

Solemnity of Mary

December 31 – January 1, 2018

Mass Intentions

Saturday

4:00 PM For Esther Coupe by her niece, Ann Marie

Sunday

9:00 AM For the Intentions of the Religious Education Teachers and Aides

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Judi DiMitri – 2nd Anniversary by Fran, John & Maureen

Next Sunday

9:00 AM For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's

Weekend Mass Schedule

The weekend Mass Schedule for the months of January and February will be **5:00 PM** on Saturdays and **9:00 AM** on Sundays.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of December 23 & 24, 2017

The Parish Stewardship figures will be reported in next weekend's Bulletin due to the early date for submission of this weekend's Bulletin.

Religious Education News

There will be **NO** Religious Education the weeks of December 17th & 24th. Classes will resume on **January 9th**.

2018 20-Week Club

There will be a person collecting on the 1st weekend of every month from December to April. All other weeks you can use the 20-Week Club payment envelope found on the ushers' tables.

2018 20-Week Winners

- December 24th – Robert Civetti - # 255
- December 24th – Joseph Gaulin - # 090

Care Notes

Care Notes, which are pamphlets to help people experiencing grief, illness or difficult times during the Christmas season, are available *free* in the foyer of the church. Pick one up for yourself or for someone you know who could use the support during these days.

Thank You

Thank you to our Confirmation Candidates for their hard work in planning and carrying out a successful and fun *Breakfast with Santa* last Sunday and for a good job in cleaning up afterwards.

Vocations Retreat

The annual priesthood retreat for high school seniors, college and post college age men who may be considering a priesthood vocation will take place @ the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on Friday and Saturday, January 12-13, 2018. Please see Father Bob if you are interested.



Welcome

A warm welcome to all our visitors this weekend. We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us and we welcome you back any time.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Anyone who may want to learn how to crochet and become a member of this special ministry, please let Fr. Bob know. One of the members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is willing to teach you how to crochet.

Father Bob's Ramblings

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. So often, we seem to idealize this family as being one that had no problems or difficulties. How could they, we might ask, since their son was the Son of God? The reality, however, is that this family experienced all the ups and downs that all families face. They lived trying to make ends meet financially, they experienced sickness and distress, and they had to deal with all the phases all children experience.

The one aspect of this family's life together that we can emulate, is their total trust in God and their belief that God was with them. From the first days of being together, Mary and Joseph had to rely on God's help. Their own townspeople and relatives shunned them because they were having a child before they were married. They had to move to crowded Bethlehem and find a place to live. Once there, they moved again to Egypt to protect their child, then moved back to Nazareth and tried to settle down. Amidst all this, however, they never lost their belief that God was with them and was walking their journey with them. They were attentive to God's call and tried as best they could to live out God's plan.

As we honor this Holy Family this weekend, may we try to follow their example in the New Year by being attentive to God's call to each of us and asking for their help to be faithful and trusting that God is with us in whatever events that will shape our lives in 2015.

My prayer for each of you for the New Year is that you may recognize and be open to the many ways that God comes into your lives. May God's blessings of peace, good health and harmony be with each of you throughout the New Year.

Also, many thanks to so many of you for your Christmas wishes and gifts to Honey and me. I am ever grateful to you for your generosity.

The Giving Tree

Thank you for your wonderful generosity in supporting the *Giving Tree Ministry*. Over 250 children are having a special Christmas because of your support.

Prayer for Families

O God,
*Bless our family and all its members
and friends;
bind us together with your love.
Give us kindness and patience
to support each other;
and wisdom in all we do.
Let the gift of your peace
come into our hearts
and may it remain with us.
May we rejoice in your blessings
for all our days.*



*Those who honor their father, atone for sins; those
who respect their mother, store up treasures.*

Book of Sirach 3:3-4

Adult Confirmation Classes

Any adult 18 years or older who wishes to take Confirmation Classes in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is asked to let Fr. Bob know before February 11, 2018. Classes will take place on Tuesdays February 27th, March 6th, 13th & 20th. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 31st.