



# December 25, 2022

## The Nativity of Our Lord



### MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve**  
 5:30 PM Bill Pitt, Sr., Ernest Arsenault,  
 Nicholas Joseph, Deceased Mem-  
 bers of Kruk & Grzybek Families,

**Sunday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day**  
 9:30 AM Joan & Bruno Furlin

**Monday, December 26 ~ NO MASS**  
 9:00 AM

**Wednesday, December 28**  
 9:00 AM The People of the Parish

**Friday, December 30**  
 9:00 AM

**Saturday, December 31 ~ New Years Eve**  
 5:30 PM Stiano Family, Living/Deceased

**Sunday, January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
 9:30 AM OLA Parishioners, Living/Deceased

### MINISTERS OF THE WORD

**Saturday, December 31 ~ New Year's Eve**  
 5:30 PM Jen Zupetz

**Sunday, January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
 9:30 AM Frank Schmaus

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**Saturday, December 31 ~ New Year's Eve**  
 5:30 PM Kim Grzybek (a), Kathy Fayol (c)

**Sunday, January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
 9:30 AM Lisa Dyer (a), Ann Clouse (c)

### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SERVE

Alexandria Baker-Bonitz (*Navy*) Dylan Bonitz (*Navy*)  
 Sarah Bowen (*Navy*) Juan Gonzalez (*Navy*)  
 Kaila McGowan (*Marines*) Anthony Pagano (*Navy*)  
 Joseph Ruize (*Navy*) Carissa Tironi (*Army*)  
 Elliott Weidel (*Marines*)

### PRAY FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOMES

Regina Parthesius, Robert Wise

### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Bridget Auer, Joanne Bach, Rob Brosnan, Sr. Margaret Ellen  
 Burke, Peter Cavalier, Barbara Ceriale, Brian Cross,  
 Nicole Dawson, Marie DiMare, Tina DiMare, Mary Donnelly,  
 Agnes Ferrone, Anna Gallo, Joe Gallo, Lenore Giansanti,  
 Margaret Hale, Ninette Kondratowicz, Regina Lempka,  
 Jon Miller, Janet Murphy, Helen Ryan, Frances Salewski,  
 Sue Schmaus, Chris Strobl

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Helping Hands Food Pantry**  
*Every 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday by Appointment*  
*(9 AM start)*

**Saturday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve**  
 Mass & Children's Pageant at 5:30 PM

**Sunday, December 25 ~ Christmas Day**  
 Mass of Christmas at 9:30 AM

**Monday, December 26**  
**NO 9 AM Mass, Office is Closed**

**Tuesday, December 27**  
**NO Religious Education**

**Saturday, December 31 ~ New Year's Eve**  
 Mass at 5:30 PM

**Sunday, January 1 ~ The Solemnity of Mary**  
 New Year's Day ~ Mass at 9:30 AM

**Monday, January 2 ~ NO 9 AM Mass**

**Tuesday, January 3**  
 Religious Education Classes ~ 6:30-7:30 PM

**Sunday, January 8**  
 Youth Mass at 9:30 AM

**Monday, January 9**  
 Parish Council Meeting ~ 7:00 PM

**Tuesday, January 10**  
 Religious Education Classes ~ 6:30-7:30 PM

### Mass Attendance/Collection

Attending Mass December 18 & 19: **136**  
 Weekend's Collection: **\$4,024.00**

## Today's Scripture Readings

### CHRISTMAS

Isaiah 9:1-6  
 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14

### About the Liturgy: Christmas

The Gospel message today is one of mystery, of God becoming human and dwelling among us. It might be hard to imagine a depiction of the Nativity without the angels and shepherds, yet today we are challenged to do just that: to see beyond the story of shepherd and angels, and enter the mystery of the Incarnation. We have asked to behold God's saving power as God walks among us. In order to come to the core message of Christmas, we need to ask ourselves: what happens when the angel song fades away when the shepherds go back to their flocks and the kings return home? The true work of Christians then begins in heating the broken, rebuilding relationships, finding the lost, and making music in the heart. Indeed, as we make music, sing, pray, and celebrate the birth of our Savior, we also look deeply into what it means to allow Christ to be born again in us, and what it means to recognize and reflect the light of Christ living within us!

### Bells & Stars Wrap-Up

This year, thanks to the incredible generosity of our parishioners and with a donation from the Mama-kating Knights of Columbus, OLA was able to provide gifts for 72 children representing 24 families.

We are indebted to to all those who contributed, and especially to our Coordinator, AnnMarie Minerly, who works diligently each year to make sure our outreach to those in need, happens.



The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

Titus 2:11-14

## The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church

By the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

### II. OUR RESPONSE D. Food for the Journey

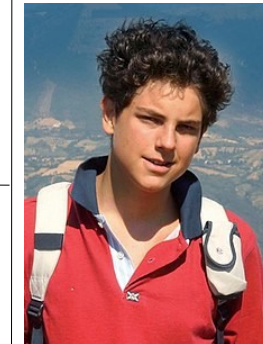


**51.** The lives of the saints and blessed show us the importance of the Eucharist on our journey as disciples of Jesus. Many testify to the power of the Eucharist in their lives. We see the fruits of Holy Communion in their lives of faith, hope, and charity. It was their intimate union with Jesus in Holy Communion and frequently their prayer before the Blessed Sacrament that nourished and strengthened them in their journey to heaven. They teach us that "growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of the moment of death, when it will be given to us as viaticum."

**52.** Blessed Carlo Acutis, a young Italian teenager, who died at the age of fifteen and was beatified in 2020, used to say, "The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." Blessed Carlo attained a sanctity at such a young age because the Eucharist was at the center of his life. He attended Mass daily and prayed each day before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration. He discovered the joy of friendship with Jesus and brought that joy, the joy of the Gospel, to others.

He was an apostle of the Eucharist through the internet. He said: "To always be united with Christ: This is my life's program."

**53.** Likewise, St. José Sanchez del Rio, a Mexican teenager who was martyred at the age of fourteen and canonized in 2016, was so filled with love of Christ and his Church that he was willing to give up his life rather than renounce Christ and his Kingship. While imprisoned, St. José Sanchez del Rio was able to receive the Blessed Sacrament when it was smuggled into his cell along with a basket of food. Strengthened by his viaticum, he was able to endure torture and to remain faithful to Christ when his captors told him he must renounce his faith or be executed. He replied to his persecutors: "My faith is not for sale." We encourage all, especially our young people, to learn about the lives of these holy teenagers. In the midst of many distractions in our life, Blessed Carlo and St. José Sanchez del Rio teach us to focus on what is more important than anything else.



BULLETIN  
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