



### Monday, January 1—Mary, Mother of God

10:00 AM Mass for St. Mary's & Ss. Francis & Clare Parishioners

### Tuesday, January 2

7:30 AM Paul S. Hlubik  
RB/Stephanie & Dave Salewski; and,  
Sr. Vicky Kimaid  
RB/Claudia Houseworth

2:00 PM Rosary & Prayer Hour — Chapel

### Wednesday, January 3

7:30 AM The Forgotten Souls in Purgatory

3:00 PM Prayers for Priests, Religious, and  
Vocations

7:00 PM Novena & Adoration Hour

### Thursday, January 4

7:30 AM John Rogers  
RB/Family

7:00 PM Mass for St. Mary's & Ss. Francis & Clare Parishioners

### Friday, January 5

7:30 AM Everlasting Spiritual Bouquet

### Saturday, January 6

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Mattie Karlsen  
RB/Deacon Gary & Ginny Richardson

### Sunday, January 7—Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 AM Margaret Reedy  
RB/Mary & Fred Bender

9:30 AM Jane Dourgarian  
RB/John Dourgarian

11:30 AM Marie Todaro Sospetti  
RB/Nazaren Sospetti (husband)

#### MASSSES

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**

- Wed. 7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Parish Center, upstairs
- Thurs. 7:00 PM RCIA Seminar  
Parish Center, downstairs
- Sat. 10AM; 12:30PM First Penance Retreat  
School Hall



*Father Joe, Father Daison, the Deacons and the Parish staff would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year!*

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

**December 31, 2017: Feast of the Holy Family**

All the wonderful gifts of grace bestowed on the Holy Family did not preserve this family from hardship and suffering. These simple parents surely had their own apprehensions (*"you yourself a sword shall pierce"*). Yet they responded faithfully and obediently. This is the interface of our own modern families and the Holy Family: as they did, we too face challenges in responding to God faithfully and obediently. The holiness of a family is not dependent upon perfection or an easy road. Whether we are a traditional family or a single parent, whether we have biological or adopted or foster children or no children, whether we live in an expensive home or a subsidized rental unit makes no difference for living as a holy family. What makes the difference is believing and trusting in God, responding to both hardships and God's wonderful gifts of grace for fidelity and obedience. Trust in God's ways. You, too, are a holy family.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society wishes all families Christ's Peace and Joy for the New Year!!!

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

***"Have a heart that never hardens, a temper that never tries, and a touch that never hurts."***

***—Charles Dickens***

**BEARERS OF THE WORD**

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

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**Altar Servers — January 6th & 7th**

5:00PM	Team #1	Coppola
7:30AM	Team #5	Spivey
9:30AM	Team #6	Marrano
11:30AM	Team #10	Ogbutor

**Attention:  
Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers**

**Lectors** are now responsible for the Prayers of the Faithful. Please allow ample time before Mass to review, with special attention for the Mass intention.



**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

are invited to attend an upcoming training session. There will be two training sessions concerning the responsibilities and duties of the Eucharistic Ministers, and you may select either session, **January 8th or January 16th**. Both sessions will begin at 7:00 PM in the main body of the church. The training should last approximately 30 minutes. Discussion will focus around the increased roles for EMs due to the decreased number of Deacons available for Mass. Additionally, the procedures for those who are bringing Holy Communion to the homebound will also be addressed. Please plan on attending one of these sessions.



*—Deacon Gary Richardson*

**Natural Family Planning**

Natural family planning is healthy, easy and practical to learn and use, 99% effective when properly practiced, inexpensive and morally acceptable by the Catholic Church, as opposed to artificial contraception. For further information, visit the websites [dioceseoftrenton.org/natural-family-planning](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/natural-family-planning) and [nfp@uscgb.org](mailto:nfp@uscgb.org).

**2018 Parish Calendars**

January 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Parish Calendars for 2018 are now available at our church exits, from our ushers, and in our parish center.

## Rosary Recitations



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

- ♦ **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.

*“If you want to lead a holy life, cultivate devotion to Mary in your family. Gather your children in prayer and in the recitation of the Holy Rosary”* —Servant of God Fr. Dolindo Ruotolo

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

>>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD—January 1st

>>CLARE ESTATE ROSARY—First Tuesday at 10:30; next recitation scheduled—January 2nd. All are welcome.

>>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 January 8th.

>>ROSARIAN MONTHLY ROSARY—Rosarians will meet to recite together their monthly public Rosary during the regular Tuesday Rosary Hour on January 9th at 2:00 PM, in the Chapel.

>>COMMUNION SUNDAY – January 14th—9:30 AM Mass for all Rosarians, living and deceased.

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

- Evangalization: Religious Minorities in Asia—That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.*

**Let us pray** Our Lady of Lourdes, we pray for our currently ill or suffering members, family and friends: Samme; Ruth B.; Patricia H.; Mary M., Maryann, and Joe C. for the healing of cancer; Mary for remission of cancer; Emily for upcoming surgery; John Mullen; David; Daniel; Catherine; Ginny’s brother Bob; B.J. and Pam; George T.; Ginny M.; Veronica Shea; Amelia; Carol P.; Bill S; Paul Shea; Michael S.; Attila, Pat & family; Deacon Ron S.; Marge Johnson; Josephine H.; Christy, Joan and family members; for Jo for healing in her grief; Benjamin; 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; for the people affected by natural disasters; and for the Holy Father and the Church throughout the world. We ask for the continuing health of our parish clergy, and give thanks for our Deacons and their families for their dedication and self-giving help in the ministries of the Church. We pray for our homebound that they may know that they remain with us in our hearts and prayers.

### Children's Offering Prayer to Jesus

For love of me you came to earth;

You gave your life for me.

So every day You give me now

I give back happily.

Take all my laughter, all my tears,

Each thought, each word, each deed,

And let them be my all-day prayer

To help all those in need.

[Source: [Apostleshipofprayer.org](http://Apostleshipofprayer.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)



### Mary, Holy Mother of God—Jan. 1 Feast Day

In 1969, the feast of Mary, Holy Mother of God, formerly celebrated on October 11, was transferred to January 1.

The celebration of Mary as “Mother of God” is the oldest of all Marian celebrations, going back to at least the third century. The title is familiar because it is part of the Hail Mary (“Holy Mary, Mother of God ...”). But in the early 400s great controversy surrounded it. Some argued that Mary was the Mother of Christ, but that calling her the Mother of God was going too far. The other side argued that Jesus is truly God, and in bearing Jesus, Mary bore God.

The Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D. resolved the matter, affirming that Mary is truly “Mother of God”. The documents of the council were in Greek, and the term used for Mary was “*theotokos*” which means “God-bearer”.

[source: [The Little Blue Book 2017-18](http://The Little Blue Book 2017-18); Diocese of Saginaw, MI; [littlebooks.org](http://littlebooks.org)]

**ALTAR LINEN MINISTRY**

**Week of December 31:** *Marge Devennie*  
**Week of January 7:** *Roseanne O'Donnell*  
For more information, call Helene Shea at 298-7612

**Parish Offerings:**

Due to early publication deadlines, we will include the totals from our December 23/24 and Christmas Masses in the next bulletin.  
*Many thanks for your generosity!*

**SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS — WEEKLY SHOPPING**

Shoprite Supermarket Gift Cards are available in \$10, \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations through the Rosary & Altar Society. They are convenient and beneficial to every household. We promise quick turnaround of cards once ordered and the parish community earns a 5% return on every card purchased.



You may place orders by telephoning Stephanie at 609-291-1816, and thanks for your patronage!



**...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, 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 Torrillo, Cindy Marriot, Michael Albano, Brody Lingle, Nadine Daddona, Patricia Gates, May Browning and all of the sick of the parish.

**Pray For Our Deceased**

Mattie Karlsen; Secundina Colon

**Chapel Sanctuary Lamp**

Ada DiPietro  
RB/Family

**Church Sanctuary Lamp**

Edward MacMullan  
RB/Wife

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



**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

**January 7, 21, 28**.....January RE Classes at 8:00, 9:45, and 11:15 AM in St. Mary's School

**January 9, 23, 30**.....January RE Classes at 5:00 and 6:30 PM in Holy Assumption Church

**January 6**.....First Penance Retreat for children and one parent only:

“A-L” 10:00-11:30AM; and “M-Z” 12:30-2:00PM; BOTH in School Hall

**January 7**.....Final day to turn in ALL Confirmation paperwork

**January 7**.....AT-HOME FAITH Unit 2 Test is due

**January 25**.....First Penance Practice Group A — 5:00-6:00PM in St. Mary's Church

**January 25**.....First Penance Practice Group B — 6:30-7:30PM in St. Mary's Church

**January 27**.....First Penance: Group A—9AM; and Group B—11AM in St. Mary's Church

**A Happy New Year to all our RE Catechists, Assistants, Volunteers and families. As a new year begins, we come to our Lord asking for His blessing. We pray that He gives us joy to fill our days, peace to fill our hearts, and love to fill our lives. We thank Him for the plans He has for us in this New Year. We wait in anticipation to see all He will do!**

**First Penance** — Our 2nd graders will have practice and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in January. Please pray for all our boys and girls that they may open their hearts and minds to this beautiful sacrament of forgiveness. Help them turn to God for forgiveness.

**Confirmation Candidates** – all your paperwork is due by January 7th. You will be receiving information about your Confirmation Interview in early February. If all of your paperwork and service hours are finished, you will be receiving your Confirmation Application. You will also be measured for Confirmation Robes.

**AT-HOME FAITH** students — your Unit 2 tests are due back in the RE office no later than January 7th.

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

***Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.***

## Who was this carpenter?

A French architect had designed the Santa Fe chapel for the Sisters of Loretto in close imitation of the famous "Sainte Chapelle" in Paris. It was a small chapel, and he forgot to provide enough room for a staircase leading up to the choir loft, 22 feet above.

Many carpenters tried to find a way to solve the problem but without success. They said it couldn't be done. The sisters prayed to St. Joseph for help.

A few weeks before Christmas in 1878 a carpenter arrived, his burro laden with wood. He said he had come to build a staircase, and it would be done by Christmas.

On Christmas Eve the sisters entered the chapel and before their eyes was a beautiful spiral staircase gracefully winding upward to the choir loft. It had 33 steps, one for each year in the life of Our Lord. It had no nails, just wooden pegs. The spiral made two complete 360-degree turns with no central support. It seemed to float on air.

This staircase stands today, just as it was on Christmas Eve in 1878. Architects still shake their heads and say, "Impossible".

The sisters never did find out who this mysterious carpenter was. He left without payment. A young girl who lived with the sisters said that she had talked with him, and his name was Jose—Spanish for "Joseph".

[source: [The Little Blue Book 2017-18](#); Diocese of Saginaw, MI; [littlebooks.org](http://littlebooks.org)]



### 2018 March for Life

The Knights of Columbus Council 570 is co-sponsoring a bus trip to the March for Life in Washington, DC on **Friday, January 19, 2018**. The bus will depart at 8AM, following our 7:30AM Mass, from St. Mary's parking lot. The March will be approximately 2 hours; we may visit the National Shrine; our group will stop for an evening meal at the Golden Corral; and return by 10PM. Suggested donation is \$25.00. Seats are limited; please call Ed Connor at 609-291-9750, or email at [edconmba@gmail.com](mailto:edconmba@gmail.com)

### Christmas Season Bulletins

In addition to our regular parish bulletins, we have special Christmas bulletins containing prayers and blessings for the Christmas season, at our church exits and in the parish center. Please feel free to take one home with you.

The Parish of Ss. Francis & Clare is seeking an experienced church organist, to serve at Holy Assumption Church, following the retirement of Bob Scara.

Interested applicants are invited to contact Jac Madson, St. Mary's music director and organist, at **609-298-0261** for more information.



## Visit Italy in May 2018

Join Fr. Timothy Byerley and Brenda Quinn for 9 days in Rome from **May 21-May 30, 2018!** We will be departing from Philadelphia, and staying at the beautiful Michelangelo Hotel, next to the Vatican! Our travelers will visit Assisi, Orvieto, and Siena, and we will celebrate Mass everyday. Included is a Papal Audience, visits to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel, St. Mary Major and St. John the Lateran Churches, Mass in the Catacombs, The Spanish Steps, San Domiano Convent, The Basilica of St. Francis, the steps stained with the Blood of the Eucharistic Miracle in Orvieto, and more!!

For more information, go online to <https://thecollegiumcenter.org/rome-italy-may-21-may-30-2018/> or contact Brenda at 856-534-0400 or via email at [olvbquinn@aol.com](mailto:olvbquinn@aol.com)

Visit [thecollegiumcenter.org](http://thecollegiumcenter.org) for information about upcoming events. Due to high demand for The Michelangelo Hotel, we need reservations by Jan. 30th. Thank you!

### 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: toothpaste; shampoo; soap; and razors



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).

### Bordentown Cemetery / St. Mary's Section Attn: Parishioners, Visitors, Non-Parishioners Pre-Need Special: 10% Price Discount

Stop in and visit us at 210 Crosswicks Road, Bordentown, NJ. We offer a beautiful extended St. Mary's section, a veterans section and a non-denominational section for burials. Also we offer a Columbarium for remains of your loved ones.

Office hours 9-1 Monday thru Friday.

Call 609 298-0605



**"Don't complain about the Church. You are the Church, and God has destined you to proclaim the Good News by example, by family life, by holy single life, by faithfulness."**

—*Mother Angelica's Little Book of Life Lessons and Everyday Spirituality*