

MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN CHURCH

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December 23, 2012

4th Sunday of Advent

December 25, 2012

*The Nativity of the
Lord*

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Worship Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Schedule

Mon., Tues., Wed., and Thurs.: Mass

Fri.: Communion Service

First Friday of the month: Mass

All at 8:30 a.m.

Rosary Devotion

Monday through Friday: 8:00 AM

Sacraments

Reconciliation - Saturday 3:30 p.m.

Baptism

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 2:00 p.m. Required Baptismal preparation on the 2nd Tues. at 7:30 p.m. Call Deacon Tom to register.

Marriage

Please contact the Pastor 6 months in advance.

Parish Office Hours

Mon.-Fri.:9:00am-4:00pm

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Anthony R. Taschetta
Pastor

Rev. John Barrett
Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Tom Nolan (630) 279-5700
Baptismal Coordinator

Deacon Alex Grozik (630) 530-0503
Vocations

Mary Ann Woods (630) 832-8962
Director, Religious Education

Genet Pinkerton (630) 833-9500
Preschool Director

Mimi Nolan (630) 279-5700
Pastoral Associate/RCIA/Bereavement

Sr. Marlene Geimer, SLW (630) 279-5700
Julie Blaszak
Office Managers

Ed Nowak (708) 246-0868
musicdirector@maryqueen.org
Music Director

Marta Gamboa (630) 279-5700
mqbulletin@maryqueen.org
Bulletin Editor
Website

Note from the Pastor



Christmas 2012

"I only work weekends." This is my favorite response to those who comment on how busy the life of a priest can be. Well, we are now entering into the priest's longest weekend. And it will be busy. The Creasters (those who show up at Christmas and Easter) will be here in droves. It is my hope and intention to give all the very best experience possible in the hope against hope that they will show up the following Sunday. We'll see.

And what are these good people looking for as they pack the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses? The same thing we are all looking for every Christmas. It's called the 'Christmas Spirit.' The Christmas Spirit is that warm inner glow that we feel to the depth of our soul that God is not only in the heavens but now has visited us in the flesh and all is right with the world. It is the joy of being with family and friends and the glory that comes from knowing how loved you are. It is that special warmth that comes in the midst of the cold; light that comes in the midst of the darkness. It is the Christmas Carol writ large in our hearts where we can all shout with Ebenezer, "Merry Christmas, Everyone!" It is as sweet and gentle and beautiful as life can be.

And it seems it is becoming rarer every year. No matter how soon we start (Costco had Christmas lights and ornaments in September) or how much we listen to LiteFM (If I hear Burl Ives sing, "Have a holly, jolly, Christmas," one more time I'm going to scream) it is really hard to get into the Christmas Spirit. Maybe it is just too commercial. Maybe we are trying to buy our happiness. For sure, we are all over-extended and way too busy. But, I honestly believe, what robs us of our Christmas Spirit are our expectations. We watch these perfect families on television singing carols around the spinet and the feel good Hallmark stories and we imagine that that should be us. Instead, our kids are cranky, our spouse is disinterested, and we're just too overwhelmed. It just never happens the way we want it to. The most dangerous thing about expectations is that they are resentments waiting to happen.

May I make a suggestion? Lower your expectations. Down. Way, way down. That's the advice I give to every bride before her wedding day. I tell her to picture the perfect wedding in her mind. You got it? Now throw it in the garbage can. I promise you, Murphy will be in high gear on your wedding day. There is only one thing you want to be perfect on your wedding day and that's your vows. Everything else is fru fru. And then, no matter what happens, it will be wonderful. It's the same thing with Christmas. The more we try to make it perfect, the more we are disappointed. Don't go after the Christmas Spirit. Let the Christmas Spirit come to you.

You see, the truth is the Christmas Spirit is already in you. Another name for it is the Holy Spirit. We are conceived in it. We can't get away from it. Our problem is that we cover it up with so much frenetic activity that we can't see it for what it is. It is hidden in plain sight. Do you want the Christmas Spirit? Surprise! You already have it. Look around you. Take a good, hard look at your children. Behold the Divine radiate through them to you. Take a good, hard look at your spouse. When was the last time you saw the one you fell madly in love with years ago? Take a look at yourself. That's the hardest of all. But when you look in the mirror and smile you will be able to see the Divine Presence through the dross that dulls our vision. It is there. You were born with it. And it shall remain. It is the spirit of God. It is the Christmas Spirit. It is the Spirit that says no matter what, no matter how, no matter who, you will never be separated. You will never be alone. You will always be loved. And if that doesn't give you the warm willies of the Christmas Spirit, nothing will.

So quit trying. Relax. Look around you.
It's Christmas. Every day.

In Jesus, Emmanuel, God With Us,



Calendar



CALENDAR OF EVENTS DECEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 30

Sunday, December 23, 2012

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM MQH Mass
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM CRHP (Men) in Conf. Room

Monday, December 24, 2012

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Christmas Children's Liturgy Mass
6:30 PM Christmas Family Mass
10:30 PM Christmas Choir Music
11:00 PM Christmas Midnight Mass

Tuesday, December 25, 2012

Christmas Day (Office Closed)

8:30 AM Christmas Day Mass
10:30 AM Christmas Day Mass

Wednesday, December 26, 2012

Day after Christmas (Office Closed)

NO RE Classes

8:30 AM MQH Mass

Thursday, December 27, 2012

8:30 AM MQH Mass

Friday, December 28, 2012

8:30 AM Communion Service

Saturday, December 29, 2012

3:30 PM Confessions
4:30 PM MQH Mass

Sunday, December 30, 2012

Feast of the Holy Family

8:30 AM & 10:30 AM MQH Mass
10:40 AM - 11:30 AM Children's Liturgy of the Word in Room 2-3
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM CRHP (Men) in Conf. Room



Advent | Christmas Schedule

Weekend Masses December 22, 23

Masses at regular weekend times

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Children's Liturgy Mass

6:30 p.m. Family Mass

10:30 p.m. Choir Music

11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Mass

New Year's Eve, December 31 - 4:30 p.m.

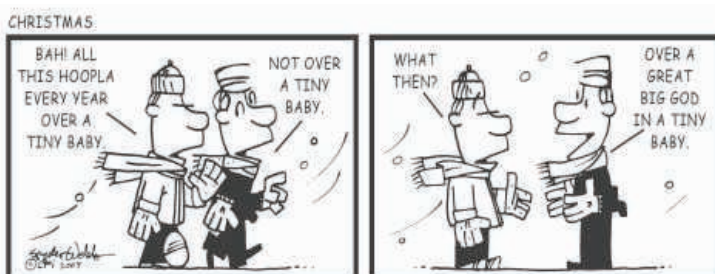
Mary the Holy Mother of God

New Year's Day, January 1, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.



Welcome Seminarian John Olfson

We welcome one of our major seminarians to Mary Queen next Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family. He will be speaking on God's call to him and our response to that call. Welcome, seminarian John.



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 AND
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

The family of Mary Queen wishes
each and all a Blessed and
Joyous Christmas.



Parish News

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH WEEKENDS

Men – February 9-10, 2013 and
Women – February 23-24

Christ Renews His Parish weekends are coming in February. Teams have been in formation this past year to give you unconditional love, acceptance, and a deeply spiritual weekend where you can reconnect with your faith and with God. See two testimonials below:

“Like most men, I was very hesitant to sign up for the men’s CRHP weekend. I had no idea what to expect. It was something that was a little out of my comfort zone. However, I am so glad that I did. CRHP has made me a better man, father, son, friend and child of God. I have become friends with those that were previously just faces in church and I now see the true meaning of Christian Community.”

Ken Gillie

“Before CRHP, church was just something we did on Sunday and before going out to pancakes with the kids. After attending the CRHP weekend last year, I feel more like a part of the Mary Queen community. I am part of a sisterhood and an extended family who are supportive, loving, and caring.”

Amy MacDonald

Further details and more testimonials will be in future bulletins. Questions? Contact Karen Sutkus at (630) 279-3240.

DID YOU MISS A STEP?

Have you been participating in the Catholic Faith, but were never confirmed in the faith? Our journey through life is seldom a straight path. Our personal choices or decisions that others make for us can impact our lives including our spiritual lives. On Pentecost, adults who have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation, are welcomed to be confirmed by the Bishop at the Cathedral in Joliet on May 19, 2013. If you are interested in completing this final Sacraments of Initiation, please contact our Pastoral Associate, Mimi Nolan, by phone at (630)279-5700 or email her: pa@maryqueen.org

Religious Education News



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

On behalf of everyone in the REO, you are wished a Blessed Christmas and a 2013 filled with much peace and joy.

Please mark your calendars:

There is no RE on the following Wednesdays because of the Christmas break:

December 26 and January 2.

Classes will resume at the normal times on Wednesday, January 9, 2013.

For more information on any of the above, please contact the REO, (630) 832-8962 or email at mqhmawoods@sbcglobal.net.



MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN ENRICHMENT SCHOOL

At this time, registration is only available for the Kindergarten Enrichment Program (KEP).

For information please contact:

Genet Pinkerton, Director (630) 833-9500

Website: www.maryqueenpreschool.org

e-mail: mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org

Prayer List

Please pray for the sick of our Parish

Gabriella Miller
Sue Sterno
Dennis White



Please call the Rectory to add a name to our Parish Prayer List.

create a Ripple One small change in your life ...
can light the lives of many others

4.

Catholics Confront Global Poverty

“My dear brothers and sisters, who will bring light to dispel the darkness of our world? If not you and me, then who? And if not now, today, then when?” Cardinal Bernardin

“Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”
Luke 1:45

The Church’s social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) supports policies that protect human life and dignity, strengthen families, encourage and reward work, preserve a safety net for the vulnerable, and build public/private partnerships to overcome poverty.

Public policies should form a “Circle of Protection” around programs that serve poor and vulnerable people and avoid placing additional burdens on people and families struggling to live in dignity.



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)** call on **one million Catholics** in the United States to confront global poverty. **Advocate** to end hunger, disease, conflict, and other issues that affect the lives of our brothers and sisters worldwide. The goal of **Catholics Confront Global Poverty** is to educate and mobilize one million Catholics in the United States to **defend the life and dignity** of people living in poverty throughout the world, and urge our nation to act in response to the *many faces of poverty*.



ACTIONS and RESOURCES

Be One in a Million; join now and turn your concern into action; support **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)** programs, **Catholics Confront Global Poverty (CCGP)**, **CRS Rice Bowl**, and **CRS Fair Trade** opportunities.
www.crs.org/ccgp

- ♦ **Pray** for people throughout the world seeking to rise from the indignities of poverty;
- ♦ **Learn** about Catholic Social Teaching, U.S. economic policies, and the world’s poor; and
- ♦ **Advocate** by contacting elected officials to make the case for trade, aid and debt policies that overcome poverty and promote development.

Choose a country or project to learn about during advent. Pray for all living in the country or affected by the project.

Joliet Diocese Advocacy Network provides opportunities and information on social justices issues.
www.paxjoliet.org/advocacy




Christmas Schedule

MINISTRY SCHEDULE MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 - TUESDAY DECEMBER 25

	4:00 PM	6:30 PM	11:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Presider	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta
Lector	TBA	B. Nosek	K. Passarelli	M. Reed	R. Villamil
Eucharistic Ministers	N. Williamson (S) B. Eadon (C) M. Conway J. Fuschen B. Lawlor G. Los R. Melendez	T. Sabel (S) H. Todd (C) J. Villim D. Bernstein J. Elchorst J. Lewand P. Mason	R. Styka (S) D. Styka (C) K. Mueller T. Nanak K. Vicary W. Bonfiglio M. Fielding	M. White (S) J. Lewand (C) M. Grozik J. Unger T. Kevil P. Letourneau	R. Marro (S) P. Twardowski (C) G. Pinkerton G. Pstrozo K. Gusloff T. Gusloff
Altar Servers	M. Piszczor B. Hernandez C. Hernandez	J. Reginelli J. Nosek J. Alonso	C. Letourneau R. Hendron M. Kerley	E. Fahey J. Vosicky P. Vosicky	J. Mirretti K. Lewand S. Lewand

MINISTRY SCHEDULE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2012

	4:30 PM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
Presider	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta	Fr. Taschetta
Lector	D. Novar A. Novar	R. Wilkes	E. Cutri
Eucharistic Ministers	R. Lawlor (S) M. White (C) C. Reisenbuckler H. Todd M. Conway B. Eadon	K. Vicary (S) D. Styka (C) G. Pinkerton D. Gornick J. Eichorst D. Bernstein	T. Kevil (S) P. Letourneau (C) K. Mueller T. Gusloff R. Morro P. Twardowski J. Fuschen
Altar Servers	J. Nosek J. Alonso E. Fahey	C. Letourneau K. Lewand S. Lewand	A. Frank R. Hendron M. Kerley





MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 23, 2012

8:30 AM † Daniel Los
10:30 AM † Bernadette Brinkmann

Monday, December 24, 2012

4:00 PM † Theresa Dufalo
† Albert Fuschen
6:30 PM † Clyde Todd
11:00 PM People of Mary Queen

Tuesday, December 25, 2012

8:30 AM † Thomas Ennis
10:30 AM † John Brennan

Wednesday, December 26, 2012

8:30 AM † Gene Los

Thursday, December 27, 2012

8:30 AM † Ralph St. Pierre

Friday, December 28, 2012

8:30 AM Communion Service

Saturday, December 29, 2012

4:30 PM † Doris Sullivan

Sunday, December 30, 2012

8:30 AM † Virgilio Orillo
10:30 AM † Sam and Mary Storino

† indicates person is deceased



Church Support

Collection Totals for: Sunday, December 16, 2012

Adults	\$8,706.00
Parish Pay	\$4,123.79
Children	\$51.72
Collection Total	\$12,881.51

185 parishioner envelopes were used.
135 parishioners - Parish Pay.

**Thank you for your
continued kindness and generosity.**

Readings for the Week of December 23, 2012

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,
9-14
Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Col 3:12-
21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

MINISTERS OF CARE TRAINING

Are you interested in visiting the homebound to pray and bring communion to them? If so, training sessions will be offered by Sr. Jane Schlosser, RSM at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien on January 5 and 19 (Saturdays) from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or May 7, 9, 14, 16 (Tuesdays/Thursdays) from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$50.00 per person (the parish will reimburse you). Please contact Deacon Tom (630-523-4396) to learn more about this ministry.



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