

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 20TH, 2015

*God's mercy is full of grace. God's mercy is grace.
This is God's very life.*

Let us, then, turn to face God all this week. We do it when we turn to those who are near, to those in our home, to those at work or school, to those in the street – and behave like Gabriel (announce God's favor), behave like Mary (ask "How?" then say "Yes!").

- How will I find ways this week to say "yes" to God's good mercy?*
- Who needs the mercy I can give?*

Liturgies for the Week of December 20th

*Sunday, December 20th – 4:30p.m.

~Harold & Jean Loy by the Loy Families

*Tuesday, December 22nd – 8:00a.m.

~ Communion Service

*Thursday, December 24th – 8:00p.m.-Christmas Eve Mass

~ Frank, Gary, & Diane Ruda by Virginia Ruda

~Virginia Lafond by Joe & Cindy Lafond

*Sunday, December 27th – 4:30p.m.

~Tim Savoie 2nd Anniversary by Don & Phyllis Savoie

~Wayne Lambert by Angie Clement

*Tuesday, December 29th – 8:00a.m.

~ Communion Service

*Wednesday, December 30th – 7:00p.m.-New Years' Service

~ Virginia Lafond by Regnier Family

*Thursday, January 1st

~ NO Services

PASTORAL CARE

Please Pray For:

Our Service Members: Nick Meyr son of Larry & Julie Meyr who is joining the Marines

Intentions: Savannah Stucki, Delmar Skeen, Barb Arseneau, Megan Seggebruch, Debra Silcox, Loretta & Roland Lafond, Ruth Lesch, & Mike Caise.

Our Departed: Kathleen Lanoue, Vivian Fortin Lovelass & Marvin Mueller

*Please notify the Parish Office at 815-435-2432 if a loved one is admitted to the hospital, rehab center, nursing home, or is homebound. The hospitals do not always let us know if you or a loved one is admitted. If you need someone to bring you communion at home, please let us know so we can arrange this.

*There was a watch left in the kitchen of the parish hall on Founders' Day. If it is yours, please let us know.

CO-MINISTERS FOR THE WEEK

December 24th~ Christmas Eve Service 8:00p.m.

READER: Beth Hanson

SERVERS: All Available Servers

E.M.: L) Judy Laurent, Kathy Landrey,
Melisa Loy, Chris & Duane Weber

USHERS: Don, Pete, Joe, Kenny

December 27th~Feast of the Holy Family 4:30p.m.

READER: Casey Arseneau

SERVERS: Elle, Aidan

E.M.: L) Angela Jones, Kathy Wagner,
Chris Bossong

USHERS: Rick, Tom, Pat

****We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers!!**

If you are willing, please talk to Ryan Loy.

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly Parish Need for Operation: \$ 900.00

Offering for Sunday, December 13th - \$1,640.00

Surplus for the Week: + \$(740.00)

41 Envelopes in Offering

*Restoration-\$2,362.50 which includes \$2,325 from the Preservation Society

*Religious Retirement Collection-\$117.70

*Love Light Tree Donations-\$523

*Heat Fund Donation-\$100

~Sunday Offertory Budget Amount for Fiscal Year

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 is \$46,000.

~Sunday Offertory Actual Money Donated as of December 13th is **\$26,989.75.**

PARISH ACTIVITIES....

Upcoming St. Mary's Events...

- *Sunday, Dec. 20th-Tree Lighting/Children's Program following 4:30p.m. Mass*
- *Thursday, Dec. 24th-Christmas Eve Mass at 8p.m.*
- *Wednesday, Dec. 30th-New Years' Service at 7p.m.*
- *Sunday, Jan. 10th-Religious Education 3p.m.-4:15p.m.*
- *Sunday, Jan. 24th- Religious Education 3p.m.-4:15p.m.*
- *Saturday, February 13th-Texas Night in the Hall*

Christmas Poinsettias for Sale

You can purchase a poinsettia in memory of a loved one to be used as part of our Christmas decorations on Sunday, December 13th and 20th. The cost is \$12 each.

See Pat Brown in the back of church.

*****Our Christmas Mass will be on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th at 8p.m. Come and celebrate the birth of our Lord!**

*We are looking for volunteers for snow removal around the church this winter. If you are able to help, please contact Ryan Loy(486-7144) or Tom Frye(486-7240) .

St. Mary's Year of Mercy Events

Confession

Each Sunday of Advent there will be confession at 3:30p.m. before Mass.

Tree Lighting Ceremony & Children's Program

Thank you to all who attended our program and gave donations toward our Love Light Tree. A big thanks to the teachers and parents who helped to prepare the children and Anna Barnlund for the music. Please join us over in the parish hall for soup and sandwiches after the program.

ASSISTANCE FUND

We are going to start a fund to help assist families in our parish and community who may be in need. There are envelopes in the back of church that say Assistance. Please place your donation in them and put them in the collection basket. With the holidays coming up it can be very hard for struggling families to make ends meet. Please help if you can.

TREASURES OF ITALY PILGRIMAGE

JUNE 14 – 24, 2016

hosted by Rev. Dan Belanger, C.S.V.

Visiting Florence, Assisi, Lanciano, Monte Sant'Angelo, San Giovanni Rotondo and the Shrine of Padre Pio, Sorrento, Pompeii, the Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino and Rome with Vatican City and a PAPAL AUDIENCE!!

Only \$3799 per person from Chicago

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Judy Peerbolte at (815) 935-2500 or email at

jpeerbolte@questtravel1980.com

AROUND THE DIOCESE...

2015/16 CATHOLIC EVENTS IN AREA

2016

January 23	Bishop Mac Trivia Night
January 30	Kankakee K of C Cash Bash
February 6	St. George Winter Dance
February 13	St. Mary's- Texas Night in hall
March 5	St. Joseph School Las Vegas night
April 30	St. Martin "Turkey" Cash Bash
March 12	ACA 5K Run
May 13	Bishop Mac Auction
June 5	St. George Holy Name Golf Outing
June 24	Kankakee K of C Golf Outing

--GRIEF SUPPORT SEMINAR - CHANGING SEASONS

A time of reflection for loss of a loved one.

Sister Anne Jaeger SSCM is an accredited chaplain and has journeyed with people who are dealing with the loss of a loved one. She will continue her bereavement seminar in a Parish Hall classroom on Wednesdays, January 6th & 13th from 6:00 to 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend. There is no charge for this seminar. For questions, please contact Jean Beck, at 815-210-6167.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

WHEN: Thursday, January 7th from 7:30am - 9:00am

WHERE: *One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center*, 2041 W. State Route 113, Kankakee, IL 60901

SPONSORED BY: *Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary*

TOPIC: *Catholic Charities and Resources*

PRESENTER: *Edith Avila Olea* is a young and passionate person dedicated to the service of the poor. Her career began with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development with the Office for Human Dignity, Diocese of Joliet. She currently works for Catholic Charities as the Parish Outreach and Board of Young Professionals Coordinator.

COST: Free Will Donation – Continental Breakfast will be available.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please call Sister Mary Stella at 815-935-0800

MEMORIAL MASS

January 10 is the anniversary of the death of Bishop Romeo Blanchette. Bishop Conlon will celebrate the Mass at the Cathedral on January 10 at 11:00 a.m. in memory of Bishop Blanchette and all the priests & deacons who died during this past year.

PILGRIMAGE WITH BISHOP CONLON

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis calls on Catholics to rediscover the merciful love of the Father. This worldwide celebration provides us with the opportunity to experience our faith through prayer and the Sacraments. In a special way, the opportunity for pilgrimage offers Catholics a chance to experience God's grace.

From April 2-7, 2016, including Divine Mercy Sunday, Bishop R. Daniel Conlon will be the spiritual director for a pilgrimage journeying to some of the shrines of Mexico, including Our Lady of Guadalupe. The cost of the six-day pilgrimage (including air, fees, accommodations and most meals) will be \$1,328 (double-occupancy). For more information, please visit the bishops' website at <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/bishop> or contact Alex Rechenmacher at arechenmacher@dioceseofjoliet.org or (815) 221-6180.