

*THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS MARY and JOSEPH*

~ December 30, 2018 ~

*Jesus, Mary, and Joseph... The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger. Lk 2: 16*

**Mass Intentions**

*Monday*

7:45 AM *Jean Stoll* by Darlene and Bill Jules

4:00 PM *Anne Skrincosky* by Don and Lisa Brandt

*Tuesday*

10:00 AM *John W. Sobota* by son Jack and Family

*Wednesday*

No Mass

*Thursday*

7:45 AM *Kathy O'Donnell* by Mary Ann Skrincosky

*Friday*

7:45 AM *Sacred Heart Memorial Society*

*Saturday*

8:00 AM *Gerry Olshefski* by Regina Fitzpatrick

5:00 PM *In Loving Memory of Joseph and Olga Kash*  
by daughter Barbara Groegler and Family

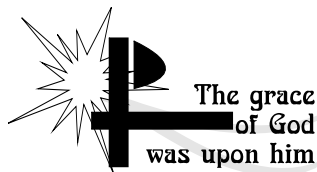
*Sunday*

8:00 AM *Priscilla Keretz* by Family

9:30 AM *Margaret Merlo* by Fran and Ken Kisty

11:00 AM *Raymond M. Bussemer* by Judy and David Kravatz

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**First Reading:** 1 Sm 1: 20-22, 24-28... (God's Creative Love)

*This reading teaches us that motherhood and life are a gift of God. The presence of children in a family signals the continuation of life and manifests the newness of God's love, which gives origin to ever new creatures.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 84... (Love for God's House)

*"Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord."*

**Second Reading:** 1 Jn 3: 1-2, 21-24... (Children of God)

*Every family must be a mirror of the divine love because the root of every genuine love is God. Therefore, members of a family should deal lovingly with one another.*

**Gospel:** Lk 2: 41-52 ... (Jesus Was Obedient to Them)

*Jesus and his parents go to Jerusalem for the Passover. Upon returning, Jesus is separated from them. Mary and Joseph find him in the temple teaching. When Mary asked why, Jesus replied that he must be doing his Father's work. Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth.*

**Monday:** *Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord*

1 Jn 2: 18-21; Ps 96: 1-2, 11-13; Jn 1: 1-18

**Tuesday:** *Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God*

*(Holy Day of Obligation)*

Nm 6: 22-27; Ps 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4: 4-7; Lk 2: 16-21

**Wednesday:** *Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church* ..... 1 Jn 2: 22-28; Ps 98: 1-4; Jn 1: 19-28

**Thursday:** *Christmas Weekday; The Most Holy Name of Jesus*

1 Jn 2: 29-3: 6; Ps 98: 1, 3cd-6; Jn 1: 29-34

**Friday:** *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious*

1 Jn 3: 7-10; Ps 98: 1, 7-9; Jn 1: 35-42

**Saturday:** *St. John Neumann, Bishop*

1 Jn 3: 11-21; Ps 100: 1b-5; Jn 1: 43-51



**Liturgical Ministries**

~ Monday, Tuesday: December 31, January 1 ~

~ ALTAR SERVER ~

4:00 PM L. Skrincosky – J. Herman

10:00 AM L. Colarusso – R. Nowak

~ CANTOR ~

4:00 PM M. Skrincosky

10:00 AM S. Berdux

~ LECTOR ~

(Nm 6: 22-27; Ps 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4: 4-7)

4:00 PM B. Farley

10:00 AM J. D'Angelo



~ Saturday, Sunday: January 5, January 6 ~

~ ALTAR SERVER ~

5:00 PM J. Herman – C. Williams

8:00 AM V. Dadlani – J. Doncsecz

9:30 AM A. Acevedo – A. Harper

11:00 AM L. Colarusso – R. Nowak

~ CANTOR ~

5:00 PM E. Gilkeson

8:00 AM S. Berdux

9:30 AM M. Skrincosky (Choir Mass)

11:00 AM J. Mertus

~ LECTOR ~

(Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14; Ps 128: 1-5; Col 3: 12-21 or 3: 12-17)

5:00 PM M. Hartman

8:00 AM C. Bachman

9:30 AM M. Jung

11:00 AM B. Kincaid

~ EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS of COMMUNION ~

5:00 PM E. and S. Faccinetto

8:00 AM S. Gordon – E. Lee – M. Hudak

9:30 AM D. Baranowski – J. Skrincosky

11:00 AM B. Kincaid – L. Schoenauer

~ GREETER ~

5:00 PM R. Fitzpatrick

8:00 AM L. Sherman

9:30 AM Sieto Family

11:00 AM M. Miranda

~ FOOD/GIFT CARD ~

5:00 PM D. Baranowski

8:00 AM A. Squires

9:30 AM K. Modic

11:00 AM B. Kincaid

~ MONEY COUNTER ~

B. Fleissner – J. and G. Kilpatrick

D. and B. Podhayny



**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God...** The feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan

of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among men. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's fiat, or sanctioning of God's plan with her words, "Be it done to me according to thy word". Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honor we can give to her. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace", the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace". New Year's Day is also designated as the "World Day of Peace", further acknowledging the role of Mary in our hearts and in our world.

As we begin another year, we draw inspiration from the selfless love of the Theotokos, who never hesitated to do the will of God. And we trust in her prayers to God for us, that we might, as the years pass, become more like her. O Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!

• • • **January 1<sup>st</sup> is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be offered on Monday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, at 4:00 PM and Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00 AM.**



*Please pray for our sick, for all those homebound, in the hospital or nursing homes and especially those who care for them. We also ask prayers for those not listed and those we are not aware of that are ill.*

Donna Miller, Joan Szemenyi, Joseph Ludrof, Susan G. Tinschmidt, David Cap, Lisa Dreher, A.J. Shuck, M. and D. Shuck, Anthony Viera, Bev Russell, Hank Straub, Albina DaSilva, Andrew Filbert, Christopher Brennan, Bill White, Jessica Hewitt, Joan Raymond, John and Charlotte Rzeplia, Lori Watts, Jacob Jarvis, James and Janet DeVaney, Beth Coleman, Mary Saraceno-Wright, Dorothea Saraceno-Atherholt, Alice Bennett, Mary Lou Schuler, Joe Field, Louis A. Gray, Gail Schneider, Molly Weidemoyer, James Lankford, Karen Hegedus, Patrick McBride, Betty McNulty, Jane Schreiber, Ron and Irene Rutkowski, Jamie Heston, Terry Macripo, Patrice Schwartzman, Leona Oberholtzer, Colleen Pinzon, Ronald Mitch, Sanford Kravett, Jack Sharkey, Jack Herczeg, Grandson, Pat Moulton, Sheri Radzelovage, Janet Zambo, Geza Vegh, William Duane, Neal Lamana, Loretta Scurato, Theresa Mitchell, Emerson Davenport, Kaitlyn Whitebread, Gina Teel, Nonna Frances, Charlotte Gazzana, Russell Gazzana, Rebecca Wasniewski, Larry Muzyka, Heather Mowery, Corporal Seth Kelly, Teresa Yanko, Fritz and Pat Warminsky, Carmela Azzolina, Walter Fry, JoAnn Connors, Mary Hasencz, Frank Donchez, Carol Jacob, Manny and Dorothy Martinez, Ann Lester, Kathleen Angelozzi, Dorothy Fekula, Emma Fogel, Irene Nagy, Jackie Swartley, Bobby Ricks, George Treisner, Paul Micci, Mike Podhayny

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**Sacred Heart Church 2018**  
**Contribution Statement... Please**  
**make your request: 2018**  
**CONTRIBUTION on FRONT of your**  
**weekly contribution envelope.**



**A time of war, and a time of peace: We pray for those that serve in our military:** Michael O'Donnell; Jarrett Buchanan; Blair Holva; Nick Massari; John Flannigan; Joe Owens; Rob McGuire; Joseph Salmento; David Principato; David Colarusso, Jr.; Paul K. Browne, II; Anthony T. Browne;

LCpl Timothy F. Cassidy; Mark McNulty, Jr.; Josh Brueningen; Sgt. Jared Steirer; Senior Chief Ian Hudak

**Remember our Soldiers that can't be home for the holidays... the Best Gift is Prayer:** Lord God, Almighty Father, thank you for the men and women that protect this nation! Father, as they protect us, protect them as well! Lord, you know where they will be today and I pray that You will be there with them to guide them through whatever challenges and trials they face this day. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

*Home of the Free because of the Brave... Thank you!!*

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► ► You are invited to a special event "**The Master Craftsman: God's Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)**" co-sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church. Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God's guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope. The event will take place on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103).

This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided. Visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman) to register for this event. For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at [Frias@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:Frias@allentowndiocese.org).

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**Parish Upcoming Events**

**December:**

- 29: Knights of Columbus "5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary": Before 5:00 PM Mass
- 30: Knights of Columbus "5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary": Before All Masses
- 31: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM

**January:**

- 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass: 10:00 AM
- 3: Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 PM ~ Church
- 6: Youth Group Meeting: 7:00 – 8:30 PM ~ School Meeting Room
- 7: CCD Resumes: 5:00 – 6:00 PM ~ School
- 9: Sacred Heart Prime Time Meeting: 1:00 PM ~ Father King Memorial Hall ~
- 10: Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 PM ~ Church
- 13: Sacred Heart Holy Name Society Mass at 9:30 AM ~ Meeting will follow in School Meeting Room ~
- 13: Pro-Life Prayer Day: 12 Noon – 5:00 PM ~ Church
- 15: Cantor Rehearsal: 7:00 PM ~ Church
- 17: Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 PM ~ Church



**The Feast of the Holy Family** is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, commemorating their life together in Nazareth and calling us to focus on Catholic family life. The Church presents the Holy Family to us as a model for our own family life. Joseph was the head of the Holy Family and provided for Mary and

Jesus with the work of his hands. He was obedient to the angel who told him to take Mary as his wife, what to name the new child and again when told to flee with them to Egypt. He taught Jesus the carpentry trade and what it was to be a man in the society in which they lived.

Mary took care of her family in the home. It was she who would have taught Jesus the Scriptures and prayers of their people when he was very young. It was through her example of managing the home that Jesus would formulate many of the examples he would later use in his teaching. Jesus saw work sanctified through the example of his earthly parents, who did all things well in the ordinary circumstances of daily life.

As far back as St. John Chrysostom, Christians were urged to make of their home a family church in which the family members would find their sanctification. That was to be accomplished by putting Christ at the center of all individual and family life, by working and praying together, reading the Scriptures and worshiping as a unit.

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Familiaris consortio*, 60, Pope Saint John Paul II said: "Do you teach your children the Christian prayers? Do you prepare them, in conjunction with the priests, for the sacraments that they receive when they are young – Confession, Communion and Confirmation? Do you encourage them, when they are sick, to think of Christ suffering, to invoke the aid of the Blessed Virgin and the saints? Do you say the family Rosary together...? Do you pray with your children, with the whole domestic community, at least sometimes?"

"Your example of honesty in thought and action, joined to some common prayer, is a lesson for life and an act of worship of singular value. In this way you bring peace to your homes: Pax huic domui. Remember, it is thus that you build up the Church."

**Prayer for Our Priests**

*Eternal God, please bless our priests, who represent you on this earth. Make them more greatly aware of the grace that you pour out through them when they minister the sacraments and help them to fall more deeply in love with you after each and every Mass that they celebrate. Please strengthen our priests, who shepherd your flock, when they are in doubt of their faith, that they may be examples of your Truth and guide us always on the path to you. We ask these things of you our Eternal Priest. Amen.*

► ► Save the Date! **The 2019 Catholic Scout Activity Weekend** will be held at Camp Trexler - Settlers April 26-28th, 2019 - so mark your calendars! We'd love to have you join us for a FUN-Filled weekend that includes all meals and a Saturday Vigil Mass! You don't have to be working on a religious emblem to join us. All Catholic Scouts are welcome. Visit us on [www.adccos.org/bsr.htm](http://www.adccos.org/bsr.htm) for more info.



**2019 Sacred Heart "Little Lot" Payouts:**

- ~ Christmas and Easter: \$1,000
- ~ New Year's Day, Memorial Day, and July 4<sup>th</sup>: \$500
- ~ Last day of the month: \$300
- ~ Fridays: \$100 (except when last day of the month)
- ~ Every other night: \$50

Winning Number is the Evening "Pick 4 PA Lottery" Exact match ONLY! \$25/Ticket and is good for every day in 2019. Additional tickets are in main vestibule of Church. Fill ticket out, place drawing stub in an envelope marked "Little Lot", along with payment (\$25/ticket), and drop in collection basket.

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Co-ordinator:**

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak M.A., NCC, LPC;  
Direct Telephone (NOT CONFIDENTIAL): 1-800-791-9209

**Diocesan Safe Environment Co-ordinator:**

Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., MS, LMFT; Telephone: 610-332-0442 ext 2019

**Diocese of Allentown Protection of Youth Policy:**

[www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org)

► ► ► **Bulletin Announcements** ◀ ◀ ◀

Deliver to the Rectory office or email to [sacredheartrectory1936@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartrectory1936@gmail.com) by 12 noon on Thursday (that is, ten days prior to the publication of the bulletin).

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*Many, many thanks to all who participated in the Service of the Nativity: A journey from darkness to the light of Christmas in the Birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ. The evening was very inspirational and enjoyed by all!*

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► ► **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™** March 22-24, 2019. An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion. In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For registration information contact: Sr. Meg Cole 1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free) 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019 [projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org). Deadline for Registration is March 14<sup>th</sup>. For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: [www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)

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**New Year's Prayer**

God, thank you for a new year!  
May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate.  
We know that you are always ready to forgive us.  
Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.  
As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires.  
Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do.  
Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time. Amen.



**Sanctuary Lights...** Candles can be lit for 7 days (Saturday to Saturday) on the High Altar of the Tabernacle, Blessed Mother Altar, St. Joseph Altar, St. Anthony, St. Jude, and Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sanctuary Candles can be lit for any intention, death remembrance or anniversary, birthday, wedding anniversary, thanksgiving for blessings from God, for those who are ill or having

surgery, or any special intentions which someone would like special prayers for. To have one of these Sanctuary Lights lit, drop a little note in the collection basket marked "Sanctuary Lights". A donation of \$12.00 is asked. The intention will appear in bulletin, unless directed not to.

**Blessed Mother Altar:**

➤ For Healing of Body, Spirit, Soul, Mind and Heart of my Adult Child

✠ In Memory of Jean-Paul Joseph Danier-O'Connor

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May God have pity on us and bless us;  
may he let his face shine upon us.  
So may your way be known upon earth;  
among all nations, your salvation. (Ps 67)

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**Gospel Alleluia Verse** (for January 1)... In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son. Heb 1: 1-2

The **Alleluia Verse** quotes the first couple of verses of the Letter to the Hebrews. While God revealed many words to Israel throughout history, he revealed the one Word of God in the birth of his only Son.

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**Sacred Heart Memorial Society...**

Those who are enrolled in the Memorial Society will have their names written in a special book. The Memorial Book will be on display by the St. Joseph Altar. An intention will also be included in the Sunday petitions for those enrolled in the Memorial Society. All donations from the Sacred Heart Memorial Society will be

used for the purchasing of items needed to celebrate the Sacraments. Suggested offering is \$20.00.

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▶▶ Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, Weekly Envelope: \$6,800 ◀◀

God Bless You and Thank You for your generosity!  
Your contributions are deeply appreciated!

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**Wondrous God...** Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages; and his reign will be without end. Is 9: 1, 5; Lk 1: 33

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There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens: Ecc 3

"A time to weep, mourn and die":

Ginny (Jacoby) Petrokovich

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon her. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."



**Mary Undoer of Knots ~ Pray for Us**  
Mother of fair love, I look to you. Take into your hands the ribbon of my life and see the snarl of knots that keeps me bound to sin, anxiety, and hopelessness. I beg you, Mother, by your powerful intercession, and loving fingers of love and grace, undo the knots in my heart and in my life. Free me to love as Christ loves. Amen.

(What are these **Knots**? They are the problems and struggles we face for which we do not see any solution: family discord, depression, unemployment, fear, solitude... Ah, the knots of our life! How they suffocate the soul, beat us down and betray the heart's joy and separate us from God!)

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**Mary, Mother of God...** As we reflect on Mary as the Mother of God, we remember that she is not just the mother of God, but she became the spiritual mother of each of us as Jesus was dying on the cross and said, "Behold, your mother." Just as all mothers are present in a special way with their children when they suffer, Our Lady is also present with us always, and especially when we need her. One example of Our Lady's presence with us is Pope John Paul II whose mother died when he was young, and he then took Our Lady as his spiritual mother in a special way. These are the words of Cardinal Ratzinger during the funeral homily for Pope John Paul II:

"The Holy Father found the purest reflection of God's mercy in the Mother of God. He, who at an early age had lost his own mother, loved his divine Mother all the more. He heard the words of the crucified Lord as addressed personally to him: "Behold your Mother." And so he did as the beloved disciple did: he took her into his own home." (Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger *The Legacy of John Paul II: Images and Memories*, p114).

All during his life, Pope John Paul II felt the guidance of Our Lady as his mother, especially on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1981 when he was shot in St. Peter's Square. He said later that one hand fired the shot, but a motherly hand guided the bullet's path, meaning Our Lady guided the bullet away from killing him. In thanksgiving, Pope John Paul II made a pilgrimage to Fatima the following year, and that bullet is now in the crown of the statue of Our Lady in Fatima.

Just as Pope John Paul II made a pilgrimage of thanksgiving to Fatima to thank Our Lady, we too thank Our Lady in many ways for her intercession helping us. This celebration today is a beautiful way to honor her and apart from today's celebration, we have two important Holydays, the Assumption of Our Lady on August 15th and her Immaculate Conception on December 8th. We honor her with pilgrimages to her shrines such as Marizell, Altötting, Lourdes and Fatima.

Another important way in which we thank Our Lady for her intercession for us is to pray the Rosary to her every day. It is a beautiful gift of roses to give to her every day. We know Our Lady loves us and we love her and are happy to venerate her today as Mother of God and our mother also.

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