

EUCHARIST INTENTIONS

Among the intentions for those who gather for the Eucharist this week will be:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2002

9:15AM WILLIAM ROSS – Wife & Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2002
CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM (Church) WILLIAM G. YAECKEL –
The Link & Hauza Families

4:00PM (Gym) RAYMOND CATANISE –
Family

6:00PM ANGELA MINACAPPELLI –
The Zani Grandchildren

10:30PM JOHN PASQUALE –
Verna & Phil Mendola

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2002
CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00AM JOHN SLACK – Family

10:30AM WILLIAM & ANNA LOONEY –
Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2002

No Liturgy or Prayer Service scheduled

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2002

9:15AM JOSEPHINE DE GEORGE –
The DeGeorge & Rickard Families

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2002

5:00PM STANLEY POSLUSNY – Jane Poslusny

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2002

7:30AM MARK DANIEL SIEWERT –
The Odenbach Family

9:00AM MARY DI SALVO – Family

10:30AM ST. RITA SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS –
Sr. Katherine Ann & Faculty

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**This week the Tabernacle Light
will burn in loving memory of
Thomas McHugh**

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Pastor's Perspective

In a year with so many challenges for our church and for all of us we welcome "Christ, our peace".

At the heart of all our Christmas festivities we are called to make room in our hearts and lives for a God who wants to dwell with us and who loves us so faithfully and is patient with our failures and weakness.

*When in awe my heart is still
and tries to grasp this miracle,
all I can do is pray to God
and feel how endless is His love.*

*God became man for our own sake;
God's Child, with us in flesh united.*

*How could God hate us, when He gives
us what He, past all measure, loves?*

*Love Him who with love is burning,
See the Star who in us pours
Light and comfort!
(Emmy Arnold)*

My prayer for you and yours this Christmas is a new awareness of how much we are loved by God.

Merry Christmas,

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~ A VOCATION VIEW ~

From the angel Gabriel, Mary heard God's plan for her life and she said "Yes!" . . . and so the Savior came into the world. Pray to know God's will for your life, so as to help bring Jesus to our world. If you think God is calling you to do this, call Pat Finnerty, Dir., Vocations Awareness at (585) 328-3228 ext. 229 or Fr. Bill Donnelly, Rector Becket Hall at (585) 461-2890.

PLANS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 22, 2002

SUNDAY

8:00-11:00AM BREAKFAST CLUB - Gym
 10:30 AM Babysitting during 10:30 Mass - Rm 4
 1:00PM Contemporary Choir Rehearsal – Church
 7:30PM BINGO at the K of C – Team 2

TUESDAY CHRISTMAS EVE

See Mass Schedule

WEDNESDAY CHRISTMAS DAY

See Mass Schedule

THURSDAY

8:30PM Men's Basketball - Gym

FRIDAY

2:00PM Jesus Rosary – Church

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PARISH SUPPORT		
Last Week	Weekly Goal	Variance
\$12,718	\$12,654	+ \$64
Year to Date	Year to Date Goal	Variance
\$288,864	\$291,101	- \$2,237
<small>(The Church's fiscal year begins 7/1/02)</small>		
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!		
Year End Giving Opportunity!		
Thank you very much for your wonderful stewardship during this past year.		
Through your generosity of time, talent and treasure, St. Rita Parish is able to provide for the needs of our people through our many ministries. If you feel you have not supported St. Rita Church on a regular basis during this year we ask you to consider sharing some of your gifts with Saint Rita so we may continue serving God's people. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.		

SACRISTAN:

Week of December 22 Miriam & Dan Kennelly

LINENS:

Week of December 29 Jacqueline Volo

We welcome the newest members of our parish family who were baptized this weekend:

Joshua Michael Cannarozzo
Maxwell Joseph Stuver
Ethan Alexander Fame
Madison Grace Miller
Ava Grace Mooney

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BIBLE READINGS:

- 22 Sun **Fourth Sunday of Advent** 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Ps 89:2-5,27,29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38
- 23 Mon **Mal** 3:1-4,23-24 Ps 25:4-5,8-10,14 Lk 1:57-66
- 24 Tue 2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 Ps 89:2-5,27,29 Lk 1:67-79
- 25 Wed **Christmas Day** Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-3,11-13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14
- 26 Thu **St. Stephen** Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 Ps 31:3-4,6-8,17,21 Mt 10:17-22
- 27 Fri **St. John, Evangelist** 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12 Jn 20:2-8
- 28 Sat **Holy Innocents** 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5,7-8 Mt 2:13-18
- 29 Sun **Holy Family Sunday** Sir 3:2-7,12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:22-40

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ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED NEXT WEEKEND ~ DECEMBER 28 & 29

- Saturday, 5:00pm:**
 Marc Cataldi, Christina Smith, Caitlin DiRaimo, Marisa Vargas
- Sunday, 7:30am:**
 Dan Hohl, Patrick Crittenden, Kyle Chapman
- Sunday, 9:00am:**
 Ricky, Nick & Alex Verneti, Sam Piekarczyk
- Sunday, 10:30am:**
 Aaron & David Savella, Sean & Kevin Connell

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BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS!

Each week a white contribution envelope is drawn from the collection. The person or family named on the envelope receives a free breakfast.

This week's winner: Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Adin

Next Week's Special: Pancakes with homemade apple topping, your choice of bacon or sausage and free coffee for a donation of \$3.25.

Advent Prepare . . . Charitably

It is hard to imagine that the King of Kings was Himself in such need of charity at the time of His birth. I am sure that any one of us would have rushed to His aid had we lived in His time and known of His needs. Yet, He has said that anything we do for the least of His brothers and sisters, we also do for Him.

Mary and Joseph had a long and tedious trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Perhaps we can be more patient and kind to our fellow travelers this Christmas? We can think twice before we lay a heavy hand on the horn.

Joseph could not find a single room in the inn for his laboring wife, Mary. Do we know anyone in pain and in need of hospitality at this time of the year; such as a neighbor or friend who has no place to go for Christmas dinner?

Jesus didn't even have a place to lay His head. All that was available was a feeding trough for barnyard animals. Perhaps we have items around the house that we no longer need and would be invaluable to others? I have been told that many of the agencies that provide men's' winter coats to the poor must separate the linings from the coats so that two men may have winter clothing. There are too many men in need of coats and too few coats available.

May we all grow in our feelings and acts of charity this Christmas season so that we will gain greater peace of heart.

St. Rita Liturgy Committee

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ARE YOU OR YOUR CHILD A ST. RITA SCHOOL ALUMNUS?

We are looking for St. Rita School graduates to invite them to a special anniversary celebration in the upcoming years and to also to update our records. Please visit the school's website at: <http://home.rochester.rr.com/strita> and follow the link for "50th Anniversary Alumni Search." There you may quickly and easily submit your current demographic information. Or please mail the following information to the parish office ~ name (maiden name), address, phone number, year graduated and any children past or currently enrolled at St. Rita School. This will help us to update our database.

Stepping Stones to Stewardship

Do we tend to find time for our priorities but may not always have our priorities straight? Consider ways in which you could find yourself wasting time. For some, it's talking on the telephone, spending too much time on the computer or watching television. Often, we have more time than we realize. As with money, we can spend our time more wisely if we study how we use it. Is there an area in which you waste time that might be reclaimed for better stewardship?

An excerpt from *Catholic Stewardship – Sharing God's Gifts* by Colleen Smith. Used with permission by Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.

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WPCC PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS!

People are usually hesitant to have X-rays at their dental office. However, the Panorax X-ray is able to detect blockage in the carotid artery, indicating cardiovascular disease. This technology has saved many people from an impending stroke.

~ **SAVE THE DATE** ~

The Webster Penfield Parish Health Ministry invites you to save the date – **Wednesday, January 22, 2003** from 7:00-9:00pm in Room 1. The Health Ministry will be hosting a program on:

**Bone and Breast Care presented by
The Elizabeth Wende Breast Clinic.**

Men and women are encouraged to attend.

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YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR NEWS!

Did You Know ~ St. Rita Parish has a "Young at Heart" Senior Group that meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2:30pm in the Parish Center. All seniors are welcome to attend! Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, January 14 at which time we welcome Club 24! Stay tuned for more details.

The Parish Offices will be closed
on Tuesday, December 24
and Wednesday, December 25
for the Christmas Holiday.
Merry Christmas!

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Thank You ~ St. Rita's breakfast with Santa 2002 was a great success thanks to everyone who participated, including those who came to see Santa, the breakfast club team members & the Breakfast with Santa volunteers. Special thanks to our raffle prize donors, including the Mauro and Sikkema families, Dave's Village Bakery & Delta Sonic Car Wash. Thank you one & all!

Jackie Carosa

P.S. The parish thanks Jackie as well for all her hard work!

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**CAREGIVERS
SUPPORT GROUP
will meet on
Monday, January 6
at 7:30pm in Room 3**

This gathering is for anyone who is presently caring for a loved one at home, in the hospital or nursing home. More people are finding themselves taking care of sick relatives . . . a little time out will help you! Come for support, prayer and reassurance.

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2002-2003 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS are now available and are valid now through November 2003. They are filled with terrific discounts on all types of restaurants (formal & informal) and entertainment. Profits benefit the House of Mercy. The cost per book is \$22.00. If you are interested please call Ed and Diane Langen at 217-9386. They will deliver if needed. These make great Christmas gifts!

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BUS TRIP TO DIVINE MERCY CENTER

May 1-2, 2003 ~ Stop at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs, Auriesville, NY: one night accommodation in Lenox, MA, dinner on arrival, tour of National Shrine of Divine Mercy on May 2, lunch at Divine Mercy Center. Price is \$129 per person, double occupancy. Includes all taxes and services charges. Single and triple prices available on request. Deposit of \$35 required by January 11, 2003. Call Hear & There, Inc. for more information at 719-9433 or see Fr. Joe.

**ARE YOU THE PARENT
OF A CHILD WITH A DISABILITY?**

**New Disability Awareness Group
Assembling with Ties to Pre-established
Group . . .**

Jesus instructed His Followers to "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation"

Mark 16:15.

"All creation" makes the directive inclusive. There is no footnote. Age, intelligence, physical ability, emotional level, visual acuity, and other separators are not restrictions to the projected recipients of the Gospel.

For anyone interested in participating in a support group for parents of children with disabilities initiated here at St. Rita's please contact Colleen Brown at 872-1315.

For those of you who are interested in attending a pre-established support group please contact Colleen for any other information needed not listed below.

PARENT TO PARENT (PTP)

(A support group of SEPTA)

SEPTA = Special Education Parent Teacher Assoc.

~ **MISSION** ~

Parent To Parent provides an open forum for parents to gain information and direction to help themselves, their children, and each other while in the educational system. We encourage parents and/or guardians to become their child's best advocate.

**"PARENT TO PARENT" SUPPORT
MEETINGS**

Wednesday's at 7:30pm

R.L. Thomas High School Library

Dates: January 15

(this meeting starts at 7:00pm followed by a SEPTA presentation on Occupational Therapy)

February 26

March 19

April 23

May 21

June 18

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE ~ Tuesday, December 24

4:00pm ~ Two Family Masses (Church & Parish Center Gym)

(PARKING IS AVAILABLE ACROSS THE STREET AT THE ARMORY!)

6:00pm ~ Family Mass (Carols begin at 5:30pm)

10:30pm ~ Mass during the Night (Carols begin at 10:00pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY ~ Wednesday, December 25

9:00am ~ Mass with Festive Carols

10:30am ~ Mass with Festive Carols

**An Interpreter for the hearing impaired will be provided at the 10:30 am
Mass**

Children are invited to bring a new toy to Mass on Christmas morning to be blessed.

**** Please Note:**

Both the 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass and 10:30am Christmas Day Mass tend to be less crowded.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL!

Samantha DiNardo (Angel), Emma Germano (Mary), Caprie Romano (Servant), Michael Sullivan (Joseph), and Gabriella Longmore (Angel) surround Baby Jesus in St. Rita School Christmas Play.