

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 27, 2009

Sunday, December 27 – Feast of the Holy Family

9:00 am – Jean Reed (Barbara & Mike Betts)
11:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, December 28

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 29

NO MASS

Wednesday, December 30

6:00 pm – For Peace in Our World

Thursday, December 31, Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary

5:00 pm – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, January 1, New Year's Day

NO MASS

Saturday, January 2

NO MASS

Sunday, January 3, Epiphany

9:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi
11:00 am – Special Intention (Sue Cruickshank)

Schedule of Liturgical Ministries

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Phyllis DeVictor, Frank Schneider

Midnight – Lorri Kuczynski, Tom Main

Christmas 10 am – Kathleen Dancy, Maggie McCoy

Dec 27– 9 am – Tina Mohn, Rick Miller

11 am – Jim Gremling, Ariana Gremling

Servers

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sophia Brown, Jordan Griffith

Midnight – Steven Hillyer; **Christmas 10 am** – Chris Paisley

Dec 27– 9 am – Linda Wolfe; 11 am – Isabel Tonneman

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sam Hulett

Midnight – Dan Tonneman; **Christmas 10 am** – N Booth

Dec 27– 9 am – Frank Schneider; 11 am – Julie Byrne

Lectors

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sue Cruickshank, ME O'Shaughnessy

Midnight – Louise Celebrezze, Ben Gibbons

Christmas 10 am – Carolyn Jurkowitz, Larry Charles

Dec 27– 9 am – Leslie Main, Sue Cruickshank

11 am – Larry Charles, Ben Gibbons

Eucharistic Ministers

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Joanna Nunn, Judy Petrou, Julie Byrne

Midnight – Linda Wolfe, Mary Ann Kerscher, Dan Kerscher

Christmas 10 am – Jan Rosenfield, Nancy Booth, Barb Finan

Dec 27– 9 am – Jaime Capestany, Dan Kerscher, Mary Ann Kerscher; 11 am – Judy Petrou, Marilyn Smith, Dan Tonneman

Christmas Caroling! Mark your calendars now for a special night of Christmas caroling, **TODAY, Sunday, December 27**. We will meet at the church at 5:45 pm, and then walk and sing our way to Westminster Thurber and Heartland Victorian Village. Afterwards, we'll meet in the church hall for warm beverages and holiday snacks. Please bring a finger food to share. Come one, come all!

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

- NO Bible Study at Westminster Thurber
- NO Bible Study

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

- Parish Office Closed

Sunday, December 27

- Christmas Caroling, meet at church at 5:45 pm

Looking Ahead ...

Monday, December 28

- Parish Office Closed (except for collection counting)

Tuesday December 29

- Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 30

- Assemble Epiphany Chalk, 10:30 am
- RCIA, 7 pm, hall

Thursday, December 31

- NO Bible Study at Westminster Thurber
- NO Bible Study

Friday, January 1

- Parish Office Closed

Christmas / Year End Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
5 pm and Midnight (carols begin at 11:30 pm)

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
One Mass only at 10 am

Note: No evening Mass or Confessions on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 27 (Feast of the Holy Family)
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule - 9 am and 11 am

NO 6 pm Weekday Mass on Tuesday, December 29

Mass for the Solemnity of Mary
Vigil Only - Thursday, December 31, at 5 pm
No Mass and No Confessions on January 1

Sunday, January 3 (Epiphany)
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule - 9 am and 11 am



Save this date! The annual Mardi Gras Pasta Dinner will be held in the parish hall on **Saturday, February 13, 2010** from noon to 7 pm. Please invite your friends to this day of great food and great fun. We'll be looking for volunteers to help decorate the hall, cook and serve the food, donate raffle prizes,

sell tickets, and more. If you've helped before, you already know that we'll have a great time. If you're a newcomer, you'll find out what makes this dinner one of the best days of the year for our parish. You'll be hearing more from us soon. Your partners in pasta: David Burgess / gvuy65@hotmail.com and Therese Terndrup / tterndrup00@hotmail.com

Pastoral Reflections ~ for December 24, 25, and 27, 2009

Christians long to connect with others to experience Christmas. Families travel, friends send cards, strangers huddle in homeless shelters and on battlefields, to find God being with us. The coming of God-Who-Longed-To-Be-A-Member-Of-Our-Family is real when we step away from our treasured independence and huddle with someone or some ones else. In our church today, we have sat with, sang with, prayed with family, neighbors, and strangers and experienced God-as-Family. Christmas, Holy Family, Epiphany --- the gatherings that replace the loneliness, the lights that replace the darkness. May you find the blessing of family, may you find the peace of God-with-us. ~ Fr. Ron

Parish News and Information

"Like incense let my prayer arise" Ps. 141:1

Pray the Prayer of the Church each day with the *People's Breviary*, www.peoplesbreviary.com.

Epiphany Chalk ... we have a tradition at St Francis of Assisi, of providing parishioners with Epiphany Chalk, to commemorate the Magi's visit to the Christ Child. We need help assembling the chalk and prayer cards that are handed out at Masses on January 3. This is a fun project for children, to participate in the life of the parish. **Project date is Wednesday, December 30, at 10:30 am.** If your child would like to help, please call / email the parish office. 614.299.5781

FYI, the bulletin for January 3 has already been submitted to the printer, due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Flower Donations (Received to date)

We are grateful to the following people, who made contributions to our flower fund, to help decorate our church ... we will continue to print donations received as they come in to the office.

Mary Joan & Jack Beckman, from John Beckman ...
Byrne & Geoghegan Families, from M/M Robert Geoghegan ...
Erin Virginia McKenzie, from Gary & Barb McKenzie ... Harry Segal & Richard Marinucci, Sr, from Mark & Marie Segal ...
Margaret Balint & Walter and Helen Hoag, from Terri & Walter Hoag ... Jordan & Anna Petrou, from Judy Petrou & Kevin Griffith ... J Bernard Hughes, from Eileen Hughes ... The Ciardelli & Chadwick Families, from John Ciardelli ... The Smith, Shea, & Miller Families, from Dennis & Carol Smith ... DGB, from his niece ... McClaskey Family ... Mr/Mrs Stanley Newton, from John Newton ... Sam Hulett, Sandy Hulett, & Margaret Amicon, from Sam Hulett ... Richard Palencar, Sr & Jr, from Marlene Palencar ... Kuczynski & Wojcik Families & Anne Marie Loutzenhiser, from Lorri Kuczynski ... Christopher Calvey, from Sara Pastore ... Joseph, Ruth & Michael Dunleavy, from Tim Dunleavy ... Gary Hillyer & Ricky Stull, from Steven Hillyer ... Deceased Family Members of Schneider & Venturini Families, from M/M Francis R Schneider ... Patterson & DeVactor Families, from Phyllis DeVactor ... Chris & Paul Kline, and Mary Lou Hicks, from Carol & Dennis Kline ... Ray & Carolene Smith and Francis & Jean Unger, from Randy Smith & Judy Unger ... Nina Scharlott, from Bill & Fran Scharlott ... "Peace on Earth" from Jackie & Dan Emch ... Ralston Family ... Dundee, from Sandy Glasner ...

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Christmas Prayers and Poems

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May there be harmony in all your relationships. May sharp words, envious thoughts, and hostile feelings be dissolved.

May you give and receive love generously. May this love echo in your heart like the joy of church bells on a clear December day.

May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ. May the honor given the Babe of Bethlehem be that which you extend to every guest who enters your presence.

May the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened within you. May it lead you to renewed awareness and appreciation of whatever you too easily take for granted.

May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as you gather with your family and friends around the table of festivity and nourishment.

May the coming year be one of good health for you. May you have energy and vitality. May you care well for your body, mind, and spirit.

May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit the One who offers you peace. May you bring this peace into our world.

*Out of the Ordinary, by Joyce Rupp
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FIRST COMING ~ *Madeleine L'Engle (1918—2007)*

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.

He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.

He came when the need was deep and great.

He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine. He did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy he came
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.

To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the starts was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane

to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,

He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Special Thanks

We extend special thanks to all those who have helped us over the past several weeks -- to those who made Mandalas for decoration during Advent; to those who baked cookies for nursing home residents; to those who distributed the cookie tins; to those who made donations to Pater Noster House; to those who helped clean the church and hall; to those who helped paint our new meeting rooms; to those who helped decorate the church for Christmas; to all liturgical ministers -- Greeters, Servers, Crucifers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Choir Members. We also thank those who have assisted us on an on-going basis, and provided -- weekly church cleaning; minor repairs in the church and rectory, and coordinating inventory and supplies. We are most grateful for your efforts!