The Nativity of Our Lord

December 25, 2016
Be sure to mark your calendar for Twelfth Night on Friday, Epiphany, January 6th. After the 5:30 PM Solemn Mass, you are invited to our parish Christmas party, which honors all of our Church workers and volunteers. So many hours presented this past year like precious myrrh or fragrant frankincense. God reward the gold of your devotion!

**Lumen Christi**

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament during the next fortnight for the following intention:

Lord may You bless our family & guide us so that we may live our lives according to Your word.

(Brian Dooley)

**Mary’s Baby**

Joseph, mild and noble, bent above the straw,
A pale girl, a frail girl, suffering he saw;
“O my Love, my Mary, my bride, I pity thee!”
“Nay Dear,” said Mary, “all is well with me!”
“Baby, my baby, O my babe,” she sang.

Suddenly the golden night all with music rang.

Angels leading shepherds, shepherds leading sheep:
The silence of worship broke the Mother’s sleep.

All the meek and lowly of the world were there;
Smiling, she showed them that her child was fair,
“Baby, my baby,” kissing Him she said.

Suddenly a flaming star through the heavens sped.

Three old men and weary knelt them side by side,
The world’s wealth forswearing, majesty and pride;
Worldly might and wisdom before the Babe bent low:
“Baby, my baby,” and the Baby slept.

Suddenly on Calvary all the olives wept.

-Shaemus O’Sheel

**2017 Calendars Are In!**

The 2017 All Saints Roman Catholic Calendar is available now in the bookstore for $10.00.

**Collection Report**

Sunday, December 18th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bake Sale</td>
<td>$3,442.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bake Sale</td>
<td>$725.75</td>
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**Jesu, sweetest Child,** born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger, announced by Angels and visited by shepherds, have mercy on us.
**The Bishop’s Corner**

Merry Christmas! I’m writing this on the Winter Solstice, St. Thomas Day, the shortest day and longest night. I’m thinking about the light of faith in the midst of darkness. Spring-like weather is predicted as of now for Christmas and the Octave. If only! It’s a curious weather pattern we’ve had before, and always brings me back to one of my favorite poets, Crashaw. He summarizes in poetry the delicious paradoxes of this day, of our Catholic Faith:

“Wellcome, all wonders in one sight!
Eternity shut in a span,**Summer in winter, day in night,**
Heaven in earth, and God in man!**Great little One, whose all-embracing birth**
Lifts earth to Heaven, stoops Heaven to earth.”

It’s easy to get caught up in what “the world, the flesh, and the devil” are up to in our country and the Church. But a little bit goes a long way, and we should more focus on the riches of our Faith, than the reaches of our foe, who has nothing on us, because we are Christ’s. I was struck by this quote from St. Isaac the Syrian (yes, it was once a Catholic country, before the Mohammedans destroyed its faith, and the Americans its peace), “Why do you trouble yourself in a house that is not your own? Let the sight of a dead man be a teacher for you concerning your departure from hence.” This is one way to process all of the violence we see in the news, and all of the falsehood ever present to tempt us. It has nothing to do with us, no hold on us. Let us then welcome into our home and holiday the Holy Child, God’s only Son, born to redeem and remake us, and summon us back to Him. Nothing of Christmas makes any sense without Jesus and everything about this day and season comes together unto peace with Him. Just ask Joseph and Mary. Do. That would be your family Rosary this evening, at the end of a day which has seen the birth of the great little One lift earth to Heaven, and stoop Heaven to earth.

Blessed Christmas! Come back a bit this week!

—Bishop Dolan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Parents</th>
<th>Anne &amp; Denis McMahon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bob &amp; Becky Uhlenbrock</td>
<td>Colleen &amp; Ryan Greenwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Lorraine Finnegan</td>
<td>Brian McMahon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Elaine Santos</td>
<td>Ryan Greenwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Kuebler</td>
<td>Lorretta Otis &amp; Fred Otis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. &amp; R. Kuebler</td>
<td>Ralph &amp; Phyllis Otis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deceased of the Marko &amp; Tkach Families</td>
<td>My Father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zuccaro &amp; Delisi Families</td>
<td>Rebecca Stump</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Dave Marko</td>
<td>Eve &amp; her children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Kitchen, Rd &amp; Rose Batkoski, Annabell &amp; Clyde Kitchen</td>
<td>Patrick James Curry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara K. Hippie</td>
<td>Quintana Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister Gerard</td>
<td>Penny Ann Quintana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patsy McConnell</td>
<td>Santistevan Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard / Florence McConnell</td>
<td>Penny Ann Quintana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patsy McConnell</td>
<td>Lucille Joyce Colongione</td>
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<tr>
<td>†Blanche Ciarkowski</td>
<td>James Colongione</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean &amp; Carolyn McClurey</td>
<td>Fr. Steve Chervenak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth L. Smith Oleyar family</td>
<td>Oleyar family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Prell &amp; Family Estelle Bott</td>
<td>Beverly Petkanics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melvin &amp; Rîta Prell Oleyar family</td>
<td>Oleyar family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Prell &amp; Family My (3) Brothers Kirby Bischel</td>
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**Christmas Poinsettia Memorials**

**Prayer to the Infant Jesus**

Jesus, Son of the glorious Virgin Mary and only Son of the living God, I adore Thee and acknowledge Thee as my God, the only true God, one and infinitely perfect. Thou hast made out of nothing all things that are outside of Thee, and Thou dost preserve and govern them with infinite wisdom, sovereign goodness, and supreme power. I beg of Thee, by the mysteries that were fulfilled in Thy sacred Humanity, to cleanse me in Thy Blood from all my past sins. Pour forth abundantly upon me Thy Holy Spirit, together with His grace, His virtues, and His gifts. Make me believe in Thee, hope in Thee, love Thee, and labor to merit the possession of Thee through each of my actions. Give Thyself to me some day in the brightness of Thy glory, in the company of all Thy saints. Amen.

300 days
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Bernie & Rita Brueggemann
S. & C. Niehaus

John Donadio
S. & C. Niehaus

Bob & Rose Gough
S. & C. Niehaus

Charles & Ruth Higdon
S. & C. Niehaus

John & Helen Jackson
S. & C. Niehaus

Sr. Gerard Vincent
Carol Niehaus

Geraldine Gilker
Carol Niehaus

Eileen Bartels
Carol Niehaus

Elizabeth Smith
Carol Niehaus

John Wiesman
Carol Niehaus

Ronald E. Kitchen
Marge

Sister Marie-Jeanne LaMothe
David

André LaMothe
David

Bernadette LaMothe
David

My dear mom
Martha Brueggemann
Regina & Ken Gilliam

Matthew Kimpel
Tricia Larson

†Walter J. Kotylo
†Judy O’Laughlin Monsion
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Lotarski & family

Our dearest Mother
Martha Brueggemann
Dan & Mary

Deceased SGG Choir Members:
H.O. Hinton, Bill Crock, Bill Bendel, Jim Peter &
Bernie Brueggemann
Mike Briggs Family

The Deceased Members of the Peschi Family
Edward C. Peschi

Michael Gilmartin
Anthony Gilmartin

Lucille Joyce
James Colongione

The Lemorrocco Family
Joyce Disher

Francis Menezes
John Menezes

Joseph Makoto Okamura
Maximilliano Hiroto Okamura

Maria Mariko Okamura
Maximilliano Hiroto Okamura

Hilda & Wendy Pearson
Terry Pearson

Jeanne Dunagan
Christopher P. Browne

Jack S. Browne
Christopher P. Browne

M. Elaine Browne
Christopher P. Browne

†Wacław & †Zuzanna Kuzik
Zenon Kuzik

The Benedetto Family
Marguerite Benedetto

Diane Gallegos
Mary Beth Grumblatt

Paul Santos
Elaine Santos

Angela Gates
Patricia Elliott
Rejoicing with Mary

If therefore there was ever a good reason to rejoice over the birth of any child, it must surely be today on the birthday of Jesus, the Son of Mary, Who alone of all men is called and truly is God with us—of Whom alone it can be said that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Christmas Day is nothing if not a day of universal joy.

Children should rejoice because on this day God Himself became as one of them; virgins, because a Virgin brought forth and remained unstained even after giving birth; wives, because one of their number became the Mother of God; sinners, because their Mediator and Savior and Healer has come to redeem them; the just, because their Reward exceeding great has been born into the world. In fine, all faithful Christians should rejoice that their Creator and Lord has taken on human flesh and begun His reign over the hearts of men, not only as God, but also as the Son of Man among the children of men.

Were we not to celebrate the feast of Christmas as joyfully and as solemnly as we should, we would be worse than unbelieving pagans, who for all their sins at least were not wanting in due respect for the birthdays of the great ones who lorded over them. Do I say worse than infidels? Worse than the beasts of the field who cannot show their appreciation of God’s becoming man because they do not know Him. But we know Him and know what His coming in our flesh has meant to us.

If you do not believe me, believe the Catholic Church which for so many centuries has gone to the limit of propriety in exulting over the birth of her Redeemer. If you will not even believe the Church, at least listen to the angel who was sent from heaven to announce the tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people, believers and pagans, Jews and Gentiles—to all without exception.

- St. Peter Canisius

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25
THE Nativity of the Lord

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. (John 1:14)

The date: December 1223. The place: Greccio, Italy. The problem: a man living in poverty lamenting that his town’s observance of Christmas had become overshadowed by materialism. Distraught, the man did something extreme. He gathered some friends together, along with some livestock, and re-created the scene at the manger. It was a moving experience for many people, and over the years, the practice spread across the world. The man was St. Francis of Assisi, and the practice—which every parish around the world has since adopted—was the traditional nativity scene.

About six hundred years later, a priest in France was so full of joy at the sign of a nativity scene that he found his heart melting. “Who can describe the joy of the feast of Christmas?” he asked. Then, moved by the Holy Spirit, he wrote a homily that described three acts of humility that were at the heart of this great feast.

The first act of humility was God’s plan for His Son to take on our human nature and become a man like us in all things but sin. The second act of humility was Jesus coming to us as a helpless baby entrusted to the care of two human beings. The third act of humility was God’s decision to have His Son born into poverty. That priest was St. John Vianney, known as the Cure of Ars and the patron of all priests.

As Christians celebrate Jesus’ birth today, let’s follow the example of these two great saints. Let’s fix our eyes on the baby Jesus and make Him the first priority of our day. Let’s carve out some private time with Him in prayer before all the celebrations begin. Maybe you can even gather the family and pray together.

And let’s contemplate God’s humility and His magnificent plan for us—a plan that was grounded in what is unquestionably the most dramatic act of humility ever.

“O come, let us adore Him!”

O Almighty God, in the form of a little child! Make me worthy to meditate upon Thy greatness and power, Thy goodness and mercy, and Thy majesty as God and Man.

O Divine Infant! With the most profound reverence, I contemplate Thy divine Countenance, shedding its gentle and forgiving light, like the sun, on good and bad. Deign, O friendly Eyes of my Jesus, to cast one look of grace upon me, and to give to my eyes sincere tears of repentance, that on my judgment day they need not fear Thy look of righteous anger.
## Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON 12/26/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>St. Stephen, Protomartyr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Mass</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Fr. Cekada (Robert Porter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE 12/27/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>St. John, ApeiV, followed by the Blessing of Wine &amp; Beverages, &amp; “The Love of St. John” in Helfta Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Mass</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>The St. Gertrude the Great Clergy (Theresa Schroepfer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 12/28/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>11:20 AM</td>
<td>The Holy Innocents, MM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:20 AM</td>
<td>Novena IV followed by the Blessing of Children, &amp; a party for them in Helfta Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>THU 12/29/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>St. Thomas a Becket, BpM</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Novena V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 12/30/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Resumed Mass of Sunday</td>
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<td>5:45 PM</td>
<td>Opening of the Infant of Prague Novena</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Novena &amp; Benediction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 12/31/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>7:10 AM</td>
<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:10 AM</td>
<td>St. Sylvester I, PC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Confessions</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:05 AM</td>
<td>Low Mass, Dad &amp; Mom (Arlinghaus kids) (from 12/24)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 AM</td>
<td>Alma &amp; Sermon</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:05 AM</td>
<td>High Mass, Novena VII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN 1/1/16</td>
<td>High Mass</td>
<td>7:05 AM</td>
<td>The Feast of the Circumcision</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:05 AM</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Octave Day of the Nativity of Our Lord</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Rosary</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:05 AM</td>
<td>Rosary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Low Mass For the people of St. Gertrude the Great</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** No evening services due to the holiday.

The Christmas Octave is a little lighter on scheduled Masses, due to the Fathers’ travel schedule, but a variety of times are offered during the week. Be sure to take advantage of them. Christmas is Christ’s Mass!

**During the era of persecutions, the pagan Romans allowed a Christian to escape death if he would put but a single grain of incense into a fire set up to honor false gods. Time and again, Christians chose martyrdom rather than make this one small act of tribute to a false religion. One touching account is found in the Roman Martyrology and chanted each year on the Vigil of Christmas:**

At Nicomedia, many thousand holy martyrs, upon the feast of Christ’s birth they had come together unto the Lord’s house, and the Emperor Diocletian ordered the doors of the church to be shut, and all things made ready for fire round about it. Then he set a tripod and incense in front of the door, and sent an herald to proclaim in a loud voice that whosoever would escape burning should come forth and offer incense unto Jupiter. Whereunto they all replied with one voice, that they would far rather die for Christ’s sake; whereupon he kindled the fire and they were consumed, and were born in heaven upon that same day whereupon it had pleased Christ to be born into this world to save it.

Vatican II and the post-Conciliar “popes,” as we know, have sought to create a dogma-less, ecumenical, one-world religion — a big tent for all religions, under which each is regarded as more or less good. There is a place for you in this circus, even if you are “attached” to the traditional Latin Mass. All you have to do is recognize Bergoglio as your ringmaster.

This is what you do when you actively assist at a Mass in which the priest—Motu Proprio, FSSP, SSPX, or independent—proclaims in the Canon that he offers Mass *together with Thy servant, Francis, our Pope and all true believers and professors of the Catholic and Apostolic Faith.*

Better to have no Mass at all, than partake in such a blasphemy. Better to die than offer this grain of incense to the ecumenical religion of the anti-Christ.

-Fr. Anthony Cekada

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**Servers**

**SUN 1/1**
- 7:30 AM Low: Brueggemann Bros.
- 9:00 AM High: Chaplains: B. Lotarski, J. Simpson TH: M. Simpson
  - AGR: S. & L. Arlinghaus CROSS: D. Holbrook TORCH: C. Arlinghaus, J. Stewart, T. Lawrence, D. Simpson
  - 11:30 AM Low: A.D. Kinnert & N. McClory

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O Little Prince of Peace! Give to Thy beloved America the spirit of Thy peace, the peace that Thou pourest out upon Thy forests and plains.