

Church of St. Pius X

23 Crumitie Road, Loudonville, New York 12211 462-1336

Parish Fax: 462-1338 Parish Website www.stpiusxloudonville.org

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Michael A. Farano

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Steven P. Moore

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. James J. Walsh 860-1472

PARISH SECRETARY

Ellie Peterson

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Charles Jones

ASSISTANT ORGANIST

Michael Ricchiuti

BUSINESS MANAGER

Nancy M. Uruskyj

YOUTH MINISTRY/CONFIRMATION

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ASSOCIATE FOR PASTORAL CARE

Jeanne Pitkin

SCHEDULING COORDINATOR

Lou Buff

ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

Lou Klender

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Frank Mason

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Dennis Mullahy 465-4539

SCHOOL SECRETARY

Lori Lasch

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (K-8)

Judy & Peter Ranalli 465-8068

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR REL. ED.

Donna Brown

SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Jerry Forenzo

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS AND SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY - THE LORD'S DAY

VIGIL: SATURDAY 5:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 NOON

WEEKDAY MASSES

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 6:30 AM & 9:00 AM

TUESDAY EVENING: 7:00 PM

SATURDAY: 9:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents must be active, registered members of St. Pius X parish. Arrange preparation for baptism by calling the Parish Office for an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Either the bride or the groom must be a registered, active parishioner of St. Pius X parish. Please make an appointment with one of the priests at least six months before the desired date.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:15 - 4:45 PM

Seasonal Communal Celebrations

By appointment anytime

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Upon request and communally twice a year. Please notify the parish office if anyone in your family is hospitalized, homebound or in a nursing home.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS

For men interested in priesthood, please call 518-312-9397 or visit www.albanyvocations.org

December 28, 2008

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 28, 2008

VOL. LIX 52



WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

Father, the radiance of Your holiness is revealed in the light of Your Son, Jesus, who came to dwell among us. We know that in Him there is no darkness at all. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, enlightens with wisdom and truth through His earthly life revealed in Your Holy Word. And now we have the light of Your Holy Spirit to guide us in a sin-darkened world as we make this earthly journey. May the light that burns within us brighten our countenance and be our power source for truth, holiness, and courageous witness to those who have been blinded by the darkness. We pray that they will come into the light of Your salvation. Amen.

Stephen C. Weber

Bishops Urge Catholics to Act on Pope's World Day of Peace Message

WASHINGTON—The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) urges Catholics to follow the call of Pope Benedict XVI in his 2009 World Day of Peace Message, "Fighting Poverty to Build Peace." To promote action and awareness, the bishops have made available the text of the pope's message, as well as bulletin inserts and other resources on the USCCB Web site at: www.usccb.org/globalpoverty/.

"The bishops want to help people understand the extent of poverty," said Joan Rosenhauer, associate director for education and outreach of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the USCCB. "With 10 percent of families in the U.S. living in poverty and 1.4 billion people worldwide living in extreme poverty, the numbers alone express the urgency of this issue and why Pope Benedict would single it out as an essential part of working for peace."

World Day of Peace is January 1. In the papal message released December 10, Pope Benedict said that poverty is often a contributing factor in armed conflicts, which in turn fuel greater poverty. He decried the growing gap between rich and poor, even in the most developed nations. "This is a problem which the conscience of humanity cannot ignore, since the conditions in which a great number of people are living are an insult to their innate dignity and as a result are a threat to the authentic and harmonious progress of the world community," he said.

Pope Benedict addressed spiritual and moral poverty as well, noting that "in advanced wealthy societies, there is evidence of marginalization, as well as affective, moral and spiritual poverty, seen in people whose interior lives are disoriented and who experience various forms of malaise despite their economic prosperity."

Addressing other areas of poverty, the pope warned against viewing population as a problem and efforts to reduce birth-rates in poor countries. "The extermination of millions of unborn children, in the name of the fight against poverty, actually constitutes the destruction of the poorest of all human beings," he said. He also cited the importance of disarmament and moral responses to pandemic diseases and noted that children are the most vulnerable victims of poverty worldwide.

The pope said that globalization should benefit everyone, even the poorest countries, and said financial policies that have lacked "any long-term consideration of the common good" have hurt everyone. He also called for ethical approaches in market and policy.

Building upon the pope's message on poverty, a full re-launch of USCCB's campaign against global poverty and its Web site is planned for February 23, at the USCCB annual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering.

A Call to Communal Prayer

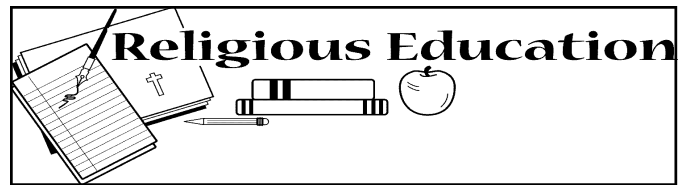
In order to respond more consistently with compassion and prayer beyond our Sunday commitment, the names of those who are seriously ill are printed below.



- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Marilyn Brizzell | Michael Smith |
| Richard Shade | Stephen Mink |
| Gustav Hufland | Ann Boyle |
| Paul Sullivan | Abey Varghese |
| Rose Laiacona | Joseph Schmidt |
| Karen Szesnat | Colleen Clapper |
| Dominick DeFilippo | Richard Bernard |
| Jeanne Fairchild | John Szesnat |
| Mark Farrell | Joseph Pepe |
| Heidi Sengenberger | Lisa Pilla |
| Robert Campbell | James Gaetani |
| Barbara Fitzgerald | Charles Arthur |
| Iris Marini | John Massimilian |
| Edward Kosier | Infant Jack James |
| Joan Morrison | Mary Morrison |
| Patrick Lennon | Jizziyah Skelly |
| Miriam Kleinberger | Charlotte Anne Wolfstich |
| Bob Raffaele | Eveline Farrigan |
| Rafael Agtarap | Gertrude Abele |
| Jennifer Garland | Marilyn Gradoni |
| Dorothy G. Cheeseman | Anne Egan |
| Peg Jubic | Kym Hynes |
| Nathan Natale | Arthur Audi |
| James Rogers | Barbara Ferris |
| Lorraine Mason | Antoinette Guadagnino |
| Richard Malinowski | Judy Delaney |
| Sarah McDonough | Rachal Rodino |
| John Tomchik | Mary Ann O'Grady |
| Lorie Clapper | |



Coordinator: Brian Evers
Phone: 462-1336
E-Mail: spxyouth@hotmail.com



Sunday School Classes: There are no classes on December 28 and January 4 – Christmas Recess. Our next class after Christmas break will be Jan. 11th.

Teacher's Meeting: Our next Teacher's Meeting will be held on January 11 at 8:25 AM in the Faculty Lunch Room.

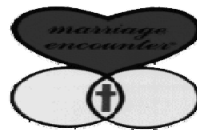
First Reconciliation: Our Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday, January 6 from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the Parish Center. This meeting is for parents in St. Pius X School and the Sunday School Program who have children preparing for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. One parent should be present for each child. Informational packets will be handed out and parents will be choosing a Mass time for First Communion. Fr. Farano will be giving a presentation on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Progress Report #1 for our Sunday School Program will be handed out on February 1. Parents, please sign the report and return it to your child's teacher by Feb. 8. Thank You.

Wishing all of our Families a most blessed and joyous New Year. May the new year of 2009 be a time of renewed peace and togetherness for all of us!



Welcome to Marriage Encounter Albany



All Married couples are invited to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on February 6-8, 2009 in Latham. For more information, please call Ed and Rhonda Staats at 518- 279-3243 or visit the website at www.wwme.org

PASTORAL CARE NEWS

“Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another... And over all these put on love, that is the bond of perfection.”

+ On this feast of the Holy Family, in the first readings we have an opportunity to reflect on the faithfulness of Abraham and Sarah during challenging times. *How strong is your faith? Would you have passed the tests Abram and Sarai endured?*

In Luke’s gospel we observe the expectant faith of Anna and Simeon as they awaited a sign of the promised Savior, the Son who would give His life for all. Can’t you just see their glowing faces as they encountered the one they spent their whole life waiting for! Jesus was the most important person in the world to them. *How important is Jesus to you?*

As Mary and Joseph consecrated their Son, Jesus, to God, they were encouraged in their mission by the lived faith of the past and the lived faith of the present. Through their faith community they found support as they committed their lives to educating and nurturing Jesus, parenting Him with the eyes of faith. *Who are the people who support you in your life mission? What is it about them that encourages your faith to grow?*

In his letter to the Colossians, St. Paul emphasized the attributes found in the faith filled disciple (quoted above). Look around you are these the qualities you find in the people who have helped you over the years. In the New Year, consider emulating these qualities for the people who mean the most to you. May this coming year transform our families with the very holiness of God.

**Whatever you do in 2009
Do all with a thankful heart.**

**Let everything you do and say give praise to
the Lord Jesus Christ.**

GOOD NEWS: Thank you to all who donated Christmas gifts to the Pastoral Care Office for all parishioners who are homebound or residing in nursing homes and struggling financially. Your loving care is worth a million to all of us. Thank you!

MINISTERS OF PRAYER: In **JANUARY** please pray **THAT FAMILIES WILL MODEL CHARITY, GROWTH IN HOLINESS AND TRANSMIT FAITH TO OUR WORLD.** (General Papal Intention for January 2009)

MINISTERS OF PRAYER: The January and February Calendar of the “*Apostolic of Prayer for Priests*” is on the table by the literature rack in the gathering area outside the Chapel entrance. Attached to it are the 2009 Papal Intentions.

Give the Gift of Prayer in 2009 Become a Minister of Prayer!

Our Women’s Scripture Study/Faith Sharing Group will not meet this Wednesday December 31st, 2008. We will meet again on January 7th, 2009. Our focus will be “The Parables”. Please read Matthew 21:28-32; Luke 10:25-37. If you are interested in joining us on Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 AM in Conference Room B, please call the Office at 462-1336.

At the Dominican Retreat & Conference Center:

A New Year’s Evening of Reflection will be held Wednesday December 31st, 2008 at 7:30 PM. Concludes at 12:30 AM. Cost: \$25.

“Intimacy, Forgiveness and Marriage”, A Day Retreat for Married Couples with David C. Olsen, PhD will be held on Saturday January 10th, 2009 from 10 AM to 3 PM. Cost: \$70 per couple.

“Winter Soul-stice”, A Day Retreat for Men and Women with Claudia Gregoire will be held on Sunday January 11th, 2009 from 11 AM to 4 PM. Cost: \$30 .

For more information and to register call 393-4169.

Caregiver Support Group - 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 PM at the Marjorie Doyle Rockwell Center MDRC. **RSVP by calling 438-4164.**

Did you know that affordable health care coverage for your children and teens is available through New York State’s Child Health Plus program? All uninsured children and teens, regardless of family income, are eligible for low or no-cost health care coverage. For information including how to apply, visit the NYS Department of Health website,
or call 1-800-698-4KIDS.

The Way to a Happy New Year

To leave the old with a burst of song;
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the things that bind you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that’s past;
To have the strength to let go your hold
Of the not worthwhile of the days grown old;
To dare go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that’s new;
To help your brother along the road,
To do his work and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world’s good cheer,
Is to have and to give a Happy New Year.

Author Unknown



Be Still and Know that I am God

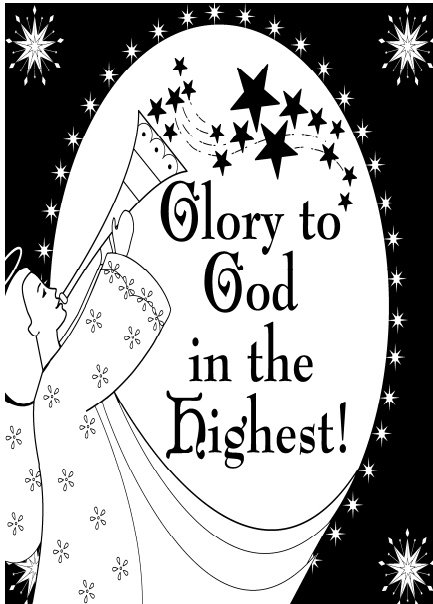
(Psalm 46, 11) ...

Time spent in dialogue with the Lord is never time lost” (Pope John Paul II, Homily, October 24, 1993). Time spent with Christ is never lost, but is time best spent, and in a sense, the greatest act of charity we can offer all the souls that have been entrusted to us. Come join us for **Eucharistic Adoration** every **Friday** after the 9:00 a.m. mass up through closing prayer at 7:00 p.m. All our welcome. For more information about how to become a weekly or substitute adorer, contact Peter Ranalli at 482 - 9087 or Margaret Purcell at 453 - 9302.

Reminder about Parking: As the winter season begins we would like to remind everyone of the importance of following all parking regulations in the Church and School parking lots. It is imperative that entrances are not blocked and that cars are parked only in those areas which are proper parking spaces. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please save the date! **Historic St. Agnes Cemetery** will be sponsoring a lecture presented by Assemblyman Jack McEneny on January 15, 2009 on the history of the City of Albany. This lecture will take place at the cemetery office in Menands at 7:00 pm.

Christian Works and Service:
Thanks to your generosity and that of other Hannaford Supermarket shoppers, we were able to provide Sacred Heart Food Pantry with 183 Fund-a-Feast boxes as of December 20,2008. May you have a joyous Christmas Season and may God love you all.



Christian Works and Service:

Vocation Thought: Among the gifts you give and receive during this season, consider the unique gifts God has given you, and how God may be calling you to share those gifts? Is it possible that your gifts may best be utilized in a vocation to the priesthood or religious life Pray about it during this Advent Season, and if you'd like to speak with someone contact Father James Walsh or Sister Rosemary Ann Cuneo, C.R. at jjwalshie@aol.com / 518-312-9397 or rosemary.cuneo@rcda.org / 518-674-3818.

PARISH DIRECTORY SIGN UPS :

There will be sign up sheets available on the bulletin boards near the Chapel entrance and the main door. They will remain there for a few weeks. Our January dates will be Wednesday, 1/7 and Tuesday 1/13, 1/20,1/27.

Please sign up and be part of this Saint Pius project to help our Sister Parishes. Remember that you are under no obligation to purchase anything, but will receive an 8 X 10 and a directory. Just your sitting is the fund raiser part. For more information, call 459-4519



**Featuring Mark Nelson MD, FACC, MPH
Capital Cardiology Associates**

Take Shape for Life offers:

- ◆ Medically supervised Rapid Weight Loss
- ◆ Free Assessment and Evaluation
- ◆ Free Support and Coaching
- ◆ No drugs or stimulants
- ◆ No Meetings or Weigh Ins
- ◆ No Program Fees
- ◆ Lose Fat, Not Muscle
- ◆ Proven Maintenance Plan
- ◆ Personal and Internet Health Coach Support
- ◆ Cheaper than Nutrisystem

If you've tried every diet known to man without success, this program is for YOU!!! You can start this Program at the FREE Weight Loss Seminar

**Wednesday, January 8th, 7:00 pm
St. Pius X Parish Hall
23 Crumitie Road Loudonville, NY 12211**

The **#1 physician** recommended weight management program in America – developed by **Johns Hopkins University**. Clinical studies performed by Johns Hopkins University proved the **average female lost 47 lbs** and the **average male lost 67 lbs** in **16 weeks**, without hunger or muscle loss. For 24 years this program has been a leader in Weight Management and now offers programs for: Diabetics, people with heart conditions, joint pain, hormone imbalances, athletes and a new program for adolescents.

Community Maternity Services is sponsoring a night at Capital Repertory Theatre on Sunday, December 28, 2008 at 7:00 PM, featuring a production of *Striking 12*, an eclectic new musical based on Hans Christian Anderson's classic fairy tale *The Little Match Girl*. Open seating tickets are \$40.00 and can be purchased by contacting Anne Marie Couser, at 482-8836.

Attention All Parish and School Organizations

With a Parish as large and as busy as ours, we need to be more vigilant in adhering to the policies and procedures set forth at our yearly calendar meeting. This will help to ensure the smooth operation of our parish.

Any use of our parish facilities, that is, meetings, fund raisers, concerts etc. need to be coordinated, pre-scheduled and approved through our parish calendar and facilities coordinator, Lou Buff. This also includes any functions that might be held off campus. Our volunteers and staff do a great job and are to be commended for sharing their time and talents so generously.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call Lou Buff at 465-4539 and he will be most happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Thank You

Catholic Charities Homeless Shelters, Mercy House and St. Charles Lwanga House would like express many thanks for the awesome donations of clothing.

The women and men couldn't believe the outfits of numerous styles that they can use for everyday, job interviews and to attend church.

We appreciate the support of the St. Pius X partnership in assisting the homeless from a crisis state to an independent living situation. Thank you, thank you, and Merry Christmas to all from our shelters to your homes.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the last century, a few new feasts were blended into the Church year, including today's. After World War I, the chaos of daily life in Europe made its impact felt on the family structure. Partly to offer Christians an image of hope and holiness in married family life, and also to promote the welfare of children, today's feast was "invented" in 1921. In 1969, it became a feast of Christmas.

The prayers today remind us not only of family life, but of life in the community of faith. We ponder the mystery of a God who loves us dearly enough to embrace the struggles, the joys, and daily sorrows of family life. The message of Christmas shines through: God-with-us is available to us in the ordinary patterns of our lives and commitments. The lives of people who raise their children in difficult circumstances, and of people who remain faithful to life in the Church in spite of some of their own family struggles, occupy a special place in our hearts today in prayer.



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Following are all the dates on which each of the three weekend eucharistic ministry teams is scheduled to serve during the **2009 calendar year**:

TEAM 1

Jan. 17-18; Feb. 7-8; Feb. 28-Mar. 1; Mar. 21-22; Apr. 11-12; May 2-3; May 23-24; June 13-14; July 4-5; July 25-26; Aug. 15-16; Sept. 5-6; Sept. 26-27; Oct. 17-18; Nov. 7-8; Nov. 28-29; Dec. 19-20.

TEAM 2

Jan. 3-4; Jan. 24-25; Feb. 14-15; Mar. 7-8; Mar. 28-29; Apr. 18-19; May 9-10; May 30-31; June 20-21; July 11-12; Aug. 1-2; Aug. 22-23; Sept. 12-13; Oct. 3-4; Oct. 24-25; Nov. 14-15; Dec. 5-6; Dec. 26-27.

TEAM 3

Jan. 10-11; Jan. 31-Feb. 1; Feb. 21-22; Mar. 14-15; Apr. 4-5; Apr. 25-26; May 16-17; June 6-7; June 27-28; July 18-19; Aug. 8-9; Aug. 29-30; Sept. 19-20; Oct. 10-11; Oct. 31-Nov. 1; Nov. 21-22; Dec. 12-13.

Please keep this schedule, or mark these dates on a calendar at home, so you will know in advance when you are scheduled to be a minister at Mass. If you know you cannot be at Mass when you are scheduled to serve, please **CALL YOUR TEAM LEADER**.

If you have any questions about this schedule, please contact Frank Pugliano at 482-7258 or you may reach him by e-mail at puglframe@nycap.rr.com.

**SAVE THE DATE... for the School Board sponsored...
"A Winter's Night Out in the Roaring 20's"
Saturday, February 7, 2008,**

Wolfert's Roost Country Club. In addition to providing an evening of fun, friendship, good food, and silent and live auctions, this event also will serve as a time celebrate our current accomplishments and to support the future success of the school. As in past years, all of the proceeds from this event are used to further the schools fulfillment of its commitment to Catholic Education. We hope to see you there. Sponsorships are still available. Auction Items Appreciated. Contact Meg Wallingford 465-4539.



Mass Intentions for the week

DECEMBER 29– JANUARY 4

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Mon | 6:30 | Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Raul Diokno |
| | 9:00 | Sharon Signor-Purcell req. Kristin McCoy & Family Jack Galloway req. Irene & Michael Shultz Dick Dowd req. Friends at Behan Communications |
| Tue | 6:30 | Matilda DiNovo and John Reynolds req. Their Family |
| | 9:00 | Arnold Wittig req. His Family Jack Duffy (8th Anniv.) req. His Family Sr. Mary Dennis Maloney req. James G. Brennan |
| | 7:00 | Helen Browne req. Tina Grant Anne Marie Stevens req. St. Pius X Choir |
| Wed | 6:30 | Thanksgiving for Blessings |
| | 9:00 | Irene Bucci (Anniv.) req. Her Family Dick Dowd req. Cindy, Brandon & Taylor Pettit |
| Thur | 6:30 | No Early Mass |
| | 10:00 | New Year's Day Mass |
| Fri | 6:30 | No Early Mass |
| | 9:00 | Michael Maloney req. His Family Thomas Mullen req. Darrell & Janet Burns Virginia Monserrate req. The Helm Family |
| Sat | 9:00 | Jacqueline Rowans req. Her Family Marie Elaine Boyle req. Colin & Susan Kenneally Robert B. Fletcher req. Jim & Jeanne Conboy |
| | 5:00 | Vigil |
| Sun | 8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 Noon | |

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

| DAY | DATE | EVENT | TIME | PLACE |
|------------|--------------|---|--------------------|------------------|
| SUN | 12/28 | Sunday Eucharist | 8, 10, 12 | Church |
| MON | 12/29 | | | |
| TUE | 12/30 | AA Meeting Mass and Marian Devotions | 5:30 pm 7:00 pm | Conf B Chapel |
| WED | 12/31 | | | |
| THU | 1/1 | AA Meeting | 7:00 pm | Conf B |
| FRI | 1/2 | Renew Eucharistic Adoration | 7:00 am 9:30 am | Conf A Chapel |
| SAT | 1/3 | Vigil | 5:00 pm | Church |

Music for Weekend of December 27/28

Gathering: 81– Angels We Have Heard On High
Preparation: 93– It Came Upon A Midnight Clear
Communion: 80– God, Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Recessional: 98– Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Choir: Of The Father's Love Begotten

Eucharistic Ministers & Greeters - Team 2

SERVERS FOR JANUARY 3/4

| | |
|---------|---|
| 5:00 PM | Matt & Kelly Bouchard, Tim & Nick Buff |
| 8:00 AM | Chris & Brian O'Keefe, Emily & Sarah Nicol, N. Audino |
| 10:00AM | Bridget & Molly McQuade, M. Percy, Ethan Mendel |
| 12:00PM | Andy & Teddy Burke, J. Buchanan, Lyndsey Hans |

READINGS FOR JAN. 4, 2009

EPHIPANY OF OUR LORD

Is 60: 1-6

EPH 3: 3-6

MT 2: 1-12



**DOMINICAN RETREAT
AND CONFERENCE CENTER**
1945 Union Street, Niskayuna, NY
518-393-4169

New Year's Evening of Reflection

Join us for an evening of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, as a way to round out the old year and begin the new one fresh from God. Evening only (concludes about 12:30 AM) \$25.00. Evening program plus over-

night accommodations and light continental breakfast \$50.00/ person.

For information or reservations, call Dominican Retreat & Conference Center, 518-393-4169 Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM -4:30 PM, e-mail dslcny@nycap.rr.com or visit us at www.dslcny.org.