



Sunday, December 27, 2009

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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

Monday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

- 5:30 p.m. - John Gagliardi (Birthday Remembrance)
and Paul Gajewski - The Family

Tuesday, December 29

The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

- 9 a.m. - All Souls' Day Intentions

Wednesday, December 30

The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

- 9 a.m. - Lorraine & Eugene Brady and Henry
& Margaret Manck - Estate

Thursday, December 31

The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas

- 7 p.m. - Msgr. Walter Kern - Estate

Friday, January 1, 2010

The Octave day of Christmas

The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God

- 10 a.m. - Clara Breaun - Ray and Sue Schilling

Saturday, January 2

St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

NO Anointing Mass Today

- 4:30 p.m. - Anna Moskel - Helen Gephart

Sunday, January 3

The Epiphany of the Lord

- 8 a.m. - Gabe DeFabbio (Anniversary of Death) - Jo
- 10 a.m. - All St. Mary's Parishioners - Merida Pinzon

GOOD NEWS! The Marriage Counseling Center of Catholic Charities is sponsoring a marriage enrichment program beginning in January 2010. This is not a therapy group, couples will come to our Amherst office for a short video presentation and then go on their own "great date!"

Call 839-4406 during business hours, 8:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and we will schedule an appointment that day. Appointments are usually scheduled within two weeks of the client call.

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. It makes me glad to know Jesus had someone who loved him and was there for him, as he grew to understand more and more his divine mission.

We all need to have special people in our lives who remind us that each of us matters. There is bound to be tension between young people and their parents but this never means they don't need each other. Family takes on many forms these days, sometimes outside of the traditional concepts we've had. The bottom line is our most profound need to find those who love us and call forth the best in each of us.

May God bless all of you as each struggles to be families of love and support, modeling the gentle love of the Holy Family.

Love and Prayers,

Fr. Gary

<u>New Year Mass Schedule</u>	
Thursday, Dec. 31: 7 p.m. - New Year's Eve Mass	
Friday, Jan. 1:	10 a.m. - New Year's Day Mass

<u>Collection for December 19-20, 2009</u>	
Regular Collection	\$8,375.65
Bldg. & Maintenance	<u>147.00</u>
	\$8,522.65
	Total
<u>Quarterly Report</u>	
(September 2009 thru November 2009)	
Total Income	143,163
Total Expense	154,921
Deficit	(11,785)

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S



Monday - NO Religious Education (Grades 6-10)

Tuesday - 3-7 p.m. - Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Choir

Saturday - NO Religious Education (Grades K-5)

Upcoming Events at St. Mary's

Sunday, Jan. 24: Spaghetti Dinner in Parish Hall
beginning at 11:30 a.m.. Eat in or take out.

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.**

Please notify the Parish Office (434-6316) if you have a member of your family in the hospital. Because of the "privacy" laws they no longer give out names.

Auditions - Wizard of Oz The Palace Theatre is having auditions for their spring musical "The Wizard of Oz" January 11 & 12 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 2 East Avenue, Lockport, for ages 7 & up. Please prepare 16 bars of a song and bring dance attire. For more information call 438-1130.

Katherine DiProfio, Joanne Gajewski, Kay Hammond, Jason Pawlowski, Katherine Limardi, Tricia Denhoff, Connie Andrews, Kathleen Anderson, Connie McCracken, John Gagliardi III, Doris Stump, Ellen Gardner, Mildred Delwardt, Voola Bartholomew, Jackie McLaughlin, Zackie Berger, Cecelia Reger, Isabella Serrienne, 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 January 2-3, 2010
Lectors' Schedule

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. David Tobin, Pat Sonnenmeier
Sunday, January 3:
8 a.m. Jerry Tomaino
10 a.m. Kendzie Wohleben, Renee Locke

Extraordinary Ministers' Schedule

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. Burt Marshall
Sunday, January 3:
8 a.m. Ken Carter
10 a.m. Joan Howells (for choir loft-Mike Howells)

Altar Servers' Schedule

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. **Emily Stoll**, Thomas Stoll, Mary Claire Haseley, Dylan Robb

Sunday, January 3:
10 a.m. **Mark Wallace**, Stephen, Michael and Kathryn Dmochowski

Greeters' Schedule

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. Mary Alice Stroehlein, Lynn Kowalski
Sunday, January 3:
8 a.m. Florence Claude, Barbara Buczkowski
10 a.m. Ed Benzing, Ken Carter

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Mary's Little Lambs Nursery

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. Mary Umera, Laura Tschaep
Sunday, January 3:
10 a.m. Maureen Watz, Joanne Colville

"Scrip" Volunteers

Saturday, January 2:
4:30 p.m. Mary Alice Stroehlein, Mary Lou Flanders
Sunday, January 3:
8 a.m. Kathy and Dave Greenfield
10 a.m. Nancy Eglin

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

REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28 Hannah's gratitude for her son Samuel ("Name of God") manifests itself in her offering of him to God. The birth of Samuel is part of a long history of godly women and men praying for a child as God's gift. Like Jesus, Samuel is consecrated to the Lord for a special mission. Through the ages, we find individuals who are joined together in the fulfillment of God's plan for salvation for the family of humankind. Today's feast takes on a powerful significance when we begin to appreciate the individual families and people who are a part of that plan.

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24 John stands in amazement at the love given to us by God. Those who do not share in our faith-filled relationships have not experienced the love of God that makes those relationships possible. Our parent-child relationship with God will be transformed and superceded by one that we will experience in heaven. Doubt must be cast away if we are to continue this relationship with God by keeping His commandments, and that is our belief in Jesus Christ who came into the world to join together a global family that will love one another. Jesus found merit in the poor, the outcasts, even the prejudiced and the obstinate. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we, too, can form the loving bonds expected of us, as children of God, with the family of church and of all humanity.

Luke 2:41-52 Observant of their Jewish heritage and rituals, the Holy Family made their annual pilgrimage to the Jerusalem temple. The twelve-year old Jesus would be prepared and instructed for his official entrance into the Jewish community the following year. It was customary to journey with family and friends, in essence an extended family, and so Jesus' absence would not have been noticed until the evening encampment. When found in the temple, Jesus was not preaching but was involved in a theological discourse with the rabbis. The profound statement made by the boy is a foreshadowing of his adult mission to do his Father's will. Mary and Joseph failed to understand the meaning of these words at the time, just as the future disciples were unable to recognize Jesus for who he truly was. Most certainly, Jesus' words clearly establish the importance of his divine sonship over the ties to his family. Nevertheless, his years of maturity in Nazareth found him to be a wise and faithful son.

Readings for the week of December 27, 2009

Sunday:	1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28, 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/ Lk 2:41-52
Monday:	1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Friday:	Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28

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 948-8553
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