

The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Saturday, December 30

5:30 pm For Marianne Eidel by Maria & Mario Pirrello

Sunday, December 31

8:00 am For Paul Kennedy by Clark Family & Mass of Thanksgiving
 9:30 am For Rosemary Faccone & Maureen McDonald by Baffuto Family
 11:00 am For

Monday, January 1

10:00 am For Patti McCarthy by Fania Family

Tuesday, January 2

8:45 am For

Wednesday, January 3

8:45 am For

Saturday, January 6

10:45 am Mass at Heath Village
 5:30 pm For Thomas Dugan by Monteverde Family

Sunday, January 7

8:00 am For Vincent DiTrolio by Cannallon Family
 9:30 am For Bernard Cho by McGrath Family
 11:00 am For Mark Zeliff by Michonski Family
 For Dr. Manuel Isaias Lopez by Lopez Family

**REMEMBRANCE MEMORIALS
 FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER**

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy & Philip Marchese by Marchese family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Vito and Marie Benardone by Corry and Benardone families

Mass Candles:

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
 January 6, 7, 2018**

Saturday, 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski
 Lector: Help Needed
 Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed
 Altar Servers: Help Needed

Sunday, 8:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski
 Lector: Help Needed
 Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed
 Altar Servers: Help Needed

9:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski
 Lector: Help Needed
 Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed
 Altar Servers; Help Needed

11:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Slawomir Tomaszewski
 Lector: Help Needed
 Eucharistic Ministers: Help Needed
 Altar Servers: Help Need

*New schedules for January not available

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, January 1

8:45 am Mass
 11:30 am 5 K Run
 No Christian Education Classes

Tuesday, January 2

8:45 am Daily Mass
 No Christian Education Classes
 7:30 pm Choir

Wednesday, January 3

8:45 am Daily Mass
 7:00 pm Protecting God's Children
 7:30 pm Buildings & Grounds Meeting

Thursday, January 4

Parish Office Closed

Friday, January 5

No events

Saturday, January 6

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
 5:30 pm Mass

Sunday, January 7

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am Mass
 9:30 am Senior Youth Ministry Grade 9, 11:00 am Grade 10

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Current Year	Last Year 2016
December 24, 2017: \$1,451 Envelopes used: 24	December 25, 2016: \$1,451.00 Envelopes used: 31
Christmas: \$11,448.00 Envelopes used: 88	Christmas 2016: \$11,816.65
On-line for December \$10,210	On-line for December 2016: \$8,194
Supermarket Gift Cards: Figures not available	St. Mark's Faith Direct Church Code is NJ484

FAITH DIRECT...

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming New Year by signing up with **Faith Direct**? By supporting St. Mark the Evangelist, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using **Faith Direct**? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **NJ484** Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!
 God Bless You, Fr. Marcin

FOOD PANTRY STATUS...

The L.V. Food Pantry is about to enter the critical winter season - - There are a lot of demands on us at this time of year, but if each person just brings an item or two, it can make a huge difference. Hearty soup, hot cereal, baby food, pasta/sauce, etc. would be especially helpful at this time of year. But as always, anything you can donate will be appreciated. Merry Christmas and many thanks from the Long Valley Food Pantry.

FROM FR. MARCIN...

My dear parishioners,

We gather to celebrate the Lord's Day on this final day of the 2017 civil year and the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family is put before us by the Church this weekend as a model for our families. The family is the basic unit of society and the Church. It is in the family that we first learn to communicate, and that we learn what is good and bad. It is in the family that we learn what love is because it is in the family that we first receive love. It is in the family that we first learn to forgive and to pray. It is in the family that we first learn about God and Jesus and Our Lady. **It is in the family that we learn to value ourselves and to value everything else, picking up our values from what is said and unsaid by our parents. Our family forms us for many years to come. The future of humanity depends on the family because it is through a family that we all come.** There are many attempts to destroy the family in our times and if the family will be destroyed in western society, the western world will crumble because all humanity comes through the family. There are many attempts today to redefine the family but they do not reflect God's plan for the family.

Is our family fulfilling God's plan for our family? We desire our families to be the best possible families for our children so that they may get the best possible start in life. It is important to reflect on how our family fulfills God's plan because the family we grow up in influences us for the rest of our lives. When families reflect God's plan they are mighty. What is God's plan for the family? What does Jesus say about the family? In Matt 19:4-6 Jesus says: *"Have you not read that the Creator from the beginning made them male and female and that he said: This is why a man leaves his father and mother and becomes attached to his wife, and the two become one flesh? They are no longer two therefore, but one flesh. So then, what God has united, human beings must not divide."* These are very clear words from Jesus on God's plan for the family. It is a man and woman who become one flesh and what God has united man must not divide.

If our families are to be families reflecting God's plan for our families then they will also be families that put God first. So do you turn off the TV every night to pray together as a family? The letter to the Colossians (3:16) says: *"Let the message of Christ in all its richness find a home with you."* If faith in God is not what motivates a family, that family is starting with a disadvantage. Put Jesus in the center of your family, *"Let the message of Christ in all its richness find a home with you."*

Jesus came as a member of a family, The Holy Family of Nazareth. God chose a family to show us how all families are to find their way to him. We pray that our families fulfill God's plan because that is the only way to be happy families. The love in a family is really a reflection of the love of God. The vocation of families is to show God, to let God's light shine through.

"Family, believe in what you are; believe in your vocation to be a luminous sign of God's love"....Family, be for the people of our time a "sanctuary of life". Christian family, be a "domestic church", faithful to your evangelical vocation." John Paul II.

Family life is the key component of human society. I am praying for your family and all the families of our parish that the Lord will bless you today and in the New Year!



Tomorrow (January 1st) in the liturgy of the church we celebrate Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God. **Mass in our church is at 10AM.**

What does the title Mother of God say about Jesus? It means that the humanity and divinity of Jesus are united in Jesus. There is not a separate human Jesus and a separate divine Jesus, there is one Jesus with a human nature and a divine nature, true God and true man, and because there is one Jesus we say Mary is Mother of God.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED DECORATE OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS, especially Mary Monteverde, Susan Reilly, and Joanne Solecki. God bless you all for taking care of the House of God!

Happy and blessed New Year.

With prayer...

Fr. Marcin

*OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PRAY FOR US...
ST. MARK PRAY FOR US...*

THANK YOU...

A special thank you to Kathy Woeste for the donation of our new Nativity Set in loving memory of her husband Dave Woeste. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS IN MEMORY/HONOR OF:

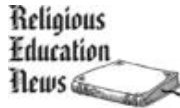
Cho Family, Hannah Magistro, Culbert Family, Dolores Milazzo, Marjorie A. and Samuel Terpstra, Jean Redmond, Charles & Ellen Eichler, Thomas & Julia Dugan, Anthony & Anna Monteverde, Patricia Barone, Ray Vanderhoof, Sr., Hannah Magistro, Thomas & Irene Walsh, Mary Walsh, Agnes and Joseph Dondero, Margi Schuelke, Judith Sullivan, Bernie Howlett, Billy Howlett, Mary & Bill Kuhl, Margaret & Johnny Burke, Frank & Claire Lankford, Frank & Pauline Pagnani, John, Patricia & Christopher Grace, Janina Klyz, Krzysztof Wilk, Cezary Czapkowski, James & Vera Griffin, Philip & Edna Labue, Joseph Callaremi, Sr., Dave Woeste, Robert & Katherine Hughes, Jane & Jim Pedlow, Patti Hughes, Chris Perry, Bill Perry, Marilyn Uccardi, Cabbage Family, McCarver Family, Josephine Mancuso, Olga & Leasar Sabbagh, Samantha & Connor Mead, Ronald Sabbagh, Donald Family, Huntz & Hayko Families, Helen Guzik, Lennon & Onorevole Families



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT...

OLM – Second Monday of each month from 7-8 pm, Next Adoration is on January 8th

St. Mark– Last Monday of each month from 7-8 pm. Next Adoration is on January 29th



ANTIOCH RETREAT FOOD SIGN UP SHEET... Once again we need your help feeding the Confirmation Candidates, Peers, and adults on their retreat. There are specific items needed. Please see the sign-up sheet in the gathering space. Your support is greatly appreciated.

FUNDRAISING MEETING... Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 pm. Please join us as we discuss future fundraising events. All are welcome

ST. MARK'S NEW YEARS DAY 5K RUN on JANUARY 1 11:30 AM...

You may sign up on line at

<https://newyearsday5k.wixsite.com/race> or you can register the morning of the race for a fee of \$35. This is a great way to start the year off with a bang. If you are interested, please reach out to Pat Regan at Patrick.regan@outlook.com.

We really want this to be a family event but all participants must either walk or run; due to insurance limitations we cannot have children on bikes, dogs or strollers as part of this event. Thank you.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SARAH'S FIGHT FOR HOPE FOUNDATION...

Bunco Night Fundraiser & Designer Bag Raffle. January 17th here at St. Mark's, doors open at 6:30 pm-game start 7:30 pm. Pre-sale donation \$20, at door \$25. Group of 4 \$70, door prizes, coffee/tea and dessert. BYOB & Appetizers ONLY with table Reservation \$20. Ticket purchase: www.sarahsfightforhope.org.

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21: 1-3

Abram shows us the Lord keeps His promises, for his offspring were indeed many, like the stars in heaven. We, too, must trust in the Lord, so like Abram, our families might prosper.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

By faith Abraham and Sarah were blessed with Isaac, and through him, many descendants because they trusted in God's promise and believed in what they could not see. We see that faith, trust and prayer bring forth God's miracles in our lives.

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.



All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Randi Alloway, Richard Alvarez, Tony Atkins, Charlie, Natalie Rose Bassett, Kenneth Bernisky, Bill Betz, Luz Bracero, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Arlene Cichlar, Hannah Clark, Emily Condit, Kaitlin Cross, Natalia Danilczuk, Krish Dharia, Catherine DiPasquale, Elizabeth, Connie Elliott, Larry Fine, Tracey F, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Jerry Green, Barbara Gotterdam, Louie Gutierrez, Helen Greenly, Harper Lynn Granito, Regina Hague, Claudia Harrington, William Heimsly, Bob Hodiern, Maria Dougherty Jante, Donna Jennings, Laurel Jilek, Joey, Claudia Kallmeyer, Jim Karpinski, Kevin Kay, Russell H. Keller, Mary Koenig, Jean Koenig, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris,, Margaret Leon, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Wayne Marks, Anthony Marino, Norman Milz, Marie Molloy, Irene, Madelyn S. Maruggi, Raymond McCarthy Jr., Jonathon McClelland, Meghan McDonough, Harold & Mary McKay, Edward Michonski, Sr., Kathy Minichini, Robert Neilson, Sr., Maryanne & Jack Newell, Girard Nolte, Jr., Marilyn O'Connor, Josh Olsen, Jim Owens, Arlene Parikh, Nicky Piloni, Clifford Reynolds, Jim Robinson, Ryan, Jillian Elizabeth Sayer, Jeff Schpiner, Rev. Frank Rodimer, Rhonda Soto, Special Intention, Judy Stone, Cindy, Sullivan, William Thompson, Mary Travisano, Debbie Trepkau, Rev. Zbigniew Tyburski, Anne Walsh, Robert Ron Werner, Marie Zimbile

Every now and then we try to update our prayer list of names of the sick and special intentions. We have alphabetized the names in the hopes of making them easier to read. There are some names that we in the parish office cannot associate with a person who made the request to pray for them. Please look over the list and if you requested prayers for a person please call the office to let us know if you wish to continue to be on this prayer list.

