

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
January 1, 2017

*We are St. Thomas More Parish,
members of the living Body of Christ,
born again in Baptism
and strengthened through the Eucharist
to promote the Gospel values of our Catholic faith.*

Mass Schedule

Saturday (Vigil Mass) - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 1:00 pm in Spanish
Monday & Thursday - 6:00 pm Tuesday & Friday - 7:00 am
Reconciliation
Thursday 5:30 - 6:00 pm & Saturday 4:00 - 5:00 pm
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration - Works of Mercy Chapel



Pastoral Staff

Pastor - Rev. Brad Whistle (*fr.brad@stmores.org*)
Parochial Vicar - Rev. Michael Charles Ajigo Abiero
(*fr.michaelcharles@stmores.org*)
Deacon - Deacon Terry Larbes (*deacon@stmores.org*)
Parish Administrator - Steve DuPerrieu (*steve@stmores.org*)
Director of Music and Liturgy - James G. Hess, MM (*jhess@stmores.org*)
Director of Stewardship and Ministries - Melisa Mast (*mmast@stmores.org*)
Director of Youth Ministry - Matt Rochette (*matt@stmores.org*)
Director of Hispanic Ministry - Sr. Celia Sanchez, MAG (*sr.celia@stmores.org*)
Director of R.C.I.A. - Pat Cairney (*pcairney@stmores.org*)
Director of Communications - J. Patrick Kerr (*patrick@stmores.org*)
Administrative Assistant - Lois Bell (*lois@stmores.org*)
Bookkeeper - Ellen Anderson (*ellen@stmores.org*)

Pastoral Council

Mike Crider	270-519-1728
Andrew DuPerrieu	270-210-2440
Dianna Hand	270-705-5711
Lori Hatton	270-210-3063
Stacy Jones	270-210-0351
Lisa Logsdon-Seay (Sec.)	270-554-7616
Pam Malast	270-210-1247
Bill Murphy	270-534-0722
Amy Sullivan (Chair)	270-210-7478
Miguelina Sunderland	270-217-4442
Tomi Zaninovich	270-444-0676

Finance Committee

Doug Niewoehner (Chair)
David Althouse
Lynn Brown
Mike Crider
Chris Haas
Cletus Poat

Cemetery Board

Jim Sanders (Chair)
David Curtsinger
David Langston

Education

Ging Smith ~ Faith Formation Director
Susan Ybarzabal ~ FF Board Liaison
Patty Hughes ~ FF Board Liaison
Eleanor Spry ~ SMSS Director
Jennifer Smith ~ SMHS/SMMS Principal
Lisa Clark ~ SMES Principal
Chris Haas ~ SMEC Board Member
Gale Hatton ~ SMEC Board Member
Chris Hrdlicka ~ SMEC Board Member
Nicki Roof ~ SMEC Board Member

Special Care Numbers

St. Mary School System	270-442-1681
Faith Formation (CCD)	270-443-0295
Mt. Carmel Cemetery (John Bufford)	270-331-1006
Bereavement (Cathy Trussell)	270-519-3779
Inclusion Representative (Stacy Jones)	270-210-0351
Hope Unlimited	270-442-1166
Opportunities for Life	800-822-5824
Merryman House	270-443-6001
SVdP Budget Store	270-442-9351
SVdP Assistance	270-575-1008
Paducah Cooperative Ministry	270-442-6795



God Bless Us, Every One

The blessing included in the First Reading from the Book of Numbers is one with which most of us are familiar. “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you...” In the Jewish culture this has been known for centuries as the Aaronic blessing as it was dictated by God Himself to Aaron. It is important to note that it begins with “The Lord bless you.”

All blessings come from God. One error we make is to conclude that blessings always mean happiness or security or prosperity. God knows what blessings we need, even if we do not. The key for us is to be grateful for whatever blessings we may have. That mind set is at the hub of stewardship — knowing all blessings come from the Lord, and our need to be appreciative of them.

To be “kept” by the Lord is to turn our lives over to Him, to know that He is with us and that He loves us, blesses us, and does indeed “keep” us ever in His care. The truth is that to be blessed by God is one of the greatest gifts we can receive. It is available to all of us without exception.

During this continued Christmas season, it is well to remember and repeat the classic statement by the character Tiny Tim in Charles Dickens’ immortal A Christmas Carol: “God bless us, every one,” for certainly He does.

God
BLESS
us,
everyone
-dickens

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31

5:30 pm David Blackwell (d)

Sunday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

9:00 am Our Parish Family

11:00 am Louis Hetzer (d)

1:00 pm *Mass in Spanish*
Living & Deceased Members
of the Daughters of Isabella

Monday, January 2

6:00 pm Lucille Tidwell (d)

Tuesday, January 3

7:00 am Elizabeth Edwards

Wednesday, January 4

8:40 am SMMS ~ Fr. Bruce McCarty

9:30 am Superior Care ~ Fr. Brad Whistle
Christine Rodgers (d)

12:00 pm Lourdes Chapel ~ Fr. Brad Whistle
Eugene Masur (d)

Thursday, January 5

6:00 pm Lawrence Bufford (d)

Friday, January 6 First Friday

7:00 am John Mouser (d)

8:05 am SMES ~ Fr. Brad Whistle
Aurora Arvelo (d)

Saturday, January 7

5:30 pm Our Parish Family

Sunday, January 8 The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am Theresa Austin (d)

11:00 am Doug Edwards (d)

1:00 pm *Mass in Spanish*
Augustine Jaramillo (d)

Saints & Special Observances

Sunday: Mary, the Holy Mother of God;
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord;
World Day of Prayer for Peace;
New Year’s Day

Monday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

Tuesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Wednesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Thursday: St. John Neumann

Friday: St. André Bessette; First Friday

Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday;
Julian Calendar Christmas

Liturgical Ministers Schedule January 7/8

	5:30 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
Sacristan	Debbie Caspar	Camilla Shumaker	Amy Miller
Euch. Ministers	Ann Averill Sr. Lucy Bonifas Mary Carrico Mikel Fields Sr. Kateri Kaufman Sam Leone Mike Polashock David Shoulta Cara Sims Elaine Stevens Dolores Webber	Scott Babbs Frank Block Valerie Kortz David Langston Jill Langston Michael Langston Angie Nelson Todd Nelson David Roof Ron Shoulta Lynn Thompson	Michelle Dunlap Pat Hobbs Barb Larbes Karina Romero Marianna Romero Terry Sullivan Brandon Trevathan Nadie Vance Richard Vieitez
Lectors	Mary Evans Jim Kallaher	Brianna Doran Kurt Averill	Mary Kay Sanders Joe Hobbs
Servers	Jack Bell Parker MacCauley	Zachary Althouse Matthew King John Holtgrewe	Joey Eggemeyer Billy Johnston
Greeter Families	David Curtsinger Phyllis Teeters Tony Toren	Rick Goins Paul King Bill Sturgis	Trish Burks Tracy Wurth Lisa Zakutney
Ushers	Chris Bell Sam Bell Lance Fleming John MacCauley Vicki Tracy Steve Wurth	Tom Clinton Geoffrey Newton Thomas Newton Maria Stuckenborg Ken Wurth Kevin Wurth	Ann Bongiolatti Trent Bongiolatti Keith Cash Tessa Cash Kenlin Thomas Kiael Waldon
Children's Liturgy	Laurie Straub Rachel Straub	Sheri Babbs Sarah Katz	Trish Burks Ixchel Zapata

What's Happening

Sunday, January 1

- 9:00 am Mass (Church)
- 10:00 am No Coffee & Doughnuts
- 11:00 am Mass (Church)
- 1:00 pm Mass in Spanish (Church)

Monday, January 2

- Office Closed
- 6:00 pm Anointing of the Sick (Chapel)

Tuesday, January 3

- 7:30 am Rosary (Chapel)
- 6:00 pm Hispanic Confirmation (Sacred Heart Room)

Wednesday, January 4

- 9:00 am Mother's Day Out (Nursery/Library)
- 6:15 pm Faith Formation (SMES)

Thursday, January 5

- 5:30 pm Reconciliation (Chapel)
- 6:45 pm RCIA (Parish Hall)
- 7:30 pm Hispanic Women's Mtg. (Sacred Heart Room)

Friday, January 6

- 7:30 pm Hispanic Men's Mtg. (Sacred Heart Room)

Saturday, January 7

- 4:00 pm Reconciliation (Church)

Sunday, January 8

- 10:00 am Coffee & Doughnuts (Parish Hall)
- 10:00 am BP Checks (Hospitality Room)
- 3:00 pm Divorced Support Group (Hospitality Room)
- 5:00 pm Bible Study (Hospitality Room)

Hour of Prayer

- Monday:** Elizabeth Edwards & Lillie Watson
- Tuesday:** Barbara & Gaye Robinson
- Wednesday:** Andy & Suzy Gilland
- Thursday:** Ray & Amy Lane
- Friday:** Cecelia Farrell & Jim Garrett
- Saturday:** Pat Cvengros & Shirley Renaud

RCIA topic for Thursday, January 5

The Four Last Things

Meeting time: 6:45 pm in the Parish Hall. All members of the parish are welcome to attend any of this year's RCIA sessions. Each meeting will provide an opportunity for refreshment of your understanding of what the Catholic faith professes. No need to reserve. Just come in if you are interested. For more information, please contact Pat Cairney at pcairney@stmores.org.



Vocation Awareness

"Then the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them"
 The shepherds received the Good News into their hearts and then made the message known to others. How is God calling you to share the Good News of his mercy and love with others? To learn more about discerning your vocation, contact the Vocations Office at jason.mcclure@pastoral.org, www.owensborovocations.com or 270-683-1545.



Eternal Rest

Bill Cash, husband of Martha Cash, father of Keith (Kim) Cash and brother of Ginny (Hilary) Hunt, passed away Sunday, December 19, 2016. **Charlie Wilson**, husband of Linda Wilson and father of Pam Anderson, passed away Tuesday, December 20, 2016. May God welcome them home and comfort their families in this time of sorrow.

***Adoration Schedule for New Year's***

For New Year's, the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed **before the 5:30 pm Mass on Saturday, December 31st, (as usual)** and exposed at 7:00 am on Monday, January 2nd.

***Office New Year's Schedule***

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2 for the New Year's holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3 at 8:00 am.

Coffee & Doughnuts Schedule

There will be no coffee and doughnuts today, Sunday, January 1. Coffee and doughnuts will be back Sunday, January 8 as usual.

Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered during the 6:00 pm Mass in the Works of Mercy Chapel on **Monday, January 2**. It will continue on the first Monday of each month. The sacrament may be administered to those who are chronically ill, who are facing major surgery, the elderly, to those who suffer from depression and anxiety, those in danger of death or to anyone who truly feels a deep need for the gifts and grace of the Holy Spirit.

D of I Meeting

The regular meeting for the Daughters of Isabella will be **Tuesday, January 3** at 7:00 pm. Rosary will be prayed at 6:30. Members are encouraged to attend.

Sisters of Service

The regular meeting for the Sisters of Service will be **Sunday, January 8** at 2:00 pm at the KC Hall. Bring a friend!

Rosary Chapel Blood Drive

Rosary Chapel, located at 711 Ohio St., will have a blood drive on **Friday, January 13** from 11:30 am -4:30 pm. For more information please call 270-444-6383.

***Spiritual Direction***

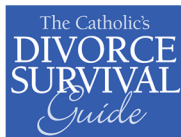
Sister Betty Drewes, a Benedictine Sister from Ferdinand, IN comes to Saint Thomas More Parish once a month to provide spiritual direction for anyone seeking to deepen their relationship with God. If you want to schedule an appointment with Sister Betty for spiritual direction, please email her at bdrewes@thedome.org or call 812-367-1411, extension 2902. She will be here at the parish **January 3, 4, & 5**.

Blood Pressure Checks

Our parish nurses will hold their monthly blood pressure checks next **Sunday, January 8** in the Hospitality Room between the 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses. You are invited to stop by for this free service. Call the Parish Office (270-534-9000) for more information. Nurses are needed to help with blood pressure screenings. The time commitment is small, and no training is required; any nurses or EMT's are welcome to serve. If you can lend your time and talent to this valuable service to our parishioners, please contact Sheila Rea at (270) 534-9091.

Opportunities for Life

January 14-15 is the weekend designated for the Annual Collection to support Opportunities for Life. Opportunities for Life is a life affirming ministry of the Bishops of Kentucky. The OFL ministry is available 24 hours a day seven days a week to offer confidential, non-judgmental emotional support, and information to those affected by an untimely pregnancy. Please be generous in your support of this ministry. In addition to your generous gift, please pray for the OFL volunteers and for those the ministry serves. To learn more about Opportunities for Life ministry, please call 888-496-3638.

***NEW! Catholic's DIVORCE HEALING Program***

The Catholic Churches of McCracken County are pleased to announce the beginning of an exciting, new DVD ministry to men and women who have suffered from divorce: *The Catholic's DIVORCE SURVIVAL Guide*. The 12-week program features 30-minute DVD shows each week that cover topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the courts, the kids, the ex-spouse, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, remarriage or staying single, and much more. Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, the program offers valuable insight for everyone. **January 8-March 28, 2017**, 3:00-5:00 pm at St. Thomas More's Hospitality Room. For more information, (270)534-9000.

*We should employ
our passions
in the service of life,
not spend life in the service
of our passions. —Richard Steele*



Cantors Needed!

We are in need of Cantors to minister at the 5:30 pm and 11:00 am Masses. A Cantor should

- have a pleasant singing voice
- be able to sing on pitch
- have some music reading ability
- be able to engage the Assembly in song

If you have an interest in this ministry please email the Music Office at jhess@stmore.org. Thank you!

20th Annual YOUTH 2000

A Eucharistic-Centered Retreat
March 10-12, 2017
Owensboro Convention Center

“The light shines in the
darkness, and the darkness
has not overcome it.”
- John 1:5

Ages 13-30
(270) 683-1545
marianshrineky.org



Considering Adoption?

Catholic Charities of Owensboro serves pregnant women experiencing an unplanned pregnancy and couples who wish to adopt. Call 270-852-8328 or visit KyCaringConnection.org to learn more!

GREECE

“IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF
SAINT PAUL”

OCT. 25 - NOV. 4, 2017

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BISHOP WILLIAM F. MEDLEY

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Kusadasi, Ephesus (Mary's
House), Patmos, Santorini,
Athens, Corinth, Delphi,
Kalambaka, Thessaloniki,
Philippi, & Kavala

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Do You Have a Family Member in the Hospital?

Please notify the Parish Office upon admission of a family member into any hospital or nursing home. By law these facilities are not allowed to release the names of their patients.



Saint Mary School System
Is seeking applicants for
the following:

IMMEDIATE POSITIONS

Maintenance person
After-school childcare assistants
Elementary part-time receptionist

FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR:

Music teacher
Technology teacher
Business teacher

Send resume to: espry@smss.org

Job Opportunity

The Diocese of Owensboro has a job opportunity for a Chief Financial Officer in the Office of Administration. This position is located at the McRaith Catholic Center in Owensboro, KY. The Diocese encompasses 78 parishes and 17 schools in western Kentucky.

Position Summary: The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the overall financial management of the Diocese and the fiscal resources in support of the mission and goals of the Diocese.

Contact Details:

The Diocese of Owensboro is an equal opportunity employer that provides a wide range of benefits. All interested applicants may submit a resume and cover letter to:

Email – Diocese.hr@pastoral.org

Online – www.owensborodiocese.org/human-resources/

Altar Society Ministry for Jan.

Purificators: Gina Fraser
Robes & Albs: Melody Walker

Readings for the Week

Monday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat for Healing the Wounds of Abortion will be offered the weekend of **January 13-15, 2017** in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. Participation in this retreat is open to any woman or man who has been involved, or touched by, abortion. If you have lost a child or grandchild, or a sibling, nephew or niece, to abortion, or if you have at any time in your life been involved in an abortion, then the Lord Jesus would like to offer you both healing and peace! Both Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome to participate, and our retreat is conducted with absolute confidentiality. For more information, visit our website: HopeAfterAbortionKY.com, or call Debbie at (270) 570-4717 or Jennifer at (931) 242-5506.

Please Note

In accordance with Diocesan Mandate, printed forms are available in the Gathering Space and in the Parish Office by which anyone may report an incident of abuse by anyone acting in the name of the church. The diocesan policy, which provides for such reporting, is also available for viewing in the Parish Office.

Let Us Remember in Prayer...

Parishioners: Faye Alexander, Michael Alexander, Mary Gertrude Barkett, Margie Bunte, Celine Crane, Teresa Davis, Pat Dotson, Francie Duncan, Elizabeth Edwards, Morgan Eggemeyer, Gina Fraser, Rose Freiseis, Mary Ann Graves, Wayne & Margaret Hagan, Sheree Halicks, Amy Harris, Jodi Hayden, Ann Heavrin, Joyce Holliday, Kay Hosbach, Alan Hughes, Stephen & Phyllis Kettler, David Kimble, Paul Kortz, Buzz LaGesse, Janie Lamb, Thomas & Janet Montgomery, Sandy Morrow, Sara Beth Neihoff, Ella O'Bryan, Charity Peters, Ronnie Reil, Barbara Robinson, Gaye Robinson, George Shaw, John Shaw, Carolyn Shockley, Nancy Stearns, Monty Thompson, Ann Vaughan, Ann Watkins, Charlie & Linda Wilson, Katherine Wise

Homebound: Randy Hand, Mike & Lorna Roper, Gertrude Yopp

Nursing Home: Carol Baugh, Rose de Leo, Jeanette Elliott, Joe & Betty Falconite, Martha Floyd, Mary Galvin, Hester Geuss, James Hennessy, Vonnice Howard, Catherine McManman, John Metcalf, Delphine Operle, Mary Riedfort, Carolyn Webb, Lucienne Willett, Charles Woods



Justin Lamb, Chris McCoy, Timothy Lowman, Philip Chapman, Kurtis McClain, Zachary Grimes, Kurt Bell, Jeremy Copeland, Eric Gast, Aaron Conover, Brian Clayton, Hannah Wilson, John Davis, Emily Lane Rockne, Corey Carnes, Clay Magers, Tyler Shumaker, Jeff Perry, Tyler Scott Dickson, Logan Hatton, Nathan Phipps, Sam Herrmann, Charles Soward, Kelly Scott-Nevonen, Greg Nevonen, Cameron Gruening, Michael Renfro, Jason Smith

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. And give us peace. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and

Non-Parishioners: Lucy Adams, Vickie Arellano, Andy Arliskas, Joseph Arant, Beverly Barnhill, Irene Barrale, Sue Belt, Paul Birk, Tim Bishoff, Bill Black, Marshall Blevins, Britney Boyd, Laura Boyd, Christy Brandon, Joe Bratton, Frances Brush, Rebecca Brush, Dr. Danny Butler, Brandon Canada, Robin Halicks Carlino, Teri Carlino, Rita Chi, Bryan Chovancek, Keith & Dina Clark, Jeff Clark, Charles Clem, Jaycie Closs, Hillary Coltharp, John Conelly, Ronald Connor, Susan Conway, Christa Cook, Andrea Culp, T.J. Davidson, Cara Davis, Ruth Davis, Gail Dierols, Chelsea Duncan, Penny Dunn, Shanna Durbin, Haley Eck, Jake Edminston, Max Ennis, Randy Erickson, Barbara Felts, Jim Flippen, David Fowlkes, Richard Gates, Christi Gearheard, Charlotte Giannini, Cathy Gibb, Sis Gies, Ella Gilbert, Anne Gill, Joanie Giordano, Mike Girth, Joseph Gobel, Carson Goode, Theresa Grana, Karen Graves, Barbara Greer, Mark Grief, Katie Grimes, Sabrina Hale, Angela Eaton Hamilton, Diane Han, Marilyn Hayden, Earl Henderson, Hannah & Lisa Hills & Kathy, Rick Hinton, Billy Hite, Michael Curtis Hobbs, Carolyn Holf, Hank & Mary Nell Holtermann, Steven Hood, Lucy Howe, Jean Hughes, Noah James, Gilbert Johnson, Ed Kapfhammer, Diane Karnages, Mike Lane, Romano Lee, Rose Lowery, Charles Loyd, Brady Magsig, Carol Ann Marazniack, Lindsey Martin, Alicia Martinez Sanches, Linda Massey, Frankie Masterson, Richard Masterson, Joan McCarty, Brandi McDermott, Pat McGrady, Amber McKinley, Fr. Severin Mesick, Carol Miller, Dominic Miller, Julie Miller, Krista Mitchell, David Moehle, Julie Montgomery, Nicole Moore, Jeff Mues, Morgan Nave, Larry Neihoff, Catherine Neihoff-Webb, Randy Newton, Dana Nichols, Michael O'Daniel, Al Olash, Clay Parker, Janice Parker, Reba Parrish, Emily Perrin, Janis Phillips, Melody Pugh, Abigail Puleo, Holly Randall, Suzie Reaney, Ray Robertson, Rylee Robinson, Frank Roe, Shirley Rogers, Danny Selts, Laura Shaw, Matthew Shoulta, Mike Smith, Jane Sparks, Kim Street, Gayle Strehl, Kim Swartz, Jay Swinford, Susie Taylor, Larry Terrell, Nancy Thomas, Devin Thomas, Patty Thomas, Corey Thompson, Ricky Thompson, John Todd, Julie Travis, Phyllis Troutman, Tracy Underhill, Pauline Vieta, Kenneth Vogler, Lucille Voytas, Myra Walker, Tom Walker, Madalyn Wallace, Whitney Wallace & Family, Barbara Warner, Tommy Watson, Helen Weiss, Gayle White, Nancy Whitney, Edward Williams, John Willis, Donna Wills, Roger Wilson, Wade Wood, Sylvia & Raymond Yoon, Dr. Michael Younker

Bounty Baskets Need...

St. Vincent de Paul:
Powdered Milk or Cereal

PCM:
Rice





Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

January 1 is a Holy Day and not because of New Year's



Most Catholics know January 1 is a Holy Day however, many erroneously believe the Holy Day has something to do with the New Year. And, those of us that do know it is the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God, may not understand the significance of the feast as it is oftentimes confused with the Annunciation or the Assumption.

The feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The English title "Mother of God" is a translation of the Latin title *Dei Genetricis*, which means "She Who Generated God." This title was adopted at the First Council of Ephesus as a way to assert that Jesus is God, and that his mother can therefore be called Mother of God. The title that the January 1 feast celebrates is thus not only Mariological but also Christological.



The feast, as it relates to others in the Church, is not that old however, its roots date back to the 13th or 14th century. The Second Vatican Council said, "Clearly from earliest times, the Blessed Virgin is honored under the title of Mother of God." Early in our history, the Church in Rome celebrated on January 1 a feast that it called the Anniversary of the Mother of God. When the feast was overshadowed by the feasts

of the Annunciation and the Assumption, adopted from Constantinople at the start of the 7th century, January 1 began to be celebrated as the Octave of Christmas, the "eighth day" on which, according to Luke 2:21, the child was circumcised and given the name Jesus.

In the 13th or 14th century, January 1 began to be celebrated in Rome, as the feast of the Circumcision of the Lord and the Octave of the Nativity, while still oriented towards Mary and Christmas, with many prayers, antiphons and responsories glorifying the maternity of Mary. Pope John XXIII's 1960 rubrical and calendrical revision removed the mention of the circumcision of Jesus and called January 1 simply the Octave of the Nativity.

The feast of the "Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary" was established in Portugal in 1914, for celebration in October and was extended to the entire Catholic Church by Pope Pius XI in 1931. In 1969, a revision of the liturgical year and the calendar stated definitively, "January 1, the Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, and also the commemoration of the conferral of the Most Holy Name of Jesus." This change removed the October feast, even for Portugal, by declaring, "The Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated on January 1 in the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God."

In his Apostolic Letter, *Marialis Cultus*, Pope Paul VI explained, "This celebration, placed on January 1 is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the 'Holy Mother, through whom we were found worthy to receive the Author of life.' It is likewise a fitting occasion for renewing adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels, and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace."

Saxony
MINI STORAGE
 2655 N. Friendship Rd.
 270-554-4720 (or) 5926
 Kenneth Merges

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Broadway Dental Care

James K. Hunt, DMD Parishioner
Kathy R. Slaughter, DMD
Kinney E. Slaughter, DMD
 BroadwayDentalCarePaducah.com
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