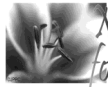


The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sunday ***December 27 2015***

"Try to put in the hearts of your children a love for home"

Mother Teresa



Mass Intentions for the Week

December 26, Saturday, Saint Stephen

12:05 Special Intention

5:15 Stephen Pron

December 27, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish

9:30 Yolanda Thomas

11:00 Wes Tomczynski

12:30 Sebastian Rodriguez

6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

December 28, Monday, The Holy Innocents

7:15 Dominick Iacaruso

12:05 Anne & Bryan Maynard (L)

December 29, Tuesday, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:15 Marie Giosa

12:05 Robert Movsesian

December 30, Wednesday, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:15 James P. Stuhlman

12:05 S. Frank Bruni

December 31, Thursday, Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:15 Denise Benton

12:05 Dennis A. Licci

5:00 Anticipated Mass

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

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 Noon, 2:00 PM-Spanish

January 2, Saturday, St. Basil the Great

12:05 Delfino Anthony Dinuno

5:15 Nicholas Kukorlo (L)

January 3, The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 Pro Populo - For the People of the Parish

9:30 Tom Fiordimondo

11:00 Ralph Berarducci (L)

12:30 A la Virgen Del Carmen

6:30 Pro Populo - For the People

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the *Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*. This Christmas feast recalls the beauty and intimacy of the relationship among Our Lord, his beloved Mother and foster father, a model of charity and truth and a continuing "shining example" for all families. Today, the family suffers in so many ways, especially the Christian family. Often times, brokenness and distress mark the modern day family and the ways of the Holy Family seem so far out of reach for many. So, the question becomes: How do we bridge the gap between the witness of the Holy Family and our families? Is it possible? Yes, it is possible—and we see it happening—when the family begins with a commitment to Christ and his Gospel. The Liturgy prays today that our imitation of the Holy Family will be "in practicing the virtues of family life" which are the virtues of the Christian life. Each member of the family should be positively renewed in prudence (to judge correctly), justice (to give everyone his or her rightful due), fortitude (to remain steady) and temperance (to keep from excess) in the way of Christ and his Word, as members of His Church. This way of living does not come easily today and requires a conscious choice before it becomes a habitual way of living for an individual Christian and then for a family. It is possible for all of us to live the virtues of family life because these Cardinal or hinge virtues are very much rooted in the theological virtues that are God's gift to us: faith, hope and love. Today, let us remember our families in prayer, let us reach out to family members close and not so close to us, and most of all, let us commit to the practice of the virtues of family life for the glory of God and the betterment of the Christian family. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

This Friday, January 1, 2016, our eight day (octave) celebration of Christmas rounds out with the *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*. January 1, in the United States, is a Holy Day of Obligation when it falls on a Tuesday through Friday, which requires us to participate in the celebration of Mass and to observe the day, as much as possible, like a Sunday. The Mass schedule for the Holy Day can be found elsewhere in the Parish Bulletin. This New Year's obligation is also the fitting opportunity to begin the New Year with Christ and the Eucharist. This January first Solemnity recalls the wonderful fact of faith that the Mother of Jesus is the Mother of God. From Mary, we all receive the "author of life" in her divine Son. Mary is our principal helper in leading all of us to her Son and keeping us faithful to him. Give your neighbor a New Year's gift with an invitation to bring him or her to Mass with you on January 1.

Thank you to all our parishioners and visitors for your ongoing generosity to our Cathedral Parish, especially at this time of the year. Your generosity in the Christmas Collections is absolutely remarkable. Your generosity to the Christmas Flowers' fund is also greatly appreciated. The second collection next Sunday will be directed to supplement expenses for the liturgical celebrations of the Christmas feasts. Let us continue to keep one another in prayer, especially at Mass, as we observe these splendid days of Christmas.

God bless you for Christmas and the New Year,
Father Dennis Gill

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
A Holy Day of Obligation**

Thursday, December 31:

5:15 PM Anticipated Mass

Friday, January 1:

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 Noon and

2:00 PM (in Spanish)

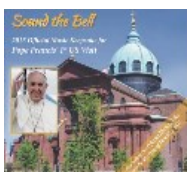
Vatican Splendors

The *Vatican Splendors* exhibit at the Franklin Institute is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see more than 200 works of art and historically significant objects including:

- A Mosaic of Saint Paul (never before on tour; not on display in the Vatican)
- The Chalice of Saint John Paul II

SPECIAL PARISH DISCOUNT

Our parish has a special opportunity to obtain tickets for just \$24.95, which is \$10 off the box office price. To order, call 215-448-1200 or go online to www.fi.edu and use promo code "ARCHPHL" when purchasing *Vatican Splendors* tickets.



**ANNOUNCING THE CD
"SOUND THE BELL" 🎵🎵🎵**

Celebrate the Pope
in Philly forever!

Featuring the **Official Hymn** of the
World Meeting of Families 2015
"Sound the Bell of Holy Freedom"
Pope Francis' commemorative
downloadable or CD

Sound the Bell - a musical keepsake of
the Pontiff's Mass on the Parkway 🎵🎵🎵

Now available in
The Cathedral Shop

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PARISH

Dec. 27 Spanish Celebration, Chapel Hall,
1:30 PM

Dec. 28 The 25th Anniversary Memorial Mass
for Firefighter Steven Yale, Basilica, 11 AM

Dec. 29 Augustine's Brothers - Prayer and
Support Group for Men, Neumann Room, 7:00 PM

Dec. 30 Charismatic Prayer Group,
Neumann Room, 6:00 PM

Jan. 5 Augustine's Brothers - Prayer and
Support Group for Men, Neumann Room, 7:00 PM

Jan. 6 Charismatic Prayer Group,
Neumann Room, 6:00 PM

Jan. 6 Mass in Extraordinary Form - Epiphany,
7 PM

Jan. 7 Choir rehearsal, Chapel Hall, 7:30 PM

Jan. 7 Catechetical Session, Neumann Room,
7 PM

Check out our Resource Display Stand

New CDs, books and booklets have just arrived to help you learn, love, and live your Catholic Faith, and to share your faith with others. These resources have been brought to us by **Lighthouse Catholic Media** and **Stewardship: A Mission of Faith**—two not-for-profit Catholic lay apostolates whose mission is to feed hungry hearts. They do this by bringing these resources right into the parish where they will be easily accessible. They offer everything for free to anyone who needs them, but they do rely on generous donations to bring their mission to more parishes. For more information visit LighthouseCatholicMedia.org or StewardshipMission.org.

Baptisms and Baptism Preparation Session

The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism is the doorway to the Christian life and to all the other Sacraments. As such, preparation of the parents and for the Baptism itself deserve very special attention. The celebration of Baptism at the Cathedral Parish takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 12:30 PM after the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass. Everyone is welcome. The celebration will be carried out with liturgical music and with a great sense of hospitality.

A *Baptism Preparation Session* takes place on the third Sunday of each month in anticipation of the celebration of the Sacrament. Parents in the Cathedral Parish are obligated to participate. The session is open to all of our neighbor parishes and to godparents as well. Parents are encouraged to participate during pregnancy, if at all possible. Please call the Parish Office - 215-561-1313 - to register for the Baptism Preparation Session. **The next Baptism Preparation Class will be Sunday November 15 following the 11 AM Mass.**

Basilica Tours



A guided tour of the Basilica is available **after the Sunday 11 AM Mass**. Please meet in front of the side altar of the Sacred Heart, which is to the right of the Main Altar.

Invitamos a todos los Feligreses de la Parroquia de la Catedral para la Celebración de

**las Vírgenes de Méjico
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Nicaragua
Virgen de la Inmaculada
de la Concepción Paraguaya
Nuestra Señora de los Milagros de Caacupé**

Domingo, **27 de diciembre** de 2015
Durante la Misa en Español – 12:30 pm

Se invita además,
a un compartir en el Salón de la Capilla
después que termine la Misa

¡Le Esperamos!

PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE

New Parishioners

Welcome to the Cathedral Parish!

Please contact the Parish Office for parish registration. One of our parish priests will follow up to register you in the parish. You may also see one of the priests after Mass on Sunday to register.

Parishioners

If you have new contact information, please call the Parish Office so that our records can be updated. **If you have not been receiving your weekly offering envelopes**, again please call the Parish Office to insure your address is registered correctly.

Parish Office phone number is 215-561-1313.



Please remember these parishioners and friends of the Cathedral Parish in your prayers:

*Barbara DiPipi, Cindy Kiefer, Dave McNichol, Maryann Kehl, Pearl Basser, Helen Ferris, Oscar Rodriguez, Enrique Rodriguez, Linda Watson, Randy Burbage, Rosa Maria Santos, Amy Fife, Theodore Barry, M.D., Marissa Kostrzewa, David Kaplan, Marilyn Mullen, Kathleen Aponik, April DeMatto, Paula Cohen, Janice Holshin, Lauri Mitchell, Maryann Healy, Darren Gardner, Barbara Elaine, Nicholas Tiziano, Christopher Browne, Darren Gardner, Laura Emerson, Regina Carberry, Patrisha Bollinger, Anna Marie Burgio, Jeanine Tingeter, Bobby Mitchell, Shirley King, Thomas Sabol, Doris Davison, Nancy Tomaszewski, Therese & Bob Black, Robert & Marguerite Grant, Andrés Castillo, Antoinette Gonnella, Bryon Hoch, Ryley June Nazario, Kim Whybrew, Josephina Bianco, Richard J. Mott, Charlotte McLaughlin, Sheila Kendall, Shahidah Kendall, Ralph Berarducci, Winifred McKeon, Teddy Beaver, Robert Honish, Molly Suján, Nicole Carey, Ann Reilly, Mary Ellen Foyle, Bernard Thompson, Larry Ross, Samada family, John DeMelas and those in nursing homes or hospitals and all the sick. **Please call the Parish Office with the name of anyone who is sick, to be included in our prayer list.***

Ocupado en los Asuntos del Padre

Quizás sea difícil para nosotros imaginar que Jesús, Hijo mismo de Dios, fuera realmente humano, que crecía no sólo físicamente, sino que también iba madurando como persona, y descubría poco a poco la conciencia de sí mismo, quién era él mismo. Desde luego, la Sagrada Familia entera buscó siempre hacer la voluntad de Dios, pero hoy vemos a Jesús afirmar que ha tomado conciencia de que tiene una relación especialmente íntima con el Padre y que lo que realmente importa para él es la voluntad amorosa de Dios. --- ¿Es eso también para nosotros realmente lo más importante, y no habríamos de crecer en nuestra intimidad con Dios? Que Jesús en esta eucaristía nos ayude a madurar totalmente en el amor a Dios.

Misa de “María, Madre de Dios”

La Catedral de Santos Pedro y Pablo le invita a usted a una Misa de “María, Madre de Dios” (Año Nuevo). Se llevara a cabo el 1 de enero, 2016, a las 2:00PM en la Capilla de la Catedral. ¡Mis hermanos es un día de obligación!

Otras Misas se ofrecen en Inglés en Jueves, 31 de diciembre 2015 a las 5:15 de la tarde, 1 de enero (viernes) a las 8 am, 10 am y las 12 PM.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Financial Support of the Cathedral Parish is the duty of our parishioners. Here at the Cathedral Parish we are greatly supported as well by our many visitors.

This sacrificial offering—which benefits all—is greatly appreciated. Please consider an increase to your weekly offering. The operation and maintenance of the Cathedral Basilica and Parish is approximately 20,000 dollars a week.

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of 12/06/15 was \$8,849 and for the weekend of 12/13/15 was \$10,597. Again, many thanks for your goodness and generosity!



Readings of the Week

Monday: December 28

1 John 1:5—2:2/Psalm 124:2-5, 7cd-8
Matthew 2:13-18

Tuesday: December 29

1 John 2:3-11/Psalm 96:1-3, 5b-6
Luke 2:22-35

Wednesday: December 30

1 John 2:12-27/Psalm 96:7-10
Luke 2:36-40

Thursday: December 31

1 John 2:18-21/Psalm 96:1-2, 11-13
John 1:1-18

Friday: January 1

Numbers 6:22-27/Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8
Luke 2:16-21

Saturday: January 2

1 John 2:22-28/Psalm 98:1-4
John 1:19-28

Sunday: January 3

Isaiah 60:1-6/Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6/Matthew 2:1-12

CATECHETICAL SESSION FOR ADULTS THIS WEEK

The Sacrament of Confirmation

Thursday, January 7, 7:00-8:30 PM

Neumann Room

(entrance from the rear of the Basilica)

The weekly catechetical session is primarily for the adults among us who are preparing to receive the Easter Sacraments. However, anyone interested in the topic for better understanding and faith formation is most welcome to attend. Anyone seeking more information on the reception of the Sacraments or assisting as a sponsor, please call the Parish Office.

Young Adult Group

Friday Evening Bible Study: Please join us for Bible Study every Friday from 7:00-8:30pm in the Neumann Room (room entrance is from the outside on the backside of the church). Room Change Update – on Friday, Dec 18 we will be meeting in 222 17th St. Room #1301 (the tall building behind the Cathedral). Our group gathers to reflect on the readings and the Psalm for the upcoming Sunday. Upcoming Bible Study Date:

January 8

**there will not be Bible Study on New Year's Day (1/1), we will resume on January 8

Food & Fellowship: Our group meets for dinner on the **second Sunday of each month directly following the 6:30pm Mass** at Con Murphy's (1700 Benjamin Franklin Parkway). Our next Food & Fellowship will take place:

January 10

If you are interested in the Young Adults of the Cathedral Parish as well as receiving the most up-to-date information on our group's events please e-mail:

youngadults.cathedral@gmail.com. Please search for our Facebook page (search: Young Adults at the Cathedral).



Cathedral Custom Rosary

These beautiful custom made rosaries from Italy are still available. Chose from a Bohemian Glass brown or pearly/green shade. The Crucifix is the same one that appears on our Main Altar, There is also an exact replica of our Main Altar and images of SS. Peter and Paul and our Cathedral crest. The Cathedral Rosary can be purchased in The Cathedral Shop.

Living Stewardship Now

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

Today we focus our attention on Mary, Joseph, and the child Jesus, and the role of family in our lives. All children are God's creation and so, if you have children, you know that their upbringing is a huge responsibility, involving lots of hard work along with times of anxiety and distress as well as real moments of joy. You can easily relate to the story of Mary and Joseph and the frantic search for their missing child. You can understand the mixture of immense relief and annoyance when they find him after a long search. But maybe your family is not that ideal family most of us wish for, but is separated or divided by distance, disagreements, or divorce. Perhaps distance can be bridged by more letters, e-mails, phone calls, or visits; disagreements by sincere attempts to reconcile; and divorce—for all its pains and griefs—by learning to love again. Healing the hurts begins in love. There are also many people among us who are single or who cannot have children, and others who have few or no family ties left. The kind of love called *agape* by the early Christians, sometimes translated as "charity" in the scriptures, is a Greek word that expresses a love greater than family love or sexual love; it is the love that God has for us and wants us to share with the world around us. If we each become aware that God loves us as beloved children, we can spread that love to those who are unloved in our words, in our deeds, and in our attitude. Don't wait, start now!

Living Stewardship Now

Visit a homebound senior, write to someone in prison, be a Big Brother or Big Sister, volunteer at a hospital, give blood.

The Cathedral Shop

The Cathedral Shop is now open every Saturday from 11 AM to 7 PM and every Sunday from 10:30 AM. The Shop will be closed during Masses and weddings.
Come visit!