

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME!

Sunday, December 22 ♦ Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross
 11:00 a.m. Michael Roberts (Warren & Carolyn Roberts)
 Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Monday, December 23 ♦ NO MASS

Tuesday, December 24 ♦ Vigil of Christmas

4:00 p.m. Martha Walsh (Walsh/Burkey Family)
 Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25

Wednesday, December 25 ♦ Nativity of the Lord

10:00 a.m. Darlene M. Manley
 (Dave & Marianne Denezza)
 Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday, December 26 ♦ St. Stephen

11:30 a.m. Robert Sonny “Bob” Takacs
 (Louise Takacs & Family)
 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Friday, December 27 ♦ St. John

11:30 a.m. Robert Sonny “Bob” Takacs
 (Louise Takacs & Family)
 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1, 2-8

Saturday, December 28 ♦ The Holy Innocents

11:30 a.m. Darlene M. Manley (Richard Denezza)
 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday, December 29 ♦ Holy Family Sunday

9:00 a.m. Michael Roberts (Glenn Haninger)
 11:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross
 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

+ Please remember in your prayers our homebound parishioners, and those who are ill: Jodi Elgin, Sandra Hilbert, Elizabeth and Robert Hackett, Jestina Jones, Susan Luck, Ellen McMillen, Mary McNellis, Cathy Miller, Marilyn Scott, Jeanne Sharp, Patty Stover, Helen Violet, Elizabeth Wanamaker.

Support to St. Lawrence Haven – January 12

Attention, all our “Lil Larry” sandwich makers. The next opportunity to support St. Lawrence Haven is Sunday, January 12, 2014, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

| THANKS | |
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| DECEMBER 15, 2013 OFFERINGS | |
| Designated Collections (Funds forwarded directly to the Diocese) | Offertory\$3,039.07 Repair Fund.....\$ 209.15 Immac. Concept.....\$ 13.00 Less 5% Diocese Tax(\$ 163.06) |
| Mass Attendance 9:00 a.m. = 71 11:00 a.m. = 74 | Net to Parish:.....\$ 3,098.16 |

Merry Christmas!!

Special Christmas Blessings to our Holy Cross Family, Guests and Visitors
from
 Fr. Jerry, Fr. Ramon, Fr. Jose,
 Sr. Anne & Mike

Advent Giving Tree

Thank you for supporting this year’s Advent Giving Tree Program. **Ten families** were given a special Christmas this year due to your generous gifts. May our Lord continue to bless you and your loved ones throughout the New Year.

Parking for Christmas Eve

Extra parking is available during Christmas Eve Mass at PERS garage, just north of the Rectory (corner of 5th & Town Street). We have made arrangements for you to enter from the 5th Street entrance for your convenience.

Repair Fund Collection – Final

Thank you for the generosity and support of the Repair Fund collection held this month. \$767.15 was contributed.

Diocesan Charities Collection

A second collection will be taken for the Diocesan Charities during the Christmas Masses. This collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations, including J.O.I.N., St. Stephen’s Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center and St. Vincent de Paul Society.



Feast of the Holy Family

Appropriately, the Church places the Feast of the Holy Family on the weekend following Christmas. Let us pray for our families:

Father, help us to live as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Teach us the sanctity of human love, show us the value of family life, and help us to live in peace. We are united with Jesus, Mary and Joseph because in Your great love for us You sent Your son to live in this world and to share our human experience. Help us to love each other as You love us, and to be more aware of those families in the world who struggle with poverty, war and disease. Bring us all to the joy and peace of Your eternal home. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

We tend to think that with careful planning we can know ahead of time what the right – the “proper” – course of action is. We have some idea of what situations might arise and what good people do in a given situation. But sometimes we do not fully understand what the true situation is, and how our ideas about what is proper might or might not apply. This seems to be particularly the case when God enters into the equation.

In today’s Gospel reading, Joseph is faced with a situation that he thinks he understands: his fiancée has become pregnant by another man. He prepares to do the proper thing and quietly break off the betrothal. This is not only “proper” but, given the situation as he understands it, it is even merciful, since it will spare Mary some measure of shame. But the situation is not what he thinks it is, and when the angel of the Lord appears to him in a dream and tells him that Mary has not been unfaithful, but rather conceived her child through the Holy Spirit, Joseph has to rethink what the proper course of action is. He realizes that he has been playing according to the wrong rulebook. Part of what makes Joseph a truly honorable man is his willingness to rethink how an honorable man acts once God enters the picture in an unexpected way.

Our faith tells us that God is always entering the picture, and not only when angels appear to us in dreams. In every situation we have to be open to rethinking our notions of what is proper. It is of course a good thing to develop a sense of what is the fitting thing to do in a given situation, but as Advent moves toward Christmas we are reminded of God’s capacity to surprise us, forcing us in turn to act in surprising ways.

from “Living the Word”

Special Parish Dates

Mark your calendars for the following important dates or the parish:

- 1) **Tuesday, December 24, 2013 – Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 p.m. (Carols begin at 3:30 p.m.)**
- 2) **Wednesday, December 25, 2013 – Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.**
- 3) **Sunday, December 29, 2013 – Feast of the Holy Family, Rectory Open House following each Mass.**

Good News!

Our parish received a second refund from the Diocese for exceeding the 2013 BAA goal. The amount of the refund was \$4,405.00 bringing the total refund to date \$11,359.24. **THANK YOU!**



JANUARY 1 – WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Pope Francis has announced the theme for the annual World Day of Peace message: “Fraternity, the Foundation and Pathway to Peace.” The Pope urges us to open our hearts in a new way to our brothers and sisters affected by poverty, hunger, conflicts, migrations, inequalities, pollution, underdevelopment, and injustice. For his message and supplementary materials, visit www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/war-and-peace/world-day-of-peace.cfm or contact Social Concerns at 614-241-2540.

| December 22, 2013 | | |
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| Fourth Sunday of Advent | | |
| **** Spoken Mass Responses begin on page 1 **** | | |
| Readings, Collects & Antiphons | 50 | Living Liturgy Sunday Missal |
| Entrance Hymn | 732 (vs 1-4) | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel |
| Gloria | None | |
| Psalm | Missalette p 52 | Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. |
| Gospel Acclamation | Alleluia: | Chant Mode VI |
| Preparation of Gifts | 735 | O Come, Divine Messiah |
| Eucharistic | 1194 | Sanctus, Mysterium Fidei, Amen |
| Acclamations | 1216 | Agnus Dei |
| Communion Hymn | 1029 O Sanctissima | |
| Closing Hymn | 732 (vs 5-7) | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel |

| December 25, 2013 | | |
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| Christmas Day – 10:00 a.m. | | |
| **** Spoken Mass Responses begin on page 1 **** | | |
| Readings, Collects & Antiphons | 69 | Living Liturgy Sunday Missal |
| Entrance Hymn | 755 | Good Christian Friends, Rejoice |
| Gloria | Mass of St. Benedict | |
| Psalm | 657 | All the ends of the earth have seen the power of God |
| Gospel Acclamation | Celtic Alleluia | O’Carroll |
| Preparation of Gifts | 756 | Angels, from the Realms of Glory |
| Eucharistic Acclamations | 1142- 1147 Mass of St. Benedict | |
| Communion Hymn | 771 | O Little Town of Bethlehem |
| Closing Hymn | 775 | Once in Royal David’s City |