



Sunday, January 3, 2010
The Epiphany of the Lord

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

Please note: No weekday Masses this week.

Saturday, January 9 - Christmas Weekday

4:30 p.m. - Aldo Agostini
- The Agostini Grandchildren

Sunday, January 10
The Baptism of the Lord

8 a.m. - Jonathan Miller - Burt Marshall
10 a.m. - Margaret Ruhlmann - Rachel Ruhlman



The pink rose on the altar this weekend is given in loving memory of my husband, Robert Clark and my sister, Joan Ryan, requested by Elaine Clark.

Collection for December , 2009

Regular Collection	\$11,582.18	
Bldg. & Maintenance	<u>33.00</u>	
	\$11,615.18	Total

Special Christmas Gifts to date:

\$7,698.00

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate the great feast of the Epiphany. Jesus' light shines first into our puzzled minds. There is so much about life we can't understand apart from Christ. In the person Jesus, we know life is not random. We are not victims. Life has meaning. It has purpose. As Paul said so beautifully, "We may see through a glass darkly" but there is a divine plan and I believe it's wrapped up in that mysterious, yet magnetic man from Nazareth. He is also light for our troubles and broken hearts. That same light brightens our defeated spirits. My dear friends, the Light of the world is knocking at the door of your life; a Light shining in the darkness. It's shining just for you: it is your epiphany!

Thank you for the shared warmth and brilliance of your lights: the wonderful Advent concerts, social gatherings and opportunities for growing in faith together; these days of Advent have been truly blessed. I am always so proud of the way our life together flows from and leads to our wonderful worship opportunities. Many thanks for all those who strive to create moments of epiphany, when the light of Christ can touch our sometimes ravaged hearts and souls with the beautiful balm of tenderness and hope.

I want to thank each of you personally for the many wonderful ways you have been blessing to me; God has touched my life through your goodness: your words of affirmation, notes, cards, gifts, beautiful creations from your kitchens; all of these are treasured and I take none for granted. As we move into this new year, I offer to God my prayer that each day, yet to come, will be a moment of grace, touched by the God who loves us.

Peace and Love,

Fr. Gary



The Wine used to become Christ's Precious Blood will be provided by Jo DeFabbio, in loving memory of Gabe and Tom DeFabbio.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

- Monday - 7-8 p.m.** -Religious Education
(Grades 6-10)
7 p.m. - S.V.D.P.
- Tuesday - 3-7 p.m.** - Eucharistic Adoration
6 p.m. - Executive Parish Council Mtg.
7 p.m. - Worship/Liturgy Mtg.
- Wednesday - 7 p.m.** - Choir
- Thursday - 7 p.m.** - Folk Choir
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Girl Scouts
- Saturday - 10 - 11:30 a.m.** Religious Education
(Grades K-5)

Upcoming Events at St. Mary's

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

DeSales Highlights for December 2009

DeSales fifth graders were recognized this month for their successful completion of the 10-week D.A.R.E. program. This collaborative effort designed to help students avoid involvement with drugs and violence is coordinated by Niagara County Sheriff's Deputy Roger Haseley.

Over 70 boys and girls in grades 4-8 are building their skills on the basketball court as they represent DeSales in five diocesan interscholastic leagues this winter.

In conjunction with their unit on Growth and Development, 7th grade Health students are collecting essential baby items to assist the CareNet Pregnancy Center in Lockport.

Second graders will continue their study of Traditions this month, focusing on Christmas customs and cultures from around the world. They also join with the 1st and 3rd grade students each week for Advent prayers and reflections.

Please note! We need nursery volunteers for Saturday!

You'll note that it was necessary to close the nursery next Saturday because of a lack of volunteers. Please consider offering one Saturday per month to help in this important ministry. Parents who have had the opportunity of entrusting their children to our nursery care volunteers will confirm that it is, indeed, a welcome and beneficial service. Volunteers will be required to complete the diocesan program, *Protecting God's Children*.. If you feel you can assist our parish family in this way, please call the rectory at 434-6316. Thank you!



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 9-10, 2010
Lectors' Schedule

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. Ann Marie Przybysz, Bill Roussie
Sunday, January 10:
8 a.m. Aimee Bell
10 a.m. Al Cavallari, Donna Dye-Sholk

Extraordinary Ministers' Schedule

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. Judy Volland
Sunday, January 10:
8 a.m. Mariann Angelo
10 a.m. Jean Skop (Fran Skop- Choir Loft)

Altar Servers' Schedule

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. Normand Provost, Megan Preisch, Paige and Megan Currie
Sunday, January 10:
10 a.m. Christopher Sharkey, Emily and Adam Cavallari, Clara Mrowka

Greeters' Schedule

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. Martha Chilcott, Ann Bruski
Sunday, January 10:
8 a.m. Florence Claude, Barbara Buczkowski
10 a.m. Ed Benzing, Ken Carter



Mary's Little Lambs Nursery

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. **No Nursery Today**
Sunday, January 10:
10 a.m. Kelly Preisch, Traci Meagley

"Scrip" Volunteers

Saturday, January 9:
4:30 p.m. Mary Ann Walker, Mary Lou Flanders
Sunday, January 10:
8 a.m. Ken Carter
10 a.m. Kate and Dave Wehrmeyer

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

REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

Isaiah 60:1-6 This passage from Third Isaiah is addressed to the people (Jerusalem) who have returned to their homeland from their exile in Babylon. It calls for them to see the glory of God of which they must have despaired while exiled. This manifestation of God's light, which illuminates even through darkness, is meant not only for Jerusalem but also for all people ("nations"). Because of the misfortune the Jews endured while in captivity, the prophet's message of hope would have been difficult to believe. But, as we celebrate the epiphany of God's promise to us of a Savior, so, too, the prophetic message is an epiphany of God's faithfulness to His people.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 In his letter, Paul confirms Isaiah's words of the universality of God's promise that salvation is for all peoples of all nations. Paul's epiphany took place on the road to Damascus, the Jews on their return from exile, and ours through the manifestation of the divine through the coming of Jesus Christ. We have traveled a journey of preparation (Advent), of joy (Christmas), and now of universal recognition and revelation of the all-encompassing love and kingship of the Messiah.

Matthew 2:1-12 It took the arrival of the magi in Herod's court for the priests and scribes to re-examine the prophet Micah's words of the birth of a king in the small town of Bethlehem. Although the Jews were exposed to the prophecies of the arrival of a ruler who would shepherd Israel, the Gentiles (magi) were the first to recognize this long-awaited event. Herod's "secret" meeting with the magi underscores his fear of the threat to his kingdom and the evil conspiracy he plans to destroy the threat. When the magi arrive at the house and see the child, they offer with respect and adoration gifts that are not only worthy of royalty, but also symbolic of Jesus' life events: gold for a king, frankincense for a priest, and myrrh for his death. The epiphanies in our lives may go undetected if we fail to open our eyes to the wonder and promise of Emmanuel, "God is with us."

Readings for the week of January 3, 2010

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or 40:1-5, 9-11/Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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