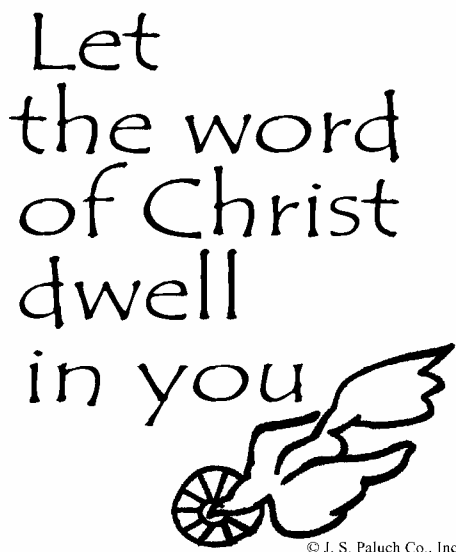


FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 30, 2007

VOL. LVIII 52




TRUST IN GOD

Saint Matthew's account of the flight into Egypt takes center stage today as we continue to follow the story of the Holy Family. Once again the angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream, telling him to take the child Jesus and his mother to Egypt. Joseph heeds the command and takes them on what must have been a strenuous journey. Saint Matthew does not give us any of the details, but we can only imagine what this journey must have been like. Where did they eat? Where did they find shelter? What were the roads like? Was Joseph able to find work? The Holy Family survived in no small measure because they put their trust in God. This is exactly what today's feast calls us, God's holy family, to do.

**LOURDES 150th JUBILEE FEAST DAY
PILGRIMAGE
Feb. 8-13 2008**

Join our pilgrimage Family as we journey to Lourdes to celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes in the 150th Jubilee Year. It is sure to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. For more information please call 315-476-0026 Lourdes North American Volunteers or visit us on the web at www.LourdesVolunteers.org.

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PASTORAL CARE NEWS

May we have a New Year filled with Hope!

NEEDED: If you are interested in volunteering to substitute in the leadership of rosary and/or communion services at adult residences please call the Pastoral Care Office at 462-1336.

MINISTERS OF PRAYER: In JANUARY please pray FOR WORLD PEACE!

Our Women's Scripture Study/Faith Sharing Group will not meet this Wednesday January 2, 2008. We will gather again on Wednesday January 9th, 2008 from 10 to 11:30 AM in Conference Room B.

At the Dominican Retreat & Conference Center:
"You Have Crowned the Year with Your Goodness", a New Year's Evening of Reflection with Rev. Dan Dwyer, OFM will be held Monday December 31st, 2007 at 7:30 PM. Cost: \$25. For more information and to register call 393-4169.

CARES will meet Thursday January 3rd at 7:30 PM in Mercy Room 4 of St. Peter's Hospital. CARE is a support group for persons who have experienced an ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, stillbirth or death of an infant shortly after birth. Information? 525-1602.



St. Pius X PEP Group Luncheon

The next luncheon to be held by the St. Pius X PEP Group will be held on Thursday, January 3rd at The Firkin and Fox on Wolf Road. The group will meet at 1:00 pm. Please feel free to join us for what will be a great gathering of good folks and fine food. For more information please call Margaret Charron at 783-6242. Hope to see you there.

Call Karen Laberge 458-7113

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MASS SCHEDULE

Mon	6:30	No Early Mass
	9:00	Irene Bucci (Anniv.) req. Her Family
Tue	6:30	No Early Mass
	10:00	New Year's Day Mass
Wed	6:30	Catherine S. Britton req. Her Family Jack Duffy (B'Day) req. His Daughter
	9:00	Elizabeth Zappone req. Cindy & Taylor Pettit William M Sweet req. Martha Jean Perpetua Virginia Monserrate req. The Helm Family
Thur	6:30	Homebound Parishioners
	9:00	Anne Rosenthal req. The Buckley Family Stella Klender req. Lou, Lauren & Chelsea Jacqueline Rowan req. Her Family
Fri	6:30	Angela R. Mason req. Her Family
	9:00	Anne Rosenthal req. Joe & Eileen Micheli Cecilia & John Foley req. The Famiy Aleah Durazzo req. Andrew Catalon
Sat	9:00	Filomena DeMaso req. Her Daughter Ellen Farrell req. Jim & Jean Conboy John & Mary Elacqua req. Margaret Peppin
	5:00	Vigil Mass
Sun	8:00 am; 10:00 am; 12:00 Noon	

PARISH CALENDAR

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME	PLACE
SUN	12/30	Sunday Eucharist RCIA	8, 10, 12 11:00 am	Church Conf A
MON	12/31			
TUE	1/1	AA Meeting	5:30 pm	Conf B
WED	1/2			
THU	1/3	AA Meeting Mom's Group	7:00 pm 8:00 am	Conf B P. Hall
FRI	1/4	Renew Adoration	7:00 am 9:30 am	Conf B Chapel
SAT	1/5	Vigil Mass	5:00 pm	Church

Eucharistic Ministers & Greeters - Team 1

SERVERS FOR January 5/6

5:00 PM	S. Niro, J. Szesnat, M. Minnenberg, L. Kipper
8:00 AM	V. Bulson, B. & C. O'Keefe, Frank Hughes
10:00 AM	Sean & Josh Hulbert, Michael Fish, B. Fitzgerald
12:00 PM	T. Burke, Michael & Ashley Tanski, Teddy Burke

READINGS FOR
JANUARY 6, 2008
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Is 60: 1-6
EPH 3: 2-6
MT 2: 1-12

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Music for Weekend of December 29/30

Gathering: 78: God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen
Preparation: 707: Sing of Mary
Communion: 105: What Child Is This
Going Forth: 98: Go Tell It On The Mountain
Adult Choir: In the Bleak Mid Winter

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

Pagliari Ristorante 465-1001
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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 | Christopher Connolly |
| Baltus Gottschalk | John Schupp |
| Christopher Arthur | Gustav Hufland |
| Paul Sullivan | Manuel Abello |
| Rose & Joe Laiacona | Harry Strait |
| Karen Szesnat | Colleen Clapper |
| Dominick DeFilippo | Helen Yezzi |
| Jeanne Fairchild | John Szesnat |
| Mark Farrell | Joseph Pepe |
| Mary Fitzsimmons | Heidi Sengenberger |
| Robert Campbell | James Gaetani |
| Michael Lozano | Bill Sherry |
| Iris Marini | John Massimilian |
| Bob DeGross | Carol Mitchell |
| Joan Morrison | Mary Morrison |
| Sylvester Battaglia | Patrick Lennon |
| Edna Wassmer | Miriam Kleinberger |
| Bob Raffaele | Bryan Shields |
| Rafael Agtarap | Gertrude Abele |
| Jennifer Garland | Melissa Behrmann |
| Dorothy G. Cheeseman | Marybeth Carey |
| Peg Jubie | Kym Hynes |
| Rhonda Szalaszny | Gloria Mahood |
| Joseph Sawicki | |

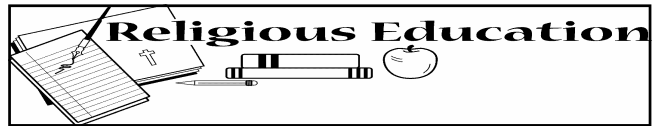


Coordinator: Brian Evers
Phone: 462-1336
E-Mail: spxyouth@hotmail.com

The Confirmation Sunday Session has been rescheduled. The new date is Sunday, January 27th from 1:30 pm until 5:00 pm. Walk thru the Mass begins at 3:30 pm. Parents are invited to the Mass.

Merry Christmas

The faculty, staff and students of St. Pius X Parish School would like to extend everyone their warmest Christmas wishes. This Christmas we pray that He will bless you and yours with everything good and that His love will always light your way. Our best wishes too for a healthy and peaceful New Year.



Sunday School Classes: There are no classes on Dec. 23 or Dec. 30 – Christmas Recess. Our next class, after Christmas break, will be Jan. 6 #12.

Teacher’s Meeting: Our next Teacher’s Meeting will be held on January 13th at 8:00 AM in the Faculty Lunch Room.

First Reconciliation: Our Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday, January 8th 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 January 27. Parents, please sign the report and return it to your child’s Teacher by Feb. 10th. Thank You.

Wishing all our families a most Blessed Christmas. May the blessing of the Christ Child warm our hearts and brighten our way as we bring Jesus into our world more fully.

Thank You

Dear Father Farano and Parishioners of St. Pius X,

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.



Sincerely,
 Jean Dobbs
 Director of Shelters

PASTORAL CARE NEWS

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel which means ‘God is with us.’”

+ Isaiah gave this prophecy to the Hebrew people. It is later quoted in the gospel as Matthew narrates Jesus’ birth. How powerful are the words proclaimed, “God is with us.”

During these sacred yet very busy days find a quiet corner to sit and relax. Put all your concerns aside, become conscious of the rhythm of your heart or your breathing and listen deep within to the inner silence of His presence in the “manger” where you have made room for Him. Yes “God is with us.” Let us adore and worship Him on bended knee.

**“Grace to you
and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ...”
this Christmas and
through the New Year.**

GOOD NEWS: Thank you to the volunteer who hand painted and refurbished a 24 inch statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to be used during prayer services at an area adult home. Your donation is a very special gift to the faithful seniors living there.

NEEDED: If you are interested in volunteering to substitute in the leadership of rosary and/or communion services at adult residences please call the Pastoral Care Office at 462-1336.

MINISTERS OF PRAYER: In **DECEMBER** please pray **FOR THE PEOPLES OF OUR WORLD THAT THEY WILL RECOGNIZE JESUS AS GOD’S ENVOY, THE ONLY SAVIOR OF THE WORLD.**

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.

Become a Minister of Prayer!

Our Women’s Scripture Study/Faith Sharing Group will not meet this Wednesday December 26th, 2007. We will gather again on Wednesday January 9th, 2008 from 10 to 11:30 AM in Conference Room B. Our focus will be Philippians 4:2-23. Come join us! Please call the Pastoral Care Office at 462-1336 for more information.

At the Dominican Retreat & Conference Center:

“You Have Crowned the Year with Your Goodness”, a New Year’s Evening of Reflection with Rev. Dan Dwyer,

OFM will be held Monday December 31st, 2007 at 7:30 PM. Cost: \$25. **For more information and to register call 393-4169.**

CARES will meet Thursday January 3rd at 7:30 PM in Mercy Room 4 of St. Peter’s Hospital. CARE is a support group for persons who have experienced an ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, stillbirth or death of an infant shortly after birth. Information? 525-1602.

There is a Post-Abortion Bereavement Group held on six Consecutive Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 PM at St. Peter’s Hospital. It is designed to assist parents who have terminated a pregnancy for medical or genetic reasons and are dealing with the feelings of loss and grief that go with the decision. For more information and to register call Maureen at 525-1872.

A Christmas Blessing

**May all the days
Of all the years
That God has still in store
Be filled with every joy
And grace
To bless you more and more;**

**May hope of heart
And peace of mind
Beside you every stay,
And that’s the golden wish I have
For you,
this Christmas Day!**

From Franciscan Mission Associates

WE ARE SEEKING THE NAMES AND WHEREABOUTS OF PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK, OR HOMEBOUND, OR NOW LIVING IN ADULT RESIDENCES OR NURSING HOMES. We are unaware of numerous parishioners who are sick, homebound, or living in adult residences or nursing homes because of their changing health conditions. Please let the Pastoral Care Office know if a family member is living in one of these facilities or is no longer able to gather with us at the weekend liturgy. We want to keep in touch. Your help will keep us informed so we can be supportive during their illnesses and declining health. Please call 462-1336 to let us know. Thank You!

Please Note that the Pastoral Care Office will be closed from December 19th, 2007 through January 2nd 2008.

THY KINGDOM COME...

The Lord is coming as man!

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Son of Mary through whom we receive the promise of salvation. The Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of God's plan. We are called to do the same. Meet with Him every Friday at Eucharistic Adoration any time after the 9:00 AM Mass until 7:00 PM in the parish chapel. If you have any questions, you may contact Peter Ranalli (482-9087) or Margaret Purcell at 453-9302.

Please pray for all vocations! Each weekend until Palm Sunday 3/15/08, Blessed Sacrament Church on Central Avenue in Albany will offer a Holy Hour of "Adoration for Vocations" every Saturday evening from 5:15-6:15. Bring a friend who is discerning priesthood, diaconate, religious life, marriage, or the generous single life. For more information, call 518-482-3375.

Shop at our Parish Literature Sales racks in the main and side foyers. The newspapers and magazines keep us updated on church news and views. There are inexpensive books for children and Bibles fit for any occasion. Stop by and keep yourself educated in faith.

PARISH GREETERS

Please feel free to act as a Greeter at any liturgy that you will be attending for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or New Year's. You may need to change your location, but people enjoy seeing you when they arrive.

Catholic Charities: There are several job opportunities available at Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany. These are in various categories of service throughout the diocese. For information on any of these positions, please call 453-6650 or visit the website at www.rcda.org and click on Catholic Charities.

Christian Works and Service: The November Food Collection for Sacred Heart Food Pantry provided food for 68 families. The Friendship Table provided 254 individuals a total of 321 meals. There were 120 adults, 8 children, and 126 seniors. There were 14 volunteers who worked 52 hours. Thanks to your generosity with the Giving Tree we were able to provide 28 Sleeping Bags to the Homeless Action Committee. We were able to give toiletries to the Homeless Action Committee and to the Mercy House for Women and the Lawanga House for Men. Again thank you for your generosity and May God love you.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – Join Fr. Tony Childs, Associate Pastor of St. Ambrose Parish and Christopher Cross, KHS on a once in a lifetime journey of faith to the

Holy Land March 2 - 13, 2008. This trip is scheduled to take place during Lent, and conclude before Easter! Mr. Cross, is a veteran tour leader to the Holy Land, having completed over 40 trips, These trips always sell out, and seats are limited, especially with this being a Lenten trip. Be advised that this is not a vacation style trip, but truly a pilgrimage intended to enrich our Faith in Jesus. For more information, contact Fr. Tony Childs at 785-1351 or Christopher Cross at 1-888-727-5881. You can visit the pilgrimage web site on the internet at www.catholicholyland.com Fr. Tony
A Pilgrimage Information Meeting is planned for January 3, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the McCormick Parish Center. Please call Fr. Tony to reserve your space. All are welcome to attend this important evening.

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.

The Christmas Star

May the Light that shone from the
Christmas Star

On that night so long ago
Fall on you this Christmas night and
set your face aglow.

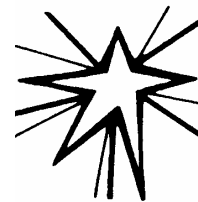
May it shine from your eyes.

May it rest in your mind.

May it burn in your Spirit bright.

May the Peace it spoke to a weary world.

Bring joy to your heart tonight.



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A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar: The child born to Jesus and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Christmas reminds us every child is a sign of God's miraculous presence in our lives. When you look at a child think "Emmanuel – God is with us!"

SAVE THE DATE...

for the School Board sponsored...

"A Winter's Night Out on the Emerald Isle"

February 9, 2008,

at the 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.

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.

Due to the December 16 snow storm, our Choir's presentation of Bach's Cantata 142 with Orchestra will take place on Sunday, January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany, at 10 am mass. The cantata will be sung at the usual musical segments of mass, as done in Bach's day. Come celebrate this special feast of "Little Christmas" with inspiring music.

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~December 23, 2007 Stop asking for a sign and become one. Consider becoming a priest or religious. If God is calling you, call Fr. James Walsh at 518-312-9197: , or visit the Vocation web site at www.albanyvocations.com

Catholic Central High School will be holding middle school and high school registration days on Saturday, January 5, 2008 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm and Wednesday, January 9, 2008 from 3:30 pm - 8:00 pm. The placement exam will be given on Thursday, February 7, 2008 from 8:15 am - 11:30 am for students entering grades 7-9. Please call 235-7100 ext. 203 to schedule a registration appointment and/or reserve a seat for the placement exam.

ADULT CONFIRMATION:

If you are a baptized Catholic but have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are invited to inquire about receiving this sacrament by contacting Peter Ranalli at our parish Office of Religious Education. Please call at 465-8068.

**Eucharistic Ministers –
Christmas Masses**

Eucharistic ministers can stop in the sacristy today to sign-up to serve at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS 2008 SCHEDULE

Following are all the dates on which each of the three Eucharistic Minister teams is scheduled to serve during the **2008 calendar year:**

TEAM 1

Jan. 5-6; Jan. 26-27; Feb. 16-17; Mar. 8-9; Mar. 29-30; Apr. 19-20; May 10-11; May 31-June 1; June 21-22; July 12-13; Aug. 2-3; Aug. 23-24; Sept. 13-14; Oct. 4-5; Oct. 25-26; Nov. 15-16; Dec. 6-7; Dec. 27-28.

TEAM 2

Jan. 12-13; Feb. 2-3; Feb. 23-24; Mar. 15-16; Apr. 5-6; Apr. 26-27; May 17-18; June 7-8; June 28-29; July 19-20; Aug. 9-10; Aug. 30-31; Sept. 20-21; Oct. 11-12; Nov. 1-2; Nov. 22-23; Dec. 13-14.

TEAM 3

Jan. 19-20; Feb. 9-10; Mar. 1-2; Mar. 22-23; Apr. 12-13; May 3-4; May 24-25; June 14-15; July 5-6; July 26-27; Aug. 16-17; Sept. 6-7; Sept. 27-28; Oct. 18-19; Nov. 8-9; Nov. 29-30; Dec. 20-21.

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 **ARRANGE FOR A SUBSTITUTE OR CALL YOUR TEAM LEADER.**

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

Thank you for volunteering your time
to this most precious ministry.