

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 29: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Thomas Beckett]

8:00 am (GS) Florian Jurcak by Nephew, James & Mileen Jurcak

Tuesday, December 30: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am (GS) Joseph Sasinovich by Wife, Mary Ann

Wednesday, December 31: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Sylvester]

8:00 am (SJ) James Poland by Genny & Tony Adams

NEW YEAR'S VIGIL MASSES

4:00 pm (SJ) For the Living & Deceased of our Parishes

5:30 pm (GS) Darlene Kurash by Cristina & Gianna Aloe

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

(HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Thursday, Jan. 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

9:00 am (SJ) Jeff Francis by Francis Family

10:30 am (GS) Rose Cardinale by Elsa Fausti and Ken & Lynda Burgun

Friday, Jan. 2: Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 am (SJ) Catherine Reed by Cathy Johnson

8:00 pm (GS) Marian Prayer Group Mass

Saturday, January 3: Christmas Weekday

[The Most Holy Name of Jesus]

9:00 am (SJ) Living & Deceased of Beaver Valley Blue Army

4:00 pm (SJ) Vigil, Joe Fraser by Dick, Barb & Karen O'Neill

5:30 pm (GS) Vigil, Sandy Egercic by Denise & Tracey

Sunday, January 4: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 am (GS) Bernie Grzegorek by Wife, Mary Frances and Daughters, Geri, Evie, Judy & Kami

9:30 am (SJ) For the Living & Deceased of our Parishes

11:00 am (GS) George & Mary Mourovic by Dtr., Carol & Harry

Readings for the Week of December 29, 2014

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Jn 1:29-34

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

Bread and Wine

Joseph Sasinovich (GS) by Wife, Mary Ann

Holy Trinity Shrine Candle

Charles Smith Family (GS) by JoAnn & Chuck Smith

Sanctuary Candle

Philip DeMailo (SJ) by Alfreda DeMailo

Louis (GiGi) Antonini (GS) by Carol & Harry Molchen

Good Samaritan 724-266-6565
Saint John the Baptist 724-869-2280

✠ From Father Joe

MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

I find it ironic that we get presents, and cake, and cards on our birthdays. It's our mothers who should be given the presents. After all, they are the ones who had to bear all the pain to bring us into this world! Each January 1, we celebrate the solemn feast of Mary, the Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. It's a gentle reminder to us of the role Mary played in the gift of Christ's Incarnation.

I can't think of a better way to start the new year than to give honor to Jesus for all his gifts to us, particularly the gift of His loving Mother. If your mom is still with you, give her a hug and thank her for all her sacrifices. If she has passed, offer up a prayer of thanksgiving.

In the coming weeks we will hear bible passages that tell of Mary's experiences following the birth of Jesus. Shepherds appear relating visions of angels. Wise men appear from the east, bearing expensive gifts. Holy men and women give prophetic messages that Mary's child is destined for greatness. We hear repeated in scripture that "*Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*" Like all new parents, it could have been daunting for Mary to think of the awesome responsibility she and Joseph had undertaken, but scripture tells us that love casts out fear. They relied on prayer and faith.

In the midst of it all, Mary must have felt excitement that something great was about to happen. I'm excited about the coming year and some of the changes we are planning as part of our implementation of the Bishop's vision of "*The Church Alive!*" Among other things, we are starting a new Youth & Young Adult Discipleship Ministry.

Thank you for all your patience with me as I continue to learn to be a pastor. It was much easier just being a priest. I pray that the coming year is filled with blessings for all of you who read this. Thank you for everything you do to make our churches so special. May the Blessing of Almighty God descend upon you and remain with you throughout the coming year. *Father Joe*

WELCOMING 'MR. MONTY'

We are excited to announce that Monty Montgomery, known to his students at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School as '*Mr. Monty*' has joined our staff on a part time basis to begin working with Youth & Young Adults in Discipleship Ministry.

In his first pastoral letter, *The Church Alive!*, Bishop Zubik called us to be excited about our faith. Monty brings that excitement to his ministry of working with fellow Catholics to become excited about their faith, and to share that excitement with others. He can be reached by e-mail at youth@goodsam1.org or leave a message for him at **724-266-6565 ext. 19** if you would like to learn more about his ministry, or to just get to know him. You can also text him at **985-630-9742**

SAINT JOHN'S CORNER ✠



The Beaver Valley Blue Army (the World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima) will hold its First Saturday meeting on **Jan. 3** here at St. John's. Confessions will be heard before 9:00 a.m. Mass. After Mass, members will pray the Rosary. **Due to cancellation of our Dec. meeting, our Christmas party will be held on Jan. 3.** Members are asked to bring a brunch item to share. New members or those interested in our organization are welcome. Please call Colleen (724) 375-3846 with any questions.



THANK YOU HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND FAMILY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS! Breakfast with St. Nicholas was a wonderful event due to the efforts of volunteers of St. John's Holy Name Society and GS/SJ Family Ministry. The children and families appreciate your time and talents! Huge thanks, also, to Rose Curcio and our St. Nicholas.



New Year's Eve Celebration

Join the Ambridge Area Chamber of Commerce for a night filled with dancing & celebrating, **Wednesday, December 31 at 8:00 pm, Franzee's, Ambridge.** Dine on a Buffet Dinner, Pork & Sauerkraut at midnight, plus enjoy our Open Bar. For \$75 reserve your spot now, call 724-266-3040. Tickets also available from Janet 724-513-4668 or Sue 724-622-3950.



Youth & Young Adult Discipleship

For all High School Students...

My name is 'Mr. Monty'. I am new to the parish, and among other things, I will be spending time with high schoolers! I'd like to invite all 9th through 12th graders to send me a text or an email so we can get together as a group and hang out on most Monday evenings. We call this group **'ALIVE'** and you should be a part of it! We will be spending time getting to know each other.



When we get together, we will read some passages of scripture, play some games, listen to music, and learn how to pray. **Text me @ 985-630-9742** or email me at youth@goodsam1.org to let us know that you are interested or are coming!

MASS SCHEDULE



GOOD SAMARITAN & ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

NEW YEAR'S EVE (VIGIL)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2014

4:00 pm	Vigil Mass	St. John the Baptist
5:30 pm	Vigil Mass	Good Samaritan

NEW YEAR'S DAY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2015

9:00 am	Mass	St. John the Baptist
10:30 am	Mass	Good Samaritan

Beaver County Theology On Tap

Wednesday, January 7, 2015 from 7-9 pm, Beaver Brewing Co., 1820 7th Ave., Beaver Falls. Join us for a testimony by Mark Joseph, Exec. Director, Christian Outreach, Franciscan University. For info call Mary Ann 724-846-7540 or at our website www.theologyontapbc.org.

Our Lady of The Sacred Heart High School News

Charger for a Day Experience: See yourself as an OLSH student and become an OLSH Charger for a Day! Spend a day with us for the traditional "shadow day" experience. Available for students in grades 8-10 considering OLSH. Visit www.olsh.org/admissions to register or call us. **OLSH Now Accepting Early Action Applications!** Accepting applications for all incoming 9th grade students for the 2015-16 school year. The Early Action Application period ends December 31, with Open Enrollment continuing through May. To complete your application, use our secure online form at www.olsh.org/admissions/apply. Space is limited. Contact Jessica Sellman, Dir. of Admissions, 412-262-3300 or jsellman@olsh.org.

+UPCOMING EVENTS+

Monday, December 29

8:00 pm 'ALIVE' High School Youth Group (GS) @church
No CCD - Grades 1-5

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Offices: Open 1/2 day until Noon

No (GS) Mary Bible Study

Thursday, January 1 **NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Offices Closed: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

No (SJ) Mary Bible Study

Friday, January 2

Offices Closed

No (GS) Mary Bible Study

3:00 pm (GS) Eucharistic Adoration

7:00/8:00 pm (GS) Rosary/Mass - Marian Prayer Group

Sunday, January 4

9:00 am (GS) CIC/Teen RCIA

9:30 - 11:00 am CCD Grades 6-8 (GS)

6:30 pm (GS) RCIA

