

December 20, 2009 Fourth Sunday of Advent



Dear Parishioners!

God desires our love so much that he sent his son Jesus, Love Himself, to invite us to be his people. The angel Gabriel asked Mary to be the mother of Jesus. During the nine months while Jesus was growing in Mary's womb, Mary acted as Jesus' footsteps; he went everywhere she chose. Mary was his food, his warmth, his home. Her breathing was his breath. Jesus became human in Mary and wants to be allowed into our lives also. Our love for him will be his manger. Let us pray in our own words that our hearts may be good homes for Jesus, that this Christmas we may be his manger by making

Gabriel had a beautiful message for Mary, that she would room for him as Mary did.....conceive by the power of the Holy Spirit and give birth to Jesus, who would be the Son of God (Luke 1:31-32). God has an invitation for us also. Just as Mary was Jesus' feet, breath, and shelter during his first nine months, we are invited to give shelter to Jesus by allowing him into our lives. Just as Mary took Jesus with her everywhere she went during those first nine months, we are invited to take Jesus with us everywhere we go so that it will be Christmas for everyone we meet. Let us thank God for this wonderful invitation.

“May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.”

Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

Fr. Zenon Boczek, SDS

Thank you Eileen & Jim Mattison for the donation of two beautiful Fraser Fir Trees. This gift is in loving memory of Eileen &

Saturday, December 19
5 p.m. *Jessie & William Reynolds*
r/o Susan Reynolds

Sunday, December 20
8:00 a.m. *Irena Agaciak*
r/o Father Zenek
10:30 a.m. *Pieda Castro*
r/o Sanchez Family

Monday, December 21
8:45 a.m. *Sabino Antinolfi*
r/o Family

Tuesday, December 22
8:45 a.m. *Madonna of Health*
r/o Angela Gross

Wednesday, December 23
8:45 a.m. *Elizabeth, Thomas & Louis DeBari*
r/o Sam & Marietta Tridente

Thursday, Christmas Vigil, December 24
8:45 a.m. *No Morning Mass*
5 p.m. *Parishioners of St. Theodore*
Midnight *Parishioners of St. Theodore*

Friday, Nativity of the Lord, December 25
9 a.m. *Parishioners of St. Theodore*
11 a.m. *Parishioners of St. Theodore*

Saturday, December 26
5 p.m. *Frances Sparacino*
r/o Nancy Martinez

Sunday, December 27
8:00 a.m. *The Durnin Family*
r/o Mary Rupell
10:30 a.m. *Rosalia Kopsco*
r/o Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Paslawski

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 20: Mass 10:30 am:

Blessing of Baby Jesus

MASSES:

Christmas Vigil: 5 pm: Children's Mass;

11 pm Concert; 12 Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day: 9 am & 11 am

Dec. 28: Special Mass 6 pm: Feast of the Holy Innocents:

Blessing of babies and children at this Mass.

New Year's Eve: 6:30 pm

New Year's Day: 9 am & 11 am



Jim's parents: Violet & Earl Johnson and
Marion & Roy Mattison.

Our sincere thanks also go to Mike & Kathy Kochan and
daughters for their donation of a beautiful Christmas tree
to St. Theodore Church.

Contact Information

Saint Theodore Roman Catholic Church
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Parish Staff

Father Zenon Boczek, SDS, Pastor..... ext 4
Elisa Sforza, Coordinator of Religious Ed
and Music Director.....ext 2
Mary Rupell, Office Manager/Bookkeeper.....ext 1

Ministry

RCIA, and Prayer Chain, Rose Strohmaier
..... (908)303-9692
Care of the sick.....Mary Ann DeLany
Altar Rosary Society:Meetings third Monday
of the month7:00 PM
Youth Group McCormick, Colin & Colleen

Liturgical information

Weekends

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
Weekdays Monday –Thursday.....8:45 AM
First Friday and First Saturday.....8:45 AM

Holy Days

Vigil Mass.....6:30 PM
Holy Day..... 8:45 AM and 6:30 PM

Reconciliation

Saturday.....4:00 - 4:30 PM
in the church or by appointment

DEVOTIONS

Rosary:

First Saturday8:20 AM

Miraculous Medal Novena

Immediately following Monday Mass8:45 AM

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday and Saturday after morning mass until 10:00 AM

Christmas Gift Giving

During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus. Most of us
also begin to purchase special presents for our family during
the Advent Season. This year many will have to trim their
Christmas gift budget because of the current financial crunch
our country is experiencing. Your church is also affected by the
downturn in the economy.

Please remember that your contribution is our budget and
because of your past generosity we have been able to meet
our responsibilities. However, those of you who regularly
attend Mass are aware that the weekly collections have been
declining for more than a year. I have trimmed expenses in
every possible way—from landscaping & grass mowing, church
& rectory repairs to snow removal, (services which are no
longer contracted out) to compensate for the decline in
revenue.

I am asking you to please remember your church when
preparing a special Christmas gift list and be very generous in
your donation to St. Theodore Church. Thank you, Fr. Zenek



Sanctuary Candle in Loving Memory of
Elizabeth, Louis & Thomas DeBari
By Sam & Marietta Tridente

Please pray for: Chris, Bree, Anna & John Saksa,
Stephen, Ray & Alice O'Donnell, Vickie Li Puma,
Theresa, Mary, Robert Gross, Lillian Shaffer, Bridget,
Beatrice Gillis, Erin Stanton, Theresa Kugelman, Katlyn
Faulkner, Dolores, Renee Drag, Geri Hedges, John P.,
Honol Shah, Barbara Zack, Charlie, Vinnie Perna. *To add
Name: Call Parish Office 908-689-8318*

Altar Rosary Society News: Meeting: Monday Dec. 21
@ 7pm in the Parish Center; **Christmas Party**
immediately following. Members are asked to bring a
covered dish or dessert.

Religious Education Corner

Dec. 21 & Dec. 28: No Religious Education Session

Altar Servers

Dec. 24, 5 pm: R. & J. Capaldo; **Midnight:** A. Viotto, P. Koskoff
Dec. 25, 9 am: 11 am: L. & G. Gleba
Dec. 26: Sean Flaherty, Nora Renn, Carlee Moran
Dec. 27: Robert & Juliette Capaldo-8; Melody Haag, Walter &
William Gonsiewski-10:30

Lectors

Dec. 24, 5 pm: Bob Gagliano **Midnight:** Mary Rupell
Dec. 25, 9 am: Fran Licciardiello 11 am: Jeanine Gleba
Dec. 26: Nancy Guerriere
Dec. 27: Mary Rupell-8; Helene Picht-10:30

Eucharistic Ministers

Dec. 24, 5 pm: R. Vonderheide E, J. Capaldo C **Midnight:** P Koskoff
E, M. Koskoff & R. Strohmaier C
Dec. 25, 9 am: E & J Mattison C; E. Cirone E ;**11 am:** C. Shipley E,
H. Picht C
Dec. 26: Tim Flaherty E, Denise Flaherty & Ray Vonderheide-C
Dec. 27: Bill Supple E, Joan Capaldo & Diane Keggan C-8; Patricia
Kollar E, Joy Haag & Jane Labato C-10:30

Our Weekly Offering

Last Week \$ 2639.50