

Mass Intentions for the Week



**Monday – January 1 –Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of God**

9:00 Betty Starnella

11:00 Deceased Members of the Di Lieto,
Vatalis & Covino Families

**Tuesday – January 2-*Basil the Great and Gregory
Nazianzen, bishop, doctors***

6:55 Santa Chiazzese

9:00 Mary Cheanese

Wednesday – January 3-*Holy Name of Jesus*

6:55 Louise Planamento

9:00 Brian Patrick Campbell

**Thursday –January 4-*Elizabeth Ann Seton,
religious***

6:55 Thomas Becker

9:00 Joseph Sorrention, Jr.

Friday – January 5-*John Neumann, bishop*

6:55 Deceased Members of the Laudadio Family

9:00 Margarie Long

Saturday – January 6

9:00 Pasqualina Repetti

5:15 Alfred Ambrosino

Sunday – January 7-*Bi. Andre Bessette, religious*

7:45 Daniel Frieda

9:00 Carmela Cambieri

9:15 The Dietz Family (Living)

10:30 Phyllis Johnson

11:00 Josephine & Anthony Milone

12:30 Ann & Helen Lawlor

5:00 The People of St. Patrick's

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Is 42: 1-4, 6-7/Acts 10: 34-38/Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

Tuesday: Heb 2: 5-12/Mk 1: 14-20/Mk 1: 21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2: 14-18/Mk 1: 29-39

Thursday: Heb 3: 7-14/Mk 1: 40-45

Friday: Heb 4: 1-5, 11/Mk 2: 1-12

Saturday: Heb 4: 12-16/Mk 2: 13-17

Sunday: Is 62: 1-5/1 Cor 12: 4-11/Jn 2: 1-11

COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 24, 2006

Tithing Last Year \$18,405.50

Tithing This Year \$20,385.00

Children's Last Year \$1,012

Children's This Year \$679.00

Parish Calendar

Monday – January 1

Rectory Office Closed

9:00am Basketball (Aud.)

Tuesday – January 2

9:30am Parish Library (Library)

9:45am Movie (PC-M)

4:30pm Basketball (Aud.)

5:30pm Irish Dance (Lower Church)

6:00pm Bereavement Group (PC-Hall)

7:00pm RCIA (EC 107-108)

Wednesday – January 3

4:30pm Basketball (Aud.)

6:00pm AA (Lower Church)

7:30pm AL-ANON (EC Room 109)

Thursday – January 4

8:00am Pre-K Rel. Ed.

4:00pm Irish Dance (Lower Church)

4:30pm Basketball (Aud.)

7:00pm Earn Group (PC-H)

8:00pm Prayer Meeting (PC-M)

Friday – January 5

2:30pm Cub Scouts (Art Room)

4:30pm Basketball (Aud.)

6:00pm Girl Scouts (PC-H)

Saturday – January 6

No Events Scheduled

Sunday – January 7

6:00pm AA (LC)

6:00pm God's TYM (PC-H)

ST. PATRICK'S LIBRARY

Parish Center

Sunday 10:15 to 12:30

Tuesday 9:30 to 11:00 A.M.

THE TRINITY GIFT SHOP

Parish Center

Weekdays – 9:30 to 12:00

Saturdays 9:30 to noon

Sundays 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.

EARN (Employment Assistance & Resource Network) will host its monthly meeting this Thursday night (Jan 4, 07) starting at 7:45 the Parish Center Hall. Expect to gain valuable insights into job search issues from our guest speaker, to learn about job leads and area seminars and to network. All are welcome.

St. Patrick's Teen Choir's new CD, MAKE US WORTHY, is available for purchase after the Saturday 5:15 p.m. Mass and at St. Patrick's Trinity Gift Shop. The CD was recorded and mixed during the summers of 2005 and 2006 and features current and past members of the choir. The musical selections on the CD are all songs that are used at the liturgies here at St. Patrick's. **MAKE US WORTHY** would make a great Christmas gift – and it is a wonderful reminder of the witness, ministry and talent of our young people.

34th Annual March for Life in Washington, Monday, January 22. Peaceful non-confrontational march witnessing to the sanctity of life; the most vulnerable and defenseless, the unborn. Bishop's, Rabbi's and political leaders speak at the rally. This year the bus will depart **promptly** at 5:45 AM from St. Patrick's parking lot and return approximately 11 PM. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the National Shine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington after the march. Please call the rectory to reserve your seat on the bus. 962-5050. For information other than your reservation call Maria Litrenta at 962-3472.

New Altar Serving Training beginning Tuesday, January 9th, 2007, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. We will offer training for any child or young adult interested in becoming a Server. Any Student of our parish school or CCD program, in the 4th grade or higher is eligible to serve. We will meet each Tuesday starting on January 9th in the Main Church; our final meeting will be on Feb. 13th in the Stone Church.

ST. PATRICK'S WIDOW/WIDOWERS

SUPPORT CLUB will meet this Tuesday, January 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. Please call 845-628-4279 for more information.

The Altar Bread and Wine used in the New Church this week was donated by Peggy & Jack O'Reilly in memory of:

Anna DiFiori

The Altar Bread and Wine used in the Stone Church this week was donated by the Wyker Family in memory of:

Gladys Herrly

The Sanctuary Lamp burning in the New Church this week was donated by Adele Kivel & Jean Cilione in memory of:

Richard Huffield

The Sanctuary Lamp burning in the New Church Chapel this week was donated by Anna Melega in memory of:

Eloise D. Hauver

UNANNOUNCED MASSES: Deceased: Josephine Tosto, Wilhelmina Gross, Lucitta DelGadio, Margaret Hanley, Carmen Melillo (2), John Troisi, Emilio Madera, Eleanor Fralicardi, Alan Spurvey (2), Helen & Bill Dowd, Jack & Tom Spurvey (2), Paul Mageleski (3), Todd Burger. **Special Intentions:** Alice Cartwright (2), Florence Towey, Bridie O'Neil.

Sacrament of Baptism: To arrange a Baptism, Parents should come to the Rectory prior to the birth/adoption of their child and obtain our new Baptism Packet and Forms. Please note the Baptism Request Form, Godparent Forms, and Birth Certificate need to be submitted together, after the birth/adoption of the Child. Baptism Dates can only be established when all the forms have been received! If you have not completed our new Census Form within the last six months, then please request our new Parishioner Packet when you come to the rectory.

The Knights of Columbus Membership Drive will take place here at St. Patrick's Church on the 3rd and 4th of February, 2007, outside the churches after each Mass. For more info please contact William Schneider at 914-526-3327, or view the website at www.kofc.com

The Good Samaritan Fund is a parish-based confidential fund for assisting our neighbors in need. If you can make a contribution to help your fellow parishioners who are in financial straits, please do so by sending a check to the Rectory for whatever amount you can afford payable to Good Samaritan Fund. Know that your neighbors will be most grateful. This would be an ideal Christmas gift in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is not observed as a Holyday of Obligation this year because it falls on a Monday. There will be two Masses that day to observe the feast: 9:00 and 11:00AM in the Main Church. (There will be no 7:30PM Novena Mass).

Trinity Gift Shop after Christmas Blowout

All Items in the Gift Shop are 25% off through January 14th. Come see the many beautiful religious items for purchase. Store hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more info call Joanne at 914-299-6280.

Parentcare- Our Education for Parenting program (groups meet on Monday or Wednesday mornings) is in need of some gently used toys, specifically toy cell phones and doll strollers. Our storage space is limited and these are the only things we can accept right now, so if your children have outgrown these items and would care to donate them, please call Eileen Murphy at the rectory on Monday/Wednesday. Thanks so much! Our next meeting resumes on January 8.

St. Patrick's Library will show the video The Mystery of the Three Kings on Tuesday, January 2nd, after the 9 AM Mass and Rosary. Join us as we search for the origins of the Three Wise Men and learn the secrets of the gifts they brought to Jesus. Using new evidence, we discover explanations for the miraculous appearance of a star which led them to Bethlehem. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome!

St. Patrick's Students Compete in Readers Digest National Word Power Challenge

- Olivia duBourg Grade 8
- Laura Leddy Grade 7
- Kaitlyn Sparta Grade 6
- Jacqueline Dunn Grade 5
- Dierdre DeLasho Grade 4

The above students were named champions of the Grade Level Championship of Reader's Digest National Word Power Challenge. The Grade Level Championship, at which students answered oral and written questions challenging their vocabulary skills, completes the local school component of the annual Reader's Digest National Word Power Challenge.

Open to all 7th and 8th grade students Winter Retreat January 19th and 20th 2007

At Don Bosco Retreat Center located at the Marian Shrine in Stony Point, Rockland County. The Center is sponsored by the Salesians of Don Bosco, a Roman Catholic religious order dedicated to serving young people. The weekend is filled with many activities that will bring them to a closer relationship with God and a better understanding of their Catholic faith. Time to have fun, hang out and enjoy their time with each other. Cost is \$ 68.00 included- over night stay, two day program with meals. For more information and registration forms call Joanne (914-243-9562).

The Catechetical Office of the Archdiocese of New York is sponsoring this Second Annual

Appreciation Communion Breakfast to celebrate the contributions of Catholic teachers in public schools (all grades). Their work and unique gift of their presence in the public schools often go unnoticed. The event will take place at The Riverview, 1 Wartburton Ave. Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, on February 2, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A suggested donation of \$10 is requested to help defray the cost. For more info contact Mrs. Kathleen Alonzo at 212-371-1000 Ext. 2864, or email her at Kathleen.alonzo@archny.org

The Feast of the Holy Family



Every year right after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. There is a reason for this. It's easy to think the "incarnation" means God took on a human body.

But there is much more to it than that. In Jesus, God unites himself to an entire human nature. He fully enters into human experience, with all its peaks and valleys. And a part of that human experience, with more than its share of peaks and valleys, is family.

Jesus spent over 90% of his years in the obscure nitty-gritty of family life. Though only a few chapters are devoted to this lengthy period, what they reveal is significant. First of all, despite the cuddly image of our nativity scenes, the original Christmas was anything but cozy. A woman nine months pregnant

rides 75 miles on the back of a donkey over bumpy, dusty roads so she can have her baby in a stable full of dirty, smelly animals. Quickly after the birth they have to pick up and flee for their lives, seeking asylum in a foreign land. A few years later, the now adolescent son goes missing for several days, and there ensues a conversation characterized by no little emotion. Joseph is a saint, Mary is without sin, Jesus is God incarnate, yet there are still challenges, difficulties, tense moments, and opportunities for misunderstanding. Welcome to real family life.

All things created by God are good, with human beings and human life very good according to Genesis chapter 1. Yet in assuming a human body, the Divine Word elevated its dignity, sanctifying it, and ennobling it. In accepting baptism from his cousin John, Jesus sanctifies water and, in baptism, makes it an instrument of his sanctifying power. In entering into family life, Jesus does the same. The family, up till now naturally good, becomes an instrument of sanctification and growth in holiness.

As a teen, I thought a serious pursuit of holiness required opting out of marriage to enter a monastery. Holiness was about lots of quiet prayer and apostolic work. Noisy family life was a distraction to all this. The role of married folks was limited to getting to Mass & the sacraments, obeying the 10 commandments, and getting into heaven after a stay in Purgatory.

The feast of the Holy Family shows how far off-base I was. It reminds us, as Vatican II teaches, that all human beings are called to the heights of holiness. That all states in life, including student, teenager, and parent, offer abundant opportunities to grow in faith, hope, and love. That the nitty gritty of family life, if approached right, can be a road to profound personal transformation and communion with God.

Think about it. The creator of the universe spent most of his human life as a craftsman, working with dad in the family business and ultimately taking it over. Mary, the holiest of all creatures, spent most of her time changing diapers, cooking, and cleaning. The secret to holiness is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and gratitude (Col 3:15-17).



The word seminary means "seedbed." It is a greenhouse where, in a sheltered environment, vocations can develop till they can not just survive in the real world, but bear fruit there.

The family is the original seminary. In its soil is sown the call to share in Christ's holiness and mission. Ironically, tending to the seedlings causes the parent/gardeners to grow as well. So family, in God's plan, is a community where everyone has growing to do. Maybe that's why Col 3 talks so much about forgiveness and forbearance!

The bottom line is this—we don't become holy despite the hustle-bustle of family life, but in and through it. *Article by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio of Crossroads website.*