



**PARISH  
INFORMATION**

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturdays: Msgr. Ryan Hall - 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
Also by appointment

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

The Church provides certain times and preparation for weddings. Please contact the Rectory at least six months in advance to begin the process.

**REGISTRATION**

Every family and person within the parish is encouraged to register with the Parish.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. A required Baptism preparation meeting for parents meets on the first Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. Godparents are welcome. Please register in advance for the class and Baptism. Godparent Pre-Requisites: Godparents must be practicing Catholics in good standing, 16 years of age or older, Baptized and Confirmed Catholic.

**ON BECOMING A CATHOLIC**

Those seeking information about the Catholic Faith are invited to contact Fr. Valentine at the Rectory at (516) 621-2222.

**CARE OF THE SICK**

Please notify the Rectory and Human Concerns Ministries if there is anyone seriously ill so that we can provide spiritual care.

**PLEASE PRAY  FOR THE SICK**

Kathleen Capuano  
Rebekah Cole  
Kevin Cronin  
Paul Cronin  
Joseph V. Danbusky  
John Damiano  
Jessica Dawson  
Linda De Stio  
John Paul DiNonno  
Kieran Doran  
James Dougherty  
Eric DuBois  
Members of Ferreira  
Family  
Noel Glen  
Stephen Grabher  
Roberta Greco

Christine Kenney  
Frank Krukowski  
John LaPreziosa  
Janet Levchuck  
Richard Malon  
Marilyn Manning  
Stuey Manzione  
Justin Paradine  
Diana Pearce  
Karen Petrik  
Marion Prendergast  
Gregory Racaniello  
Jaxon Rivera  
Clotida Vecchione  
Ronald Webb  
Anne Wright  
Mary Wybaillie



*Please keep our recent departed and their families in your prayers*

**Richard G. Langone**



**MASS INTENTIONS  
FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, December 24: 4th Sunday in Advent,**

- 7:30 a.m. Michael A. Friend  
by Elsie Calderone
- 9:00 a.m. Dolores O'Hara  
by Richard O'Hara
- 11:00 a.m. Giuseppina & Francesco Aversa  
by The Family
- 12:30 p.m. People of the Parish

**Monday, December 25: *The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas***

- 7:30 a.m. Christmas Memorial
- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Memorial
- 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish
- 12:30 p.m. Christmas Memorial

**Tuesday, December 26: *St. Stephen, The First Martyr***

- 9:00 a.m. Patricia Daley  
by Your Loving Familnt

**Wednesday, December 27: *St. John, Apostle and Evangelist***

- 9:00 a.m. Henry Krukowski  
by Anne Krukowski

**Thursday, December 28: *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs***

- 9:00 a.m. Patricia Doran - 1st Anniversary  
by Sarah Fleming

**Friday, December 29: *Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord***

- 9:00 a.m. Faust & Leona Falconi, Barbara Summers  
by Matt and Karen Doherty

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

- 5:00 p.m. Virginia DiNonno  
by Her Family  
Stella Grochowski  
by Granddaughter & Family

**Sunday, December 31: *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

- 7:30 a.m. People of the Parish
- 9:00 a.m. Michael A. Friend  
by Barbara Nakelski
- 11:00 a.m. Francis Califano - 4th Anniversary  
by His Family  
Jeffrey M. Kalenka  
by Wife, Phyllisann  
Albertina Oppedisano  
by Carmela Caputo  
Philip Tiberion Jr. -5th Anniversary  
in Heaven  
by His Loving Family
- 12:30 p.m. Joseph and Ann Gunning  
by Their Children

**READINGS FOR SUNDAY**  
**December 24, 2023**  
*4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve*

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
 Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27  
 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

**FOCUS:** God is the font of all blessings and salvation.

Today's readings make evident the goodness of the Lord, and that he is the source of all blessings. The Lord promises to build a house for David – one that will last forever. And from the lineage of David comes Jesus, God himself, to dwell among us. He is our shelter, our bodies are his temple, and his kingdom endures forever. We will soon celebrate the feast of his Incarnation and Nativity, while awaiting still, with joyful hope, the time when he will come again.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD:** In the first reading, David ruminates on building a house for the Lord. However, the Lord reminds David how he has favored him and states that it is God who will build a house for David. In the second reading, Paul gives glory to Christ, acknowledging the prophets and wisdom through the ages that have all participated in this revelation. In the Gospel, the angel Gabriel announces that Mary will conceive a son – the Son of God – and Mary accepts the honor, saying, may it be done to me according to your word.

Readings for next week, Sunday December 31, 2023

- 1) Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
- 2) Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
- 3) Luke 2:22-40 or Luke 2:22, 39-40

*From Liturgical Commission Publishing, Lansing, MI*

**✠ Celebrants for the Weekend of ✠**  
**December 30/31, 2023**

|                       | <b>Celebrants*</b> | <b>Lector</b>                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Saturday<br>5:00 p.m. | Fr. Evans          | Phyllisann Kalenka - L                 |
| Sunday<br>7:30 a.m.   | Fr. Evans          | Mary Doran - L                         |
| 9:00 a.m.             | Fr. Evans          | Phil Kirk- L<br>Lorraine Czarniak - EM |
| 11:00 a.m.            | Fr. Lauder         | Lora Lofaro - L                        |
| 12:30 p.m.            | Visiting Priest    | <b>Volunteer's Needed</b>              |

\* Subject to last minute changes.

**FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP**  
**AS A WAY OF LIFE**

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING**

This Christmas, be at service to those in need. Invite a lonely friend or family member over for Christmas dinner. Perhaps, also, after Christmas dinner you can assist family and friends in cleaning up.

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Sunday Offering ~ December 17     | \$6,116.00* |
| Same Week Last Year               | \$6,385.00* |
| Mass Attendance for ~ December 17 | 650         |
| Same Week Last Year               | 505         |

***\*Does not include Faith Direct***

**2023 CATHOLIC MINSTRIES APPEAL**

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| St. Mary's Parish Assessed Goal | <b>\$66,3000.00</b> |
| Amount Raised to Date           | <b>\$21,370.00</b>  |
| Number of Gifts and/or Pledges  | <b>72</b>           |
| Percentage of Goal              | <b>32.23%</b>       |



January and February mass intentions are still available if you would like to have a mass said for a loved one.

Please call the rectory office at (516) 621-2222.

***The Rectory will be closed***  
***Monday, December 25th***  
***Tuesday, December 26th***  
***and***  
***Monday, January 1st***



Just a reminder all St. Mary's Masses are on Youtube link

<https://tinyurl.com/St-Marys-Roslyn>

# The Pastor's Page

Dear Friends:

Labor was the first price,  
the original purchase-  
money paid for all things.  
It was not by gold or by  
silver, but by labor, that  
all wealth of the world  
was originally purchased.

So wrote the Scottish economist Adam Smith. I suspect, of course, that he was referring to work that typically supports a livelihood: building, production, useful occupation, etc. It occurs to me, though, that the kind of labor that comes first, both in the order of time and of nobility, is that by which our mothers gave us life. No wonder we are told “no one could ever return to mothers the equivalent of what he gets,” that is, one’s very existence (Aristotle). Could it be that the unique bond between mother and child comes into being through the primal act that combines profound suffering and indescribable joy? Those who are my age and older will probably remember the debates we used to have over the Blessed Mother and whether she had to endure the pains of childbirth. There is no definitive teaching—yet—on the subject, but it does make for, pardon the expression, fruitful reflection on Mary, the Mother of God and the “fairest of our race.” Those who favor the view that the Blessed Mother experienced the throes of childbirth find in it a natural connection that she has with all women. Those who think she did not, prefer to stress the efficacy of God’s grace, which preserved Our Lady free from original sin.

Today’s artwork is Caravaggio’s sublime “Nativity with St. Lawrence and St. Francis” of 1609. (It was commissioned by a community of Franciscans, and placed in a house named for St. Lawrence.) Art critic Kelly Bogdanov tells us that when this (now lost) painting was completed, it greatly upset the public and his fellow artists. Late Medieval and early Renaissance artists continued the “idealist”

tradition, whereby the Blessed Mother remained in perfect serenity during and after Jesus’ birth. Caravaggio’s masterpiece, by contrast, depicts Mary as having been through an ordeal. (Personally, I don’t see this, but apparently the public did, and their reaction to the painting was controversial because the view of the Virgin was out of keeping with tradition.) Moreover, as with all of his works, Caravaggio is the master of chiaroscuro: the stark contrast between light and shadow. One might think, given the joyous event in question, that light would predominate in this image, but according to Bogdanov, the artist here stresses shadow. (If you remember the “mandorla” [almond] image that surrounds Jesus and Mary from some of our previous paintings—particularly the icons—darkness is precisely where one finds the divine presence.) Finally, notice the position of the position of the blond (!) shepherd—or is he a young Joseph?—with his back toward the spectator. This is an invitation to you and me to step into the scene and contemplate the Christ Child kneeling right next to the Blessed Mother.



The issue of Mary’s pain at childbirth is taken up by St. Thomas Aquinas (ST, p. III, q. 35 art. 6), who believes, based on Genesis 3:16, that such pain was the consequence of our first parents’ original sin. He argues, compellingly, that given her freedom from sin, not to mention her virginal state, Mary did not suffer this particular agony. Nevertheless, we also know (Lk. 2:35) that she would not be spared the torment of witnessing her son’s passion and death on the cross, in which case she becomes relatable to all mothers who suffer for their children. Labor brings with it untold blessings; let us be grateful for them. Merry Christmas!

Faithfully,

*Fr. Valentine*  
Fr. Valentine



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2023

To the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre:

Merry Christmas to you and your families!

In recent years at Christmas, I have meditated on the relationship between the Nativity of the Prince of Peace and the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

I have been especially inspired by Pope Francis' analysis of the Parable of the Good Samaritan in the second chapter of his 2020 encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*. It is powerful and provocative, and I would recommend it for your mental prayer.

The short phrase in the Christmas Gospel narrative in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke reads: "She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

"No room for them in the inn." No Good Samaritan stepped up to help the Holy Family. They were ignored and treated perfunctorily and impatiently. Some passed them by. Some pretended not to notice their plight.

Remember too that in the Parable of the Good Samaritan an "inn" is also mentioned. Luke 10 reads: "But a Good Samaritan while traveling came near him, and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn and took care of him."

The inn that the Holy Family approaches on the way to Bethlehem is a sign of rejection and indifference.

The inn in the Parable of the Good Samaritan is a sign of the Good Samaritan's compassion and commitment to go the extra mile and to make sure that the wounded man is taken care of until he is completely healed.

Contemporary literary criticism might very well emphasize that the use of "inn" by the Gospel writer in both the Nativity in Luke 2 and the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 is not by accident.



In a sense, the phrase “there was no room at the inn” in the Nativity foreshadows and connects with the phrase in the Parable of the Good Samaritan describing the callous indifference of both the priest and the Levite toward the wounded man on the side of the road: “[H]e passed by on the other side.”

As Pope Francis says in *Fratelli Tutti*: “Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders.”<sup>1</sup>

Our Lady, St. Joseph and the unborn Christ Child experienced the reality of people who decided to be indifferent bystanders.

The Christmas Gospel narrative from Luke 2 poses a question which is posed again later in the Parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.

Will we be Good Samaritans?

Or will we be indifferent bystanders?

As the Holy Father reminds us, we make that choice every day.

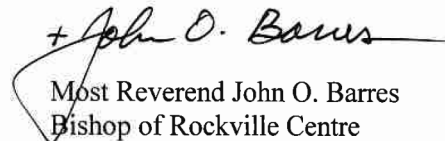
May our prayer, silent contemplation and creative family catechesis of the Nativity scene help us to be instruments of a Nativity Mystery. May the Good Samaritan Gospel revolution of humility, charity, mercy, tenderness and peace unite us in solidarity with the sick, the poor and the suffering, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and all war-ravaged areas of the world.

May our commitment to “holiness and mission” bless our contemplative Synodal listening and our Eucharistic Revival and Evangelization.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families!

May the Light and Love of the Christ Child animate and guide our global Catholic Missionary Spirit on this Christmas night and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
+ John O. Barres  
Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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<sup>1</sup> Francis, encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, October 4, 2020: AAS 112 (11) 969-1074, at no. 70.

# St Mary's Christmas Mass Schedule

**Sunday, December 24th**

**Christmas Eve**

4:00 pm (Choir) - Msgr. Ryan Hall

6:00 pm - Church

10:00 pm - Church

**Monday, December 25th**

**Christmas Day**

7:30 am - 9:00 am - Church

11:00 am (Choir) - Church

12:30 pm - Msgr. Ryan Hall



**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Monday, January 1st - 9:00 am Mass-Church**



**Christmas Dinner Grace**

*In the peace*

of this season

our spirits **are joyful:**

With the beasts and angels,

the **shepherds and stars**, with

**Mary and Joseph we sing God's**

**praise.** By your coming **may the hungry**

**be filled with good things**, and *may our table*

*and home be blessed. Bless us O Lord* and these

**Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from** Thy

bounty through

**Christ our**

**Lord.**

**Amen**

## PARISH REGISTRATION REQUEST

I/we would like to register in the parish of St. Mary's.

Please send me a Parish Census to complete so I can become a parishioner of St. Mary's. Please send my Census to:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return to the Rectory Office or place in the collection basket.*





*Liturgy  
Breakfast  
December 10*

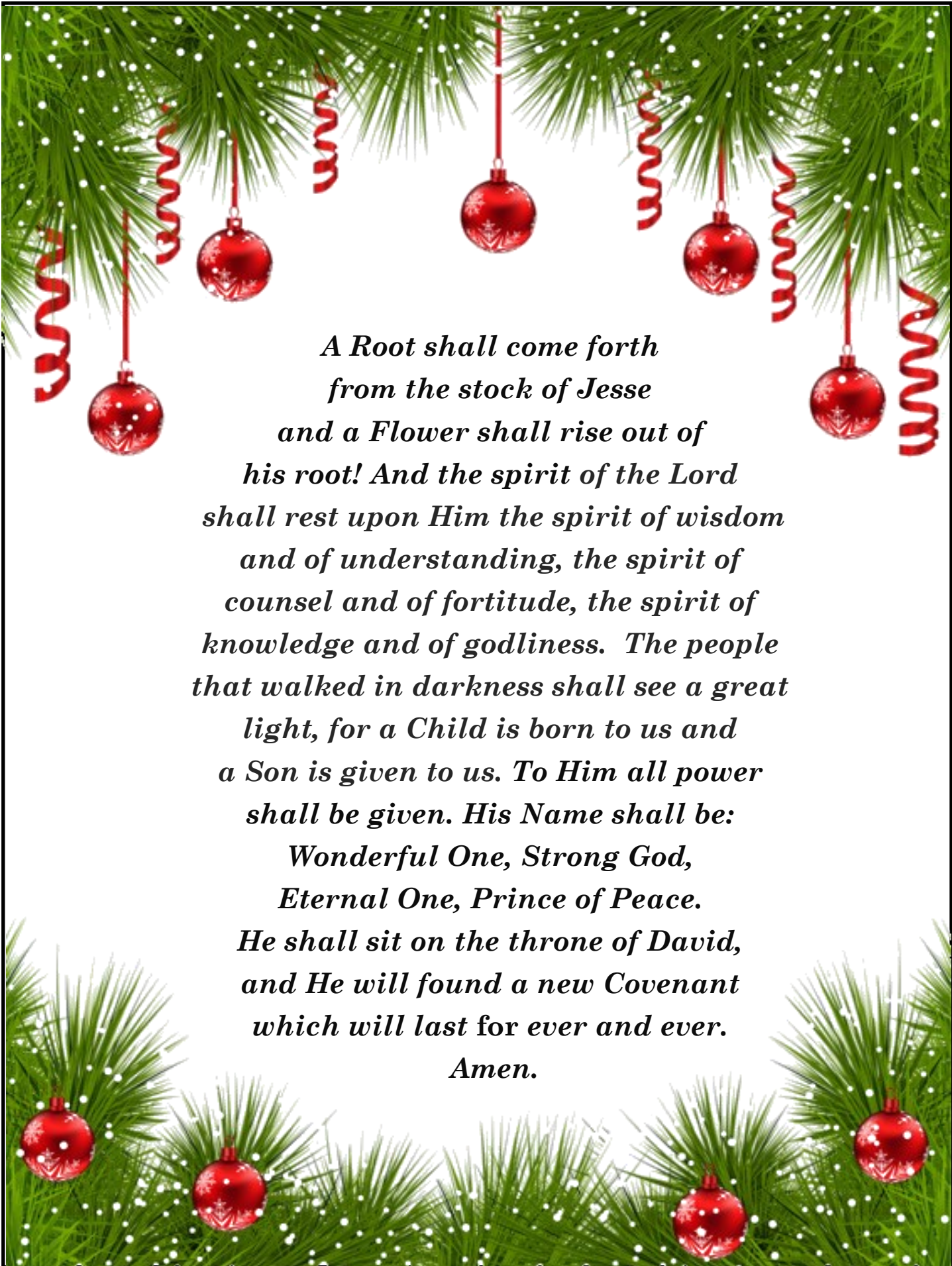


*Lessons and Carols  
December 17*

*A heartfelt thank you to  
Paul Eschenauer,  
St. Mary's Choir,  
all readers and participants  
for a truly  
enchanting event.*







*A Root shall come forth  
from the stock of Jesse  
and a Flower shall rise out of  
his root! And the spirit of the Lord  
shall rest upon Him the spirit of wisdom  
and of understanding, the spirit of  
counsel and of fortitude, the spirit of  
knowledge and of godliness. The people  
that walked in darkness shall see a great  
light, for a Child is born to us and  
a Son is given to us. To Him all power  
shall be given. His Name shall be:  
Wonderful One, Strong God,  
Eternal One, Prince of Peace.  
He shall sit on the throne of David,  
and He will found a new Covenant  
which will last for ever and ever.  
Amen.*





*“May the glow of these lights illuminate our hearts with warmth, joy, and love this holiday season. Let this tree be a beacon of hope and unity for all.  
Merry Christmas”*



**San Miguel Arcángel,  
defiéndenos en la batalla.**

***Prayer to St. Michael  
the Archangel***

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.

Be our protector against the  
wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him,  
we humbly pray;

And do Thou,

O Prince of the Heavenly Host,

by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan,

and all the evil spirits  
who prowl about the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.

**Amen**

*(Prayer by Pope Leo XIII)*





## Religious Education at St Mary's - 12/24/2023

Advent, the season of waiting and preparing for our Lord's birth feels shorter this year... perhaps its because of the day of the week that Christmas falls on, or maybe it's that we aren't as prepared as we'd like to be. This year, our Fourth Week of Advent is only 1 day long, but we must try our hardest to make it good not matter what.



### KID'S CORNER: ADVENT

True or False?

#### Today's Gospel Reading: The Angel Visits Mary

*How well do you know the story of the Annunciation?  
See if you know which are true and which are false:*

1. God sent the angel Michael to bring His message to Our Lady. True or false?
2. When Mary saw the angel, she covered her eyes. True or false?
3. The angel told Mary, "Do not be afraid." True or false?
4. The angel told Our Lady that she would have a Son that she would name 'Jesus.' True or false?
5. Mary just said okay and the angel left right away. True or false?
6. When Mary said she didn't understand, Gabriel told her that the baby would be the Son of God. True or false?
7. Before he left, the angel told Mary that her old cousin, Elizabeth, was going to have a baby too. True or false?



### Next Grade Level Masses:

Levels 1-4 Mass on January 7<sup>th</sup>  
Levels 5-8 Mass on January 14<sup>th</sup>

### KID'S CORNER: CHRISTMAS



Write the number of the person beside what they did in the Christmas Story.

1. Saint Joseph Announced the joyful news of the Saviour's birth
2. Our Lady Commanded that everyone register in their hometown
3. The Shepherds Did not have room for the man and his wife
4. The Angels Took his wife to Bethlehem
5. The Innkeeper Pondered all these things in her heart
6. Baby Jesus Went to find the newborn Saviour
7. The Emperor Came to save the people from their sins



## 4 Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B — December 24, 2023 Missal p.35

## Entrance O Come O Come Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
 2. O come, O Wis - dom from on high,  
 3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
 4. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem,  
 5. O come, O Key of Da - vid, come,



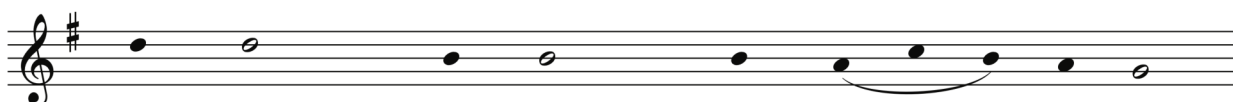
And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
 Who or - der all things might - i - ly;  
 Who to your tribes on Si - nai's height  
 From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them  
 And o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;



That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 In an - cient times once gave the Law  
 That trust your might - y power to save,  
 Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And teach us in her ways to go.  
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
 And close the path to mis - er - y.

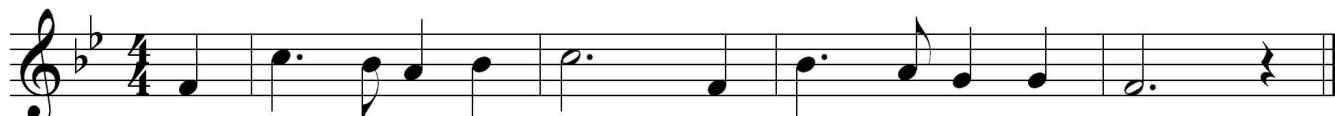


Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
*Gau - de! Gau - de! Em - mán - u - el*




Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.  
*Na - scé - tur pro te Ís - ra - el.*

## Responsorial Psalm




For - ev - er I will sing the good - ness of the Lord.


## Offertory Now the Heavens, Start to Whisper




1. Now the heav - ens start to whis - per As the veil is  
2. Heav - y clouds that block the moon-light Now be - gin to  
3. Christ, e - ter - nal sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of



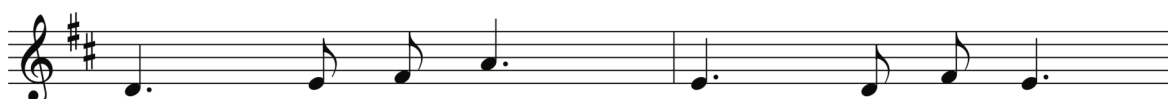
grow - ing thin. Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten  
drift a - way. Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness  
wis - dom's seed, Come to bless with fire and fra - grance



To the stir - ring, faint with - in: Seed of prom - ise,  
Shines the hope of com - ing day. Christ, the morn - ing  
Hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need. In the lone - ly,



deep - ly plant - ed, Child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
star of splen - dor, Gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
in the stran - ger, In the out - cast hid from view:



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line,  
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness;  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger,



Hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
Hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
Teach our hearts to wel - come you.



Holy, Holy, Holy  
 Acclamation  
 Great Amen  
 Agnus Dei

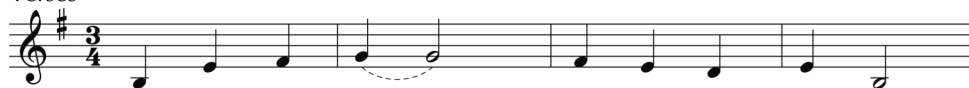
Save Us, Savior of the World

Schubert Mass  
 Schubert Mass  
 Schubert Mass

Communion

Christ, Be Our Light

Verses



1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness.  
 2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled.  
 3. Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry.  
 4. Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less.  
 5. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple,



Long - ing for truth, we turn to you.  
 Long - ing for hope, man - y de - spair.  
 Long - ing for wa - ter, man - y still thirst.  
 Long - ing for warmth, man - y are cold.  
 Man - y the hearts that yearn to be - long.



Make us your own, your ho - ly peo - ple,  
 Your word a - lone has pow'r to save us.  
 Make us your bread, bro - ken for oth - ers,  
 Make us your build - ing, shel - ter - ing oth - ers,  
 Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er,



Light for the world to see.  
 Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 Shared un - til all are fed.  
 Walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 Mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

## Recessional

## O Come, Divine Messiah



1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The world in si - lence  
 2. O come De - sired of na - tions, Whom priest and proph - et  
 3. O come in peace and meek - ness, For low - ly will your



waits the day When hope shall sing its tri - umph, And  
 long fore - told, Will break the cap - tive fet - ters, Re -  
 cra - dle be: Though clothed in hu - man weak - ness We



sad - ness flee a - way.  
 deem the long - lost fold. Dear Sav - ior,  
 shall your God - head see.



haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the



night and show your face, And bid us hail the dawn of



grace. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The



world in si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its



tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: *Venez, divin Messie*; Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663-1745; tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877  
 Tune: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE, 7 8 7 6 with refrain; French Noël, 16th C.; harm. by Healey Willan, 1880-1968