



Week of December 27, 2009

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Celebration of the Eucharist

Weekend Masses

- Saturday evening at 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses

- Monday - Friday at 9 a.m.
- Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Days

- Check *The Connection*

• St. Cecilia's Staff

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Parish Council Chair,

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St. Cecilia's Fax No. 544-8889

Visit our Web site

For more information, visit our Web site at www.stcecilionline.org



OUR EXTENDED RECOGNITION OF CHRISTMAS

On Friday, December 25th, we celebrated the *first* day of the 2009-to-2010 Christmas. During this current weekend, we celebrate the *second* and *third* days of Christmas. Most of us are aware that we recognize *twelve* days of Christmas, culminating with a celebration of the Epiphany. (This is traditionally on January 6th; however, we will recognize the Epiphany on the nearest Sunday, January 3rd of 2010).

The popular song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas", is often seen as simply a nonsense song for children. However, some have suggested that it is a song of Christian instruction dating to the 16th century religious wars in England, with hidden references to the basic teachings of the Faith. They contend that it was a device to teach the catechism to youngsters under a disguise as a means of secrecy from religious enemies. Many have questioned the historical accuracy of this origin of the song. It is certainly possible that it may only be legendary or anecdotal. However, this uncertainty should not prevent us from using the song in celebration of Christmas.

The song begins with: "On the 1st day of Christmas my true love gave to me, a partridge in a pear tree." The *true love* is thought of as a reference to God, himself, and the *partridge*: Jesus Christ, recalling his expression: "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have sheltered you under my wings." The song continues: "On the 2nd day of Christmas my true love gave to me: two turtle doves." This is thought to be a reference to the *Old and New Testaments*, which together bear witness to God's self-revelation.

"On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love gave to me: three French hens." No, this would not be three cackling ladies in France. Rather, the reference would be to the *three theological virtues: Faith, Hope and Love*. "On the 4th day of Christmas", the song continues, "my true love gave to me, four calling birds", a possible reference to the Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. "On the 5th day of Christmas, my true love gave to me five gold rings, " which is thought to signify the first Five Books of the Old Testament: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Continuing with the 6th day of Christmas, "my true love gave to me six geese a-laying," in a sense, creating life as did God during his six-days of Creation of the *world*.

On the last day of the year, the 7th day of Christmas, "my true love gave to me seven swans a-swimming," possibly representing the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Do you know what they are? Read next week's Connection for the answer, as well as a review of the 8th - through -12th days of Christmas. The 8th day of Christmas is even more significant, in that it is a holy day on which we also celebrate *Mary Mother of God (on January 1st)*.
(Some families spread gift-giving throughout the twelve days of Christmas, but don't tell your children.)

Please pray for our beloved

Deceased:
Mary Conchelos

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 28
9:00 Michael Mastro Simone
 DiSalvo & Lamb Family
Tuesday, December 29
9:00 George Knapp
 Joan Stiegler
Wednesday, December 30
9:00 John Sampognaro
 Joe & Lucille Ferraro
Thursday, December 31
9:00 Harold Tellex
 C.J. Allmansberger
5:00 Anthony Staccione
 Thomas & Jane Lioy
Friday, January 1
9:00 Anthony DiLuglio
 Jack & Jean Fiannaca
Saturday, January 2
9:30 Pro Populo
4:30 Maria Roveto
 Aunt, Muffy Becker
Sunday, January 3
8:30 Bill & Judy Davis
Belated 41st Wedding Anniversary
 Son Scott & Daughter Nicole
11:00 Anita Mali
 M/M Pat Carrozziere

NEW YEARS MASS
SCHEDULE

Thurs. December, 31 5:00 PM
Friday January, 1 9:00 AM



God's Housekeepers
December, 28 Team #3
J. Stiegler, L. Long,
Tom & Jane Lioy,
C. DiNieri, M. Lambert,
N. VanWuyckhyuyse,
& M. Mastro Simone



Please note there will be no
Bingo on Friday, January 1,
New Years Day.

Memorial Fund

We are grateful for donations
 received in memory of
John Squilla from
Owen & Agatha Crumb

Future Fund

We are grateful for donations
 received in memory of
Sister Marie Therese from
 St. Cecilia Ladies Guild,
 Dean & Darlene Quatro,
 Patricia Brotsch,
 Mary Rappenecker
 and Don Pero

A VERY LARGE THANK YOU
TO: Bernie Ernst, for constructing
 and installing the new microphone
 boom in church over the new choir
 location. Your efforts are greatly
 appreciated.

A VERY LARGE THANK YOU
TO: Peter Kelderhouse for your
 efforts in obtaining, transporting
 and refurbishing the new (to us)
baby grand piano to St. Cecilia
 Church. Your efforts are greatly
 appreciated.



Sunday Offering

Envelope User..... \$ 6,954.00
 Non-Envelope Users \$ 562.55

Total.....\$ 7,516.55

Attendance Last Week – 810
Thank you for Your Generous
Support

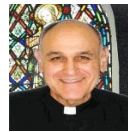
THANK YOU!

The Angels of Mercy would like to
 thank all the parishioners and the
 Ladies Guild for their wonderful
 donations of New to You Coat Drive
 that was held recently at St. Cecilia's.
 We received over 140 coats to help
 others stay warm this winter. We
 could not have done it without the
 support and dedication of each and
 everyone of you. Your generosity
 will truly make a difference this
 winter to many. Thank you again.

The Parish Office will be closed
Friday January 1

DATE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY
Sun., 12/27		
Mon., 12/28	8:30 am MCR	Collection Counting Team DJ. Sheridan
Tues., 12/29	8:30 am MCR 7:00 pm Church 7:00 pm Room 109 7:00 pm Basement Hall 7:00 pm Newcomb Center	Collection Counting Team C D. Moore Devotions to Mary & Benediction Alanon Meeting AA Meeting Men's Club Executive Board Meeting
Wed., 12/30		
Thur., 12/31		
Fri., 1/1		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED NO BINGO
Sat., 1/2	7:00 pm Newcomb Center	Euchre Tournament
Sun., 1/3		

Dear Parishioners,



I received a Christmas card this week with a poem written by a seven year old girl named Katelyn Yoo. Her family were parishioners of mine a few years ago. Her poem follows:

Here is Christmas, Christmas is here!
I hope you have a nice, fine year!
Happiness and Joy come to life!
Don't make any strife!

K. Yoo's poem reminded me of Pope Paul VI's speech to the UN General Assembly several years ago when he said: "No more war, war no more!" I think the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate, would like us to connect K. Yoo's poem and Pope Paul VI's hope for humanity! Nothing would please Our Lord more if "Peace On Earth" would be our gift to Him this year. Merry Christmas.

**God bless you,
Father Leone**

P.S. "Thank you" for all your cards and Christmas greetings. Be assured of my prayers for you and your families.

New Parishioners—Welcome to St. Cecilia's! Please stop in at the Parish office to introduce yourself and register. We look forward to meeting you and your family.

Celebration of Baptism—The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on pre-arranged Sundays. Parents are required to have an interview with the Faith Formation Coordinator, Ann Kubiak at 467-4286 ext.105.

Celebration of Penance/Reconciliation Saturdays at **3:30 p.m.** and at other times by appointment by calling the Parish Office.

Celebration of Matrimony—Couples planning to marry should contact the priest at the Parish office six months prior to their wedding date. Pre-Cana is required. Weddings will be scheduled only on Saturdays at 10 a.m., 12 noon and 2 p.m.

Ministry to the Sick—The Sacraments are available to those in need. Please call Mary Ann Noto.

R.C.I.A.—Interested in becoming a Catholic? Please contact Ann Kubiak at 467-4286 ext. 105.

Pastoral or Liturgical Volunteer Opportunities—Call Mary Ann Noto at 467-4286 ext. 106.
Bequests—In making out your will, kindly remember your Church. Our legal title is St. Cecilia's Church of Rochester, NY.

**Irondequoit Senior Ministries:
697-6322**

**Good Samaritan Transportation:
336-1777**



PLEASE NOTE: All articles for the Connection need to be submitted to the Parish Office by the end of business on Monday's in order to appear in the following week's *Connection*.

MINISTRY & GREETER SCHEDULE: Jan. 2 & Jan. 3

	4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Lector	B. Weeks	D. Hummel	D. Flynn
Commentator	C. DiNieri	R. Stone	S. Flynn
Eucharistic Ministers	Deacon Walt, C DiNieri	Deacon Walt,	Deacon Walt,
	J Colligan M.J. Colligan	G. Gaston, L. Gaston	B. Sheridan J. Staffieri
	J. Panzarella	J Crosby A Dellafave	A. Colangelo T Altieri
Altar Servers	Nicole Kalpin	Jillian Fioravanti	Jessica Michels
	Giavanna Sylar	Jake Fioravanti	David Michels
Greeters	Mary Anne Adams	Evelyn DePeters	Sue Gangarossa
	Ann Gelo	Vera Gramlich	Jane Lioy
	-	Rose Mulley	James Campanella
	Emily Petronio	Yolanda Ingrassia	Marie Campanella
	Jan Caretta	Ellie Marzano	Nancy Calcagno

**Building Peace with Justice
December 27, 2009**

That we are God's family comes through clearly in today's readings. Family creates a community of love, helping each other to grow, and serving those in need. It is a participation in the work of the Lord. It is holy. In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph model loving concern when they realize that 12-year old Jesus was left behind and not in the Caravan.

Reflection: Today, some families face multiple burdens of poverty, racism, religious and cultural discrimination. New immigrant families can feel unwelcome in our communities and caught in a conflict between cultures. (*Follow the Way, USCCB, 1994*) Look for ways to reach out in welcome, love, and concern to build up the Family of God.

**Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary, & Joseph**

Today's readings invite us to live holy lives filled with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; loving one another and forgiving one another, with gratitude in our hearts to God. May the example of the Holy Family be an inspiration and an example to all of our families and let us pray that our own holy families will encourage possible vocations to the priesthood and religious life for our local Church.

Office of Vocation Awareness/
585-461-2890/ vocations@dor.org
website: www.dor.org/vocations

Irondequoit Plan Information

Now that the IPPG Plan is public, all Irondequoit parishioners are encouraged and reminded that the most up-to-date source for on-going information is our website: www.irondequoitcatholic.org

Pro - Life Education

A vision for the future: "By seeking holiness and using the gifts God has given us to accomplish His will in our lives, we are contributing mightily to that kingdom we all long for, where there will be no more crying or pain or death. Certainly no abortion. No euthanasia. No assisted suicide. No deep freezing of embryos as though they were merchandise. And no destruction of human life in the name of science." Cardinal Justin Rigali, 1/21/08

Relocation of Charismatic Masses

Effective Jan 20, 2010 and on the 3rd Wednesday of each month thereafter, the Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Mass will be celebrated at St. Thomas More Parish, 2617 East Ave. Rochester, NY. at 7:00pm. (our previous location was at St. John Fisher.)

Epiphany Lessons and Carols

The music ministries of the five Catholic churches in Gates and Chili will present Epiphany Lessons and Carols at St. Theodore's Church on Sunday, January 3 at 3:00pm. The churches include Holy Ghost, St. Helen's, St. Jude's, St. Pius X, and St. Theodore's. Come and pray with us in word and music as we recall and celebrate the visit of the Magi to the new born king.

"Reconciliation and Renewal"

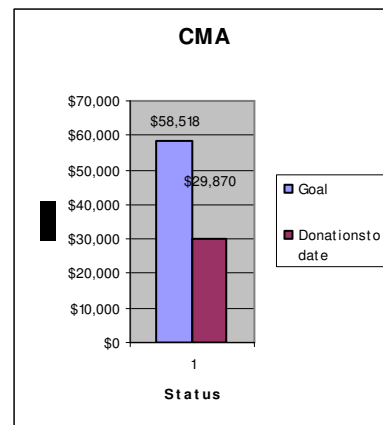
Save the date for the annual "R&R" weekend: February 5th & 6th, 2010. This 'mini-retreat' offers an opportunity for adults to set aside time for a deeper faith experience at Christ the King! The theme for this year will be: "FEAR NOT, I AM WITH YOU." Please watch the bulletin for more details!

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and World Day of Peace

January 1 has been designated by a succession of Popes as The World Day of Peace as well as to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God.

Catholic Ministries Appeal Update as of 12-23-09

2009—2010 Our CMA Goal is \$58,518 and as of 12-23-09 there are 385 Donors who pledged \$29,870. We're 51% of the way **thanks** to all who have contributed to date. If you need more information contact Linda in the office (467-4286, x100) for forms or more information on how to contribute. Please read the inserts prepared by Fr. Jim Hewes. All who have read them have been inspired to make an offering!





The U.S. Bishops have recently given their final approval to the new translation of the Missal, so parishes will need to prepare for the transition once the new Missal is published. Parish staff, liturgy committee members, and other interested parishioners can make the most of this opportunity and update themselves on the vital context of this new translation by taking "History and Theology of the Eucharist" with Dr. David Stosur. This graduate course, which may be taken for credit or audited, will meet at St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry on Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30PM, in the Spring semester, and will include an examination of the new translation. Scholarship monies are available for those wishing to take the course for credit. Call St. Bernard's at 271-3657 x 298 or visit our website: www.stbernards.edu.

**Catholic Women's Club Invitation
Card Party and Luncheon
January 23, 2010
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Midvale Golf and Country Club
2387 Baird Road, Penfield
Donation – \$25.00**

Come share the afternoon with your fellow members and invite your friends and neighbors to help make this event a success. Donations of door and raffle prizes are always appreciated. We look forward to seeing you and hope for your generous support. If anyone is in need of transportation or looking for someone to complete a table, please call the Catholic Women's Club office at 872-5490.

Please send your reservation to:
Catholic Women's Club, Inc.
PO Box 264 Webster, New York
14580

**Reservation deadline is
January 19, 2010.**

Prayer for Families

O Lord, Jesus, God of Love, you are the center of our family. You humbled yourself and came to live among us. And the greater part of your life was spent in your home with Joseph and Mary.

Take our family. Let your peace be with us! Help us to do your will in all that we say or do.

Guide us, Jesus, in our family decisions, in our financial needs and worries, in our work, our play, and in our study.

Give us a strong faith; strengthen our relationship with you. O Lord, keep us on the path to the Father! We ask this in your holy name.

Amen

Men's Club News

There will be a Men's Club Meeting with dinner (Chef's Choice) on **Monday, January 4th at 6:30pm**. The **guest speaker will be Father Leone. His talk will be on his experiences in Kosovo**. The cost is \$10.00. Please call Tom @ 342-3458 or Ray @ 266-2524 by Friday, January 1st to make your reservation.



**WE'RE HERE TO GET YOU
THERE.....**

NEED A RIDE SENIORS? Good Samaritan will take you to your appointment. Please call us first to register & allow 3 business days to find a driver. Service is provided by our volunteers to doctor appointments, hair appointments, grocery shopping & rides to church for Mass. We are always in need of drivers. **CAN YOU HELP?** Please call us for more information at 336-1777 to register, for a ride, or to volunteer. Our phone message system is available 24 hours a day.



**AARP DRIVER
PROGRAM**

The next AARP Driver Safety Program sponsored by ISM is **Mon. & Wed., Jan. 25th & Jan. 27th, 2010**. This program is oriented toward the senior driver but is open to all drivers affiliated with a parish in the Diocese of Rochester.

The 8 hour course is held over 2 days in 4 hour sessions at St. Cecilia's, 2732 Culver Road. A \$12 fee (for AARP Members) & \$14 (non-members) is required at registration.

Please call the Good Samaritan office **336-1777** to pre-register. Classes begin at noon & last until 4pm. Please bring your driver's license, AARP card & a check made out to AARP. Cookies and coffee will be served.

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AAA is offering a 6 hour **Defensive Driving Course** approved by DMV for point reduction & insurance credit. **Saturday January 9th**. This class is being held at St. Cecilia's, 2732 Culver Rd. in rooms 111-111A from **9AM until 3:30PM**. The cost is \$35.00 for AAA members and \$41.00 for non-members.

Call 1-800-836-2582 to register.

Free Blood Pressure Screening will be offered during coffee hours on the **second and fourth Sundays** of each month. Nurse volunteers needed !! Please call parish office (467-4286 ext. 100) if interested. Thank you!