

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

December 25, 2011

The Nativity of the Lord



Sat., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

4:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish
 6:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish
 10:00 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

Sun., Dec. 25 Christmas Day

9:30 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish
 11:00 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

Mon., Dec. 26

8:45 am For Deacons of the Church

Tues., Dec. 27

8:45 am For Ministers of the Gospel

Wed., Dec. 28

8:45 am For all children

Sat., Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

5:30 pm For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish

Sun., Jan. 1 New Year's Day

8:00 am For Parishioners of St. Mark's Parish
 9:30 am For Joseph Casablanca by Nyman Family
 11:00 am For Thomas Loughney by Steiniger Family

Ministry Schedule

Ministers for December 31, January 1, 2011 Saturday 5:30 pm

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode
 Greeter: Mauriello Family
 Lector: Fred McQuaide, Tom Morley
 Eucharistic Ministers:
 Altar Servers:

8:00 am

Celebrant: Fr. Abuchi Nwosu
 Greeter: Carmen Veras
 Lector: Jim Scott, Susan Vetterl
 Eucharistic Ministers:
 Altar Servers:

9:30 am

Celebrant: Fr. Abuchi Nwosu
 Greeter: Muccione Family
 Lector: Chris & Katie Henwood
 Eucharistic Ministers:
 Altar Servers:

11:00 am

Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode
 Greeter: Lily Fucci
 Lector: Jack Bonanno
 Eucharistic Ministers:
 Altar Servers:

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Altar Breads & Wine – In loving memory of Patsy Marchese by Marchese Family.

Sanctuary Lamp – In loving memory of Marie and Vito Benardone by Corry/Benardone families

Mass Candles -

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN PARISH

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011

5:00 pm Celebrant: Fr. Abuchi Nwosu

7:00 pm Celebrant: Fr. Abuchi Nwosu

Sunday, Jan. 1, 2012

7:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Joseph Goode

9:15 am Celebrant: Msgr. Fr. Joseph Goode

10:45 am Celebrant: Msgr. Stan Schinski

12:15 pm Celebrant: Fr. Abuchi Nwosu

ST. LUKE PARISH

Saturday Evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:45, 9:30, 11:15 am

ST. MARK'S NEEDS \$5,280 PER WEEK TO MEET OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Current Year	Last Year 2010
December 18, 2011 - \$4,000.03 Envelopes used: 87	December 19, 2010 - \$4,412 Envelopes used: 91
Extended Catholic Obligations: \$816 Envelopes used: 47	Extended Catholic Obligations: \$1,148 Envelopes used: 53
Supermarket Gift Cards Week of December 18, 2011 Sold - \$4,450 Profit - \$222.50 Total YTD 2011 - \$10,273.00 # of families who purchased: 27	

OFFERING ENVELOPE POLICY

If you attend church in St. Luke's or Our Lady of the Mountain you can drop your St. Mark's envelope in the collection basket and they will be credited as your donation to St. Mark's..... Fr. Joe.

SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS...

Just a reminder that Gift Cards for Shop Rite, A & P and Weis supermarkets are available for purchase after all masses on the weekend and in the office during the week. St. Mark's earns a 5% profit for the dollar amount sold. If you purchase \$100, St. Mark's earns \$5. Cards are easy to use and a good way to contribute to our parish.



CHRISTMAS 2011

The world has gone through a lot this past year. There were revolts (The Arab Spring) and the new emergence of struggling new leaderships. There was discontent and upheaval in the world economic markets. There were weather related incidents that took their toll - even here in Long Valley. We are in the midst of government stalemates and long political campaigns. Yet in the midst of these things that will eventually come and go on and on - we gather to celebrate one event that has changed the course of our history as a people of God. Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary was born in Bethlehem of Judea. To those of us who profess him as our God born among us we celebrate the hope for the future that his birth gave us. The birth of Jesus among us means that God still has hope and love for humankind and the desire that we live our lives as Jesus lived his in selfless service to others. Sometimes the world forgets this important message and we too can get so involved in these other issues that we lose focus on what is really important in our life. We as followers of Jesus are called to still bring a sense of hopefulness to the world as we seek to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters. I wish you and your families a blessed Christmas and pray the spirit of Jesus will always live in your hearts...Fr. Joe

ISRAEL (part 6 and final) reflections on recent trip to the Holy Land

Our final day in Israel began with mass in the basilica of the Holy Sepulcher. This was the second mass there during our trip. This day we were in a small grotto like chapel and it was a peaceful and prayerful celebration as we realized where we were and also that it was our last mass together as a pilgrimage group.

After mass we traveled for an hour or more southeast from Jerusalem along the road from Jerusalem to Jericho (we passed the "Good Samaritan Inn") and saw much of the real desert area and then we arrived at the Dead Sea and continued to the furthest point south on our trip to the mountain fortress of Masada. Masada is high mountain plateau reached by cable car. It is there in 72 AD a group of Jewish Freedom fighters held out against the Roman legions for well over a year. There was a movie several years ago that depicted their courageous stand. This is one of the national monuments of Israel and a must for every Israeli soldier to visit to gain a sense of history of the Jewish people.

After Masada the group journeyed north to a beach along the Dead Sea and a good number tried out the water. I didn't because I really don't like to get too much sun, but those who did described the salty experience as trying to swim in Jell-O. You cannot sink - this is true! It was a fun a couple of hours.

Our final stop on the way back to Jerusalem was to visit Qumran - this is the archeological remains of a monastic type community of early Jewish settlers who are believed to have written the Dead Sea Scrolls. It was in the caves in this area that the scrolls were found in 1947. The scrolls are part of the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures). Tradition sometimes also relates that perhaps John the Baptist was familiar with the monastic type community from his years in the desert before he came forth to proclaim the coming of the Messiah.

I did not plan it this way but thus on Christmas day ends my account of the journey to the Holy Land. Like John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph, Angels and Shepherds we are called to still announce the presence of Jesus into the world. I hope I gave you a little insight to what we experienced and maybe a desire to make such a pilgrimage yourself some day...Fr. Joe



The beautiful Christmas Flowers have been donated in Memory/Honor of....

Helen Baffuto, Rosemary Faccione, Edward Konopczynski, Van Woert, Hsin Wu, Anna Casamassima, Giuseppe Pezzolla, Maria Palasciano, Annie Gabell, Johnnie Casamassima, Edna Wilson, Walsh and Conklin families, Dondero and Pelione families, Guzek Family, Anthony Renkan, Jennie Renkan, Daniel L. Murphy, Christopher P. Culbert, Richard Jarowicz, Walter Wanner, Elaine Gebbia, Maryann Schiavo, Margaret Gebbia, Louise Ritucci, James Scott, Therese Vetre, Thomas Scott, Michael D'Amato, Angelina Tozzo, Cho Family, Michelle Campilonga, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lankford, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pagnani, Hanifin Family, Russell J. Yates, Kelly E. Croogan, Joseph & Marion Donald, Lenora Armenti, Theresa Michonski, George & Florence Lennon, Richard & Catherine Onorevole, Huntz and Hayko families, Bill & Mary Kuhl, Margaret & Johnny Burke, Harvey Family, Chris Perry, Robert & Katherine Hughes, Marilyn Uccardi



Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who participated in the collection of gifts to the children currently in the Morris County DYFS system. God bless you all for participating and putting a happy face on a child this Christmas.

ELIZABETH MINISTRY

If you are a mother or know a mother who may need a helping hand or support be sure to fill out a sheet in the gathering space to reach out to our Elizabeth Ministry. Just as Mary went to Elizabeth to give her a helping hand in her pregnancy, our Elizabeth Ministry aims to help any mothers who may need a helping hand or a listening ear. Any questions please contact Angel at perfectmatch95@comcast.net

PRIEST'S RESIDENCE

As you may have heard the priest's residence on Ann Road is going to be sold. There are some items left in the house. There is a book on the table in the gathering space with pictures of the items that are available. All items are free. Please contact Fr. Joe or the parish office if you are interested.



No CEC Classes Dec. 25 thru Jan. 3.
Classes resume on Wed., Jan. 4th Grades 6-8 Session "A"

ANTIOCH FOOD SIGN-UP SHEETS

The sign-up sheets are posted in the gathering space for our Annual Antioch Retreat. Please consider placing your name next to a needed item, in order to provide assistance for our Retreat. Our candidates, peers and adult team are appreciative of all your help. God Bless you. Sue Reilly



WHEN SOMEONE WE LOVE BECOMES ILL

All- powerful and ever-living God the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health, that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church.

Randi Alloway, John Andaloro, Wilma Anselmo, Lorraine Armando, Tony Atkins, Patricia Barone, Paul Buckley, John Callaghan, Hannah Clark, Emily Condit, Kaitlin Cross, Lisa Czyzewski, Naalia Danilczuk, Krish Dharia, James Joseph DiGiovine, Fr. Edward Donohue, Connie Elliott, Maryann Faccione, Tim Fallon, Elaina Grace Gaffin, Ann Geary, Allison Good, Barbara Gotterdam, Helen Greenly, Regina Hague, Rick Haskins, Janet Hauser, Heather, William Heimsly, Donna Jennings, Kevin Kay, Caroline Kling, Mary Koenig, Karl Koschier, Mara Lak, Christina Lanaris, Lenore, Maryann Litori, Ann Loughney, Helene Mackie, Irene Maruggi, Jonathon McClelland, Harold & Mary McKay, Maryanne & Jack Newell, Jane Nolte, Milton Ortiz, John Parker, Nicky Pilosi, Clifford Reynolds, Ryan, Debbie Trepkau, Theresa, Anne Walsh, Joanne Mary Walsh, Jaxson Weber, Phyllis Weis, Robert Whiteside, Dave Woeste
Every now and then we try to update our prayer list of names of the sick and special intentions. We have alphabetized the names in the hopes of making them easier to read. There are

some names that we in the parish office cannot associate with a person who made the request to pray for them. Please look over the list and if you requested prayers for a person please either call the office or e mail Fr. Joe to let us know if you wish to continue to be on this prayer list.

"CATHOLICS COME HOME"

Have you seen any of the 2-minute "Catholics Come Home" commercials which began airing on TV/Cable networks on December 16th? They are part of a nationwide advertising campaign to invite Catholics home to the Church. If anyone is here today in response to the "Catholics Come Home" initiative, we want you to know that Bishop Arthur Serratelli is providing an added opportunity for you. The Evangelization Team of St. Paul's Inside the Walls Evangelization Center is hosting "Come Home" gatherings at various locations throughout the diocese. These meetings will offer a reverential setting for listening, healing and fielding questions.

They are scheduled as follows:

Mon., Jan. 23 – St. Paul's Inside the Walls, 205 Madison Ave., Madison – 7:30-9:00 pm.

Wed., Jan 25 – St. John Vianney Parish, 2823 Rt. 23, Stockholm – 7:30 -9:00 pm

Sat., Jan., 28 – St. Philip the Apostle Parish, 797 Valley Road, Clifton – 1:00-2:30 pm

Mon., Jan., 30 – St. Mary's Parish, 181 Market St., Passaic – 7:30-9:00 pm

For additional information, please call Pat Terranella 973 437-9741 or go to www.insidethewalls.org



NEEDED

Toddler Bed for a single mom of 3 – ages 3 ½ to 5 months. Please call Judy 908-399-7305

*Glory
to the
Newborn
King!*