

PARISH NEWS

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Ryan & Lindsey Layer, Nancy Hofmann, Susan Villageliu, Marilyn Minath & Rafael Triana, and Paula Nania.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

- DECEMBER 21** – St. Peter Canisius
- 22 – Blessed Jacopone da Todi
- 23 – St. John of Kanty
- 24 – Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
- 25 – Nativity of the Lord
- 26 – St. Stephen
- 27 – St. John the Apostle
- 28 – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- 29 – St Thomas Becket

PREVIEW OF NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

This passage from Sirach details the duties children owe to father and mother. Their life-long devotion will not be forgotten and "will take lasting root."

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Paul urges Christians particularly in the setting of the family, to "clothe" themselves with kindness, patience, humility, and mercy; to forgive; and, above all, to love!

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

An angel of the Lord, appearing in a dream to Joseph, urges him to flee with Jesus and Mary to Egypt to escape the murderous schemes of Herod. Later, in another dream, an angel tells Joseph to go with Jesus and Mary to a town called Nazareth in the region of Galilee, thus fulfilling the Scriptures: "He shall be called a Nazarean."

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday December 21

5 PM – Marie & Gerard Sartori (Betty Jane Prufer)

Sunday December 22

8:30 AM – Peter Colo (Marlene Wood)

11 AM – Members of the Parish

Monday December 23

Noon

Saturday December 28

5 PM – Deceased Members of the Prufer Family (Betty Jane Prufer)

Sunday December 29

8:30 AM – John Macro (The Cerrone Family)

11 AM – Members of the Parish



- Offertory 12/7-8: \$5,426
- Immaculate Conception: \$516
- Justice & Peace: \$240
- Christmas Flowers: \$470
- Philippines Relief: \$627

- Offertory 12/14-15: \$6,428
- Justice & Peace: \$437
- Christmas Flowers: \$368.50
- Christmas Envelopes: \$275.00

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (12/22) – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 7 - 7:45 AM: Reconciliation
- 8:30 AM - MASS
- 9:30 AM: Community Christmas Caroling
- 11 AM – MASS

MONDAY (12/23)

NOON – MASS

TUESDAY (12/24) – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- 5 PM – CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS
- 7 PM - CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

WEDNESDAY (12/25) – CHRISTMAS DAY – PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

11 AM – CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

THURSDAY (12/26) - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- 8 AM - MASS
- NOON - 1 PM: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (12/27)

- 8 AM - Daily Mass
- 10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry
- NOON - AA Meeting

SATURDAY (12/28)

- 8 AM – MASS
- 3:30 - 4:30 PM - Reconciliation
- 5 PM – Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (12/29) – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

- 7 - 7:45 AM: Reconciliation
- 8:30 AM - MASS
- 11 AM – MASS

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR _____

PARISHIONERS: Winifred Smith, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarcyk, Nicholas Sisman, and Mary Ann Williams.

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES: Josephine Nampijja, Gloria Aberg, Grace Dawn Wicke, Melyssa Dove, Nicole Carpenter, Beth Mauk, Evan Dotas, Dave Halley, Cullen McQuhae, Bill & Marie Jones, Ray & Cecilia Caretti, Jessica Caretti, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Mrs. Jessica Viglietta, Pam D. Goines, Janet D. Gunther, Charlie Joseph Previtali, Nicole Shaw, Jean Clayton, and Rich Hawkins

MILITARY: Brian Fagan, Jamie Torbet, Mike Eiermann, David Alvey, Charles G. Ellison, Eric Emmott, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

★ **HOLIDAY SCHEDULES** ★

BULLETIN DEADLINES:

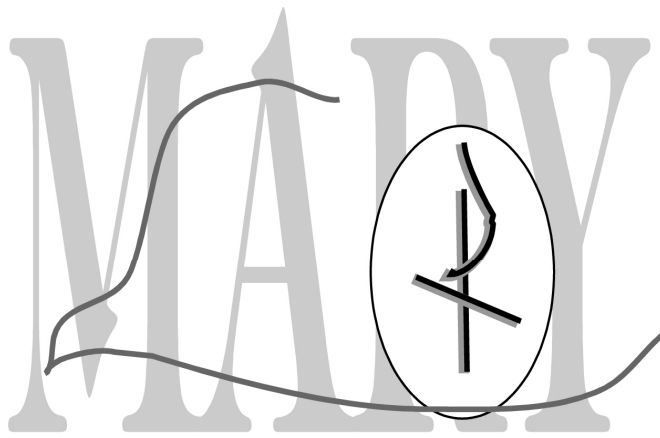
- **DECEMBER 29TH BULLETIN:**
→ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH AT 3 PM
- **JANUARY 5TH BULLETIN (NOTE *CORRECTION*):**
→ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26TH AT 3 PM ← **CORRECTED**

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

- **DECEMBER 24TH MASSES: 5 PM & 7 PM**
- **DECEMBER 25TH MASS: 11 AM**

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

- **DECEMBER 31ST MASS : 7 PM**
- **JANUARY 1ST MASS: 11 AM**



Conceived of the Holy Spirit

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN RICHMOND: Register now for **Catholic Advocacy Day January 30, 2014**. Make your plans to join Virginia Bishops Francis X. DiLorenzo and Paul S. Loverde and the VA Catholic Conference at the annual *Catholic Advocacy Day* in Richmond, Thursday, Jan. 30th. Catholic Advocacy Day is an opportunity for Catholics from throughout the Commonwealth to join together in the Virginia capital and meet with lawmakers' offices to urge for public policies that protect life, the poor and vulnerable, and promote justice. The day begins with registration at 8 AM and ends at 1:30 PM. Bus transportation from Cvilleville and the Tidewater is also available. Get more information and register at www.vacatholic.org.

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Make a commitment this Advent to pray the rosary. Come join the Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group on Wednesdays in the Chapel at 6 PM. (*Note the time change.*) Our Blessed Mother's message to her children on December 2, 2013 says "Dear children, with a motherly love and a motherly patience I am looking at your ceaseless wandering and how lost you are. That is why I am with you. I desire to help you to first find and come to know yourself, so that, then, you would be able to recognize and to admit everything that does not permit you to get to know the love of the Heavenly Father, honestly and wholeheartedly." Come be with us and pray the Rosary of the Blessed Mother who so loves us. All are Welcome!!!

BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN FAMILIES: More than 150 families in the Holy land are in danger of leaving their homes in search of work. Their olive wood carvings will be available at HC the weekend of January 18th/19th. Help support those Christians who make their livelihood through the selling of these hand carved items.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS: John the Baptist tells us to reform our lives. Learn how to use the graces of your Sacrament of Marriage to renew your marriage and draw closer to God. Let the Lord strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage by attending an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Feb. 21-23, Sep. 12-14, Nov. 14-16 in Herndon, VA; Apr. 11-13 in Fredericksburg, VA; Jun. 27-29 in Richmond, VA; Aug. 8-10 in Roanoke; or Oct 10-12 in Norfolk. For more info, visit renewmarriage-vasouth.org or call (757) 483-3209.

**MEET IN RICHMOND TO
SUPPORT A PRO-LIFE VIRGINIA**

Please join the Virginia Catholic Conference and other state and national pro-life organizations in Richmond on Wednesday, Jan. 8, for the **2nd Annual Virginia Stands for Life Rally**. The event begins with a 9 AM prayer walk on Capitol grounds, followed by a rally featuring pro-life activist Lila Rose of LiveAction. The event coincides with the opening of the 2014 Virginia General Assembly and the upcoming inauguration of Virginia's new governor. It is designed to demonstrate broad support for recent years' critical pro-life successes in the General Assembly and to urge public officials to protect those gains in the upcoming session, as well as to achieve further life-affirming policies. Please RSVP to Virginia Podboy at Virginia@vacatholic.org or call 804-225-8565.

*Call Him
Emmanuel-
God
with
us!*





FROM THE PASTOR

THE ADVENT CAMPING

CONTINUED

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice"

Philip.4:4

In the previous article I wrote about producing fruits of Repentance, this time I want to draw your attention to the fact that a person who can truly rejoice in the Lord, is the one who has received the grace of Repentance, acknowledging the need of that **One Who gives peace**. In Advent, we celebrate **Godly joy that overcomes our natural human fears due to our miseries of sin, and embrace the divine mercy that overshadows all our fears**. We learn from Mary the mother of our savior who was conscious of her unworthiness and being overshadowed by the Holy Spirit became aware of the great mercy of God towards her, and burst into the Magnificat, the song of Joy.

In the Hebrew Bible, human joy in God's redeeming presence often spontaneously erupts into song and dance - most famously Miriam's song after the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea to escape Egyptian slavery (Ex. 15:20-21). David's public burst into dancing in front of the ark of the covenant was so unselfconsciously joyful that it embarrassed his wife (2Samuel 6:12-15): We too are invited to embody fearless, delighted joy in God because God delivers his people.

The prophet Isaiah proclaimed the coming messiah of Israel who would one day bring all people into God's covenant: "**Sing heavens! Shout for joy, earth! Let the mountains burst into song!**" (Is. 49:13). In Psalm 19, we pray with joy that even the skies proclaim God's glory and handiwork: **All of creation itself rejoices praising God**. We can say that even when words or feelings of joy fail us, we can trust that creation itself will rejoice in God.

During the first Advent we remember the angel Gabriel's promise to the elderly parents of John the Baptist that in their childless age, they would finally

have a son, one especially filled with God's Holy Spirit: "**You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice**" (Lk. 1:14). Zechariah, the father-to-be, did not embrace this joy immediately but naturally doubted due to the circumstances: "**How can I be sure of this?**" (Luke 1:18) But later on when the angel had given him the name "John" for the child, Zechariah's "**mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God**" (Lk. 1:64). Our joy need not make sense nor are we ultimately limited by our own seasons of inability to rejoice. Joy can sometimes be a gift of God that erupts from us in spite of our doubts and silence.

When the first angel appeared to the shepherds near Bethlehem to announce the nearby birth of the long-awaited Jewish messiah, "**everything shone bright with the glory of the Lord,**" and this supernatural radiance really scared them (Luke 2:9). After the angel reassured them, "**Do not be afraid. I bring good news that will bring great joy for all people, a whole heavenly choir joined in, singing praises to God - rejoicing**" (Lk. 2:13). The shepherds hurried to find Jesus as they had been directed, and once they had seen the infant and holy family, they too rejoiced, singing praises to God proclaiming God's peace for all people. Though universal peace has not yet come, we who celebrate the birth of Jesus also praise God for it - for what we believe though have not yet seen (Hebrews 11:1). When the prophet Simeon saw the infant Jesus presented at the Temple, he realized God's promises that the messiah would be present with him in his own lifetime had been fulfilled. Just as the long-silent father of John the Baptist had on finally seeing his infant son, Simeon too spontaneously burst into praise (Luke 2:28-32). Even when we have struggled to speak of joy before, this Advent reminds us that we can sing a new song of joy and praise for the presence of God among us. Paul put it simply: "**Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, Rejoice**". For us Christians in spite of what is happening around us we are called to be joyful because our joy depends on the inward; it depends on the relationship we have with Jesus our Savior. We should rejoice because of God's Salvation; "**I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns himself with a diadem, and as a bride.**"

TO BE CONTINUED



In Remembrance/Honor
Christmas Flower Donations

Strassheim & Doyle Families

M/M Kenneth Beaton

Rosa Wachter

Frank Wachter

Peter M. Colo

Mary Carroll

Raymond Carroll

William Allen

Ethel Allen

Ligabo & Cona Families

Melvin K. Green Sr.

M/M Ralph Erra

Tena & Fred Csoltko

Stan Brooks

Jennifer Cottrell

Kevin Fagan

Edna & William Fagan

Rose & Peter Ryan

Kathleen Dalton

Fred Hansen

James F. Neale

Geraldine J. Neale

Gilbert F. Schneider

Lillian Schneider

Jason T. Smith

Fr. Dennis Mc Auliffe & All Our Priests

Annie M. Leitch

Jimmie Leitch

Ronald & May Allana Edwards

M/M Josph Hassenfratz

Gerard Hassenfratz, MD

Deighan/Moseley Families

Louis Ciocca

Ada Dellinger

Scott Whalen

Those w/no one praying for them

Those in purgatory

In Honor of Catherine Colo

Oscar Bergman

Helen Bergman

Stephen Stillwell

Eleanor Stillwell

McElroy/Dunkerley Family

Marjorie Irace

Lori Sprenger

Elln & Edwin Boeckermann

Florian & Alyce Sprenger

Urbain & Catherine Auger

Adelard & Claire Riendeau

Andre Deslauriers

Richard & Frances Auger

Monique Auger

Raymond Paquin

Joseph Mackey

Patricia Mackey

R. Clifford Fusco

Joan Fusco

E. J. Redman

W. "Herbie" Shiflett

R. "Quinn" Shiflett

In Honor of All our Troops Protecting the USA

Alice Perkins

Theodore E. Reuter

Helen G. Vitale

Stephen Williams

Ronnie & Annette Ruvolo

Wanda & Carl Nowicki

Vien Vu & Joseph Doan

Anthony Kim

Fr. John Ciani

Frs. Robert J. Warren & Ron Ruth

Cullen McQuhae

Stanley & Suzanne Lank

Richard E. Siner

Barbara Ramp

David Drucker

M/M Robert Severin Jr.