to share this everlasting reign with us. All we need to do is reflect on Mary's "yes" and say with her, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38)—then fulfill those words by how we give birth to Jesus each and every day. Our tongues are powerful. They can speak truth or empty promises. Will our actions make clear that we are servants of the Lord, who live in ways that continue to fulfill God's promises by how we live our faith in Jesus every day?

Consider /Discuss:

- How do your preparations for Christmas put Christ in Christmas by the way you live your faith each day?
- What promises have we made and kept? What empowers us to keep those promises?

LIVING AND PRAYING WITH THE WORD

Faithful God, may our lives make true the words of our psalm today: "The promises of the Lord I will sing forever." May the light of your Son, whose coming is nearer than when we first began to believe, shine ever more strongly in us each today, on Christmas and beyond.