

**Monday, December 4**

- 7:30 AM Eucharistic Service  
 6:30 PM Confessions for 6th-8th graders  
 7:00 PM Word of Life Prayer Group (Chapel)

**Tuesday, December 5**

- 7:30 AM James O'Brien  
 RB/Kathleen (wife); and,  
 The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory  
 2:00 PM Rosary & Prayer Hour — Chapel

**Wednesday, December 6**

- 7:30 AM Diane McGrath  
 RB/Ludwig Family; and,  
 Anne Nagren RB/Karen Wood  
 3:00 PM Prayers for Priests, Religious, and  
 Vocations  
 7:00 PM Novena & Adoration Hour

**Thursday, December 7**

- 7:30 AM Dorothy A. Revay  
 RB/Kathy & Russ Woolston  
 7:00 PM Mass for St. Mary's & Ss. Francis &  
 Clare Parishioners

**Friday, December 8—Holyday**

- 7:30 AM Virginia Bochanski  
 RB/Rosemary & Joseph Goliszewski

**Saturday, December 9**

- 4:00 PM Confessions  
 5:00 PM Patrick Sullivan  
 RB/Knights of Columbus #570

**Sunday, December 10**

- 7:30 AM Virginia Jobs  
 RB/Janet & Larry Denney  
 9:30 AM James Redding RB/Family; and  
 Living & Deceased Members of the  
 Rosary & Altar Society  
 11:30 AM Sister Joanne Dress—Mass of the Living  
 RB/Deacon Larry & Jodie Finn

**MASSES**

Saturday Evening: 5:00 P.M.  
 Sundays: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30AM.  
 Weekdays: Tuesday thru Friday at 7:30 A.M.; Thurs. 7PM  
 Eve before a Holy Day: 7:00 P.M.  
 Holy Days: 7:00 P.M.

**Religious Education**

Public elementary school children on Sunday morning at 8:00,  
 9:45, and 11:15 AM at St. Mary School; and Tuesdays at  
 5:00 and 6:15 PM at Holy Assumption Church.

**BAPTISMS**

Baptisms are done on 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month,  
 following the 11:30AM Masses. Please call the rectory office  
 to schedule.

**COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

Please notify the parish office when the sick, aged or  
 incapacitated are confined to home. Arrangements can be  
 made to bring Holy Communion to them.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

The chapel is open daily. The Blessed Sacrament is  
 exposed for solemn adoration: M,Tu,W,F 8:00-  
 8:45AM; Th, 8:00AM-12:00Noon; Sat, 8:00-  
 10:00AM. Evening hours are Wed, 7-8PM.  
 Quarterly, special times & events are offered.

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturday from 4PM to 4:30PM; also by appointment.

**NOVENA**

In honor of the Miraculous Medal each Wednesday at 7PM.

**MARRIAGES**

Arrangements are to be made at least 1 year in advance.

**SICK CALLS**

Urgent calls any time of day or night. Arrangements for  
 Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion for those  
 confined to the home are to be made by contacting the rectory.

**PARISH REGISTRATION**

We welcome new parishioners to the parish, and we ask them to  
 register as soon as possible. If you are not registered we are not  
able to issue letters for sponsorship for the Sacraments or  
 character references to schools or for employment. If you move  
 from the parish please notify the rectory.

**ENVELOPE SYSTEM**

The regular use of envelopes provides for a stable income to  
 the church. This enables the pastor to plan for repairs, future  
 expansion and improvements. We urge all parishioners to  
 make regular use of the envelopes.

**PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:**

<i>Adoration</i>	<i>Ginny Olsen 947-3336</i>
<i>Adult Choir</i>	<i>Jac Madson 758-7243</i>
<i>Adult Faith Formation</i>	<i>Earl Alger 298-7071</i>
<i>Altar Linen Ministry</i>	<i>Helene Shea 298-7612</i>
<i>Church Ushers</i>	<i>Ferd Loretangeli 298-2131</i>
<i>Contemporary Choir</i>	<i>Cathy Alphonse 291-9204</i>
<i>Food Pantry</i>	<i>Mike Novalis 298-4664</i>
<i>Knights of Columbus</i>	<i>Ron White 903-0342</i>
<i>Liturgy Committee</i>	<i>Fr. Joe Hlubik 298-0261</i>
<i>Open Hearts, Willing Hands (Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Mercer County)</i>	<i>609-393-9922</i>
<i>Pastoral Council</i>	<i>Deacon Gary Richardson</i>
<i>Rosary &amp; Altar Society</i>	<i>Stephanie Salewski 291-1816</i>
<i>Sports Committee</i>	<i>John Bacovin 638-9054</i>
<i>St. Vincent de Paul Society</i>	<i>Sharon Callahan 298-1414</i>
<i>Word of Life Prayer Group</i>	<i>Pat Baylog 298-4249</i>

**MEETINGS OF THE WEEK**

Mon.	6:30 PM	Confessions for 6th-8th graders (Church)
	7:00 PM	Word of Life Prayer Group Chapel
	7:00 PM	Mary's Weavers Parish Center, downstairs
Wed.	6:30 PM	Confirmation candidates & sponsors (School Hall)
	7:00 PM	St. Vincent de Paul Society Parish Center, upstairs
Thurs.	7:00 PM	RCIA Seminar Parish Center, downstairs
	7:00 PM	Baptism Prep Class Parish Center, upstairs

PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED FRIDAY

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

**December 3, 2017: 1st Sunday of Advent**

Advent symbolizes our human condition. We long. We hope. We rejoice in what we have. We yearn for what we have not. Even nature conspires during Advent time to make us feel our human incompleteness. As the darkness of winter descends, we long for the light. As cold numbs us, we yearn for the warmth of God's love. The Lord is about to create something new. Isaiah cherishes this theme. He repeats it again and again. *"See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light: Can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds."*

Please remember to pick up your Christmas Wreaths and Grave Pillows in the School Hall after all Sunday Masses this weekend. Cash-and-carry items will be available as well.

Want to help St. Mary's Saint Vincent de Paul Society just by shopping with one of your favorite retailers? Visit our website at [www.svdpbordentown.org](http://www.svdpbordentown.org) and scroll down to find out how. Thank you for your support and happy shopping!

**If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, call our confidential helpline (609) 298-1414.**



**St. Mary's Community Food Pantry**

We are a supplemental food source run by volunteers who donate their time collecting and distributing food to over 300 families in need in Bordentown, Chesterfield, Crosswicks, Fieldsboro, and 4 area motels that house people on our register.

We are funded by generous parishioners, community churches and members, to whom we are most grateful!

Current needs: shampoo; conditioner; body lotion; deodorant. We are also in need of turkeys and hams for the upcoming holidays! .

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Our food pantry hours are as follows: **M-W-F 2-3:00 PM; Tu-Th 9-10:00 AM and 6-7:00 PM; and Sat. 9-10:00 AM.**

To learn more, go to: [Facebook.com/St.MarysFoodPantry](https://www.facebook.com/St.MarysFoodPantry).



***FR. JOE'S MESSAGES:***

**Christmas Flowers & Memorials**

This year we will once again be requesting offerings, via our collection envelopes, for Christmas flowers and decorations for our church, and also as memorials for our deceased loved ones. I would like to keep our decorations beautiful, yet simple, at both St. Mary's and Holy Assumption churches. Should there be excess monies collected via these envelopes, it will be used to help lower our debt obligations (to the diocese) and to help with maintenance of our facilities.



**Upcoming Events:**

- Confessions for 6th-8th graders—Dec. 4th
- Confirmation candidates & sponsors meeting—Dec. 6
- Feast of the Immaculate Conception—Dec. 8th
- Advent Giving Tree—gifts due Dec. 10th
- Christmas Carol Sing-a-long—Dec. 16th
- Breakfast With Santa—Dec. 17th

—Fr. Joe Hlubik

**Knights of Columbus Corner**

**Are you ready to become a Knight?**

Maybe you would just like some information about who we are and what we do. If so, please visit our website, <http://kofc570.org/> and read all about the Knights and what we do both for the community and for the Church. To contact us, follow the links on the website.

**Upcoming Events:**

- ♦ Business meetings—8 PM in the parish office (open to all brothers)— next meeting is 12/11
- ♦ *Coats for Kids*
- ♦ *Keep Christ in Christmas* magnet and lawn signs sale, after all Masses on the weekends of 12/3, 12/10, and 12/17; and poster contest for RE kids.
- ♦ Council #570 Christmas Party—Sunday December 10th, from 12:30-4PM, at Villa Mannino (brothers and families)
- ♦ *Breakfast with Santa Claus*—Sunday December 17th, 8AM-12Noon, St. Mary's school hall



**Christmas Carol Sing-Along  
Dec 16th — 6:15 PM**

Christmas will soon be upon us. To help get into the Christmas spirit, the parish is hosting a Christmas Carol Sing-Along on Saturday, Dec 16th right after the 5 PM Mass. We will hear the Christmas story, sing some great Christmas carols, have a little fun and then go over to the school hall for some snacks and refreshments. Don't miss this opportunity to come together as family, sing as loud as you can—**good or bad voices**—and just have some Christmas fun. Put the craziness of the season behind for just one evening and let loose in some Christmas spirit. For more info call the parish office during normal office hours at 298-0261.



## Rosary and Altar Society News

*“The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, combining in a convenient and practical form an unexcelled form of prayer, an instrument well adapted to preserve the faith and an illustrious example of perfect virtue, should be often in the hands of the true Christian and be devoutly recited and meditated upon.”—Pope Leo XIII*

### ROSARY HOURS: PLEASE JOIN US IN THESE PRAYER SESSIONS—ALL ARE WELCOME

- ◆ **Daily Rosary** – 7:00AM and 8:00AM in the chapel (before and after the 7:30AM Mass);
- ◆ **Tuesdays** from 2:00—3:00PM in the chapel;
- ◆ **Wednesdays** at 3:00PM for priests and religious;
- ◆ **Saturdays** at 9:00AM the “Timeless Rosary” is recited.

Pray the Rosary as a family, even if only a decade a day—just begin.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

>>PRAYER SHAWL PROJECT – Mary’s Weavers —Monday evenings at 7 PM in the downstairs meeting room, Parish Center. Call Helene Shea for more information at 298-7612. Next Meeting is on December 4th.

>>CLARE ESTATE ROSARY—First Tuesday at 10:30; next recitation scheduled—December 5th. All are welcome.

>>FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY—December 8th

>>COMMUNION SUNDAY – December 10th—9:30 AM Mass for all Rosarians, living and deceased.

>>ROSARIAN MONTHLY ROSARY—Rosarians will meet to recite together their monthly public Rosary during the regular Tuesday Rosary Hour on December 12th at 2:00 PM, in the Chapel.

### Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions for December:

- The Elderly*—That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming new generations.

**Let us pray** Our Lady, please give Father Joe and Father Daison strength and health, and guide them in shepherding and caring for our Parish. Give Father Stephen a safe journey and vacation with his family. Our Lady of Lourdes, we pray for our currently ill or suffering members, family and friends: Samme; Ruth B.; Mary M. and Maryann for the healing of cancer; Daniel; Catherine; Ginny’s brother Bob; B.J. and Pam; George T.; Ginny M.; Veronica Shea; Amelia; Carol P.; Bill S; Paul Shea; special intention for D.; Michael S.; Attila, Pat & family; Marge Johnson; Josephine H.; Christy, Joan and family members; for Jo for healing in her grief; Benjamin; Elaine M. for healing from surgery; Nancy P.; Nancy K.; Gail; Marilyn Rogalski; Julie and family; Addie; and Rosemarie Brodowski. We continue to pray for peace in our world and in our country that we may come together in harmony and mutual respect for each other; for our religious freedoms and conscience rights; for the recognition of the civil right of the unborn to be recognized as persons; for the family and sacramental marriage; for our civil protectors in the military, the police, firefighters and EMTs; for vocations; and for the Holy Father and the Church throughout the world. We pray for the victims and families of recent domestic and international violence, and those affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma; for the refugees and victims of wars and oppression around the world, and for those in the US affected by DACA, that Congress will act in justice to help these individuals to have a path to citizenship.

### St. Mary’s Christmas Cards For Sale

Christmas cards featuring a beautiful photo of our front altar area, with stained glass window, side murals and floral displays, are now for sale in our parish office. Boxes of 20 cards with envelopes cost \$20 apiece. Our parish office is normally open from 9AM—3PM on weekdays.

These Christmas cards are a good way to celebrate the upcoming season with friends and family, while assisting and promoting St. Mary’s parish.



### Altar Servers — December 9th & 10th

5:00PM	Team #3	Zola
7:30AM	Team #5	Spivey
9:30AM	Team #8	Labissiere
11:30AM	Team #9	Tarreila/Mileski

### Christmas Concert

Trenton Catholic Academy presents “Fr. Alphonse & The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea Christmas Concert”

- ◆ When: Thursday, December 14, 7:30 PM
- ◆ Where: Immaculate Conception Church, 540 Chestnut Avenue, Trenton.
- ◆ Cost: \$30/ticket, \$25/ticket for seniors.
- ◆ Contact: To purchase tickets and information, contact Tracey Destribats 609-586-3705 ext. 135.

Tickets may also be purchased online at [trentoncatholic.org](http://trentoncatholic.org). All proceeds benefit the TCA scholarship program.

### Parish Offerings:

For the weekend of November 19th, we received \$8,086 in our regular collection, plus \$1,143 for the Human Development fund; and for the weekend of November 26th, we received \$8,437 in our regular collection and \$2,564 for Christmas Flower Memorials.

*Many thanks for your generosity!*

**ALTAR LINEN MINISTRY**

**Week of December 3:** *Ginny Richardson*

**Week of December 10:** *Maria Bellusci*

For more information, call Helene Shea at 298-7612

**St. Nicholas (d. 350?)—Feast Day is Dec. 6**

The absence of the “hard facts” of history is not necessarily an obstacle to the popularity of saints, as the devotion to St. Nicholas shows. Both the Eastern and Western Churches honor him, and it is claimed that, after the Blessed Virgin, he is the saint most pictured by Christian artists. And yet, historically, we can pinpoint only the fact that Nicholas was the fourth-century bishop of Myra, a city in Lycia, a province of Asia Minor. As with many of the saints, however, we are able to capture the relationship which Nicholas had with God through the admiration which Christians have had for him—an admiration expressed in the colorful stories which have been told and retold through the centuries.

Perhaps the best-known story about Nicholas concerns his charity toward a poor man who was unable to provide dowries for his three daughters of marriageable age. Rather than see them forced into prostitution, Nicholas secretly tossed a bag of gold through the poor man’s window on three separate occasions, thus enabling the daughters to be married. Over the centuries, this particular legend evolved into the custom of gift-giving on the saint’s feast. In the English-speaking countries, St. Nicholas became, by a twist of the tongue, Santa Claus—further expanding the example of generosity portrayed by this holy bishop.

Comment:

The critical eye of modern history makes us take a deeper look at the legends surrounding St. Nicholas. But perhaps we can utilize the lesson taught by his legendary charity, look deeper at our approach to material goods in the Christmas season and seek ways to extend our sharing to those in real need.

[Source: [www.AmericanCatholic.org](http://www.AmericanCatholic.org)]

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Just as we celebrate Thanksgiving by gathering together with family, why not celebrate your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend? It’s a positive, simple, common-sense, private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes your marriage. Make your reservation now!

**The next weekend date is Dec 8-10, 2017.**

Call 609-741-8012 for information, or email [applications@wwme-southjersey.org](mailto:applications@wwme-southjersey.org). Visit our website: [wwme-southjersey.org](http://wwme-southjersey.org).

Sharing the "Joy of the Gospel" on Catholic Radio!  
Tune into WFJS Catholic Radio 1260am/89.3FM.  
Download the WFJS smart phone app. Or listen live on line at [www.DomesticChurchMedia.org](http://www.DomesticChurchMedia.org)



**...THE SICK who have been recommended to our prayers:**

Sr. Joyce Marie Riley, Victoria Seda, Marilyn Rogalski, Lois MacArthur, Francis Schuessler, Lucy Johnson, John Young, D.J. Hoch, Alfred Albano, Rileigh Sunday, Alvah Schully, Nicole Cochran, Boleslaw Pacholek, Tony LaPointe, John Campo, Quincy Johnson, Elizabeth Gusrang, Maida Burke, Dave and Arlene Bibus, Gerry Jacobs, Debbie LePre, Thaddeus Custer, Donald & Ann McGarrity, Rev. John Owens, Maureen Fabriano, John Fitzgerald, Anna Vosila, Hugh Delaney, Mary Louise Torriolo, Donna Valeri, Cindy Marriot, Michael Albano, Brody Lingle, Nadine Daddona and all of the sick of the parish.

**Pray For Our Deceased**

**Chapel Sanctuary Lamp**  
St. Mary’s Parish Benefactors  
**Church Sanctuary Lamp**  
Rev. Arthur F. Conlon  
RB/Tersina DiPietro

*NOTE: Prayer List entries will be removed after 90 days unless we are notified that your loved one requires continued prayer support.*

**BLOOD DRIVE — MONDAY, DECEMBER 18th**

Temple B’Nai Abraham will sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive, on **December 18th from 2:30 to 7:30 PM**, at the Temple at 58 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown (across from St. Mary’s). The holiday season is traditionally a difficult time for meeting the blood needs of patients, with declining donations. Donating blood provides a unique opportunity to directly contribute toward saving a life.



To schedule an appointment, please call **298-6485**, or go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code **Temple BNai Abraham**.

**GIVE BLOOD  
SAVE LIFE**

**Allies, Inc. Community Music Night**

Allies, Inc. presents a live band & karaoke performance, including dinner, featuring Christmas & holiday songs.

- ♦ When: Wednesday, December 13, 6-7:30 PM
- ♦ Where: German American Club, Uncle Pete’s Road, Hamilton, NJ
- ♦ Cost: \$10
- ♦ Contact: for more information, contact Linda Peiffer at 609-689-0136, x-101 or [lpeiffer@alliesnj.org](mailto:lpeiffer@alliesnj.org); or Jim Gaven at [jgaven@alliesnj.org](mailto:jgaven@alliesnj.org).

Make song requests, join the band onstage, and for this event wear an ugly sweater! Reserve a spot by Dec. 8th.

**Cathedral High School—Class of 1968  
50th Reunion**

Date: Saturday, June 2, 2018

Place: Hilton Garden Inn, Rt. 130, Hamilton, NJ

For further information, please contact Patricia Bucchino Erzak at [paterzak@aol.com](mailto:paterzak@aol.com) or Marcia Minton Bollwage at [marcia816@hotmail.com](mailto:marcia816@hotmail.com).



## Religious Education & Sacramental Programs For St. Mary's and Ss. Francis & Clare Parishes

1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade & High School

- December 3, 10, 17.....**December RE Classes at 8:00, 9:45, and 11:15 AM in St. Mary's School  
**December 5, 12, 19.....**December RE Classes at 5:00 and 6:30 PM in Holy Assumption Church  
**December 4.....**Confession for our 6th-8th graders—6:30PM in St. Mary's Church  
**December 6.....**Confirmation candidate and sponsor meeting, 6:30PM in St. Mary's School  
**December 10.....**Confirmation candidates' first draft of *Letter to the Bishop* is due  
**December 12.....**Knights of Columbus Poster Contest entries are due  
**December 17.....**Knights of Columbus Santa Breakfast 7:30AM-12:30PM, St. Mary's School

**Confession** — When we commit serious sin we break our communion with the Church and our unity with God. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the process by which we restore and strengthen communion between ourselves, God, and the Church, not God alone. Confessions will be heard on December 4th for our 6th-8th Graders at 6:30PM, in St. Mary's Church. All RE children are expected to attend.

**Confirmation Candidates** – Two very important dates this month. This coming Wednesday, December 6th from 6:30-8:00PM in the School Hall, with your sponsor/parent, is your "*Catholicism 101*" meeting and your 8th grade Confirmation Test. Then, your first draft of *Letter to the Bishop* is due by December 10th. The draft is in your Confirmation packet or can be found on the RE website.

**Poster contest** - Knights of Columbus Council 570 is inviting Religious Education students from ages 5 through 14 to participate in the organization's "*Keep Christ in Christmas*" poster contest. By engaging the creativity and imaginations of our young people, we hope they come to a deeper understanding of the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas. All entries **MUST** be received by Tuesday, December 12th. First and second place winners will be chosen in 3 separate age groups. More information and entry form can be found on our Parish and RE websites. Good luck to all that participate!

**Santa Breakfast** – Join us for Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 17th from 7:30AM–12:30PM. The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring the breakfast in the School Hall. Come out for a delicious breakfast, seasonal atmosphere and pictures with Santa. There's something special about that moment when children approach Santa Claus.  
 Adults: \$8      \*\*\*      Children 12 & under: \$5      \*\*\*      Children 4 & under: Free

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**St. Mary's and Ss. Francis & Clare RE Office**

Phone: (609) 291-8281 ext. 18 (CRE) or ext.17 (Asst.); Fax: (609) 298-7178

Email: [office@stmarysre.org](mailto:office@stmarysre.org) or [office2@stmarysre.org](mailto:office2@stmarysre.org); Website: [www.stmarysre.org](http://www.stmarysre.org).

Facebook page: St. Mary's Church—Bordentown, NJ  
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***The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.***

### Advent Giving Tree



This year Ss. Francis & Clare parish will be joining St. Mary's with an Advent Giving Tree. We support 6 different organizations with this effort. St. Mary's parishioners have always been so generous and for this we thank you. Here is a breakdown of the organizations we help.

- Blue Mittens:** St. Mary's Food Pantry and should NOT be wrapped.  
**Yellow Stars:** Mt. Carmel Guild and should NOT be wrapped.  
**Red Angels:** First Way and should NOT be wrapped.  
**Purple Snowmen:** St. Vincent de Paul Society and should NOT be wrapped  
**White Snowmen:** Tabor House and should NOT be wrapped.  
 (This is a residence for men in recovery.)  
**Green Trees:** Martin House and those gifts SHOULD BE WRAPPED and it is very important that the **Green Tree Tag** be securely attached. If God has been good to you this year and you wish to donate a bike, electronic toy or other special gift, just tag it for "*Any Boy*" or "*Any Girl*" and Martin House will find the perfect child for that gift.

**All gifts are due before December 10th**

### ND Class of 1968 Planning 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion!

Notre Dame High School's class of 1968 will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> reunion on Saturday, June 9, 2018. It will be held at the Stone Terrace (John Henry's), Kuser Road, in Hamilton. For further information please contact Joan Coley DeGregory ([jdegregory@optonline.net](mailto:jdegregory@optonline.net)) or Joan Markiewicz Weidner ([jmweidner@comcast.net](mailto:jmweidner@comcast.net)).

### Religious Retirement Fund Collection

The annual collection to provide assistance for retired and infirmed Religious will be taken up next weekend together with our regular offering. This is our opportunity to show our gratitude to the many Sisters of Mercy who served in our school, and the Divine Word Missionaries who assisted with our Masses over the years.

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Next Friday, December 8th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holyday of obligation. Holyday Masses will be celebrated on Thursday at 7 PM, and Friday at 7:30 AM here at St. Mary's, and at 8AM and 7PM on Friday at Holy Assumption Church. Don't forget to come to Mass and honor our Blessed Mother on her feast day.

Our parish office will be closed for the holyday.