



**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

We would like to wish everyone a very Blessed New Year!!

**MASS SONGS AND READINGS**

- \***Processional**—Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #239
- \***Readings**-#799 Holy Family~Cycle B
- \***Offertory**-It Came Upon the Midnight Clear #250
- \***Communion**-Draw Near #486
- \***Recessional**-God Rest You Merry Gentlemen #243

*Mass Intentions*

- \*\*SUNDAY, December 31<sup>st</sup>— 4:30p.m.**  
 ~Dean Anderson by Emilie Anderson & Family  
 ~Bob Arseneau by Frank & Martha Lambert  
 ~JoEll Lemenager by Eileen Ratliff
- \*\*SUNDAY, January 7<sup>th</sup>— 4:30p.m.**  
 ~Virginia “Maggie” Ruda by Eileen Ratliff  
 ~Bob Arseneau by Leone & Margarete Lambert
- \*\*SUNDAY, January 14<sup>th</sup>— 4:30p.m.**  
 ~JoEll Lemenager by Eileen Ratliff
- \*\*SUNDAY, January 21<sup>st</sup>— 4:30p.m.**  
 ~Virginia “Maggie” Ruda by the Bechely Family

**PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT**

Weekly Parish Need for Operation:	\$1,385.00
<b>Offering for December 24th</b>	<b>-\$1,300.00</b>
<b>Deficit for the week:</b>	<b>-(85.00)</b>
<b>CHRISTMAS Offering in Budget:</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.00</b>
Actual Christmas Offering:	- \$3,816.00
Surplus for Christmas:	+\$ (16.00)

**Times are tough, see what you can do**

**Restoration:** \$5,000-Preservation Donations,  
\$290 Collection Envelopes

~Sunday Offertory Budget Amount for Fiscal Year  
July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 is \$72,000.

~Sunday Offertory Actual Money Donated as of  
December 24th- **\$38,344.25.**

**NEXT WEEK’S CO-MINISTERS FOR:  
SUNDAY, January 7th @ 4:30p.m.**

- READER:** Cheryle  
**E.M.:** Angela & Erin  
**Ushers:** Joe & Jim  
**Servers:** Colbi  
**Money Counters:** Andrea & Diane

**2024 Collection Envelopes**  
 Please pick up your 2024 box in the back of church.  
 If you don't have one and would like one, please  
 see Ryan Loy.



**WE NEED HELP**  
 We will be putting away  
 Christmas decorations  
 on Sunday, January 7th  
 after Mass.

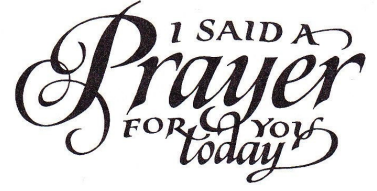
**Please Pray For:**

**Intentions:** Sharon Hess, Keith Arseneau, Adaline Royster, Cynthia Chadwick, Santiago Bay, Dale Blanchette, Gary Cahoe, Carter Brutlag, Paisley Jackson, Kathy Wagner, Jewel Legan, Cindy Jamnik, Tina Gooding, Beverly & Ben Maurer, Shirley Guttman, Jerry Shortsleeve, Ray Arseneau, Don Martell, Janet Lambert, Sylvia Eddy, Betty Lambert, Elaine Arseneau, Judy Laurent, Shirley Arseneau, Shirley Stelmasiak, & Special Intentions

**Our Departed:**

- Our Service Men & Women:**  
 \*PV 2 Colby Arseneau, Army Reserves, Grandson of Jerry & Joyce Arseneau;  
 \*Maj. Todd Fatka, USAR, son of Angela Jones

**\*Please notify the Office at 815-644-6664 if a loved one is admitted to the hospital or would like to be on the prayer list or to have someone taken off the list if they are well.**





# St. Mary's Message

## A Christmas Thank-You!

Sincere thanks to all of you who have so generously supported our parish family with your Christmas kindness. Thanks also to all who shared your thoughtfulness with me. As we continue our Christmas celebrations and look forward to a blessed 2024 let's carry that Yuletide spirit through the months ahead.

Blessings, Fr. Mike

**ST. MARY'S DISCUSSION GROUP** will be meeting again on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at the rectory from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00. We will be continuing our study of PRAYER. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite rote prayer to share with the group. Remember—join us when you can, even if you can't make every gathering, we welcome you when you can.

Upcoming topics include:

- Dec. 28 No meeting because of Holidays
- Jan. 11 Discerning God's voice
- Jan. 25 Imaginative Contemplation

If you are interested in joining us, contact Sr. Linda at 815-931-1425 or [lhatton@sscm-usa.org](mailto:lhatton@sscm-usa.org).

### Mass Intentions

**If you would like to have a Mass said in memory of a loved one, please let the parish office know. Masses are \$10 each. You can pick what dates you would like the Mass to be given on. \*Please note that Masses are given for more than one person most of the time due to having only one Mass each week.**

## Preparing for Next Sunday's Gospel

Solemnity of the Epiphany

Matthew 2:2:1-12

"We have come to do him homage!"

Ancient iconography portrays the three magi as one young man, one middle-aged man, and one old man. So...

0-30 Years Old:

How can I better seek Jesus in my youth?

30-60 Years Old:

How can I better seek Jesus now that I'm in my mid-life years?

60 Years Old +:

How can I better seek Jesus in my senior years?

Prayer: God our Father, the Star you set in the East served as a beacon drawing all to Jesus your Son. In the different eras of my life may I always resolve to follow that star and to seek out Jesus in the varied seasons of my life. Amen!

## Preparing for Next Sunday's Petitions

~That, like the star of Bethlehem, the Church may continue to draw in wonder and awe, all peoples to Christ

~That Christ, the King of the ages, honored with gold, may bring this world to justice, righteousness, and peace

~That Christ, true God from true God, honored with frankincense, may be universally acclaimed as the Divine One among us

~That Christ who died so that we may have life, honored with myrrh, may be the solace of all who mourn

~That members of our parish, who like the Magi, come to Christ in prayer, may find him with Mary his mother

~That the dead may see Jesus in his full glory

Let Us Pray to the Lord

# Upcoming Events

## SERVANTS OF THE HOLY HEART OF MARY 2024 PROGRAMS

- ◆ Scripture & Faith Sharing Held at One Heart, One Soul on Thursday, January 11th & February 8th from 9-10:30 a.m. Presenter is Susan Amann, Director of Spiritual Ministry. Cost is a Free Will Donation.
- ◆ Reviving Our Love of the Eucharist, via Zoom on Wednesdays, January 17th & 31st, February 14th & 28th from 6:30-8pm; Presenter is Sr. Linda Hatton, SSCM. Cost is \$35 for the series

Registrations cannot be confirmed until payment is received in full.

Checks may be mailed to: Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary  
Attn: Susan Amann  
2041 W. State Route  
113 Kankakee IL 60901

Please make checks payable to Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary.

For further information or to register, you can go to their website, [www.sscm-usa.org](http://www.sscm-usa.org), call Susan Amann at 708-790-8141, or Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary ([sscm-usa.org](http://sscm-usa.org))

## Martinton Community Food Pantry

The food pantry serves all of Iroquois County. They are in need of our help. **Please continue to bring in food donations.** They are also looking for monetary donations, volunteers to help unload the trucks, and working on distribution days. If you are able to help, please call Connie Stirling at 815-867-6480.

**New Hours: Tuesday 9-11a.m., No PM hours**

### Items Needed at the Pantry:

Personal Hygiene Products-lotion, soap, wipes,	
Kleenex, shampoo, conditioner, combs, brushes	
Cleaning Supplies	Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels	Toilet Paper