

PARISH NEWS

R.C. CHURCH of the RESURRECTION



Nr. 1 (3158) January 1, 2017

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



Today's reading is a continuation from the Gospel proclaimed at the Christmas Mass at midnight. In it the shepherds act upon the message they receive from the angel and go to find Jesus in the manger in Bethlehem. In their visit to the manger, the shepherds find things just as the angel had said. The shepherds' visit, therefore, is a moment of fulfillment, manifestation, and the beginning of the salvation we receive through Christ.

In the context of today's Solemnity, this reading also helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby *Jesus* as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Our call to discipleship also includes these three aspects. First, discipleship means prayer and reflection on the events of our lives that we might see God's presence and work in our lives. Second, discipleship means obedience to God and God's will. Third, discipleship includes fidelity to a community of faith. (loyolapress.com) R.R.

Sunday Missal 149 pg.;

O God, be gracious and bless us, and let your face shine upon us.

(CBW 36 pg.)

Sunday's Mass intentions are for :

- 9 a.m.** †Brough, Cerniauskas and Pranckevicius
deceased family members
(S.Brough and D.Pranaitis)
- 11 a.m.** for living and deceased parishioners
†Leo Bates (26th anniv.) (family)
Inocentas Jurcevicus (A.Jurcevicus)
†Elzbieta Kazlauskas (I.Navickas and family)
In thanksgiving (Gitana)
Requesting the grace of health for brother
(A.Ratavicius)
†Genovaite Tunkunas (J.E.Siciunas)
†Anicetas and Elena Prialgauskas (by bequest)

This week's holy mass Schedule

- MONDAY** (January 2): 7 p.m. †Ilona Smalenskas (V.Puzeris);
TUESDAY (January 3): 7 p.m. living and deceased benefactors;
WEDNESDAY (January 4): 7 p.m. †Romualda Cepulis (Camp
Kretinga);
THURSDAY (January 5): 7 p.m. †Stase Petusonis (Ramona and
Ruta);
FRIDAY (January 6): 7 p.m. †Kotryna Taujenas (A.Ledas);
†Stefanija and Jonas Garla (G.Kavaliunas-Obalis);
SATURDAY (January 7): 9 a.m. †Rimas Jakstas (J.G.Stasiulevicius);
5 p.m. "Vilnius Manor" †Vytautas Bistonas (B. Tamosiunas);
SUNDAY (January 8): 9 a.m. †Rimas Strimaitis (family); 11 a.m. for
living and deceased parishioners; †Juozas Zemaitis (G.Kobelskis);
†Sofija Styra (N.Bates); †Zigmas (6th anniv.) and Ona (3rd anniv.)
Girdauskas (family); †Egle and Ceslovas Gudaitis (son and family);
†Genovaite Tunkunas (J.E.Siciunas); †Anicetas and Elena
Prialgauskas (by bequest).



Another year of success and happiness has passed.
 With this New Year, come greater challenges and obstacles in life.
 We wish you courage, hope and faith to overcome all the hurdles you face.
 May you have a great, healthy and wonderful year!

Happy New 2017 Year and God bless you.

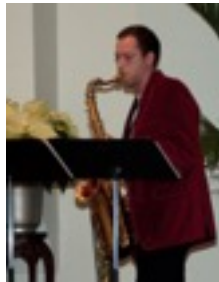
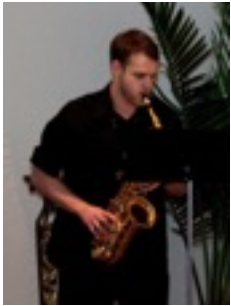
Your Franciscan Fathers and all the ordained Clergy serving our Parish.



Sincere thanks to the “Occasional” choir, Children’s choir and their leaders, **soloists and instrumentalists**, Anita Puodziunas, Julija Krisciunas, Aras Puodziunas, Aras Pabedinskas, Gintas Pabedinskas, Gytis Pabedinskas and Robert DiVito.



Sincere thanks to everyone who helped with Christmas Holiday preparations, gifts and financial support to our Parish.



Thank you for all your prayers..



THE WORD AMONG US

The January edition of “The Word Among Us” has arrived and can be found in the foyer of the church. This wonderful publication is a genuine encouragement for Catholics who want to deepen their spiritual life through Scripture and prayer using the daily Mass readings.

The New Canadian version with daily Mass readings has been arriving at our church for the last year and is available monthly for a cost of \$5. *Thank you.*



Camp "Kretinga" wishes everyone **a Blessed Christmas and Happy 2017 New Year!**
Camp "Kretinga" 2017:

English speaking July 2nd - 15th; Lithuanian speaking July 16th – 29th
Family camp: July 30th - August 5th

Collections on December 24th - Christmas Eve:

100 envelopes - \$ 6,480
 Without envelopes - \$ 388.05
 Attendance 400

Collections on December 25th - Christmas Day:

104 envelopes - \$ 4,585.75
 Without envelopes - \$ 458.70
 Direct deposit - \$ 875

Attendance 250

Holiday donations to the Parish renovation fund - \$ 18,500

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.