

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sts. Basil & Gregory

Monday, January 2

8:00 Caterina Popoli
12:00 Joseph Piscopo

Tuesday, January 3

8:00 Balduino DiMatteo
12:00 Mary & Henry Strauce

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Wednesday, January 4

8:00 Angelina Zaino
12:00 Fiore Mangano

St. John Neumann

Thursday, January 5

8:00 Carol Blair
12:00 Coletta Hein

Friday, January 6

8:00 Guido D'Onofrio
12:00 Betty Torelli

Saturday, January 7

8:00 Nicholas M. Colandro
12:00 Caterina Popoli
5:00 Katherine Restivo

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8

8:00 For the People of the Parish
9:30 Anna Vettorino
11:00 Angelo Turturro &
 Frank Turturro Sr.
12:30 Pietro Elia &
 Guiseppe Bartolotta

Bread and Wine

For: In Thanksgiving to St. Therese
 of Liseaux, France
By: Maire Deiana



Sanctuary Lamp

For: Alicia Wells &
 The DelVecchio Family
By: DelVecchio Family



From the Pastor's Desk

Scripture scholars speculate that the blessing in today's reading from Numbers may be the oldest piece of poetry in the Bible. This threefold blessing pronounced over the people asks for the same thing using different phrases: that God's favor bring peace and well-being upon God's beloved. It is a beautiful invocation at any time, but especially appropriate on the first day of a New Year.

The psalm is also a petition for God's blessing, and repeats some of the same words that appear in the First Reading. The image of God's face that "shines upon us" suggests a loving God looking with kindness on us. Those blessed are urged to praise God, and thus will God's goodness be known to all nations.

In several of his letters, Paul teaches about the relationship between the Law and the Spirit. Here he notes that Christ came according to the Law but won for all a new life in the Spirit, making us adopted sons and daughters of God. This was not a rejection of the Law but a new freedom to live its essence fully in the Spirit.

The Gospel weaves together the twofold nature of Jesus' identity. The shepherds relate what their vision announced, that the child is a savior and Christ the Lord. While others are merely amazed by the news, Mary contemplates what the future holds for her son. In the wake of that revelation, Mary and Joseph take the child for the customary rite of circumcision and naming. He is named Jesus, as the angelic messenger of God had instructed Mary. Jesus, as son of God and son of Mary, is now ready to accept the mission of the Father. We, of course, know from the Gospel accounts how his life unfolded. But on this solemnity we stay with Mary, contemplating what this means for us who follow him in faith.

**Kindly remember in your prayers
 the sick of the Parish**

Betty D'Avi, Ella DiGovanni, Arleen Dmytryshyn, Bobby Gregory, Louise Holly, Betty Lane, Ann Latora, Joan Lynch, Catherine McKeon, Stephanie Merenda, Sterling Mitchell, Maria Scampone, Susan Scarinci, Barbara Schimpf, Theresa Vazquez

The office will be closed on
 Monday, January 2nd
 due to the holiday

Report of Parish Giving

Offering 12/25/16 - \$8,707.00

Adults: 975 Children: 94

Offering 12/18/16 - \$7,824.00

Adults: 575 Children: 92

Sign up for ParishPay and have your donations to Sts. Peter & Paul automatically deducted monthly from your checking or savings account or charged to your credit card. It's easy and convenient and helps our parish. Enroll at www.parishpay.com or call (866) 727-4741. We thank you for your support and are grateful to all those who use ParishPay or the envelopes.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of the parishioners who have contributed to our annual Christmas drives. The giving tree gifts and toys were distributed by the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary in Tarrytown. You have been very generous this year and we know that many people had a brighter Christmas season due to your generosity.

Are you a registered parishioner of Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula Parish?

Any new or unregistered parishioners are asked to register as soon as possible. You can register by completing the registration form found in the vestibule of the Church, by visiting our website at stspeterpaulandstursula.org, or in person at the Rectory. Registering helps us to communicate with our parishioners about the many items of importance which arise throughout the year.

Remember Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula

In your estate planning, please remember Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula Parish in your Last Will & Testament. Such a gift of any amount will create a legacy in your name which will assist our Parish in continuing the work of God in Mount Vernon and the surrounding community for generations to come.

Christmas Collection

Please be as generous as you can in this year's Christmas collection. This is a vital part of not only supporting our Parish in paying our bills, but in providing us with funds to improve the programs we already have and implement new ones, so that our Parish may continue to grow and we may better serve all the needs of our Parish family. God Bless your goodness!

Catholic Communication Campaign

Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media. Fifty percent of funds collected remain in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message.

Bread & Wine

The Bread and Wine is available the weeks of January 15, 22 & 29; February 5, 19 & 26; March 5, 12, 19 & 26. The cost is \$25. If interested please call the Rectory 668-9815.

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp is available the weeks of January 8 & 29; February 5, 19 & 26, March 5 & 19. The cost is \$10. If interested please call the Rectory 668-9815.

Faith Discussion Group

Our Faith Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, January 3rd at 11:00 a.m. New people are always welcome! If you are interested contact Ann McLoughlin at AnnMcLoug@aol.com or call (917) 363-2722.

Hope in God

Even the saints experienced times when their faith in God's goodness was tested, yet they never gave up hope; they knew that whatever happened, God's unchanging love would see them through. When you feel disheartened, pray for God's grace and hope in him. "Growing in Faith"

Parish Registration/Update

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

New Registration Change of Address

Moving out of Parish

Please return to the Rectory.

Happy New Year



*May you shine the light
of Christ in the New Year*