

# CHRISTMAS 2014



Christmas Mass will be celebrated  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**4:00pm**

*with a special homily for the children*

**7:00pm**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**Midnight**

*with a candlelit procession to the crèche  
and music for congregation, choir, organ and brass*

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The prelude will begin at 11:30pm on Christmas Eve.

**10:00am**



## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

*a Holy Day of Obligation*

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at 5:15pm  
and on Thursday, January 1, 2015 at 9:00am.

Dear Parishioners,

An update on the ramp: Two weeks ago, I signed a contract with a local engineer, who is preparing drawings for a ramp, and will help us obtain the proper permits and approvals. These things always take more time than we'd like—and the last few weeks have been a tremendous sacrifice for those who haven't been able to get into the church for lack of access—but following the proper procedures now means no problems down the road.

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As in years past, we will be sending a bus to Washington, DC on January 22 for the annual March for Life. I hope to accompany a group of teens and parents down the day before, so that we can participate in the Vigil Mass at the National Shrine, as well as the Mass for Youth the morning of the March. Please watch the bulletin for details.

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On Monday, January 5, we will begin celebrating daily Mass (Monday through Friday) in the adoration chapel. We'll move back to the church on Ash Wednesday. There are several reasons for this move, the primary one being economical: we cannot afford to heat our 800-seat church each day for anywhere from ten to thirty people.

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While we're on the topic of finances: Right after the new year, we will send to every household the financial statement for last year (September 2013-August 2014), as well as a detailed explanation. In the past, your generosity at Christmas has been overwhelming; I hope and pray that this year will be no different, because, like everyone else, we're running very lean right now.

Deacon Rich and the parish staff join me in wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled new year!

Faithfully your priest,  
Fr. George Hafemann

The Junior and Senior Choirs are sponsoring their **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE** this weekend. Stock up for all your Christmas visitors on cookies, dessert breads, brownies, fudge, etc. The proceeds from the bake sale help us buy new music and hire brass players for Christmas and Easter. We are grateful for your support!

**S.M.A.R.T.** will be **DECORATING THE RECTORY FOR CHRISTMAS** this afternoon at 4:00pm. Dinner will be served. All teens in grades 8-12 are welcome. Please be sure to let Fr. George know if you'll be participating.

We're pleased to announce a **FUNDRAISER FOR ST. MARY'S**, which will benefit our parishioners as well as the parish. We are embarking on a partnership with a national wellness company that offers a wide variety of consumable products at economical prices. The parish receives a commission on all purchases made. We will be offering one-hour presentations to explain the program and enroll families/individuals with this company. We invite everyone to participate; therefore, please make an effort to attend one of the presentations in the next few months. There will be one in the church hall this Monday, December 22 at 7:00pm; the next one will be announced shortly.

We will be **DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS** on Tuesday, December 23 at 6:30pm. Many hands make light work, so all are welcome to assist! (This is an excellent service opportunity for Confirmation candidates.)

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will close at noon on Christmas Eve and reopen on Monday, December 29 at 9:30am.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS** may be left in the designated collection box at the back of the church.

We would like to start a **SOUP KITCHEN**, which will serve our neighbors in need once a month. Those who are interested in learning more or volunteering are invited to a gathering on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7:00pm in the parish office. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak with Fr. George.

We're pleased to announce the beginning of a new ministry for middle school students. **G.E.M.S.** ("God's Extraordinary Middle Schoolers") will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the church hall. The invitation is open to those in grades 6 through 8. It will follow the format of S.M.A.R.T.: a meeting each month, with apostolic service and social activities in alternating months. Watch the bulletin for more details, or visit the G.E.M.S. page on the parish website.

## ANNOUNCED MASSES

### Monday, December 22

9:00am Cynthia A. Monchino, by the Birkenstock family  
Thomas Osowick, by Dick and Eppie Harford

### Tuesday, December 23 (John of Kanty, priest)

9:00am Michelle Marino, by Deacon Rich and Joanne Marino  
Maikowski and Kreckel families, by Pauline Kreckel and family

### Wednesday, December 24 (CHRISTMAS EVE)

4:00pm the parishioners of St. Mary's  
7:00pm Our deceased pastors, by Fr. George

### Thursday, December 25 (CHRISTMAS)

12:00am Oscar Lynch, by Fr. George  
10:00am Theresa Carrino, by the residents of Park Plaza

### Friday, December 26 (Stephen, the first martyr)

9:00am Stephanie Tooley, by the family

### Saturday, December 27

4:00pm the parishioners of St. Mary's

### Sunday, December 28 (Holy Family)

8:30am Robert Ritchie, by the Ritchie family  
11:30am Louis P. Sarno, Sr., by Mike and Mary Ann McCarthy

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Marion Rohner, Nick Moscatiello, Andrea Fedoruk, Richard Samek, Betty Brennan, Joe Brennan, Angela Portella, Mike Castle, Walter Szpakowicz, Danielle Scibek, Pauline Portella, John McKean, Katie Onofry, John Launt, Theresa Fuller, David Drasba, Jeremiah Stasilli, Daniel Bonet, Maureen Hildrbrandt, Joseph Portella, Catherine Simons, Mary Platania, Vada Glass, Donald Wolff, Michael Barnes, William Linclon, Joseph Livingston, Jeff Sauschuck, Bernard Clune, Amanda Evelech, Anna Onuschak, Joseph Kham, Andrew Witkowski, Jackie Mundy, Makara Craig, Barbara Nachand, Betty Corcoran, Allen Van Starrex, Carol Wittine, and Agnes Murray.

The **ETERNAL WORD TELEVISION NETWORK (EWTN)** carries special programming at Christmas, including Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses from Rome and from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, as well as special performances and features for children, teens, and the whole family. EWTN is available locally on channel 97.

**2015 CALENDARS** are available in the narthex. They are the generous gift of the Gray-Parker Funeral Home and the Knight-Auchmoody Funeral Home.

The collection for December 13/14 was \$6,252.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.

### *Liturgical Ministers for December 27/28, 2014*

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	T. LOTHIAN	K. FLYNN, J. FLYNN, D. MURO	S. MOREJON, G. & L. ROBERTSON
8:30AM	M. LATINI	N. ARROYO, J. TAYLOR, M. REEVES	J. KLOTZ, S. KLOTZ, D. KLOTZ
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	T. MARION, N. SMITH	J. MALDONADO, B. BIRKENSTOCK, J. LEGATO