



**THE PARISH OF SAINT MARY**  
*A Catholic Community Proclaiming the Greatness of God in our Time*  
One Phalanx Road Colts Neck, NJ 07722 Phone: 732-780-2666 Fax: 732-780-0394

DECEMBER 6, 2015



# Second SUNDAY of ADVENT

## **Mass Schedule: Eucharist**

Weekend Saturday 5:00 PM (Anticipatory)  
Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 noon  
& 5 PM (Nov. 1, 2015 - March 6, 2016  
except Dec. 27 & Jan. 3)

Weekday Monday through Friday 9:00 AM in  
Christ Chapel unless otherwise noted.  
Funerals in the Church.

**Parish Membership:** New Parishioners are always  
welcome! Registration is required.  
Contact Parish Office.

**The next New Parishioner Orientation is**  
10 January, 2016, 11:00 AM.

**Parish Office: 732-780-2666**  
[parishoffice@stmaryscoltsneck.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmaryscoltsneck.org)

**Bulletin Deadline:** Electronic format  
by 12 noon Thursday of the prior week (10days).  
Deadlines noted for Christmas submission  
[parishbulletin@stmaryscoltsneck.org](mailto:parishbulletin@stmaryscoltsneck.org)

## **Sacraments:**

### **Penance & Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:00 PM or by appointment.

### **Marriage**

Contact the Parish Office one year in advance for  
information and guidelines.

### **Baptism**

Contact the Parish Office in advance for information and  
required paperwork. Baptisms take place the second  
Sunday during 12:00 noon Mass and all other Sundays  
immediately following 12:00 noon Mass.

**Visit our Website: [www.stmaryscoltsneck.org](http://www.stmaryscoltsneck.org)**

Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton: Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C. M.

Pastor: Reverend Fr. Jeffrey E. Lee

**Deacons:**

Fred Sorrentino  
Vincent Rinaldi  
James V. Gallagher

**Pastor Emeritus:** Reverend Fr. William J. Bausch

**Trustees:**

Susan Coleman  
Bill LaMorte

The **Parish Office hours** are Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM  
and Sunday 9 AM - 12 NOON.

**Mass Intentions for the Week  
7 December - 13 December**

**Monday 7 December 9:00AM in the Chapel**

*Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*  
Joe Genuardi by Alyssa and Robert Sans  
Theresa Grabowski by John Grabowski  
Jerome O'Sullivan by Kim Viviani

**7:00 PM Vigil- IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - in the Church**

Frank Provenzano by Sergio DeGioia  
Gina Forte by Elia and Claude Gallelo

**Tuesday 8 December 9:00AM in the Church**

*IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY*  
Anthony Carnevale by Carnevale Family  
John Bonello by Cindy Newman

**Wednesday 9 December 9:00 AM in the Chapel**

*Wed of 2nd Week of Advent*  
Eileen Napoli by Jane and Neil Slattery  
Andy Cavaliere by O'Brien Family  
Antonio Crescente by Antonetta Crescente

**Thursday 10 December 9:00 AM in the Chapel**

*Thu of 2nd Week of Advent*  
Rose Gasperine by Ginny and Bill LaMorte  
Mario Velardi by the Baciagalupi Family

**Friday 11 December 9:00 AM in the Chapel**

*Fri of 2nd Week of Advent*  
Carol Eyres by her Family  
Anthony De Simone by JoAnn and Robert Buhler  
Judy Eggers by Francine and Nick Fugaro

**Saturday 12 December 5:00 PM in the Church**

Bishop Anthony Mestice by Gail and Bill Cargiulo  
Don Marshall by Susan, John, and Matt Murphy  
Bill O'Doherty by Freda O'Doherty

**Sunday 13 December in the Church**

*THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

**8:00 AM**

For the Living and Deceased Members and Benefactors  
Mary Drusdow by Joan, Maureen and Paul  
Remo and Marie Blafford by their daughters

**10:00 AM**

Albert Addler, Jr. by Dolores Addler  
Rev. Fr. Robert Dougherty by Janet Jurgielewicz  
Jack Higgins by Treasure and Al Herman

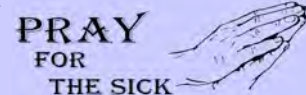
**12:00 PM**

Glenn Hauser by Jeanne and Joe Kolakowski  
Carmelo Boyle by Harold Boyle  
Rachel Loprete by Mafalda Caseglia

**5:00 PM**

Anthony Kristofaro by the Farrow Family  
Susan Duffy Schatzle by Martha Mary Guild  
Rosangela Zaccaria by the LaPorta Family

*Please pray for the following  
members of our parish family  
who are ill:*



- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Izilda Alberti      | Angela Liguori     |
| Jacqueline Andres   | Angela Kinlin      |
| Mary Barbagallo     | Mary Klein         |
| Bill Barnett        | John Marra         |
| John Beckley        | Arnold Marchesi    |
| Joan Blatz          | Leonidas Mavrookas |
| Jennie Borowski     | John McInerney     |
| Florence Brillante  | Marjorie Messler   |
| Natalie Chiaino     | Tom Nolan          |
| Anthony Citro       | Tere Nolan         |
| Jo Clement          | John Orrico        |
| Linda Damen         | Frances Renna      |
| Logan Dayton        | Lori Romer         |
| John DeStefano      | Lou Schmitt        |
| Ruth Fiedler        | Jim Shatzle        |
| Mary Fournier       | Linda Sobel        |
| Margaret Gesner     | Hayden Sprat       |
| Emily Gioacchini    | Philip Valenziano  |
| Tom Hudak           | Kevin Venancio     |
| Joseph Jurgielewicz | Kathleen Walsh     |
| Lori Lettieri       |                    |

*To add a family member to the sick list, please call or  
e-mail the Parish Office.*

**Thank you!**

732-780-2666 or [parishbulletin@stmaryscoltsneck.org](mailto:parishbulletin@stmaryscoltsneck.org)



**Pray for Our Military**

*Lance Corporal Scott MacConnell  
Lance Corporal Edward Zarzecki*



*Welcome to the newest members of our  
St. Mary's family who were  
Baptized recently:  
John Paul Soi & Hannah Koempel*

**Rest in Peace**

Please remember in your prayers, those who entered  
into their new and eternal life in Christ recently.

*Terry Deckert, brother of Susan Murphy*



Pastoral Associate for Worship & Evangelization  
Deacon Vincent Rinaldi      worship@stmaryscoltsneck.org

Social Concerns: Roger Zurro    Music Ministry: Lauren Walters    music@stmaryscoltsneck.org    Organist: Andrew Macirowski

### Musical Notations: Advent Reflections



Happy New Year! As we embark on another liturgical year, a few brief notes on music selections throughout Advent. The Mass setting, Missa Emmanuel by Richard Proulx takes the ancient chant of Veni veni Emmanuel (O Antiphons) and sets it beautifully for the sung Ordinary of the Mass (remember: the Ordinary are the parts of the Mass that pre-date our traditional concept of hymnody – The Kyrie or Lord Have Mercy through the Agnus Dei or Lamb of God).

A popular Advent/Christmas selection is Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming. Also known as "A Spotless Rose", the original tune dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The tune we're familiar with today appears in the Speyer Hymnal (printed in Germany in 1599) and the traditional harmonization was written by the German composer Michael Praetorius ten years later.

Later in Advent, on Gaudete Sunday, the choir will present an arrangement of "Creator of the Stars of Night" by none other than St. Mary's organist, Andrew Macirowski. The traditional chant takes on new life in Mr. Macirowski's fine presentation, which we're most excited to share with you.

Additionally, we have a new addition to the musical instrumentation family! To see what, well, you'll have to see for yourselves! Until next time... Pax Christi - Lauren Walters



### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24th**  
(All Masses will be celebrated in the Church)  
(No 9:00 am Mass this day)

3:00 pm, 4:30pm - Children's Choir  
6:00 pm & 10:00 pm  
9:30 pm Choral prelude & Adult Handbell Choir

**Christmas Day: Friday, December 25th**  
9:00 am & 11:00 am Mass      (No 5:00pm Mass)

### "Year of Mercy".

**"I have asked the Church in this Jubilee Year to rediscover the richness encompassed by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The experience of mercy, indeed, becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus himself taught us. Each time that one of the faithful personally performs one or more of these actions, he or she shall surely obtain the Jubilee Indulgence."**

*(Pope Francis' letter – on the Occasion of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy)*

### "Holy Doors of Mercy"

*In response to Pope's call, Bishop O'Connell designates the Parish of Saint Mary as one of 13 pilgrim churches in the Diocese.*

At The Parish of Saint Mary, the two outside center doors to the church have been designated for this purpose. They will be locked on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and will be re-opened at the 12noon Mass on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, Gaudete Sunday. The doors, as well as portions of the gathering space, will be decorated appropriately and include the necessary informational signage, as well as the Coat of Arms of Pope Francis and Bishop O'Connell.

*(more complete article in the November 29<sup>th</sup> bulletin available [www.stmaryscoltsneck.org](http://www.stmaryscoltsneck.org) )*

#### The Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

**"Clothe the naked"** – Many Catholic agencies and parishes have special Christmas Programs during Advent to assist families/ individuals in need of new clothing (and household items such as blankets, towels, etc.). Consider contributing to one of these agencies and/or parishes during this "Year of Mercy" and "Clothe the Naked."  
*Outreach opportunities at Saint Mary: Sponsor-a-Family & Tree of Love*







### Solemnity the Immaculate Conception

Monday, Dec. 7, 7pm Mass  
Vigil in the Church  
Tuesday, Dec. 8, 9am Mass  
in the Church

All are welcomed to the pilgrim walk along the prayer garden which leads to the Grotto.  
Please NO vehicles on the walk.



**"Pray... pray to the lord of the harvest to send workers into his fields!"**

Please consider joining us – your presence & your prayerfulness are important!"

Our Lady of Sorrows/St. Anthony,  
3816 East State Street Extension, Mercerville, N.J.  
**Solemn Vesper Service to pray for Vocations,  
Thurs., Dec.10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, Eucharistic adoration  
being held throughout the day beginning at 7:30 a.m.**

The Holy Hour will consist of scripture reading, reflection, meditation and closing the evening with Benediction.  
Contact Mercer County regional vocation director,  
Fr. Todd Carter [htoddcarter@gmail.com](mailto:htoddcarter@gmail.com) (609) 587-4372.

### Spiritual Adoption - Week 13

Pray for Unborn Human Life



*I am practicing my "breathing." When I inhale and exhale a salty fluid goes in and out of my lungs. I don't drown though because I get oxygen in my blood through the umbilical cord, not from the air. I can't wait until I take my very first breath of fresh air! Every day I get better at using my hands and lately I like to play with my fists!*

*Thank you for your prayers!*



**Please keep praying.**



Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living. Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of your mercy.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

— USCCB 2015-16 Respect Life Program Prayer Card

### Advent Offerings

### Penance and Reconciliation Service 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014 at 3 pm & 6:30 pm

Fifteen (15) priest confessors will be available to you for your convenience to reduce wait times.

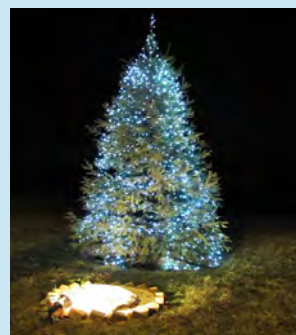
Please take some time out prior to attending the Penance and Reconciliation Service to *examine your conscious.*



Please visit our website for a short video on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

[www.stmaryscoltsneck.org](http://www.stmaryscoltsneck.org)

### Light Up A Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony & Reception Saturday, December 12, 2015 following the 5 pm Mass



All are invited to the joyous tree lighting ceremony outside at the Memory Tree. Join us for music by our choir and a reception, with delicious refreshments in the Gathering Space.

### Advent Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday: December 13, 2015  
8:30AM to 1:30PM  
Madonna Hall**



Join us for a great community event featuring hospitality, great food, crafts.

*Purchase tickets electronically on the parish website via a secure Paypal account. Tickets are also available for purchase at the parish office.*

**Advance Tickets: \$5.00**, children 5 & under free.

*Advance Sales until Thursday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015*

**Tickets at the door: \$10.00 each.**

## Worship Ministry Schedule: December 12 - December 13

	Altar Server	EMs of Holy Communion	Reader 1	Reader 2	Greeter	Cantor	Usher
<b>Saturday, 5:00 PM</b> (Church)	Mark Hines William Hines	Emily Santangelo - Center Cup Paul Fournier - Organ Host Monty Matriciani - Center Host Susan Baker - Tabernacle Host Rosemarie Estephan - Organ Cup Dolores Addler - Tabernacle Cup	Phil Limeri	Charles Young	Margaret Caponegro <b>NOT FILLED</b>	Anne Baker	Jack Davis Jim Davis John Grabowski Bob Lind Ralph Martucci Frank Sikorskas
<b>Sunday, 8:00 AM</b> (Church)	Lindsey Bertone <b>NOT FILLED</b>	Michael Stivala - Center Cup Carol Rodeck - Organ Host Maureen Staub - Center Host Jeff Wilk - Tabernacle Host Joseph Flanagan - Organ Cup Michael Staub - Tabernacle Cup	Mary Ellen Griffin	Kathy Maher	Anne Baker <b>NOT FILLED</b>	Kathi Blinn	George Illmensee James Pifer George Watts Joe Young
<b>Sunday, 10:00 AM</b> (Church)	Kathryn Ortenzio Valeska Yaninas	Heide Lohn - Center Cup Maureen Geiger - Organ Host Winifred O'Doherty - Center Host Sue Fitzpatrick - Tabernacle Host Gregory Calderaro - Organ Cup Joseph Merante - Tabernacle Cup	Steve Rumsby	Kevin Swan	Mary DeSalvatore  Muriel Rogers	Kathy Woolston	Vince Cerulo Eleanor Crawford Leigh Gavinnelli William Spence Joe Walsh Jack Zumba
<b>Sunday, 12:00 PM</b> (Church)	Allen Montefusco Christopher Montefusco	Anna May Schellenberger - Center Cup Patricia Balbo - Organ Host Diane Antico - Center Host Patricia Gesner - Tabernacle Host Lee Gesner - Organ Cup Marycatherine Noble - Tabernacle Cup	Richard Gerbino	John McCrae	Donna Murphy Tina Repetto	Kristen Kohm	John Barr James Dolan Lee Gesner Joe Mancino Joseph Rinaldo William Starce
<b>Sunday, 5:00 PM</b> (Confirmation Prep Sunday Evening)	Anthony Buzzetta Daniel Cowles	Cathy Limeri - Center Cup Phil Limeri - Center Cup Maria Thompson - Organ Host Susan Murphy - Center Host Margaret Hernandez - Tabernacle Host Martha Cowles - Organ Cup Linda Dickinson-Pancila - Tabernacle Cup	Dering Sprague	Annette Raynor	Confirmation Class	Diane Dragone	James Austin Ken Camarco Christopher Pancila

### Worship Ministry Christmas Mass Sign-Ups are done online through MSP Scheduler

\*Reminder: please head-in park on the grass for well attended events & Masses \*

The 2015 Mass Book is now FULL and thus closed.

### Thank You

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



“And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value...” (Philippians 1:9-10)

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.

**Sanctuary Lamp: In Memory of donations** are still available for weeks in January 2016



#### Lifelong Catechesis

Week of 7 December - 13 December

- Monday: Is 35: 1-10; Lk 5: 17-26
- Tuesday: Gn 3: 9-15, 20; Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12; Lk 1: 26-38
- Wednesday: Is 40: 25-31; Mt 11: 28-30
- Thursday: Is 41: 13-20; Mt 11: 11-15
- Friday: Is 48: 17-19; Mt 11: 16-19



#### 13 December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zep 3: 14-18a; Is 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6; Lk 3: 10-18

- Question for Children:** Why is Christmas such a time of happiness for people?
- Question for Youth:** God speaks to you every day; Isaiah tells us our ears and eyes will be opened in Christ to hear God's voice. What do you hear God saying to you?
- Question for Adults:** What is there in this promise from the Prophet Isaiah that gives you hope? How have you seen this promise fulfilled in Christ?

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# Quo vadis...

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My Dear Parishioners: Today we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent. Last Sunday's gospel directed our attention to the end times and gave us a glimpse of those times, both in terms of the calamities that will befall those who are not ready as well as the promise of safety and security for those who are vigilant. This Sunday, both the gospel and first reading give us a glimpse of the fullness of the end days. Our natural tendency is to want to get to the fullness and bypass the hard work of daily dying to self that is required to reach the glory and joy that is promised. Let's be honest: it's not just the busyness of Christmas preparations now in full December fury that distract us from our ongoing work of repentance. Every day of the year, we tend to be distracted by mountains of work, paths of indecision, valleys of doubt and fear. This would be a good Sunday in Advent to take some special time to reflect on God's forgiveness and mercy and how it is God who gives sure direction to our lives and will eventually bring us home to eternal glory if we are faithful partners in the Gospel. Our Advent watchfulness and waiting includes taking time to rest in the security of God's nearness.

Don't forget to make time for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) before Christmas. Our Advent Parish Penance and Reconciliation Service is Sunday, 6 December 2015 at 3:00pm & 6:30pm. I believe that there will be 15 or so priests available for individual confession. What an awesome sacrament this is for us as we prepare to welcome Christ into our life this Christmas. This week, the universal church observes the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation. This Solemnity is the patronal observance of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States of America. Please consult the bulletin for more details. This coming week the Universal Church observes December 12<sup>th</sup> as the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas. It

is one of the rare images depicting the Blessed Virgin Mary as a pregnant woman anticipating the birth of her child. What a beautiful image for all of us to consider during this joyful season of preparation.

Next weekend, we will have the annual Light Up a Memory Mass followed by the lighting of the Tree on our parish grounds, and The Annual Pancake Breakfast. Please purchase your tickets online today. Once the website link is shut down Thursday, 10 December, tickets will not be available until the morning of the event at the door as we are able to accommodate those wishing to participate. Please anticipate your needs and plan in advance. We will be opening the Holy Door at the west elevation of our parish church as it has been designated by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Bishop of Trenton. There are a dozen or so parish church buildings that have been designated throughout our Diocese of Trenton for the faithful to visit throughout this Jubilee Year of Mercy. We have been asked to host a prayer event in honor of the family at some point in 2016. More details to follow.

Kudos to all of our parishioners for your faith-filled and generous response to the Advent Tree of Love. All of the 800 ornaments have been taken in order to fill the needs that have been shared with us. I know that there are a number who are also involved with the Sponsor a Family program through our parish. Thank you for sharing with the poor and needy in our midst. May God continue to bless you and your family. As we continue our journey through Advent to the Christmas Season, I ask that you have greater patience when driving into or departing our parking lot. Be mindful that there are 97 parking spaces underneath certain sections of grass. Only in 07722! Our staff usually park there to show where they are located. Have a great week. Let us remember one another in prayer.

Peace! Father Jeff



Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation & Life Long Learning

Michele McCue faithformation@stmaryscoltsneck.org

Coordinator of Adolescent Catechesis and Ministry: Matthew Butler

youthministry@stmaryscoltsneck.org



Little Church

Children post-diaper through school age are welcome during the 10AM Mass.

Register on website in 2015-2016 Registration

Help! Liturgy of the Word Dismissal Needs Assistance!

LWD needs catechists to run sessions for our children ages 4-12!



LWD catechists leave with the children after the opening prayer and return during the preparation rite. Each catechist receives a book and an outline of the session, which usually lasts 15-20 minutes. The children hear the Word of God on their own level. It is a fairly easy ministry, but an extremely important one for the children of the parish.

Please contact Michele McCue to help. See above for contact information

Currently, the greatest need is during the 12 Noon Mass

Jesus, Mommy and Me \* 9:45-11:30AM

Join us Monday Dec. 7 & 21 in Room 11.

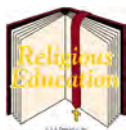
Faith-filled playgroup for children birth to three years.

Pre-registration is not necessary attend whenever you wish.

Contact St. Mary's volunteer, Elana Eng at Elanaeng@gmail.com

Religious Education On-Line Program Intergenerational Schedule 2015

Sun, Dec. 13: All (Advent) Duration of Pancake Breakfast in theater



Sun, Jan. 10: 2nd Grade (Bapt PPP) 1:00-2:30 pm

Save the Date- Parish Mission Coming April 9-12!

Yes, it seems far away, but why not put this exciting event on your 2016 calendar now! International Catholic speaker, author, and radio host, John Leonetti, will be here for all Masses that weekend as well as present a Parish Mission from 7-8 PM the evenings of the April 10th - 12th.

More information to follow. www.jonleonetti.com

Please, mark your calendar!

Why not join SMCN youth at our first Youth Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, December 15th from 7 pm to 8 pm

What to expect: 1) one fun meeting a month, 2) discussion & topic each meeting, 3) bring snacks to share, 4) social time

DECEMBER MEETING: 1) Christmas theme, 2) pizza 3) discussion of upcoming youth activities and service projects 4) Gift Collection—bring a new package of socks, underwear or t-shirts (adult/child) to be donated to those in need.

Please RSVP: Matt, youthministry@stmaryscoltsneck.org See you then!

Fitness Activities

Matthew Butler, Coordinator of Adolescent Catechesis and Ministry for The Parish of Saint Mary, is putting strengthening of the body into action. The following are various offerings coordinated for both the youth & families.

- Family Fitness Night - 7 pm on Mondays in Parish Hall. Good Music, Kettle Bell, Body Weight, Band work, and a log press. I hope to see you on Monday for a great workout!!!
Brazilian Jiu-jitsu class - Sundays through December 13th, 1:30 pm -2:30 pm.

To register for Fitness offerings email Matt Butler at youthministry@stmaryscoltsneck.org

Help again! The RCIA needs you!



We are delighted to announce that there are 7 children and 2 adults in the process of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) in our parish!

However, we need your help!

- We need catechists to work with the children during the 10 AM Mass in January.
We need catechists to work with the adults during this time as well!

It need not be a weekly commitment- team members could be scheduled once or twice a month.

Please contact Michele McCue for more information. See above for contact information

**Sharing Our Treasure  
21/22 November**

**Weekly Sacrificial Stewardship Offering \$15,338**

Envelope Contributions	\$ 11,569
Electronic/Online Contributions	\$ 2,274
Loose Contributions	\$ 1,495

Average Contribution per Household  
this week \$30.42  
# of Contributing Households 455  
# of Registered Parishioner Households 1,930

**Sharing Our Treasure  
28/ 29 November**

**Weekly Sacrificial Stewardship Offering \$13,748**

Envelope Contributions	\$ 10,973
Electronic/Online Contributions	\$ 1,724
Loose Contributions	\$ 1,051

Average Contribution per Household  
this week \$32.31  
# of Contributing Households 393  
# of Registered Parishioner Households 1,930

Included in this week’s offertory will be the collection for Support of Religious Retirement.

**THANK YOU for the Sacrificial Stewardship Offerings as we support the ministries, programs and facilities of our parish. May God Bless you for the sacrifices that you make.**



*Please remember  
The Parish of Saint Mary  
in your Will and Estate planning.*

**May we may resist the lure of holiday advertising and instead concentrate on the message of simplicity and trust that is found in the Christmas manger scene.**

**Thank You  
to Matt Butler & Saint Mary’s Youth Group.**

*Thank you so much for your generous donation to “No stomach for Cancer.” It’s so refreshing to see a group of young adults give to a great cause! Thanks to your help we raised \$7,000! Sincerely Erin & Vito*

**Donated \$150 from the Women’s self Defense Clinic held at the Parish of Saint Mary**



*“The visit of our Holy Father, Pope Francis was truly a grace filled time to reflect upon the challenges and realities of life in this present age. In September, we (DoT priests) gathered with Bishop O’Connell at our convocation and discussed the same concern as we look to the future. How will we meet the challenges of the quickly changing demographics and trends that are occurring in our diocese and their impact upon life of the Church in Burlington, Monmouth, Mercer and Ocean Counties? The answer to this question can be formulated through planning.”*

Rev. Msgr. Leonard Troiano, Episcopal Vicar

On the first weekend on Advent, Bishop O’Connell announced that all 107 parishes in the Diocese of Trenton will take part in a self-evaluation, visioning and planning initiative called **“Faith in Our Future.”**

Each parish in the diocese has selected a Planning Core Team. The Core Team is made up of the pastor and four parish leaders. **Thank you** to the following Saint Mary Parish leaders who have agreed to serve on the Core Team: Vincent Vita (Team Chair), Sue Coleman (Trustee), Rosemarie Farrow (Team Secretary), and Jim Schatzle. Linda Dickinson-Pancila will serve as alternate pastoral presence.

**The Core Team has six primary roles which include:**

- To lead the Parish through the planning process
- To be responsible for the parish’s evaluation of itself according to the criteria established by the diocese
- To be accountable for the parish summary report and verification of data
- To participate in a cohort planning and in suggesting a model or models for the most effective was parishes can work together
- To respond to the Diocesan Planning Commission’s Preliminary Recommendations for their cohort
- To ensure support of the Diocesan Planning Commission’s decision for their parish and cohort

*For all in our Diocese, may we be ready messengers of the Lord, always seeking to prepare a way for Him.*

**ALERT.** Ending slavery is everyone’s work. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking (USCSAHT) is a collaborative, faith-based network that offers educational resources, information about access to survivors’ services, & engages in advocacy in an effort to eradicate modern-day slavery.

Visit the web site:  
**sistersagainsttrafficking.org**





Pastoral Coordinator for Community Building and Communications:

Linda Dickinson-Pancila communitybuilding@stmaryscoltsneck.org

### Retraction/ Correction:

In my recent Facilities Report on page 8 of the Annual Report of Stewardship, I erroneously wrote that we (The Parish of Saint Mary) were "...lucky to have been able to sponsor Boy Scouts, Nick Peckyno and Tommy Zita, who are attempting to earn their Eagle Scout status ..."

I would like to correct my use of the word "sponsor." We did not provide funding of any kind to these projects and in fact, all fundraising efforts to cover the expense of the costly and labor-intensive projects were done solely by these young men. Congratulations on a job well done, thank you on behalf of the Parish Community and good luck in attaining your prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

*Joe Noble - Facilities Coordinator*

HE WILL REPLACE YOUR CONFUSION WITH CLARITY AND WISDOM, HE WILL REPLACE YOUR ANXIETY WITH PEACE, AND HE WILL FILL YOU WITH GRATITUDE AND JOY EVEN IN THE MIDST OF GREAT DIFFICULTY.

Quote taken from *Rediscover Jesus* Matthew Kelly's NEW Book

## Thanksgivings Basket Thank you!!

Because of your stewardship and support, we provided 135 baskets + onions + potatoes + turkeys to charities throughout Monmouth County for Thanksgiving. This was a combination of canned goods and money for turkeys donated by parishioners, fresh vegetables donated by parishioner Joe Pellicone, and supplement from Social Concerns funds to ensure we met our commitments to the charities. God Bless!

Over 30 young parishioners and parents helped sort and pack food bags for the drive.

*Thanksgiving Basket Committee*

**Sunday 5 PM Mass.**

**This Mass will continue until - March 6, 2016  
except for Dec. 27 & Jan. 3**

### The Martha Mary Guild welcomes:



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties

Wed., **Dec. 9**, the Christmas meeting at **7:30pm**, in Madonna Hall is a heartwarming program to be presented by **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth & Middlesex Counties** (BBBSMMC). Marybeth Bull, Director of Development for BBBSMMC, presenter, will include a video entitled "The Big Impact". There will also be the testimonial of a Big Sister and Little Sister. (Bring your tissues!)

*There will be a Christmas box for interested attendees to donate \$20 - \$25 gift cards to restaurants, clothing stores, movie theaters, craft shops, etc. for BBBSMMC.*

This is in addition to the Guild's annual Christmas collection of baby clothes (0-18 months), towels, crib sheets (no blankets) and diapers (up to size 4 – no size 2 needed) for Birthright of Red Bank. Embracing the Christmas spirit of charitable giving, members may choose to donate to both or either.

*Join us in the Spiritual Center Chapel at 7 p.m. for the rosary, followed by delicious holiday desserts and this wonderful Christmas program in Madonna Hall.*



**Join with other singles for social activities.**

Meet new people, build community & plan fun filled activities.

**ALL welcomed: widowed, divorced, never married.**

**Upcoming dates:**

- \* **Dec 11 - Christmas Party and Movie 7 - 9 pm** at the parish in Madonna Hall
- \* **Dec 13 - Advent Pancake Breakfast 10:30 am**

Contact Kim: kimleshick@yahoo.com 732-618-7983

## CHRISTMAS SPONSOR-A-FAMILY

There is still time to help those in need this Christmas.  
Purchase gifts & food items for families.

If you, your family, your neighbors, coworkers, or friends would like to sponsor a family in need this holiday season, please contact:

*Sue infoman46@aol.com*  
*Kathy wamaher2@aol.com*

**Because of the Christmas holidays, the bulletin submission deadlines move to the following:**

Bulletin	New Submission Date
12/27/2015	Friday 12/18/2015
1/3/2016	Wednesday 12/23/2015

### Prayer Shawl Ministry



We had a lovely meeting yesterday and gave 28 caps, 18 scarves and 5 scarf and cap sets to Hour Children, which is a group that helps the children of incarcerated parents.

We continue to work on scarves. We will need about 25 for New Destinies4Kids. Please bring your scarves to Room 11 and put them in the closet on top of our tubs of yarn by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.

**No December Meeting** due to such a hectic month. We will meet in January on the **fourth** Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup>. We have many prayer shawls, so please focus on scarves, hats, baby caps and lap robes.

Thank you for all you have done for the Ministry. We have given much to community this year and I know it is appreciated.

*Have a blessed Christmas. - Kathy A*

## In the Community:



315 S. Warren Avenue  
Malvern, PA 19355

*The nation's oldest and largest Catholic retreat house, serving more than 20,000 people each year.*

### Spirit Power Day of Reflection

Powerful one-day retreat on the Holy Day of **Tues., Dec. 8, 9am-3pm**. Includes inspirational teaching and preaching, joyous music, healing prayer, & closing Mass. It will be directed by the team of Marty Rotella, Anna Iatesta, & Anne McGlone with Fr. Stephen DeLacy celebrating Mass.

### Star of Bethlehem

#### Young Adults Evening of Reflection (ages 20-35)

Discover the astronomic principles surrounding the Star of Bethlehem story, **Wed., Dec. 9, 7- 9pm** & will conclude with wine and cheese. Retreatants will watch Frederick Larson's film *The Star of Bethlehem* & a Q&A with Dr. Rocco Martino. This retreat is free, thanks to the donation from the Rocco & Barbara Martino Speakers Series.

*To register, please visit [malvernretreat.com/register](http://malvernretreat.com/register) or call 610-644-0400 for more information.*

## COLLECTIBLE SHOW

December 12  
9am—3pm Parish Hall  
cards, coins and stamps

### Men's Saturday Morning December 12

Plan to begin the weekend with the spiritual lift of prayer, reflection and thoughtful discussion, followed by camaraderie and hospitality.



All men are invited to attend 7:15 to 8:30am in the Chapel.

Upper Room Spiritual Center  
e-mail: [office@theupper-room.org](mailto:office@theupper-room.org)  
[www.theupper-room.org](http://www.theupper-room.org)



### Advent Silence and Solitude Day

Presenter: Maureen Christensen, RSM  
Date: Thur., Dec. 10, 2015, 9:30am-2:00pm  
Fee: \$25-\$40 (sliding scale)

### Advent Taize Prayer

Presenters: Faithful Love Music Group  
Date: Monday, Dec. 14, 2015, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Fee: Free Will Offering

*The winter months are a **critical need** time for blood donation.*



**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 AM to 2 PM**  
at

**The Parish of Saint Mary, in the parish hall**

- ⇒ To schedule an appointment to donate blood, you can go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)
- ⇒ call 1-800-733-2767
- ⇒ email [bbblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:bbblooddrive@gmail.com).

Diocese of Trenton  
Catholic Charismatic Renewal  
Women's Conference  
*Return to the Father*  
Kicking off the JUBILEE  
*Year of Mercy*

**Holy Mass, Adoration & Healing Prayer**  
**SATURDAY December 12, 2015 8:00 am – 4:00 pm**  
**St. Mary, Mother of God Church Middletown, NJ**