

CHURCH OF ST. ELIZABETH
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 20, 2009

THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR



We celebrate today the birth of our Savior. He came into the world in the midst of complex and challenging circumstances on that first Christmas. He comes to us now in a world still complex and difficult. The first Christmas saw Mary and Joseph turned away from the place where travelers lodged. This Christmas knows places where Jesus will be turned away again. Jesus is excluded from hearts dominated by hatred and anger. Jesus is unwelcome in places where truth is dishonored. Jesus is pushed aside by selfishness and sin. Our proclamation of the birth of Jesus signals our willingness to be reborn in Him, to receive the gift of His redeeming love as we set out on our own journeys through life.

On behalf of our entire staff I wish all our parishioners the peace of Christ's birth. For our families and children; for our seniors and singles; for our relatives and friends; for our visitors from near and far; for those celebrating new promises and commitments; for those coming to Christmas with loss or sorrow; for those strong in faith and those searching for the star; for the steady and strong, the sick and confined; for the poor and homeless, the overworked and unemployed; for parents and grandparents; for soldiers and anxious families, for religious and priests, spouses and friends; for single parents and widows; for survivors and the struggling; for those with full hearts and those with heavy ones; for the greatest and the least.

What a remarkable faith that recognizes our salvation in a stable. God's Word was spoken "loud and clear" with the birth of Jesus. He came to be the Gift for all of us. Embrace Him, rejoice in Him, come home to Him.

Merry Christmas
Fr. Harahan

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS YEAR'S GALA



Be with us for the 8th Annual Viennese New Year's Gala at the Brownstone Friday, Jan. 1, from 3 to 7pm. You'll be glad you did when the 50-piece orchestra under the direction of **Manfred Knoop** transports you (musically speaking) to old Vienna. The lush waltzes and stirring marches composed by Johann Strauss never fail to lift hearts and spirits. Along with the talented orchestra musicians, guest professional musical artists are just one more treat for all who attend the Gala. Following the concert, a sumptuous buffet and Viennese table will satisfy one and all. Wine and soda are complimentary and a cash bar is available. A dance combo will entertain you further and give your dancing feet their opportunity to move to the music! For information and reservations, call Marlene at 201-891-1122 x 202 or 201-790-0173. Tickets are \$95 per person.



Christmas Eve Mass Schedule

December 24, (Thursday)

9:00 am Daily Mass

3:30 pm Mass

5:00 pm Mass

6:30 pm Children's Pageant

7:00 pm Family Mass

8:30 pm Mass

10:30 pm Mass

Christmas Day Mass Schedule

December 25, (Friday)

9:00 am

10:30 am

12:00 noon



RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



God of Life, We rejoice in the promise of your coming. You have sent your Son, born in Bethlehem. He is the Prince of Peace, and The one in whose name all oppression shall cease. May we welcome his coming each day and prepare for his coming at the end of time. May we build a culture that welcomes him by welcoming every child, born and unborn. We pray through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Store Open: This is the last weekend to join us in the gallery after all Masses and purchase religious items before Christmas. We have a beautiful selection of nativities, religious statues, jewelry, and ornaments. Cookbooks are available as well.

March for Life: Mark your calendars--we will make our pro-life presence known to the lawmakers in Washington, the citizens of the US, & people around the world, on **Friday, January 22, 2010**. Please plan now to attend. Your presence in growing numbers every year is the best way to draw attention to the untenable legacy of Roe v. Wade, and to persuade our leaders to eradicate it from America's future. We will be sponsoring 3 coach buses to the March. Call Teri @ 201-485-8242 to reserve a seat.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Congratulations to Wyckoff resident and St. Elizabeth School 6th Grader Kevin Englert for winning the New Jersey State Championship for the Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge on November 14. Kevin won the Wyckoff championship in late September and traveled to Maple Shade, New Jersey (outside Philadelphia), to compete along with nearly 50 New Jersey boys and girls representing their local Knights of Columbus councils.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW ORLEANS MINISTRY



Volunteers needed Jan. 4-9 & Jan. 10-16

The New Orleans Ministry has started registration for 2 separate trips in January 2010. Men, women, and college students are welcome. Prior experience NOT needed, but if you have special skills in home improvement, please let us know. The cost of one week, including airfare, room and board will be approximately \$415. Please contact Jerry Lynch at the Church of Nativity, Midland Park, 201-264-6792 or Eric Nedelkoff at 201-264-2225. Visit www.neworleansministry.org to learn more.

S.T.E.P.S.

Did Your Faith Grow Up With You ?



The Institute for Christian Spirituality, part of Seton Hall University's Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology, is accepting new student applications to the STEPS Program for the Spring 2010 Semester. STEPS is a graduate level certificate program for adult Catholics who seek a deeper understanding of their faith. Classes are offered one night a week at Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Ridgewood on a variety of subjects including Scripture, Moral Theology, Systematic Theology and Church History. Fifty percent discounts are available for those involved in paid or significant voluntary Church service. Additionally, full one-year and two-year scholarships will be awarded specifically to qualified parishioners of St. Elizabeth's. For more information call Stephen Kass, at 973-275-2319.

AROUND THE PARISH

Saturday Dec. 19

Advent Penance Service.....Church.....12:00noon
 High School Mass.....Church.....7:00pm
 Twigs Christmas Bash.....Cafeteria.....After HS Mass
 Respect Life Store.....Gallery.....After Mass
 Men's Sharing.....L5.....7:00am

Sunday Dec. 20

RCIA Meeting.....St. Francis Rm.....12:45pm
 Respect Life Store.....Gallery.....After Masses

Monday Dec. 21

Holy Hour.....Church.....5:00pm

Wednesday Dec. 23

Christmas Pageant Practice...Church.....1:00pm

Saturday Dec. 26

K of C "Troops Fundraiser"...Church.....After Mass

"To everything there is a Season and a time for every Purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:11

"A time to be healed..."

Prayers for those ill: will be included in the weekly bulletin with a name listing. Please call the Parish Center by Monday of each week to be included. Call the Parish Office to have a name included.

Please pray for: Doris Lavery, Patricia Moran, Matthew Rice, Bob Ugalde, Mary & Edward Fuhrman, Colin Azzopardi.

"A time to mourn..."

Recently Deceased: Loretta Balzano

"A time for war and a time for peace.."

For national and world leaders and for those in the armed services: Steve Molino, SPC. Adam Visconti, Jesscia DeRosa, Captain Christopher Crotty, Miguel Tully. Amen.

Calling all family members. If you have a loved one serving in the forces, we would like to include them in our weekly bulletin so we can keep them close in prayer. The names will remain on our list for three months. If you would like their name to remain longer, please call Lisa Hroncich at 201-891-1122 ext.203.

Give Yourself the Gift of Cornerstone



Women's Cornerstone

February 5/6, 2010

Men's Cornerstone

March 5/6, 2010

Why should I attend Cornerstone?

- ☐ Cornerstone fosters new friendships and encourages people to take time out of their busy schedule to get to know others and themselves better.
- ☐ Cornerstone is a means to look within ourselves, to locate what may be missing in our lives, and to appreciate what has always been there.
- ☐ Cornerstone is a time to relax, reflect, refocus, and renew. Come and see why you should attend.

Women's Cornerstone

Kate Rigg 201-485-8363

Anne Falco 201-825-0077

Men's Cornerstone

Ryan Peene 973-423-1671

Dave Gallasso 917-860-7424

**PASTORAL STAFF
 CHURCH OF ST. ELIZABETH**

Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Harahan, Pastor
 Rev. Jerzy "Yurek" Pikulinski, Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Helber Victoria, Parochial Vicar
 Rev. Michael Moran, Weekend Assistant
 Rev. Msgr. Thomas M. O'Leary, Pastor Emeritus
 Constance S. McCue, Ed. D., School Principal
 Jonathan Camiolo, Director of Faith Formation
 Manfred Knoop, Director of Music
 Gina Marie Alala, Director of Youth Ministry
 Michael Hroncich, Plant Manager
 Michael Devaney, Business Manager



PRICELESS GIFT LIST



***The Gifts on this list cost almost no money, but they have GREAT value.
When we give one of these gifts, we are giving a priceless gift - ourself.***

The gift of **listening** - One of the greatest things we can do for another person is to listen without interrupting, daydreaming or thinking about our next leap into the conversation.

The gift of a **compliment** - Help people reach their full potential- catch them doing something right. Compliment children for listening, for their smile, for giving a hug, for sharing.

The gift of **showing affection** - Demonstrate the love we feel deep inside with hugs, kisses, a gentle squeeze of the hand, pats on the back, smiles.

The gift of **laughter** - Everyone loves to laugh. Try to see the humor in day-to-day living. Develop the ability to laugh at ourself.

The gift of **cheerfulness** - This means no complaining, no feeling sorry for ourself, no nasty comments, no screaming. Our gift of cheerfulness will be precious for everyone including ourselves.

The gift of **doing a favor** - Help with the dishes, type a letter, run an errand.

The gift of **a game** - Most people have at least one game they like to play....softball, cards, chess, and checkers. Offer to play your loved one's favorite game in a non-competitive spirit. Introduce cooperative games. We're winners whenever we share an experience.

The gift of **contact** - Write notes as simple as "thinking of you today." Make phone calls if someone is having an especially trying time. Reach out with support.

The gift of **acceptance** - Accept with fortitude the things we can't change. This gift makes a difference in the lives of lives of your friends, family, and colleagues.

The gift of **prayer** - The hidden gift.



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 20, 2009**



Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." –Lk 1: 41, 42, 45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
 Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
 Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79
 Friday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25
 Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4- 7/Lk 2:15-20
 Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18, 1:1-5, 9-14
 Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17, 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

OTHER PRAYER EXPERIENCES

Miraculous Medal Novena – Thurs after 9 am Mass
Novena to the Divine Mercy – Fri after 9 am Mass
Charismatic Prayer Group – Healing Mass
Men's Sharing – CCD Center- Saturday, 7am
Women's Sharing – Elizabeth Room- Monthly
Morning Prayer –Mon.-Sat. 8:40 am
Rosary-Each day after 7:00 & 9:00 am Mass

SUPPORT FOR OUR PASTORAL ACTIVITIES



You may think that the gifts we have to offer may be too small or too inconsequential to give to God. Today we are reminded that God brought forth His greatest gift to mankind, His own Son, through the humble town of Bethlehem. He can also accomplish great things through us if we generously offer our gifts to Him.

The stewardship gifts of treasure collection for last week amounted to \$23,556. The collections of treasure for this week will be added to the Retired Religious Collection. The Retired Religious Collection amounted to \$12,326. The gifts of treasure collection for the Immaculate Conception, amounted to \$3,660. Thank you for generous support.

HOLY HOUR



Please join us every Monday from 5-7pm for our weekly Holy Hour. Come spend some time with Our Lord present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. **Please note**

there will be no Holy Hour on December 28.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



This month you donated 270 bags of groceries, which were distributed to Holy Name Friary, Ringwood; Star of Hope Ministries, Oasis, and St. Joseph's, all in Paterson. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

| | | | |
|------|---------|---------------------------|---|
| Sat. | Dec. 19 | 5:00 PM | Kimberly Huber, John Polsi |
| Sun. | Dec. 20 | 7:30 AM | People of the Parish |
| | | 9:00 AM | Agnes Tompkins McNiff, Brodrick & Meehan Family |
| | | 10:30 AM | Frances McKenna, Michael Franolich |
| | | 12:00 PM | Anthony Mirkovic, Happy b-day Kathleen Sheehan |
| Mon. | Dec. 21 | St. Peter Canisius | |
| | | 7:00 AM | Linda Galinns, George Losee |
| | | 9:00 AM | Edward Baretski |
| | | 5:00 PM | HOLY HOUR |
| Tue. | Dec. 22 | 7:00 AM | Louise & Sal Capalbo |
| | | 9:00 AM | James Kilgallen, William Hopf & Matthew Rahelich |
| Wed. | Dec. 23 | St. John of Kanty | |
| | | 7:00 AM | Fallon & Pomroy Family, Matthew Rahelich & William Hopf |
| | | 9:00 AM | Emilio & Estrella Horrilleno, Helen Tkach, 1 st Anniv. |
| Thu. | Dec. 24 | 9:00 AM | Joseph Zednick, 33 rd Anniv Michael Franolich, 1 st Anniv. |

CHRISTMAS EVE/VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS

All the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses will be offered for the intentions of our parishioners.

Fri. Dec. 25 **The Nativity of the Lord**

SEE SPECIAL SCHEDULE

Sat. Dec. 26 **St. Stephen**
 9:00 AM Memorial Mass,
 Michael Celestino

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

| | | | |
|------|---------|----------|--|
| | | 5:00 PM | Living & Deceased Members of the Ciarleglio & Grosso Families, Elizabeth Foy, 30 th Anniversary Frank Foy, 15 th Anniversary |
| Sun. | Dec. 27 | 7:30 AM | People of the Parish |
| | | 9:00 AM | Catherine Healy |
| | | 10:30 AM | Maria Hroncich, Happy b-day |
| | | 12:00 PM | Rita & Paul Zeuner, Jive & Kate Franolich, Rosemary Egan |

MEMORIALS FOR THE WEEK:

Altar Bread & Wine: *In Memory of Carmen & Concetta Rizzo, given by: The Rizzo Family.*

Sanctuary Lamp: *In Memory of Carmen & Concetta Rizzo, given by: The Rizzo Family.*

Candles on the Altar: *In Memory of Kimberly Huber, given by: Mary Huber.*

Flowers in the Sanctuary: *In Memory of Kimberly Huber, given by: Mary Huber.*

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