

## JANUARY 1, 2017

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

#### MONDAY – Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

- 8:30 Henry Spinner req. by the Spinner & Walker Family  
Robert Stier req. by Frank & Chris Bieganousky

#### TUESDAY - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

- 8:30 Elena Fhanahan req. by Anthony & Franz

#### WEDNESDAY - Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

- 8:30 Alex Foulds req. by Lori & John Krieger

#### THURSDAY – Saint John Neumann

- 8:30 Elizabeth Mumm req. by Mr. & Mrs. Rocco Sgarlato

#### FRIDAY – Saint Andre Bessette

- 8:30 Elba Robelen req. by DeMauro & Robelen & Kirby Families  
9:15 Jared Platt req. by Dorothy Capasso & Theresa Post

#### SATURDAY – Saint Raymond of Penafort

- 8:30 Pauline Remillard req. by Bill & Nancy Clear  
Deacon Ed Maron req. by the Dirlle Family  
5:30 Pat Apgar req. by Janice Schmitt  
Richard Redshaw req. by the Dirlle Family

## JANUARY 8, 2017

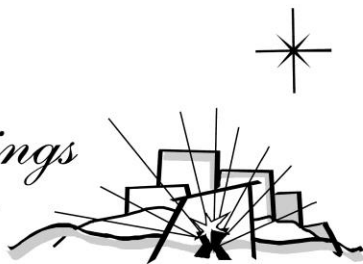
### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

- 7:45 Joseph Pietrucha req. by the Scanlon Family  
Special Intention for Rita Scanlon req. by Anna & Simon  
9:00 People of the Parish  
Regina Sullivan req. by Terry Mazzaferre  
10:30 Kathryn Metzler req. by Joe Fennell  
Jose Bonelli req. by the Posada Family  
12:00 Capt. Ed Rhodes, USN Ret. req. by Tom & Bridget Manning  
Goli Gorospe req. by Anna & Simon  
5:00 Maria, Janusz Olko req. by Tzabek, Jacek Olko

## PARISH FINANCES

Christmas collection will be published at a later date due to publishing deadlines.

*Mary  
kept these things  
in her heart*



## REFLECTION

### *Mary Mother of God*

*Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. (Luke 2:19)*

On this New Year's Day, you might say, "I'm looking forward to watching all the football games and parades on TV today." Or you might say, "This is a great day to look back over all the blessings of the past year."

The Church celebrates New Year's Day in a special way too by honoring Mary as the Mother of God. But Mary isn't just the Mother of God; she is our mother as well. And as the *Catechism* teaches us, because Mary is our mother, she is also our "Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix".

So how does Mary fulfill all these roles? Let's look at two key ways.

First, we know that Mary pondered and treasured everything that came from God. As today's Gospel says, she dwelt on what the shepherds told her. She also pondered and treasured Gabriel's visit at the annunciation. She pondered and treasured how the Magi were led to the manger by God's star. She pondered and treasured what the young Jesus said when they found that he had stayed behind to teach the elders in the Temple.



Right now, try to see how Mary is asking you to take time to ponder who Jesus is and what he has done for you. Imagine Mary asking you to measure him above everything else.

Second, take a look at Mary's Magnificat. (see last page of bulletin). This prayer shows how much Mary loved to praise and glorify God.

Right now, try to see how Mary is asking you to join her in praising God with all your heart. Imagine her inviting you to dedicate the first affections of your heart to Jesus by rejoicing in him, singing to him, and worshipping him.

Mary is not only your mother; she is your prayer partner as well. So join her today, and pray your own Magnificat. ***"Jesus, let my soul magnify you! Let my spirit rejoice in your salvation!"***

From: The Word Among Us

**THE WEEK IN THE PARISH 1/1/17 TO 1/7/17**

<b>Tues.</b>	<b>9:00 AM Scripture Sharing</b>	<b>Library</b>
	<b>7:00 PM Women's Cornerstone</b>	<b>St. Lucy</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>6:45 PM BINGO (non-smoking)</b>	<b>McKenna Hall</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7:00 PM Filipino Mass</b>	<b>McKenna Hall</b>
	<b>8:30 PM AA</b>	<b>Cassidy Hall</b>
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>8:30 PM AA</b>	<b>McKenna Hall</b>

**LITURGY**

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

**First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27**

The Lord told Aaron to bestow his blessings on the Israelites. God wanted them to know that by invoking his name they would be blessed by him.

**Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7**

Paul describes how through Jesus' birth, we have been delivered from the laws that exiled Gentiles from God's community. Through Jesus, the Gentiles became God's adopted sons and would receive the same blessings that the Jewish converts had been promised.

**Gospel: Luke 2:16-21**

The shepherds went to Bethlehem to see Jesus and immediately understood all that they had been told about him. They praised God for what they had seen, and Jesus was given the name that the angel had chosen for him.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**

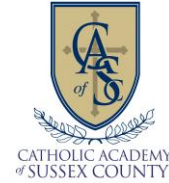
**First Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Those serving in the military especially: Richard Fox, John Garlasco, Brian McCarthy, Lt. Daniel Faherty, Joseph Venutolo, Cpl. Marc Vero, Sgt. Jeremy Overstreet, Kevin Michael Kiefer, Michael Krapels, Robert Stumpe, USMC, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Curcio, Staff Sgt. Lena Webb, Spc. Samuel Nolan, US Army, Lt. Jamie Curcio, Navy Reserve, 1<sup>ST</sup> Lt. Christopher Tantillo; Cpl. Conor J. Brady, USMC, LCpl. Marc Stanziale, USMC. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Joseph Brunone, US Nat'l Guard, Brandon Adams, USAF. Please continue to pray for all our servicemen and women.



**CATHOLIC ACADEMY OF SUSSEX COUNTY NEWS**

Students from Reverend Brown School in Sparta celebrate the Christmas season by performing a live nativity at Our Lady of the Lake Church.



*Anya, Clare, Victor, Kate, Quinn, Meghan, Gina, Andrew, Tricia, Gabby, Mike, Hunter, Jack, and Christian.*



**VOLUNTEER  
APPRECIATION NIGHT**

All Parish Volunteers and their spouses are invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship on

**Friday, January 20, 2017**

**At 7:00 PM in McKenna Hall.**

Please RSVP by January 13, 2017 by calling the parish office (973) 729-6107 or email to: [info@ourladyofthelake.org](mailto:info@ourladyofthelake.org).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### DOGMA TEAM/YOUTH GROUP

There will be no meeting on Jan 2. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to all. See everyone Monday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 to 8:00 PM in the Youth Room.

### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will resume on January 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM in Cassidy Hall. We will take "A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother, Mary." All are invited to join us for this Seven Session DVD series, with follow-up discussion and refreshments.

### THE BIRTH HAVEN GIVING TREE



Thank you for your generous donations of baby things for Birth Haven in Newton. As you can see in the photo, there were many items donated. And, that was only part of it. After the gifts were gathered up and delivered to Birth Haven, there were even more donations under the tree. Today is the last day to drop off your gift items for Birth Haven. However, cash donations are always accepted and needed; please visit their website at [www.BirthHaven.org](http://www.BirthHaven.org). Thank you so much for your generosity to these expectant mothers in difficult circumstances who have chosen life for their babies.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM CORNERSTONE

*April 2017*

### WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE

#### Literacy New Jersey

Literacy New Jersey's Sussex Branch will be offering English Conversation Classes in the Sparta Library starting in January 2017. These classes help people from other countries who know some English but would like to improve their ability to speak English. The classes are:

**Health Literacy Conversation Group:** Tuesdays 5:30

pm – 8:00 pm, January 10 through March 28, in the

basement of the Sparta Library (22 Woodport Road).

Conversations will cover topics such as healthy living,

visiting the doctor, reading medicine labels.

**English Conversation Group:** Mondays 5:30PM – 8:00

PM, January 23 through April 17, also in the Sparta

Library basement. This group will talk about many

subjects, such as food, shopping, American customs,

holidays and more. These groups are for adults. To

register, call Mary at (973) 300-9444. Give your name and

telephone or email address.

#### **Fr. Angelus Croce Retires**

After serving the community for many years and being the Chaplain for the Salesian Sisters for over twenty years, Fr. Angelus Croce is retiring to Nazareth Village in Chester. A simple reception will take place at Sacred Heart Center from 1:30-3:00 PM on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP by email at [croceretirement@gmail.com](mailto:croceretirement@gmail.com) or leave a message at (201) 396-1102. Please come and wish Fr. Angelus a happy retirement.

#### **Bereavement Support Group**

"A Journey Toward Healing" – The Bereavement Ministry of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha R.C. Church invites all who have encountered the loss of a loved one to join our support group for prayerful reflection and sharing. Sessions will be held the first Wednesday every month from January to August 2017 at 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Saint Kateri, 427 Stanhope Rd., Sparta. Please call Laura Entwistle at (973) 726-8978 if you wish to attend.

#### **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release, and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions and begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat will be held from Friday evening, Jan. 27, 2017 through Sunday afternoon, Jan 29 in the Stirling area. To register and for more information, contact Marie at (973) 377-1004 ext. 425. All calls will be held in strictest confidence.

# Our Lady of the Lake Church

294 Sparta Avenue

Sparta, New Jersey 07871

Phone: 973-729-6107 Fax: 973-729-7203

Web Site: [www.ourladyofthelake.org](http://www.ourladyofthelake.org)

## Parish Staff

Rev. David McDonnell	Pastor
Rev. Marcin Bradtke	Associate Pastor
Mr. Anthony (Sonny) Curcio	Deacon
Mr. James McGovern	Deacon
Elizabeth Heldak	Director of Religious Education
Laurie DiCianni	Confirmation Coord.-Youth Minister
Krzysztof Kowalewski	Music Director
Ellen Ormond	Secretary/Bookkeeper
Joanna Mattos	Secretary
Denise Aldana	Social Ministries

## Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 5:30 P.M.

Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 A.M. and 12 Noon  
5:00 P.M. (except June, July, and August)

Weekday Masses 8:30 A.M.

## Holy Day Masses

8:30, 9:30 A.M. (except August 15<sup>th</sup>), and 7:00 P.M.

## Confessions

Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 and at 6:30 P.M.

## Novena

Miraculous Medal Devotions: Saturday 8:30 A.M.

## Eucharist Adoration:

Thursday 9:00 to 7:00 P.M.

For information on Baptisms, Marriages, Religious Education, Youth Ministry, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Visitation of the Sick, Parish Membership, please call the parish office at (973) 729-6107.

## New Parishioners - Welcome!

Won't you please register at the Parish Office  
Monday - Friday, 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Or find our registration form on our webpage  
[www.ourladyofthelake.org](http://www.ourladyofthelake.org)

## OLL LEGACY COOKBOOKS ON SALE



Our Lady of the Lake Legacy Cookbooks have been published and are available for purchase at the parish office. They are \$25 each and make great Christmas gifts. They may also be purchased at the Sparta Book Club. Please support this important fundraiser. Thank you.



Father David  
Father Marcin  
and the  
Parish Staff  
Wish You  
A Happy, Healthy,  
Prosperous,  
New Year!



## THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children forever.

(Lk 1:46-55)