

The Nativity of the Lord December 24 & 25, 2016

Christmas Blessings

Mass Intentions

Saturday ~ Christmas Vigil

6:30 PM † Mr. & Mrs. Consolacion Agabin / Nori Corpuz Family

9:00 PM ~ **Christmas During the Night**
Universal Church

Sunday ~ The Nativity of the Lord
9:00 AM Jason Scott (birthday)

Monday
8:00 AM † Natalie Dobb / Jill Caudill

Tuesday
8:00 AM † Cece LaManna / Altar Society

Wednesday ~ Holy Innocents
8:00 AM † Richard & Mary Sullivan / R. & H. Sullivan

Thursday
8:00 AM † Edwin Lee Peters / Ashley Riis

Friday ~The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00 AM † Darlene Hasselback / Ernie Hasselback

Saturday
5:00 PM † Jerry Chubb / Patricia Chubb

For Mass intentions for a deceased loved one or for a special intention, contact the office at 251-962-3649.

Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Kindly pray for our parish family and all those who are journeying in a special way with Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Martha Broz, Pat Chubb, Pat Clemens, **Diane Dickerson**, Ed Dubin, Barbara & Elizabeth Edwards, Nicole Fehn, **Harry Fletcher**, Jo Flynn, **June Henderson**, **Judy Jordan**, Mary Link, **Curfis Malone**, Monk Manning, Richard Muller, Bob & Margaret Nail, Richard Peterson, Annie Rutledge, **Anita Sanford**, Mary Stenzel, Margaret Schaff, Sr. Thérèse, **Rick** & Pat Van Norden, Cece Vaness

~ Prayer Requests ~

Terry Danson – 251-961-2165 or tsdanson@gmail.com

If you know of someone or if you are homebound, ill, due to have surgery, or in the hospital and would like a visit from the pastor or receive the sacraments, please call the rectory or the office.

First Friday Memorial Mass Association

Our Loved Ones – Bob & Margaret Nail
Living & Deceased Kaiser, Klein & Murphy Families
Living & Deceased Scott & Weiss Families
Living & Deceased Bush, Alvarez & McAleer Families
Living & Deceased Mullek & McCandless Families
Living & Deceased Patton & Norton Families
Living & Deceased Shields & Self Families
Living & Deceased Cretaro Family

† James E. Link
† Deacon John Cretaro
† Anita Warriner
† Joseph LaManna
† Doris Mullek
Frank Mullek, Jr.
† Mignon Kilday

Living & Deceased Kilday Family
Living & Deceased Chubb & Burns Families
Living & Deceased Lacoy & Clancy Families
Living & Deceased Kearns & Patterson Families
Living & Deceased Lang & Pope Families
Living & Deceased Altar Society Members
The Baptized Who Do Not Practice Their Faith
Holy Souls in Purgatory

This Week's Schedule

Monday 8:30 AM Rosary Cenacle – IM Hall
Wednesday 9:00 AM Adult Faith Formation
Bible Study – IM Hall
Wednesday 10:30 AM Choir Practice
Wednesday 11:30 AM Chair Aerobics – IM Hall

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND

5 PM = 100 8 AM = 47 10:30 AM = 70 Total = 217

STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Gift for December 18 = \$1,921.75
Maintenance = \$71.00

Please pray for Fr. Maria on his Priestly Ordination Anniversary on December 27 and also for his congregation.

New Year's Mass Schedule

Dec. 31, 2016 – 5:00 PM – New Year's Eve Mass
Jan. 1, 2017 – 9:00 AM – New Year's Day Mass



A BIG THANK YOU to **ALL** who helped and participated in any way to make our Christmas Dinner Party such a joyful event — especially the dancers and carolers!

OUR SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION

to anyone who helped to prepare our church and the *Liturgical Celebrations for Christmas*: sacristans, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, lectors, altar servers, music ministry, bearers of gifts, ushers, carolers, cleaners and decorators. Thank you to those who filled in where they saw a need. Please call our Stewardship chairman, Harriet Shields (205-405-7499), or the office if you would like to serve in any of the above ministries.



WELCOME ~ Thank you for attending Mass with us today. We welcome all our visitors and new members and invite you to join in the ministries of our parish by sharing your gifts and talents. If you are not currently a registered member and wish to be, please fill out a census card in the vestibule or contact the parish office. Offertory envelopes are mailed quarterly and are also available at the office.

Gospel Reflections

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the imminent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.



"Coffee with the Padre" ~ will be **January 8** – The Epiphany of the Lord.

We are looking forward to our January hosts, who will be the CCD parents, teachers and students. Everyone is invited for fellowship on the 2nd Sunday of January from 9 AM to 10 AM. If you would like to help with our monthly Sunday fellowship gatherings, check the schedule on the bulletin board and call the contact person listed, or call our Hospitality Chairman, Barbara Bennett, at 850-549-3472.

May God bless you and your loved ones, and may each of you have a Merry and Holy Christmas.
Sincerely in the Lord,
Father Maria



Church Cleaning – January 2016

Restrooms, etc. – Charlene & Jason Crump
Floors/Pews – Marlene Fuller

A schedule is posted on the bulletin board. If you are not able to keep your commitment, call Harriet Shields. Instructions are posted on cabinet door in sink closet.

ATTENTION: Mary Stenzel is very sick and will not be returning this winter. Please volunteer to help Marlene for one of the months from January through April.

<u>Dec. 31 & Jan. 1</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Ext. Ministers</u>
Sat.: 5:00 PM	Children	J. & N. Alemany
Sun: 9:00 AM	M. Handzus	B. & M. McCandless



Christmas Flowers ~ Please fill out an envelope located in the pews and place it in the offertory collection. Thank you for all you do to help beautify our church.

Altar Society Epiphany Breakfast Potluck

January 5 – 8:30 AM ~ All women of the parish are invited to join in our annual Christmas Party. Bring something to eat to share. In place of a gift exchange, we ask each person to bring \$10 to give to Food for the Poor, the charity chosen to be gifted this year.



ST. JOSEPH PARISH COOKBOOK SPECIAL
Last week to get your cookbook for **\$9.00**. Great birthday and wedding gifts! They are available in the office, or call Harriet Shields at 1-205-405-7499.

"CIRCLE OF CARE" ~ If anyone is in need of a ride to the doctor, store, church, etc., please call Sr. Thérèse or the office. See *Circle of Care* cards in the vestibule.

REMINDER ~ "Divine Mercy for America" Novena begins on the first day of **every** month. Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany of the Saints for respect for the dignity of all life, sanctity of traditional marriage and families, and threat to our religious freedom – for the glory of God and salvation of souls.

Catholic Social Service Food Pantry

This is the LAST WEEK to provide nonperishable food for the CSS food pantry in Robertsedale. Place items in the container in the vestibule or bring them to the classroom in IM Hall during office hours. Please check the bulletin board notice for urgent needs.

MOBILE CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES ~ Seminarians from St. John Vianney Seminary who are interested in serving homeowners with minor home repairs are coming late in January 2017. Services will be provided in conjunction with Catholic Social Services. Call Joseph Bayer at 251-434-1550 or email jlbayer@mobarch.org.

The Old Country Philosopher Sez - Bob Nail
I see God everywhere, no matter where I look.
I feel His very presence when I read His Holy Book.
So you see it's not hard
To find our Lord and King.
All you have to do is seek
And then your heart will sing.



<u>Gift Bearers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Children	F. Mullek / Sal Pinzone
J. Williams / L. Willis	J. Crump / B. Jarveis