



Sunday, December 20, 2009
Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8 a.m. - Robert Stoll - Wife, Betty
- 10 a.m. - Carleton and Ethel Sparks
 - The Sparks Family

Monday, December 21 - Advent Weekday
St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

- 5:30 p.m. - Frank Limardi - Daughter, Laura

Tuesday, December 22 - Advent Weekday

- 9 a.m. - Gretchen Burbee - Tuesday Morning Ladies

Wednesday, December 23 - Advent Weekday
St. John of Kanty, Priest

- 9 a.m. - St. Mary's Parishioners who are ill
 or homebound - Merida Pinzon

Thursday, December 24 - Advent Weekday

- 4:30 p.m. - George Sizemore (Anniversary of Death)
 - Wife, Fran
- Midnight Mass - Raymond Kerl
 - The Sonnenmeier Family

Friday, December 25
The Nativity of the Lord

- 10 a.m. - Kathleen Woody
 - The Buczkowski Family

Saturday, December 26
St. Stephen, First Martyr

- 4:30 p.m. - The Maciejewski Family
 - Christina and Howie Bugl

Sunday, December 27
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

- 8 a.m. - Charles and Agnes Hinton
 - Henry Fischer Family
- 10 a.m. - All St. Mary's Parishioners
 - Merida Pinzon



The red rose this weekend is in loving memory of Carleton and Ethel Sparks, requested by The Sparks Family.

Dear Parish Family,

On this last weekend of Advent, just days before Christmas, I share this beautiful Advent Credo from Dan Berrigan.

Advent Credo

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss--

This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life:

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction--

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever--

This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world--

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers--

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history--

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ--the life of the world.

From *Testimony: The Word Made Flesh*, by Daniel Berrigan, S.J. Orbis Books, 2004

Peace and Love,

Fr. Gary

Collection for December 8, 12, 13, 2009

Regular Collection	\$6,352.15	
Bldg. & Maintenance	<u>109.00</u>	
	\$6,461.15	Total

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

- Monday - 7-8 p.m.** -Religious Education (Grades 6-10)
- Tuesday - 3-7 p.m.** - Eucharistic Adoration
7 p.m. - Folk Choir - Practice in Church
- Wednesday - 7 p.m.** - Choir
- Saturday - NO** Religious Education for Grades K-5

IRA Charitable Contributions: IRA owners who are 70 1/2 years of age and have a required IRA minimum distribution are permitted under current IRS regulations to transfer all or part of their distribution to a qualifying charity such as St. Mary's. Distributions are transferred directly to the charity, do not have to be taken as income on your personal income tax return, and may qualify as a charitable contribution. If you are interested, contact your investment and tax advisors for the details. Please keep in mind this special IRS provision for charitable contributions will expire on 12/31/09.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

According to the Internal Revenue Service Code, we need to receive donations before year end if you wish to take the tax credit for this year. Please have your 2009 contributions in to the rectory by **Thursday, December 31, 2009.**

Christmas Decorating! We've put up lights, trimmed the tree, and hung the stockings in our homes. Now we need to decorate our "parish home!" Please plan to spend a little time adding your personal touch to our church decorations. We will gather **after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 20,** to create a fitting environment to celebrate Jesus' birth. A light luncheon will be served.

This weekend we offer our best wishes and prayers to our Brothers and Sisters at St. John's Roman Catholic Church as they celebrate their 175th Anniversary of the founding of their Parish.

Christmas/New Year Mass Schedule

Monday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m.: Vicariate Penance Service at St. John the Baptist

Thursday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Masses:
4:30 p.m.
11:30 p.m.: Choral Concert followed by Mass

Friday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day
10 a.m. Mass

Thursday, Dec. 31:
7 p.m. - New Year's Eve Mass

Friday, Jan. 1:
10 a.m. - New Year's Day Mass



Katherine DiProfio, Joanne Gajewski, Kay Hammond, Jason Pawlowski, Katherine Limardi, Tricia Denhoff, Connie Andrews, Kathleen Anderson, Connie McCracken, John Gagliari III, Doris Stump, Ellen Gardner, Mildred Delwardt, Voola Bartholomew, Jackie McLaughlin, Zackie Berger, Cecelia Reger, Isabella Serriane, Mary Reitz, Jeffrey Gailor, Nathan Gailor, Jim McCullough, Barbara Kress, Christina Bugl, Brandon Nemece, Leslie Degnan, Donna and Robert Spencer Sr., June Groff, Jim Fiegel, Jean LaRocca, and pray for our Armed Forces here and abroad.

Weekend of December 26-27, 2009

Lectors' Schedule

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. David Tobin, Paula Provost
- Sunday, December 27:
8 a.m. Brian Costello, Esther Owens
10 a.m. Walter Dlugosz, Angela Beightol

Extraordinary Ministers' Schedule

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. Vickie Richardson
- Sunday, December 27:
8 a.m. Dave Greenfield
10 a.m. Donna Dye-Sholk

Altar Servers' Schedule

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. Michael Campbell, Christopher and Jonathan Bolt, Alexander Fischer
- Sunday, December 27:
10 a.m. Patrick Quinn, Caitlin Quinn, Mackenzie and Alexis Gullo

Greeters' Schedule

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. Agnes Getz, Cecilia Shanahan
- Sunday, December 27:
8 a.m. Florence Claude, Barbara Buczkowski
10 a.m. Amy Cavallari, Angela Beightol



Mary's Little Lambs Nursery

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. Rosanne Tabone, Heather Christie
- Sunday, December 27:
10 a.m. - Maureen Watz, Joanne Colville

"Scrip" Volunteers

- Saturday, December 26:
4:30 p.m. Becky Scott, Mary Lou Flanders
- Sunday, December 27:
8 a.m. Ken Carter
10 a.m. Donna Powers, Laura Tschaep

If you are unable to meet your commitment, please arrange for a substitute.

REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

Micah 5:1-4a Expectations for the coming of the Messiah would not have included the small town of Bethlehem as his birthplace. Micah, however, foresees just that, and confirms the Messiah's lineage from an ancient line. During Micah's lifetime, he witnessed the injustices committed by the landlords against the poor. But he envisions a time of peace and a gathering of the exiled, and he who is to come will be peace itself.

Hebrews 10:5-10 A passage from Psalm 40 is placed in the mouth of the Son at his incarnation and we seem far removed from the images of Christmas. We are reminded, however, that Jesus came into the world to do his Father's will and included the perfect sacrifice of himself - perfect, because it was complete. The old ritual of yearly sacrifices and offerings for the forgiveness of sins is wiped away and rendered meaningless. By this perfect sacrifice, offered once for all, not only are our sins forgiven, but also we are consecrated.

Luke 1:39-45 Mary's "haste" to meet with Elizabeth evokes a sense of excitement. The valuable kinship she has with her cousin far outweighs the difficulty she knows she must endure in her arduous journey. There is more than just the joy of their meeting and warm hospitality in this memorable scene, favored by poets and artists. The sense of God's activity is evident. Elizabeth, through the Holy Spirit, interprets the sign of her unborn's leaping in her womb as recognition of the holy child in Mary's womb. Elizabeth marveled at the grace that allowed her a role in God's great plan. Mary is praised for her exemplary faith and obedience to God's will. This simple reunion of two cousins is crowned with the majesty of God's presence and a reminder of His never-ending relationship with us.

Readings for the week of December 20, 2009

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
Friday Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Christmas Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/
Lk 2:41-52

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Gary R. Kibler, Pastor
Carol Costello, Pastoral Associate and D.R.E.
Eleanor Wascovich, Parish Secretary
Mickey Pils, Business Administrator
Bessie Provenzano, Housekeeper
Robin Ritz, Maintenance/Custodian

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Altar & RosaryFran Staszak 434-1461
Altar Servers..... Paula Provost 438-0943
Catholic CharitiesBrenda and Mike Ulrich 433-6467
Fred Wascovich 434-3451
Christian Formation..... Sharon Roussie 439-0228
Christian ServicesChris Halvorson 625-9420
DeSales Catholic School School Office..... 433-6422
Evangelization Committee.....Bernie Winter 433-4071
Extraordinary Ministers.....M/M Chris Prucha 439-0722
Finance & Administration Jim Smigelski 433-0849
GreetersMary Alice Stroehlein 433-6106
Knights of Columbus.....Phil Chamot 434-7688
Martha-Mary Church Care.....Sheila Winter 433-4071
Ministers of Hospitality
4:30 p.m.....Ed Forness 433-8242
10 a.m..... Gerry Dembrowicz 692-8394
Ministers of the Word..... Vickie Richardson 778-5668
Ministry of ComfortDonna Santarsiero 433-3002
Music Minister.....Melissa Coleman 778-9461
R.C.I.A.....Marcia Seibel 688-0772
Sacramental Arrangements..... Carol Costello 433-0340
SacristanDoris Stump 731-5230
Small Faith Communities..... 434-6316
Split Club.....Joe Santarsiero 433-3002
St. Vincent de Paul.....Mike Ulrich 433-6467
Chaplain.....Sr. Carissima Ogbu
Worship/Liturgy Planning..... Marcia Seibel 688-0772

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mariann Angelo - Chairperson.....434-5719
Bernie Winter Co-Chairperson.....433-4071
Burt Marshall- Secretary.....434-3899
Judith Arlington.....434-3112
June Berardi.....434-8828
Mark Brounscheidel.....795-0059
Jerry DeFlippo.....434-4609
Kathy DiMillo..... 439-9104
Berny Fischer.....433-2098
Dick Galligan.....353-1472
Bernie Mosher.....433-0565
Joe Santarsiero.....433-3002
Michael Sutt.....940-7170
Carol Costello - Pastoral Associate; DRE.....433-0340
Marcia Seibel - Trustee.....688-0772
Mike Ulrich - Trustee.....433-6467