



Masses for the week of Jan. 5 – Jan. 11, 2015

Morning Prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, 8:15am Mon to Fri.

Monday, Jan. 5

8:35am (chapel) Patricia McHugh Dugan (Donna & Gary Kaucher)

Tuesday, Jan. 6

8:35am (chapel) Jack Schmidt (Joe & Dorothy Cegielski)

Wednesday, Jan. 7

8:35am (chapel) Douglas Walters (Al & Pat Rakowski)

Thursday, Jan. 8

8:35am (chapel) Phillip Tobasso (Frank Nekoranik)

Friday, Jan. 9

9:00am (church) The Gerrantino Family (Tony & Rose Polito)

Saturday, Jan. 10

5:00pm (church) Fran Davish (The Maxwell Family)

Sunday, Jan. 11

8:00am (church) Parishioners Intentions'

10:30am (church) David Vogan (Jackie Litzenberger)

Meetings for the week of Jan. 5 – Jan. 11, 2015

Mon. Jan. 5: Conquest, 6:30pm – School

Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Tues. Jan. 6: Baptism Class, 6:30pm – Marian Room

Fri. Jan. 9: Knights of Columbus FREE THROW, 6pm – School

Sat. Jan. 10: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room

Sun. Jan. 11: Teen RCIA, 11:45am – Marian Room



The Church Cleaning Team for the week of December 29th is Team #5:

Marion Wolf, Janet Reidler, Fred Furmaniak,
Beth Baird, Peggy Farley, Patricia Combs

Your parish thanks you!



Mass Collection

Sun. Dec. 28, 2014:

Not available at press time

Thank you for your generosity!

Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are sick, homebound, in the hospital, under hospice or residential care.

Susan Ackerman, Rose Marie Alex, Lillian Appleman, Roger Bahnck, Mary Balbirer, Elizabeth Bartolillo, John & Loretta Bodisch, Ann Burns, Libby Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Bill Dayton, Glen DeKutosli, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice & Charles Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., Kathryn Ferris, Patricia Fite, Sara Fleck, Nancy Fratrik, Mary Gallo, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Judy Green, Susan Gross, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Steve Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Eli Hinkie, Charles Houston, David Huey, Doris Johnson, Martha Juchnowicz, Kathleen Kershaw, Kimberly Koch, Georgine Kocher, Martha Kocsis, Jack Kocsis, Anthony Kondracki, Grace Korcheck, Deanna Kovner, Barbara Kuehnle, Ryan Leven, Kathy Donahue Lewis, Kathy Lightkep, George & Frances Lovett, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Eileen McCarty, Adelaide McDelderry, Bridget Julia McHugh, Michelle McNevin, Anne McNichol, Florence Middleton, Joseph Moore, Jennie Moreno, Nancy Moreno, Wanda Muth, Frances Nowicki, Dorothy Odor, Helen Patzek-Charlton, Ryan Phillips, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Marianne Przyuski, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Joseph Ripp, Valerie Roberts, Sandy Romaszewski, Sim Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Jean Scattergood, Lana Schell, Anna Scheuermann, Herbert Schevermann, Mario Sciacca, Joe Shuman, Gail Silveira, Carolyn Stahley, Sandy Stauffer, Shane Stroup, Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, MaddieTomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan, Tamara Widmer, Ed Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.

Prayer Requests



Edward Armstrong, Jr.,
Fionna M. Boyle,
Derek Brosius,
Christopher Brune,
Kyle Crossland,
Casey de Lauretis,
Steehly de Lauretis,
Michael Froeder,
A.J. Giovino,
Aaron Given,
Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, James Kidd, Stephen Lindmeier,
Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Nicholas Spangler-Loch, Don Valdez, Justin Walsh.

Thank you for serving & protecting our freedoms!



Dear brothers and sisters,

***“They saw the child with Mary his mother.
They prostrated themselves and did him homage.”
~ Matthew 2:11***

On this feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, we celebrate Jesus as the revelation, the light that has come to dispel the darkness of sin, division and death that covers the earth. In Jesus, God the Father manifests Himself to all nations. Emmanuel - *God is with us.*

Let us spend time to ponder on the mystery we celebrate today. The infant Jesus, son of Mary, is the revelation of God. In Him, the darkness of sin, division and death that covers the whole world since the beginning of time was supposed to disappear. This baby.

We see the baby lying in a manger, the unlikeliest birth place for a king, let alone for God. It has taken some kind of seeing to see in this infant lying amongst animals the glory of God and the salvation of the whole world.

The magi had that way of seeing. Somehow, they had it. They are part of the huge surprise that Epiphany is. The Jewish leaders, the in-crowd did not get it. They, who are pagans get it. This is a further revelation of God's presence among us. He has blessed them with a faith, a way of seeing that we do not ordinarily possess.

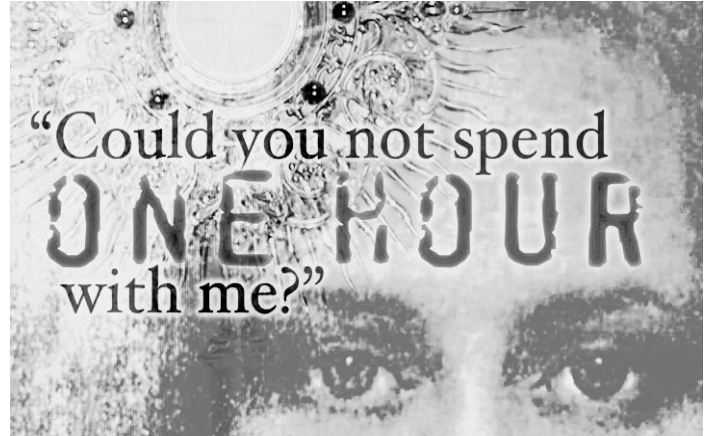
Let us ask for this grace of faith. Let us pray that we may receive also from God this way of seeing. That like the Magi, we may be able to see Jesus in the most unlikely places, the most unlikely events, in the most unlikely people.

Let us ask that He remove the myopic vision we have of seeking God only in people and places we predetermine Him to be found in. Let us ask that our vision be widened to see God in every human being; regardless of their race, their religion, their sexual orientation, their mental health, their stage in human development.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes that we may see you, slowly and surely still revealing yourself, unfolding before us your infinite and eternal glory.

*God bless you all -
Fr. Simi.*

MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION... *“to spend some alone time with Our Lord.”*



24 - HOUR ADORATION

In celebration of World Meeting of Families 2015, we are offering 24-Hour Adoration/Mass for the healing of our families.

**3rd Week each Month
Starting at 10am Friday (immediately after 9am Mass) concluding with the 9am Mass on Saturday**

Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

There is also a need for substitutes, those willing to step in when an assigned adorer finds themselves unable to fulfill their commitment.

Sponsored by the SJB Evangelization Committee

CONGRATULATIONS !

On behalf of Father Simi, along with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Association of Parish Directors and Coordinators of Religious Education, congratulations to:

Judi Pason – 10 years

Dina Day – 5 years

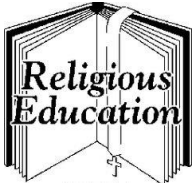
Dorothy Scherer – 5 years

As recipients of a catechetical award which honors your years of dedication in our Parish Religious Education Program.

To be celebrated at a Mass on:

**Saturday, January 10, 2015 (11 AM)
at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
in Philadelphia**

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput is the celebrant of the Mass.



BLESSING OF THE HOME ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Our Catholic faith is best handed on within our families through the practice of the customs & traditions of the liturgical celebrations of the mysteries of faith throughout the year.

Epiphany is particularly rich in these traditions.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines the meaning of the mysteries of faith revealed through the epiphanies, or “manifestations,” of the Lord. “The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Savior of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with His Baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.

“In the magi, representatives of the neighboring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The magi’s coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the king of the Jews shows that they seek in Israel, in the messianic light of the star of David, the one who will be king of the nations. Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and worship Him as Son of God and Savior of the world only by turning toward the Jews and receiving from them the messianic promise as contained in the Old Testament. The Epiphany shows that ‘the full number of the nations’ now takes its ‘place in the family of the patriarchs,’ and acquires Israelitica dignitas (is made ‘worthy of the heritage of Israel’)” (CCC, n. 528).

Several lovely family customs are associated with Epiphany. It is on Epiphany that the Christmas creche is finally completed, as the figures of the three wise men at last arrive at the crib. In many families, the wise men are moved a bit closer to the crib every day from Christmas Day until Epiphany. Also, recalling the gifts to the Infant Jesus, many families exchange small gifts.

The blessing of the home is also a popular Epiphany custom. Using specially blessed chalk (*your parish priest will bless the chalk, if you ask, or use the prayer of blessing below*), many households mark their entrance door with the year and with the inscription C+M+B, the initials of Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, the names of the three wise men in legend. The inscription also stands for “**Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means “Christ, bless this home.”**

The inscription of 20+C+M+B+15 remains above the doorway until Pentecost.

In England, Twelfth Night was traditionally celebrated with a drink called Lamb’s Wool, made of cider or ale, with roasted apples and sugar and spices. It was the custom to bless apple trees on that night by pouring a libation of cider on them.

A common custom in many cultures is the Epiphany cake. Different parts of Europe have different traditional recipes for the Epiphany cake from the almond-paste-filled pastry, the French “galette des Rois” topped by a golden paper crown, to the British fruit-filled, iced, and layered confection. Some bakeries feature these cakes during the holiday season.

This cake is unforgettable to children, and an opportunity to underscore the meaning of Epiphany. A cake studded with candy jewels like a crown, and/or topped by a golden paper crown can help

young children understand the Epiphany as the recognition, by the magi (“three Kings”), of the Infant Jesus as Christ the King.

The coin or bean in the cake is a pleasant tradition. The one who gets the coin or bean gets to wear the paper crown as king or queen of the feast — and has the “royal privilege” of writing the inscription over the door.

Blessing of Chalk: Let us pray. *O Lord God, bless this chalk to make it helpful to man. Grant that we who use it with faith and inscribe with it upon the entrance of our homes may enjoy physical health and spiritual protection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

House Blessing: O Lord, almighty God, bless this house that it may become a shelter of health, chastity, self-conquest, humility, goodness, mildness, obedience to the Commandments, and thanksgiving to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Upon this house and those who dwell herein may Thy blessing remain forever. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

But Jesus Said, “*Let The Children Come To Me, And Do Not Prevent Them; For The Kingdom Of Heaven Belongs To Such As These.*” - Matthew 19:14



**January 24, 2015
Open House**



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2015 MARCH FOR LIFE
Thursday, January 22, 2015
National Mall, Washington, DC



Rally at 12 noon
March begins a 1pm

A Mass for the faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia who are attending the March for Life will be celebrated by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. at 10:00 a.m. at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



The Knights of Columbus will once again be sponsoring a bus from our parish parking lot. The bus will board at 7am.

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

The Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. Tens of thousands of couples have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it.

Retrouvaille is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relations in your marriage.

The next program begins on the weekend of February 13-15 at The Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.

For more information, or to register, visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

DID YOU KNOW? St. John the Baptist Parish has a lending library of almost 500 books and several VHS/videos at your disposal? You are welcome to borrow anything in the library which is located in the Marian Room. Just sign them out and return in a timely manner.



Thank you! SJB OASIS LIBRARY

Opening series of talks on The Family, Pope Francis extols Mary, St. Joseph

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- At his last weekly public audience of 2014, Pope Francis started a series of talks on the family with a reflection on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and St. Joseph as a model for all Christian families.

The pope said his remarks were first of a series in preparation for the October 2015 Synod of Bishops on the family, which he described as the conclusion of a process begun at the October extraordinary synod on the same subject.

"I have decided to reflect with you, in this year, on the very subject of the family, on this great gift that the Lord has given the world from the start, when he gave Adam and Eve the mission of multiplying and filling the earth," the pope said.

The series of talks, which the pope announced at the previous week's audience, could amount to the most extensive papal teaching on the subject since St. John Paul II gave more than 120 audience talks on human sexuality, later compiled as his "theology of the body."

If the first installment of Pope Francis' talks is indicative, they will be in his usual conversational and folksy style, in contrast to the philosophical meditations of St. John Paul. Pope Francis reflected that God chose to become man not "spectacularly, or as a warrior, an emperor" but as the son of a "pious and hardworking Israelite family" in a "forlorn village on the periphery of the Roman empire."

Noting that the Gospels offer no details on Jesus' youth and upbringing, the pope imagined the Holy Family's daily life: "The mother cooked, kept house, ironed the shirts, did all the work of a mom. The dad, a carpenter, worked, taught his son to work. It is not difficult to imagine how much moms could learn from Mary's care for that son, and how much dads could benefit from the example of Joseph, a just man, who devoted his life to supporting and defending his child and wife, his family, in difficult periods. Not to speak of how much the adolescent Jesus might encourage kids to understand the necessity and beauty of cultivating their deepest vocation, and of dreaming big dreams," Pope Francis said.

"The family of Nazareth calls on us to rediscover the vocation of the family, of every family," the pope said: "to make love normal instead of hate, to make mutual assistance a common thing, rather than indifference or enmity."

"This is the great mission of the family: to make a place for Jesus when he comes, to welcome Jesus in the family, in the form of children, husband, wife, grandparents," he said.

"Jesus is there. Welcome him there, that he might grow spiritually in that family."

8 MONTHS & COUNTING....
World Meeting of Families 2015

Visit www.worldmeeting.org
and REGISTER today!


MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 10 - 11, 2015

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5pm	Kathleen Halasz Bruce Keyser Bill McGowan Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Johann Krug Brendan Krug Maria Middleton	Choir Sue Rogers
Sunday, 8:00am	Mark Fetter Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice Bea Romaszewski	Helene Bell	Luke Grindrod Maya Reshetar Gavin Reshstar	Marion Wolf Karen Parash
Sunday, 10:30am	Lynn Gammello Maryann Hauber Dan Hauber Russell Hay	Jane Ferry	Joey DeVenuto Gianna Gammello Olivia Kenderdine	Ordinary Time

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