

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY DECEMBER 28TH, 2014



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY DECEMBER 27TH:

5:00 pm Stefano Fazio

SUNDAY DECEMBER 28TH:

7:30 am Margaret and Angelo Falzarano

9:00 am Connie Guido

10:30 am Peter and Frances Messina

NOON Reggie Rosado

MONDAY DECEMBER 29TH:

7:15 am For Our Parishioners

8:30 am Victor and Lucy DeBartoli

TUESDAY DECEMBER 30TH:

7:15 am Ken Schumacher

8:30 am Rosario Follosio

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31ST:

7:15 am Gregorio Agalo-os

8:30 am Deceased Members of Grippo and Iovine Families

NEW YEAR'S EVE-DECEMBER 31ST:

4:00 pm Thomas J. Ginch

NEW YEAR'S DAY-JANUARY 1ST, 2015

9:00 am Lawrence Inconiglio

11:00 am John Portano

FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND:

7:15 am Katherine Wolff

8:30 am Good Health of Linda Meister-Crowder

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD:

8:00 am Carmine Ruotolo

5:00 pm Salvatore and Libera Mazzella

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH:

7:30 am Anthony Camanda

9:00 am Domenico and Maria D'Elia

10:30 am Patricia May

NOON John Portano

BEREAVEMENT

"Blessed are those who mourn; for they shall be comforted."
-Matthew 5:4.

Our Bereavement Minister, Deacon Michael Venditto, is available to assist anyone who has experienced a loss. Call the rectory (718-761-5421) weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm to set up an appointment with Deacon Michael.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Anyone desiring a Certificate to serve as a sponsor for a Sacrament must be a Roman Catholic who has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. They must be registered in the parish for at least 3 months or known by one of the priests. **Certificates are distributed only after weekend Masses in the sacristy NOT IN THE RECTORY.**

RCIA PROGRAM

Are you or a friend interested in becoming Catholic. Or perhaps you need to be confirmed. The RCIA Program invites you to meet every Wed. at 7:30 pm in our Parish Center. No registration necessary.



MEMORIALS FOR WEEK OF DEC. 28TH:



The **ALTAR BREADS AND WINES** this week are in memory of:

SCOTTO AND DURAZZO FAMILIES
requested lovingly by Angela Diaz and Family.

The **SANCTUARY LAMP** burns this week in memory of:

CHRISTOPHER TOBON
requested BY Michael and Susan Venditto.



JOIN THE CHOIRS

The **Adult Choir** holds practices on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 pm in the Parish Center. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.**



Children's Choir: Do you like to sing? Children (from second grade or older) practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Join the Choir and make new friends.

CCD PROGRAM

CCD Classes resume on January 6th.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration will be held Mon. through Fri. from 12 to 4:30 pm in St. Christopher's Church, Midland Ave. Each Wednesday from 3 to 4 pm adoration is dedicated to praying for vocations. For further information call 718-351-2452.

MARRIAGE BOOK FOR 2016

The Marriage Schedule Book here at our parish for the year 2016 weddings opens on Monday January 12th. Please call the rectory between 9 am and 4:30 pm on that day to set up an appointment to meet with a priest to set your marriage date. In order to be married at our Church, your family must be registered here at the parish.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB meetings resume on Tuesday January 13th at 12 Noon in the Parish Center.

BIBLE STUDY

The next Bible Study, led by Sister Marcia, will be on **"Mary in the Bible"** beginning on Jan. 12th and running for eight (8) weeks. **Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother** is a Catholic Bible study that reveals Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. Sessions will be held on Mon. evenings at 7:30 pm and Wed. mornings at 9:30 am. Cost is \$30. Register at the rectory.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

"....He (Simeon) took Him in his arms and blessed God in these words: 'Now, Master, You can dismiss Your servant in peace; You have fulfilled Your word. For my eyes have witnessed Your saving deed displayed for all the people to see; a revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of Your people Israel.'... 'The Lord sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority He confirms over her sons.'"

At the direction of Pope Francis a synod on the family has taken place in Rome. Reflections and reactions have been sought, as the Church considers the gift, the needs and the hopes of families in an age when family life has radically changed.

Today we meet the Holy Family of Nazareth. Not unlike ourselves many difficulties and trials came their way. Living as refugees, itinerants, as working laborers, and finally facing trial and condemnation, we can identify with them with the challenges of today.

The prayer of Simeon, part of the night prayer of the Church, can be ours as well, as we recognize the presence of the Christ among us during these holidays. It was the Spirit that moved Simeon to take Him in his arms and praise God. May we, as we bring this year to a close, express, as he did, our gratitude for the Lord's presence in so many ways during this year. May we thank God for support in time of need. May we see the light of Christ in our lives and be that light for members of our family. May we take Him in our arms too.

May our fathers mirror the goodness of Joseph caring for an protecting their children. May our mothers bring the warmth, kindness and understanding of Mary, the heart of the home at Nazareth. May the Christ, born anew in our hearts allow us to live blessed by the presence of God's grace in our lives. May all the virtues mentioned by Paul in Colossians 3, be manifest in our homes.



GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

Jesus was brought to Jerusalem to be consecrated according to the Law of Moses. A man named Simeon had learned he would not die until he had seen God's anointed. Upon seeing Jesus, he immediately declared he had witnessed *"The glory of Your people of Israel."* The prophetess Anna also gave thanks and spoke of Jesus to all who would listen. Both recognized the power of Jesus, although He was still an infant.



MORNING DEVOTIONS

Following the 8:30 am weekday Mass is the Recitation of the Rosary and spiritual devotions. On Fridays there is the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour. On First Fridays there is Benediction. On Sat. following the 8 am Mass, novena prayers are said.

SINCERE THANKS

Fr. John wishes to thank all those men and women who gave of their time and talents to help clean and decorate the Church so magnificently this year.

A personal word of thanks from the priests here at our parish to all those who sent them personal greetings and gifts...may God bless you all.

ELECTRONIC GIVING (*Parish Pay Program*)

This is an alternate means of supporting your parish instead of using the envelope system. This program will collect monthly contributions from your checking, savings or credit card accounts. There is **NO COST** to you, the parishioner, to participate in this program. Log onto www.parishpay.com or call 1-866-727-4741 Ext. 1.

RICHMOND DIVISION

The annual retreat for the Holy Name Societies on Staten Island will be held this year on Jan. 17, 2015 (snow date January 31) at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. Rev. Thomas Devery will be the spiritual leader. Day starts with Mass at 9 am, continental breakfast at 10:15 am, discussion at 11 am, lunch at 12:30 pm, final discussion at 1:30 pm. Cost; \$25 per person. This retreat is open to both men and women. For reservations call Steve at 347-861-0316.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD:

5:00 pm I. Pastena – M. Salcedo

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH:

7:30 am M/M B. Madaio

9:00 am V. Laperuta – J. Porto

10:30 am M/M D. Marro

NOON M/M M. Terracino

LECTORS MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD:

5:00 pm M. Salcedo

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH:

7:30 am C. Daniels

9:00 am D. Konczynski

10:30 am S. Bilardi

NOON J. Magliocco

ALTAR BOY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD:

5:00 pm C. Baria – J. Venditto – J. Clyne

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH:

7:30 am J. Flood – C. Rodriguez

9:00 am J. Carristo – M. Santa

10:30 am N. Lopez – R. Eckman – D. Boniface

D. Pangilinan

NOON R. Whalen – A. Rivas – J. Tangco

J. Bosco



Father John and Father Mendis, along with the staff of the parish, wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe New Year.

ST. PAULS PUBLISHING

The Society of St. Paul at the Alba House on Victory Blvd. has a vacancy for a part-time sales assistant in its marketing department. Fluency in both English and Spanish, good computing skills and a pleasant phone manner are required. For a job application form, call Dora at 800-343-2522 from 1 pm to 5 pm, weekdays or email dora@stpauls.US.

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE FOR HOLY CHILD

The CCD Program from Holy Child Parish on Staten Island sponsors an Annual Dinner and Show at the Old Bermuda Inn. This year it will be held on Sat. March 14th from 7 pm to 11 pm. Enjoy the sounds of the all-star band “Rhythm Rascals”, music of the 60’s, 70’s and 80’s. Price: \$65.00 per person. All tickets must be purchased by Feb. 25th. For further information and/or reservations call Marie at 718-356-5277.

A CHRISTMAS VERSION (Part 2)

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing...

Love stops the cooking to hug a child.

Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband.

Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love does not envy another’s home that has coordinated Christmas china and linens.

Love doesn’t yell at the children to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost and golf clubs will rust

BUT GIVING THE GIFT OF LOVE WILL ENDURE.

NEW AT ST. PETER’S CEMETERY

St. Peter’s cemetery has served the Catholic faith community for well over a century. As a response to the desire to pre-plan one’s final arrangements, St. Peter’s Cemetery will now offer families the opportunity to purchase graves for future use. These future use graves will be limited to the graves available in Section R only (at the intersection of Tyler Ave. & Clove Rd.). Other sections of the cemetery will still be available for the purchase of immediate need of burial space. For individuals who prefer cremation, St. Peter’s Cemetery also offers cremation niches that can hold 2 standard sized urns. The niches are available in St. Peter’s Columbaria Garden for pre-need or immediate need. For information call the cemetery office at 718-442-2363, Mon.-Fri., 8 am to Noon and 1-3 pm.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

“It’s a Holy and Wholesome Thing to Pray for the Dead”

During the year 66 families in our parish experienced the death of a loved one. As is our custom, there will be a Memorial Mass for our beloved deceased who were buried from our parish this year. All family members, friends and parishioners are invited to this Memorial Mass which will be held on Sat. morning January 10th at 9:00 am. Our prayer is that God will give your loved ones eternal life and those who remain behind the strength and courage to carry on.

“We give back to You, O God, those whom You gave us. You did not lose them when You gave them to us, and we did not lose them by their return to You. Your dear Son has taught us that life is eternal and love cannot die.”

**NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

This day is a Holyday of Obligation.....Masses are:

Vigil Dec. 31st at 4:00 pm

New Year’s Day January 1st at 9:00 am and 11:00 am

NY BLOOD DRIVE

The New York Blood Center plans to run another Winter Blood Drive here at the parish. It is planned to take place the morning of January 25th, weather permitting. Further information will be posted in upcoming bulletins.

THE SICK

Prayer Request for Sick Parishioners

Every worshipping community is called to pray for the sick or elderly in their parish. It is a privilege to ask Our Lord to heal and strengthen the sick. **The Prayer List for the Sick** is our way of reaching out to our parishioners, young and elderly, who have received a critical diagnosis and are unable to go about the routines of life:

Maryann Azzarello, Brook Balacco, Nora Bonilla, Sally Caputo, Rosalie Carroll, Vera Cerullo, Josephine Cordaro, Michael Delfino, Carol Devine, Margaret Ryan Galeoto, Nicole Giambone, Donna Hazen, John Hudson, Vanessa McIntosh, Ralph Moceo, Maria Scaglione and Ann Volpe.

The listed names above for those asking for prayers has been updated according to months on the list. Those remaining have been reinstated by parishioners calling after the six month period. If anyone wishes to put a name back or to add a new name of a parishioner who is sick please contact the rectory Mon.-Fri. from 9 am to 5 pm.

SHUT-INS

If any member of your family is homebound and unable to attend Mass, notify the girls at the rectory and if you wish, a priest or an extraordinary minister will bring you the Eucharist on the first Friday of the month.

**THE FAMILY IS ONE OF
GOD’S MASTERPIECES!**