

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 19

8:00 Fausta Loarca
12:00 Msgr. James Connolly

Tuesday, December 20

8:00 Louise Tuccillo
12:00 Carole Hennessy, Living

Wednesday, December 21

8:00 Maria Cannone
12:00 Raul R. Ferreira

Thursday, December 22

8:00 Frank DiMarzo
12:00 Antonio & Maritonia Tellone

Friday, December 23

8:00 Thomas James Bell &
Rosanne Conaty Bell
12:00 Katherine & Bernard McDonagh

Saturday, December 24

8:00 Louis Camputo
12:00 Mario Deiana Sr. &
Elizabeth Denisco Deiana
5:00 Elizabeth O'Shea
10:00 Dalbis & Archer Families

The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday, December 25

8:00 For the People of the Parish
9:30 Antonietta & Giuseppe Tellone
11:00 Dec'd. Mem's. Semenza &
Fulco Families
12:30 Anthony H. & Anthony J. Mauro

Bread and Wine

For: Elizabeth O'Shea
By: Kathleen Whalen



Sanctuary Lamp
For: Gerardo DiLeo
By: Maria DiLeo

**Kindly remember in your prayers
the sick of the Parish**

Betty D'Avi, Ella DiGovanni, Arleen Dmytryshyn,
Bobby Gregory, Louise Holly, Betty Lane, Ann Latora,
Joan Lynch, Catherine McKeon, Stephanie Merenda,
Marco Miranda, Sterling Mitchell, Maria Scampone,
Susan Scarinci, Barbara Schimpf, Theresa Vazquez



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

Please be as generous as you can in this year's Christmas collection. This is a vital part of not only supporting our Parish in paying our bills but in providing us with funds to improve the programs we already have and implement new ones, so that our Parish may continue to grow and we may better serve all the needs of our Parish family.

God Bless your goodness!
Fr. John

With the Fourth Sunday of Advent, the readings take us to the threshold of the mystery of the Incarnation. Isaiah is frustrated with King Ahaz, who will not ask for the sign of God's faithfulness that God has invited him to request. So Isaiah announces the sign himself; "the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." Ahaz and the people are thus called to trust in the promise of God, a promise that will be fulfilled in the Gospel account.

The psalmist's hymn of praise addresses the Lord as Creator and Savior. Everything belongs to the Lord: the seas, the earth, and all who dwell upon it. The blessings of the Lord will be given to all "whose heart is clean."

In the lengthy and formal introduction to his Letter to the Romans, Paul makes the connection between the words of the prophets of the Old Testament and their fulfillment in the New Testament. The line of David, whose descendant is Jesus Christ, links the two. Paul identifies himself as the one whose mission is to make this known to the Jews, the Gentiles, and the Christians in Rome. Just as Paul sees himself as being "set apart" for this ministry, he teaches that all are called to "belong to Jesus Christ; to be set apart as "the beloved of God.

Matthew's concern in the Gospel is to establish the divine and human heritage of Jesus. In human terms he is of the royal house of David through Joseph, a "son of David." Jesus' divine origin is found in the two names that he is given. The name, "Jesus" means "the Lord saves"; he will save the people from sin. His second name is "Emmanuel," a name which means "God is with us." Jesus will be both Savior of God's people and God's presence among them.

Report of Parish Giving

Offering 12/11/16 - \$7,835.87
Adults: 580 Children: 84
Offering 12/4/16 - \$7,121.00
Adults: 649 Children: 98

Sign up for ParishPay and have your donations to Sts. Peter & Paul automatically deducted monthly from your checking or savings account or charged to your credit card. It's easy and convenient and helps our parish. Enroll at www.parishpay.com or call (866) 727-4741. We thank you for your support and are grateful to all those who use ParishPay or the envelopes.

Religious Education

The Nativity Play will be this Sunday, December 18th at 9:20 a.m.

Winter Coat Drive

The Men's Club is sponsoring a Winter Coat Drive to benefit those in need in the Mount Vernon community. We are in need of new and gently used adult and children's coats. Donation boxes are located in the hallway in the vestibule of the Church. The drive will end this week, December 21st.

Toy Collection

A toy drive will be held this weekend December 17th and 18th. Please bring unwrapped toys and place them at the Blessed Mother's Altar. Thank you for your generosity.

How will you prepare for Christmas?

Shop until you drop? Run from party to party? How about joining us for a little reflection, short video and some refreshments about the Reason for the Season? When: Sunday, morning at 10:30 a.m. (Dec.18). Where: School cafeteria. Just show up or call Tony MacDonnell at 914-668-9880.

Are you a registered parishioner of Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula Parish?

Any new or unregistered parishioners are asked to register as soon as possible. You can register by completing the registration form found in the vestibule of the Church, by visiting our website at stspeterpaulandstursula.org, or in person at the Rectory. Registering helps us to communicate with our parishioners about the many items of importance which arise throughout the year.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Helen Lieto**

Reconciliation Monday

Advent is a time to prepare ourselves spiritually to receive Christ. Throughout the Archdiocese, confessions will be heard this day.

Our Schedule is as follows:

CONFESSIONS – Monday, December 19th

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Remember Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula

In your estate planning, please remember Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Ursula Parish in your Last Will & Testament. Such a gift of any amount will create a legacy in your name which will assist our Parish in continuing the work of God in Mount Vernon and the surrounding community for generations to come.

Faith Discussion Group

Our Faith Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, December 20th at 11:00 a.m.

Giving Tree

Please return gifts in a gift bag or un-wrapped boxes and attach the tag. Please do NOT donate used clothing. The last day for donating to the Giving Tree is today by 1:30 p.m. Thank you for your generosity.

Living in the Present

Sometimes, we get so bogged down by worries about the future or regrets of the past, we forget to live in the present. Instead of worrying about what you can't control, entrust those worries to God knowing that he will help you through them all. Trust that his grace is enough. "Growing in Faith"

Parish Registration/Update

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

____ New Registration ____ Change of Address

____ Moving out of Parish

Please return to the Rectory.

Sts. Peter and Paul and St. Ursula Church 2016 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Reconciliation Monday Confessions

Monday, December 19th

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 23rd

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Additional Confession time available. Please call the Rectory.

MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th

4:30 p.m. - Half hour of Christmas Carols

5:00 p.m. - Christmas Vigil Mass

9:30 p.m. - Half hour of Christmas Carols

10:00 p.m. - Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25th

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, December 31st - Vigil Mass - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2017

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.