

From the Pastor's Desk

Today we celebrate the **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**. Our gospel reminds of the important "seeking in order to find Christ". May you long for His presence within your own family, and find Him dwelling among you in Love.

Welcome to so many who are still visiting family & friends in our parish for these holy days of the Christmas Season! We're glad you have come to pray with us: may the blessings brought by the Christ-child be shared with you and those you love throughout this New Year.

Thank you to **Candy & John Muraski, Joanne Cimma, Mary Memole, Carol & Jack Spath** and all of the wonderful helpers who decorated our church during the Advent & Christmas seasons...well done indeed! **Our choir, musicians, Mike and children led us in glorious songs of praise last week—thank you too!** Finally, **thank you** to all the many folks who sent or dropped off gifts & goodies to the Rectory and Parish Center in these last few weeks...I'm truly blessed to be among you as your parish priest.

Next weekend we celebrate the **Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**. If you wish to bless your household using the traditional blessing of Epiphany, please visit the **Prayer** tab of our website and select "Other Rites & Ritual Prayers"...you'll find a lovely ritual blessing of household and doorways. Also, children in our faith formation program will each receive an epiphany card for your main doorway and a piece of chalk for the signing.

Finally, the parish offices are closed this Monday and Tuesday in order to give our hard-working staff a well-deserved rest.

Blessings to all...Fr. David

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Mon	12/31	4:30p	Vigil of Mary, Mother of God
Tue	1/1	10:00a	Mass of Mary, Mother of God
Thu	1/3	7:00p	Catholicism, episode 5
Tue	1/8	6:30p	Scripture Study
Wed	1/9	10:00a	OLM Prayer Group
Tue	1/15	6:30p	Pastoral Council
Wed	1/16	6:30p	Eucharistic Adoration
Wed	1/23	6:30p	Scripture Study
Thu	2/7	7:00p	Catholicism, episode 6
Sun	2/10	12:30p	Anointing of the Sick



Liturgical Celebrations

For the week of **DECEMBER 31, 2012**



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mon.	12/31	4:30 ^{PM}	+RICHARD CIMMA By Carol & Joe Tenzyk
Tues.	1/1	10 ^{AM}	
Thurs.	1/3	7 ^{AM}	REV. DAVID BERBERIAN
Fri.	1/4	7 ^{AM} 7:30-10 ^{AM}	WORLD PEACE By OLM Prayer Group EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Sun.	1/6	8:30 ^{AM} 11 ^{AM} 7 ^{PM}	+RICHARD CIMMA By Mary Martinez FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR AREA PARISHES

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Report for: **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Offertory received from Envelopes & Loose Offerings	\$ 5,165.25
Offertory received from E-Giving	\$ 2,297.00
Total Offertory received for last week	\$ 7,462.25
Budgeted need for last week	\$ 7,741.00
Percentage of budgeted need received in offertory	96.4%
Last Week's Difference ("+" means surplus, "-" means deficit)	- \$ 278.75
Also, last week, we celebrated the Solemnity of Christmas. Offertory for that Holy Day was:	\$ 13,614.75

Thanks to all of you who show such generous care!

Please remember our parish in your will...we are:

"St. Mary's Church, Clinton Heights, NY"

EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

K -5th GRADE (elementary)

No Session: Sunday, 12/30/2012

12th Session: Sunday, 01/06/2013; 9:45AM -10:45AM

6th-8th GRADE (Middle School)

5th Session: Monday, 01/07/2013; 7:00PM - 8:30PM

9th-10th GRADE (High School)

6th Session: Monday, 01/14/2013; 7:00PM - 8:30PM

FAMILY FORMATION

1st Session: Sunday, 01/06/2013; Noon - 1:00PM

ADULTS & YOUNG ADULTS OFFERINGS

- **Scripture Study—Tuesday, January 8th from 6:30-8:00pm**
Fr. David will be our guide as we explore The World of the New Testament and the Incarnation.

- **"Catholicism" Series - Thursday, January 3rd from 7:00-8:30pm**
THE INDISPENSABLE MEN: Peter, Paul and the Missionary Adventure.

To register for any or all of the above offerings, please contact Maureen Billa at 449-2232 x12 or maureen@stmaryny.org.



*May All Continue to Enjoy a
Blessed & Holy Christmas Season
with love, Fr. David & our parish staff*



WE PRAY TO THE LORD

For Our Sick:

Jaime Adams	Joan Filkins	Madison Chester Mann
Withani Anvwater	Michael Gabriel	Mary Murtha
Rose Bix	Tiffany Gamache	Lorenzo Carling Russo
Nancy Burns	Robert Guynup	David Salzer
Marilyn Burt	Toni Jones	Floyd Smith
Christine Byrum	Louise Kolakoski	Helen Tencza
Hudson Cushman	Kassidy Krenzer	Ruth Van Dyk
Bill Dawson	Theresa Orciuoli Lacy	Mabel Whitcomb
Carole Farrell	Frank Lochner	

Names will be on our list for 3 months. To request continued prayer, please contact the parish office.



For Our Parish Soldiers and Friends:

Aaron Bentley Vincent Catalfamo Caroline Cleveland Mark Mann
Sean Markham Tera & Tyson Quink Josh Spath Arthur Thornton

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

When I was in junior high, my mother was mugged as we left our local library. A man came out of nowhere, grabbed her purse, knocked her down, and ran. I was paralyzed with fear until I heard my mother yell, "Janel, get him!" With no hesitation or realization that this man might have a weapon, I took off after him. I got fairly close before I heard my mom screaming for me. When I got back, she was terrified. She had actually screamed "Someone get him!" but that's not what I'd heard. My instinct was to heed my mother's words even if doing so made no sense.

We see Jesus in the Gospel doing something that makes no sense to his parents—something that wouldn't make sense to most parents. "Losing" your child is every parent's nightmare, and I can't imagine the worry Mary and Joseph felt when they realized Jesus had stayed behind in the temple.



However, Jesus was responding to his Father's voice—he had an instinctual connection to his Father's will, and he followed without question. But realizing the anxiety his actions had inadvertently caused his parents, he went home and lived obediently with them until he was grown.

We may not have been conceived without sin, but that doesn't keep us from nurturing holiness in our families. We belong first to God, so we need to deepen our instinctual response to God's call just as Jesus did. When we're first rooted in right relationship with God, we're able to more clearly see our family members' needs and how we can respond to those needs in love.

That's what a "holy family" looks like.

Janel Esker (sundaybulletins@liquori.org)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



On Sunday, December 30th at the 8:30am liturgy, we welcome **Andrew Leonard Muhs**.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

On January 1st, the church will celebrate the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated this **Monday, Dec. 31st at 4:30pm**, and again on **Tuesday, Jan 1st at 10:00am**.



MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

ST. MARY'S SUPPORT-TO CONSERNS-U

This week our pantry is in need of: **toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap and toilet tissue**. God bless you for your continuing support!



FAMILY LIFE

A Family Perspective: Today's gospel contains this truth about parenting: "but his parents did not know." One of the reasons parenting is so difficult is because our children don't tell us everything. If the Holy Family had trouble with their teenager, why do we think it will be easier for us?



Marriage Moments: As the close of the year draws nigh, is there anything you need to ask your family (especially your spouse) to forgive you for? Are there any relatives you need to forgive? It doesn't matter if you were right. Forgive anyway.

Parenting Pointers: This is my 500th *Parenting Pointer* and it seems like a fitting way to close out this year. What has your family done 500 times? (dinners together, loads of wash, bedtime prayers...) Have fun figuring out some more with your children.

ANNUAL PARISH CALENDARS



Again this year, the **Wm. J. Rockefeller Funeral Home** has graciously sponsored our annual parish calendars. Please be sure to pick yours up (and maybe one for a friend or neighbor who may not know about our parish). They are available in the vestibule of the church this weekend and for the next several weeks. *Be sure to thank the Wagner family for their very generous and consistent support!*

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: RUNNING RESULTS

Here are the running results of our capital campaign for air conditioning our church and installing a new organ:



Goal:	\$100,000.00
Pledges Received:	\$75,950.00
Still Needed:	\$24,050.00
Number of Pledges:	100
Average Pledge:	\$759.50

2012 contributions for tax purposes should be made before the end of the year.

We'll be remembering your loved ones with our Memorial Tree, which will be installed in the parish center next year!