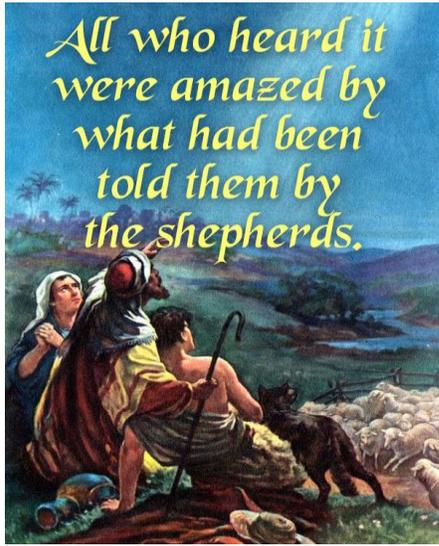


SOLEMNITY OF MARY
Vol. LIX No. 6 – Cycle A



DECEMBER 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE

1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Vigil Readings: *see Sunday*

4:00 PM – Fr. Jim English – Alvera Wilts

6:00 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

JANUARY 1 – NEW YEAR'S DAY

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

9:00 AM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

11:00 AM – Fr. Pat English – Tony Mackzum

12:30 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

JANUARY 2 – MONDAY

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

7:30 AM – Fr. Pat English – Jack and Kathleen Holmes

JANUARY 3 – TUESDAY

1 Jn 2:29 – 3:6; Jn 1:29-34

7:00 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

JANUARY 4 – WEDNESDAY

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

7:30 AM – Fr. Rudy English – Ed LeSaint

JANUARY 5 – THURSDAY

1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

7:00 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

JANUARY 6 – FRIDAY

1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11

7:30 AM – Fr. Pat English – Joan Fahey

JANUARY 7 – SATURDAY

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11

Vigil Readings: *see Sunday*

4:00 PM – Fr. Jim English – Intention of Aurte Hughes

6:00 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

JANUARY 8 – EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

9:00 AM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

11:00 AM – Fr. Pat English – Intention of the Parishioners

12:30 PM – Fr. Rudy Spanish

Ministry Schedule: January 7-8

The ministry schedule was not available at time of deadline for January 1 bulletin. Please check your e-mail for the schedule or check in sacristy before Mass to see if you are able to assist. Thank you.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION

Due to the early submission of the bulletin over the holidays, we cannot report the Sunday collections in a timely manner. We will catch up in early January.

Please remember St. Boniface in your year-end giving. Thank you.

Make it easy on yourself. *Use our direct debit system for your Sunday Stewardship offering.* To take advantage of this convenience, please call 541-1563.

FOUR GRAND CLUB:

Congratulations to Mary Schweitzer, Rita and Bill Becks, and Wanda McNeil. They are the week 17 winners and each won \$25.

Happy Birthday!

CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Viola Gilkey (03), Connie Nuxoll (04), William Hennies (04), Mark Langer (05), Beth Renick (05), Russell Strotman (07), Andrea Lalley (07), Gail

Kelly (08), Robert Paquette (08), Phyllis Williamson (08).

FROM THE DESK OF FR. RUDY:

My Sisters and Brothers in the Risen Lord,
First, I extend my blessings and good wishes to you and yours as we celebrate this new year 2023. As we know, it is traditional to begin a new calendar year with a renewed sense of purpose and optimism and perhaps consider new ways to change our lives for the better. For example, some people alter their diets, begin an exercise program, or even tackle a long-overdue project with a new sense of enthusiasm. To change one's life for the greater good is a positive and life-affirming goal, so whether the change is dramatic or "comes on tiptoe," as an American song so beautifully describes, we change to grow, to understand, and to love more deeply.

And so, it is the same, we hope, in our relationship with our Lord as we turn the page to embrace this new year. According to Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians (5:17), "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold all things have become new."

Today is also the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, the eighth day in the Octave of Christmas, in which we celebrate Mary as "the mother of life, the mother of hope, and the mother of peace," which Jesus brought to our lives by his birth, death, and resurrection (Pope John Paul II, 2002). This feast commemorates Mary's divine motherhood and the important role she played in the salvation of our souls as mother to Jesus Christ.

In Luke's Gospel today we see Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child resting in perfect beauty in a manger as shepherds "made haste" to experience this moment in time. Can you imagine the all-encompassing silent wonder of such a scene and how remarkable it was that God chose shepherds as the family's first visitors? Shepherds who had no social status, wealth, or refinement were the perfect representatives of Christ's mission here on earth because his life was given for all of us, not just those who were thought to matter. Like Mary in Luke 2:19, "who kept all these things and

reflect[ed] on them in her heart," so we, too, should ponder the enormity of God's gift in sending his son to us, and with this knowledge and a renewed sense of purpose, try to live more graciously and kindly in 2023.

"Few souls understand what God would accomplish in them if they were to abandon themselves unreservedly to Him and if they were to allow His grace to mold them accordingly." –Saint Ignatius of Loyola

Yours in Christ,
Father Rudy

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. BONIFACE in your Christmas and end of year giving. Like you, we have experienced the hardships this past year has caused, especially in our Sunday offerings. To keep our Parish open and viable, we rely on your generosity to maintain. Please search your heart and be as generous as you can. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2 and will be open again on Tuesday, January 3.

DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE MASS: Just a reminder to sign up for The Mass video series from Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire Ministries. Each Sunday from January 8 through February 12, Archbishop Schnurr will email you one episode of the series along with his own brief insights, which you can watch on your own time and at your own pace, to explore the wonder of the Mass. Each episode of the series is only about 25 minutes. Visit <https://catholicaoc.org/themass#study> to sign up for free.

May 2023 bring you much joy, good health, and peace. May God bless you with an abundance of His love.

