



*Mass Intentions for the Week*

- 12-30 Mon 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners  
**New Year's Eve**
- 12-31 Tues 5:00 PM James Householder  
By the Mom & Victoria  
**Solemnity of Mary**
- 1-1 Wed 10:30 AM Daniel Philip Rafferty  
By Bob & Pat Smith
- 1-2 Thurs 9:00 AM All deceased parishioners
- 1-3 Fri 9:00 AM Communion Service  
(weather permitting)
- 1-4 Sat 4:00 PM Terry Nicolini  
By Dick & Audrey Regan
- 1-5 Sun 10:30 AM All deceased parishioners

**Annual Seminarian Fund Collection**  
On the weekend of January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> the Knights of Columbus will take up a collection after Mass to support seminarians in the Albany and Syracuse Dioceses. Please prayerfully consider how you can support these men preparing for the priesthood.



**Roof Construction**

The replacement of the roof is completed! There is still some outside cleanup to be completed as weather permits. Several parishioners have noticed the difference the new insulation makes. In time we expect to see a difference in fuel costs.

**Special meeting for Knights of Columbus**

It is time to plan for 2025! The Knights of Columbus are having a special planning meeting for our council on Monday December 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Do you wish to solicit the Knight's support for an upcoming event or cause? —let us know so we can plan for it!



The parish offices will be closed Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, and Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 in observance of the New Year holiday.

**Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth**

The incarnation is a great mystery that opens our minds and hearts to many wonderful things about life including the beauty of the human family. God took on our human nature and became a member of the human family with Mary and Joseph. He descended to our human level to teach us to appreciate and cherish our family bonds and friendships.

On this Sunday after Christmas, we celebrate and honor the uniqueness of the Holy Family of Mary, Joseph, and the Child Jesus. This Family remains a model and icon to all families. They teach us the virtues of love, faith, respect, and devotion to God and one another. The Holy Family had their share of the joy and sadness of life. They walked together as one family. The evil threats by King Herod forced Mary and Joseph to flee with their Child Jesus into Egypt. They became refugees and asylum seekers in a foreign land. Yet, in the trials and misfortunes of life, they placed their complete trust in God's saving power.

In the first reading, we learn about a family that was grounded in prayer and religious traditions. Hannah was a barren woman married to Elkanah. She was desperate for a child. Hannah prayed to God and promised to dedicate her child to God's service if her request is granted. God answered her prayer by removing the barrenness from her. Hannah conceived and she gave birth to her firstborn son whom they named Samuel. Filled with joy and gratitude, she and her husband Elkanah came to Shilo to dedicate their child Samuel to God under the care and guidance of Eli, the priest. Samuel grew up and he became a great prophet and a spiritual leader in Israel.

The psalmist invites us to acknowledge the loveliness of God's dwelling place. He reminds us that those who dwell in the house of the Lord are blessed with happiness.

In the gospel, Mary and Joseph followed their Jewish traditions and heritage by traveling with Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. On their way back home to Nazareth, Jesus stayed behind in the Jerusalem temple but his parents did not know about it. Later, Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was missing and they searched for him for three days. Finally, they found him in the temple listening to the Scribes and Teachers of the Law and asking them questions. This was a big sigh of relief for both parents. Mary's statement tells it all: "Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety".

Perhaps Mary and Joseph expected an apology from Jesus but that did not come. Jesus told them "Didn't you know that I must be in my father's house"? He reminded his parents about his mission in the world. We are told that Mary and Joseph did not understand what Jesus said to them. They all returned to Nazareth and lived together as a family. Jesus remained obedient to his parents and he grew in wisdom, grace and favor.

We, too, need to center our lives on God and strive to grow in grace and holiness.

As we approach a new year, let us remember to thank God for His great love and boundless mercy on us and in bringing us, this far. Let us in prayer bring our families, relatives, friends, and all loved ones before the altar of God in the sacrifice of this holy mass.

And may the Lord bless us abundantly, heal our brokenness, and enable us to live in love, peace and harmony with one another.

Happy New to all of you!

God bless,

Fr. Dr. Ben

**Gracias! Thank You!**

I would like to thank all of you who sent me beautiful Christmas cards and generous gifts. I am deeply grateful for your thoughtfulness. Your love, kindness, and generosity are greatly appreciated. May God richly bless you all!

**Weekend of January 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

First Reading-Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading- Ephesians3:2-3, 5-6

**Epiphany of the Lord**

Gospel- Matthew 2:1-12

**Saturday 4:00 PM**

**Sunday 10:30AM**

**Celebrant:**

Fr. Ben

Fr. Ben

**Lector:**

Ray Keckeisen

Phyllis Blincoe

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Dorothy Yaiser

Pat Smith

**Altar Servers**

Anderson & Garret Callender

Quinn & Ayla Gronwall

Offerings from December 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 Regular collection, \$2,435.00; Fuel, \$2.00; Repairs, \$70.00; Flowers, \$75.00; Immaculate Conception, \$40.00; Initial Offering, \$5.00; Christmas, \$650.00



### Religious Education 2024-2025

12/29/2024 No Classes  
 1/5/2025 9:00-10:15 AM Assembly for grades  
 Pre-K-10<sup>th</sup>

### 2025 Envelopes

Please pick up your envelopes in the vestibule this weekend. If your number changed there is a letter standing up in your box of envelopes. A contribution of \$5.00 in the initial offering envelope will help defray the cost of the envelopes. After January 1, 2025 all remaining boxes will be in the office.

The 2025 Mass Intention book has arrived. If you have Masses that you would like scheduled for 2025 please call or stop by the office or send your requests in writing to the Parish Office.

### Jubilee 2025

Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a prayer service, pilgrimage and Mass with Bishop Scharfenberger to celebrate the start of a Holy Year. See the flyer on the bulletin boards at each exit for more information.



Donations of diapers, baby shampoo and lotions and baby formula are always appreciated. Place your donations in the basket in the vestibule.

### Community Food Bank



Next week is our monthly collection for the food bank. There has been a great need and the shelves are in need of replenishing. Any canned or boxed food item would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



Next Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, after the 4:00 PM Mass we will meet in church to pray the Rosary. All are welcome to join.

### December Bulletin Quotes

“Dearest St Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life — especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.”  
 USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
 A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life  
 (www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph)

### Christmas Flowers



Additional donations were given in memory or in honor of the following: Madeline DeFalco Franzo, Douglas Amadon, Bartolo & Nancy Liberatore, The Regan family and the McGunnigle family

### A Prayer for the New Year

Most Holy and Blessed Trinity, receive our humble petitions for this New Year. We offer our prayers for the pope and for those who shepherd Your Church. Bestow Your grace upon all the faithful. Illuminate the paths of those who have not yet found You. Touch the hearts of those who have strayed, that they might find their way back to Your loving embrace.

Grant our world prosperity, and let peace reign among all peoples. We ask for Your abundant blessings to be upon those dear to us – family, friends, and companions – and yes, even upon those who may stand against us.

Extend Your loving hand to those suffering in poverty or illness. Remember in Your mercy the souls of our departed who left us this past year, and be gentle with those who will be called to stand before You in the year to come.

May Your divine inspiration guide the beginning of all our endeavors in this New Year, and Your loving presence sustain them to completion, so that all we do might begin and end in You.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Please pray for the following people, who have requested our prayers:** Gussie Shifflett, Steve Pickwick, Joe LaFave, Ginni Roe, Gabi Bakeman, Kimberlee Roe, Kevin, Michael Bell, Grady Charles Weigand, Barbara Bennett, Daniel Rickard, Mark & Andrea, Kim Sumski, Dorothy Kashuda, Alyson Sabillon, Linda Falk, Debra Barnard, Diane, Bonnie La Voie, Doug Williams, Faith Williams, Don Butler, Debra Patterson, Ed Nicol, Dawn Maruszewski, Carey, Madlyn Sumski, Alex Roberts, Paul J. Hamilton, Sr., Ray & Mary Munetz, Jazmers Moore, Bruce Allen, Kimberly Bosket, David Rivera, Jackie Bargher, Matthew Baxter Darline Smith, Joseph Dermody, Alice Anderson, Sandy Kemp, George Walters Lorraine Keckeisen, Maria LaBar, Patrick, John McCann, Natalie Stone, Marian Heeps, Mary Kolermous, Clare Sterchak, Terri Cristofaro, Liliana, Nancy Daugherty, Mark Morotwe, Sharon Guenther, Kira Cronk, Terry Yackel, Jack Yackel, Jim Mylotte, Alice Walters, Rev. Steve Deckard, Terry Nicolini, Nick Gibson, Andy Woods, Bob Jenks, Jane, Dolores Storzinger, Alexis Spencer, Ines Warlock, Susan Chidester, Bob Oliver, Rose LoCasci, Eugene & Yvonne Cutler, Timothy Bell, Barb Doyle, Tom DeMulder, Ruth Glaum, Holly North, Dixy Pflug, Celeste Hartman, Aidan Burns, Bill, Alicen Knapp Feroletto, James Jennings, Marge Suriano, Marlena Keath, Marian Agyemang, Frank Holley, Nicholas Gaedeke, Pat Hamilton, Gary Maraia, Rachel Feyh, Marge LaFave, Denise Dinato, Joe Maggio, Olivia Ross & family, Eric Roll, Barbara Haynes, Renee Joseph, Susan Pondolfino, Charlie Washburn, James Rattrie, Sean Granan, Marge Ramsey, Beverly Pierce, Fran Groshans, Marion Kiselica, a dear friend, Pat Nabinger, James Stanley, Chris Smith, Pat Elbrecht, Bonnie De Salvo, Lori White, Ellen Reuter, Danielle & Phil Guglielmo, Jaxson Beadle, Francis & Alfredine Duguay, Joan Rice, Rowan DeCocker, Stephanie Soldingier, Bonnie Tabone, Austin Kilmer, Daniel, John Gilmore, Will Sterchak, Donna Khan, Anthony Barber, Jr., Payton Lakin, Theresa Zieno, Joan & Tony Barber, parishioners with COVID, Kyle Roy, Phyllis Blincoe, Maggie Hoffman, Marybeth Modinger, Jacqueline Richardson, Celeste Aber, Max & Kyle Cochrane, Teri Frallich, Rochelle Knapp, Caceres, Gustavo, Rios, Alonso, & SantaCruz families, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Ray Keckeisen

*Please Note: All names will remain on our list and will be prayed for unless our office is notified to remove an individual.*

