

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 22 - 4:00pm
Al & Helen Staar - requested by Rose Staar

Sunday, December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:00am

Gerald Demers - requested by Lisa & Michael Siraco

10:30am
Ginny & Tanny George and John Valliere

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve
4:00pm

The McCarty family - requested by Darlene & Mason

Midnight Mass
The deceased members of the Sullivan family

Tuesday, December 25 - 9:00am The Nativity of the Lord
Gerry Derepeningy - requested by his wife Mary

Wednesday, December 26
 NO MASS

Thursday, December 27 - 8:30am
Sumner Menken - requested by his wife

Friday, December 28 - 8:30am
Maurice Vachon - requested by Sue, Lee Forest & family

Saturday, December 29 - 4:00pm
Mr. & Mrs. George Brown - requested by the family

Sunday, December 30 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
7:00am

Lorraine Dubisz - requested by her husband

10:30am
Grace Bucchino - requested by her family



Christmas & Feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass Schedules

Monday, December 24th:
 4pm & Midnight
 Tuesday, December 25th: 9am
 Monday, December 31st, 6pm
 Tuesday, January 1st, 9am

**The Parish Office will be closed from December 24th - 26th.
 Merry Christmas!**



Let us pray for these special intentions: For all our parishioners that are homebound and in nursing homes; for all our parishioners, family and friends that are struggling with illness or recovering from surgeries; and for Virginia Clark, Maurice Allard, Joe Bennett, Larry Green, Jackie Theodorou, Paul Allard, Richard Tanguay, RFG, Acilda Dachowski, Roger Mustone, Richard Joyce, Joan Bick, Norma Lemire, Rita Marshall, Claire Dachowski, Fr. Joe Gurdak, Mary Sylvain, Stephen P. Gilmartin, Bob & Linda Tetreault, Arthur Proulx, Aiden Weeds, Ginny Gallien, Linda Tajieux, Laura Jankowski, Kathy Klamm, Roland Dufour, Corrine Holebrook, Harry Mein, Shirley Gazda, Maurice Lavigne, Jean Levasseur Steve Price and Noël Rinaldi.



This morning I noticed in the local newspaper that four students at SNHU made one little girl extremely happy. Little Maggie was born without part of her arm yet loved riding her bicycle. She was now at the age of riding a two-wheeler, but being limited, would not be able to balance herself. So the four science majors spent a whole semester designing a special prosthetic to fit her arm, so that she could now balance herself easily while riding. You should have seen the look on the little girl's face as she took her first ride on her two-wheeler! She was beaming with absolute delight and joy! I thought of this story as I read this Sunday's Gospel when John the Baptist "leaped for joy" in his mother's womb when he heard Mary's voice while greeting his mother. She was Mary's cousin Elizabeth. John leaped for joy just as little Maggie leaped for joy because the goodness of God shone through to them by the loving kindness of good people. For John, it was the loving kindness of our Blessed Mother who opened her heart to her elder cousin who was pregnant. For Maggie, it was the loving kindness of the four students who gave their time and talent to make one little child happy. Said one student: "It was really fantastic to see Maggie smiling and laughing and figuring out how to put her new arm on all by herself." When we reflect on both of these stories about loving kindness, we realize what Christmas is all about. It is about giving joy and hope to other people, especially those in need. When we are willing to sacrifice something of our own lives for others, it is the greatest gift we can give. It is celebrating Christmas in its truest sense. In this weekend's bulletin you will find an insert which is my Letter to the Parish. It is a letter in which I share what are the next steps in compiling our returns of the new Parish Registration Form. But more than that it is my way of saying thank you for your generous response in wanting to serve our parish in a greater way. You have truly made my heart leap for joy!! Your loving kindness is the greatest Christmas gift you can give to the newborn Babe, our Lord Jesus Christ. It is also a gift that we need to give to one another, so that we too can keep our parish life in balance!!

Merry Christmas! ~ Fr. John

WHAT MORE CAN WE ASK FOR?

"For like the multitude of snowflakes we are all unique: uniquely created by a loving God, uniquely gifted to serve Him while on earth. We are both the gift and the gifted, given by a loving God to His beautiful garden of creation. What more can we ask for?"

C. Lee

**STEWARDSHIP: FAITHFUL & GENEROUS:
 December 15 & 16, 2018**

Weekend Offertory

Envelopes \$2,506.18
 Loose \$ 983.06
 Electronic Offering \$ 265.00
Total Offertory: \$3,754.24

General Parish Fund

Candles: \$54.00
 Adoration Chapel: \$27.49
Outreach Fund
 St. Anthony Bread for the Poor: \$307.00
 Food Pantry: \$20.00
 Special Outreach Donation: \$1,200.00

Christmas Gift to my Parish: \$6,133.00



**Thank you for your continued support of our Parish
 and our Outreach Programs.**

PARISH LEADERSHIP

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

St. Anthony Food Pantry	
Colleen Hayward	289-5276
My Brother's Keeper Sleeping Bags	
Rosemary McNair	647-2797
Shoes For Kids/General Outreach	
Lisa Siraco	622-5445
St. Anne's Closet (clothing for children)	
Karen McAndrew	464-0331
Parish Elderly Ministry	
Diane Steele	669-8825

PARISH MINISTRIES

Adoration Chapel	
Irene de Repentigny	622-7775
Boy/Cub Scouts	
Ron St. Cyr	622-8182
Parish Prayer Line	
Gemma Houde	668-3993
Funeral Ministry	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Liturgical Ministers (Eucharist Lectors, Altar Servers)	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Memorial Meals	
Gloria Pilotte	623-8173
Terry Sylvain	669-2582
Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Diane Sufat	625-8665
Religious Education (Gr. K-8)	
Martha & Steve Donohue	627-4868
RCIA	
Sr. Marjorie Lupien	622-5445
Secular Franciscan Order	
Nick Cort	224-4605
Social Committee	
Donna Guertin	669-5232
Youth Group	
Ellen Donohue	867-8881

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Baptism, Marriage, Sacrament of the Sick	
Fr. John Bucchino, ofm	622-5445

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Director & Organist, Adult Choir and Cantors:



Sunday, December 23

* NO Religious Ed classes today

Monday, December 24

* **Parish Office Closed today**

* NO Boy Scouts tonight

Tuesday, December 25

* **Parish Office Closed today**

Wednesday, December 26

* **Parish Office Closed today**

* St. Anne's Closet, closed today

* Food Pantry, 1-3pm, Last names Q-Z

* Marian Prayer Cenacle, 7pm, chapel

Thursday, December 27

* NO Cub Scouts tonight

Sunday, December 30

* NO Religious Ed classes today

* Secular Franciscans, 1-3pm, church hall



St. Theresa of Lisieux Adoration Chapel

Open Daily: 7am-7pm

Open Hours:

Sundays: 7am & 2pm

Fridays: 5pm

Saturdays: 11am & 12pm

Call Irene de Repentigny, Chapel Coordinator at 622-7775 for more information.

If you can't commit to a permanent hour, please consider giving your name as a substitute to cover an adorer when they go on vacation, are sick or have an appointment.



Please remember in your prayers **Robert Schlottmann, Jr.** who was called to his eternal rest and the glory of the Resurrection promised by the Lord. May the Holy Spirit bring peace and comfort to his loved ones.

Franciscan Mission Service Are you eager to follow the example of St. Francis and St. Clare and serve alongside the economically poor in our society? Do you yearn to learn about living simply, intentional community, and Franciscan spirituality? Consider joining Franciscan Mission Service's Overseas Lay Mission Program or DC Service Corps Program. FMS is an organization that rejoices in the diverse experiences of lay people (21 or older) willing to encounter Christ in the margins! For more information call: 202-832-1762 or visit franciscanmissionservice.org



300 Club - Week 14 Winners

- #33 Sue Robinson
- #63 Joanne Dupuis
- #177 George Hamel
- #238 Claire Dachowski
- #276 Cheryl Kula

Congratulations!

2019 Catholic Calendars

Thanks to **Connor Healy Funeral Home**, we once again have free 2019 Catholic calendars available. The calendars list all the holy days, feast days and highlight lent/advent. We have a limited amount, so, please, just one calendar per household.

The calendars are available on the table in the back of the church.

Safety Notice: Imported Wooden Nativities & Crafts

We received a request for the NH Department of Agriculture to pass this important notice on to parishioners that may have purchased any hand carved wooden nativities, ornaments or décor from Israel. Many churches sold these items at their craft fairs (not at Blessed Sacrament). Some items have been found to have dead insects. Upon review by an expert at the Smithsonian Museum, it was determined that the insects where *Xylotrechus Smei*, a small long-horned beetle from Asia, never before detected in the US. These invasive insects threaten our agriculture, forestry and the environment. If you have purchased any of these items, here is what the State Entomologist suggests:

- Listen for the sound of chewing
- Look for weak spots in the wood. When opened, look for an adult, pupal or larval insect.
- Small or large exit holes; boring dust or frass (sawdust).

If you find any of these, here's what is suggested to do:

- Take photos and upload at nhbugs.org
- Secure the wooden craft to prevent insect release. Use tightly sealed container, or double bag the item using heavy duty garbage bags. Seal any holes with tape.
- Capture any live insects, put them in a container and place in the refrigerator.