

# THE PARISH OF SAINT EUGENE

DECEMBER 25, 2016 – NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS



	<b>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24</b>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	For the Parishioners of St. Eugene
	<b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25</b>
<b>12:00 AM</b>	For the Parishioners of St. Eugene
<b>8:00 AM</b>	For the Parishioners of St. Eugene
<b>10:00 AM</b>	For the Parishioners of St. Eugene
<b>12:00 PM</b>	For the Parishioners of St. Eugene
	<b>MONDAY, DECEMBER 26</b>
<b>6:45 AM</b>	Elsa Atabay (living)
<b>9:00 AM</b>	George O'Brien <i>req. by Janet O'Brien</i>
	<b>TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27</b>
<b>6:45 AM</b>	Angelo & Mary Napoli (decd) <i>req. by Your Daughters</i>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Phil, Theresa & Dan Ottaviano -decd <i>req. by Carmela</i>
	<b>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28</b>
<b>6:45 AM</b>	Margaret E. Kelly (decd) <i>req. by Youssef Family</i>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Seamus O'Neill (decd)
	<b>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29</b>
<b>6:45 AM</b>	Tom O'Sullivan (living) <i>req. by Eileen O'Sullivan</i>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Nunziata and Domenico Mareschi (decd) <i>req. by Ida Mareschi</i>
	<b>FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30</b>
<b>6:45 AM</b>	John Bastone (decd) <i>req. by Theresa Bastone</i>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Anna Woska Jacobelli and Mario Zanfardino (decd) <i>req. by Marilyn &amp; Vinny Montemurro</i>
	<b>SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Linda Gudelis (decd) <i>req. by Nijole Zukauskas</i>
<b>5:00 PM</b>	Wayne D'Ascoli (decd) <i>req. by Marie Coviello</i>



## NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS

**Isaiah 62:1-5** The Lord delights in you.

**Psalms 89** "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord."

**Acts 13:16-17,22-25** Paul bears witness to Christ, the son of David.

**Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25** The genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David.

In the word of God proclaimed this Christmas Eve, we truly hear "tidings of comfort and joy." The glorious day foreseen by Isaiah is at hand, when Heaven is wedded to earth as, in the birth of a Son, God declares us no longer "Desolate" or "Forsaken," but rather God's "Delight" and "Espoused." But, as always, God's word challenges us as well. Gabriel's message puts Joseph's faith to the test, as Joseph acts decisively and daringly to further God's purpose by giving Mary and the child, who is not his own, a home and a heritage. Thus Joseph challenges us to believe and trust, then dare to act, that God's saving plan may unfold. Let us open our hearts to the Christmas message of reconciliation, healing and salvation. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

## MEMORIAL CANDLES & BREAD & WINE

Interested in memorializing the Sanctuary Candle by the Tabernacle or for the Virgin Mary, Our Blessed Lady? These candles, which burn continuously, could burn for your specific intentions. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered or a special intention placed before God, please contact the rectory. An offering of \$15.00 a week is requested.

### TABERNACLE CANDLE

**IN MEMORY OF LLESH & MARK TARAZHI**

*REQ. BY GEORGE GJELAJ*



### BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE

**IN MEMORY OF DOUGLAS B. SEE & PATRICIA SEE**

### BREAD AND WINE

**IN MEMORY OF CLARENCE & DELLA WILLIAMS**

*REQ. BY RICHARD ENOCH*

## SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

Adoration Chapel	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
	Patricia Finan	961-0146
Altar Guild	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
Bereavement Group	Sr. Florence Mallon	337-1660 ext.120
Boy Scouts	Donna Ragusa	472-7567
Religious Education	G.Mastrangelo	961-2590
C.Y.O.	Joan DeLuca	497-9798
Catholic Daughters	Martina Parisi	400-3634
	Dolores Tenzer	262-8146
Cheerleaders	Lori Fox	325-0333
Couples for Christ	Dino Paolo Waga	917-882-2995
Girl Scouts	Jerilin Carota	968-5526
H. S. A.	Nancy Arzola	274-0016
Holy Name	Frank Giacoio	793-5392
Legion of Mary	Josephine Bitetti	337-1372
Living Rosary	Natalie Philpin	793-4757
Organist & Adult Choir	Jerry Celestino	961-2590
Parish Council	Father Fernan	961-2590
Serra Club	George Alessi	779-8719
Senior Club	Jennie Sepe	776-9847
St. Vincent DePaul	Walter Whitmore	779-1826

## PARISH SUPPORT

As evidence of their gratitude for God's generosity to them in their lives, our people returned to His Holy Church the following offerings:

<b>December 11</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Weekly Collection.....	\$8,804	\$10,474
Monthly Collection .....	\$1,539	\$1,765

"As stewards we are accountable to God for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful and meaningful first share of our time, talent and treasure. ....

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Please let us remember all those who are in need of a meal or food on the table. There are many who are struggling in our own community. Please remember those who are in need. We are in need of non-perishable food items. (Cereal, soup, pasta, etc.) Please place these items in the baskets at the entrances of the church. We are still in need of volunteers to cook chicken (legs and thighs) for Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. Please drop off the chicken at the Adoration Chapel parking lot.

We serve our people as well as the *Sharing Community* in Getty Square. If you are able to cook but not deliver, please contact either Walter Whitmore (914) 779-1826 or David Fabi at hotfabi@optonline.net.

*"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that."*

## ADORATION CHAPEL

**The Adoration Chapel will be closed December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>th</sup> for Christmas & New Year.** The Adoration Chapel, located in the vestibule, is open daily Mon-Fri from 7am to 4pm, unless noted on schedule. We are asking specifically for prayers for Vocations. Please come and make a visit with the Lord. For more information call George Alessi, 779-8719.

## CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Please contact Martina Parisi at (914) 400-3634 to learn more about the Catholic Daughters. All women of the parish are welcome.

## LEGION OF MARY

We meet every Tuesday morning immediately after 9AM Mass or Tuesday evening at 7:00PM. For more information please contact Josephine Bitetti at (914) 337-1372.

## THANK YOU

The Faculty, staff and students of Saint Eugene School send our warmest thanks to all who donated items for our Christian Service Outreach; Toiletries for Seniors. The collaboration between parish and school allowed us to increase the number of gifts given to the residents. *Thank you, Lauren Lewis, Principal.*

## BOX TOPS FOR THE SCHOOL

The school would like to thank all those who have taken the time to collect box tops. The school collects only BOX TOPS at this time. Any box tops can be put in a special box in the school hallway by the church door.

## SOLEMNITY OF OUR BLESSED LADY

There is no 6 PM Mass on New Year's Day.

**Please pray for peace on New Year's Day, the World Day of Prayer for Peace**

## FLIP TOPS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

There is a new receptacle for the aluminum can FLIP TOPS. It is in the school hallway near the box top for the school. These will be used to help the children and families of Ronald McDonald House. Thank you for your efforts and donations.

## SAINT EUGENE SENIORS

There are no scheduled meetings for January or February 2017. There is a trip planned for the Westchester Broadway Theater for April 28, 2017 for Mamma Mia. For more information about the St. Eugene Seniors call Jennie Sepe at (914) 776-9847.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please keep in your prayers the ill of our parish especially Helen Sheedy, Nicholas Gardini, Andrew Moraitis, Michael Tomanelli, Elise Gelpi, Liam Frawley, Angelo Bavaro, John Hopkin, Deborah Mahon, Vincenzo Tramontozzi, Joseph Kelly, Anna Lisa Miranda, Grisha Balaj, Julia Duffy, Eileen Brasiel, John McGarry, Serette Bernadin, Franzgermain Bernadin, Lisette Abraham, Baby Abigail Raine, Joan Pinto, Celia Torres, Frank Azaltovic, Frankie Delosso, Mary Ann R. Encarnacion Fr. Terence Lee, Francis Bowen, Phil Smyth, Cora Lucy Sannella, John DUBY, Tom Tucker, Lucille Mallon, Ann McMahan, Brian Dosing, Anthony Battista, Sr. John Agnes Clancy, Andrea Dworken, John Cox, Catie Rose Mitchell, Anthony McCauley and those recently called home to God. Eternal rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

*If you know of parishioners who are ill and would like to be visited by a priest, please contact the rectory at 961-2590.*

## PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Janelle Amador, Jose Luis Petrovich, Matthew Valentinetti, Brian Mulhern, John Kollinger, Kevin Brodeur, David Daliso, Logan Wilson, Matthew Fishwick and Kevin Jones. If you have family members or friends you would like to put on our Military Prayer list please notify the Parish Office at 961-2590.

## DECEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

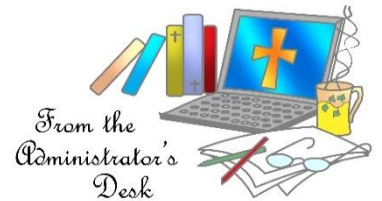
**JESUS**, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

**MARY**, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

**JOSEPH**, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

**HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH**, make our family one with You. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You. Amen.

Dear Parishioners;      A blessed Christmas to all!



Loving God, help us remember the birth of Jesus.

That we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our

beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph , December 30<sup>th</sup>*

*O Jesus, our most loving Redeemer! You came to enlighten the world with Your teaching and example, and to live the greater part of Your life with Mary and Joseph in their home at Nazareth. Thus You sanctified the family that was to be an example to all Christian families. Graciously receive our family, which is dedicated and consecrated to You this day. Protect it; guard it and establish it in holy fear, in peace, and in the harmony of Christian charity. By conforming ourselves to the model of Your family, may we all without exception attain to eternal happiness. Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother! By your intercession make this, our humble offering, acceptable to Jesus and obtain for us His grace and blessings. O St. Joseph, most holy guardian of Jesus and Mary! Assist us by your prayers in all our spiritual and temporal needs, so that we may be able to praise our Divine Saviour, Jesus, together with Mary and you for all eternity. Amen.*



*As we rejoice in the birth of Our Lord, Jesus, I pray for a blessed Christmas Season for you and your families. May God bless you always.*

*Gina Mastrangelo, Parish Administrator*

Dear Beloved of God,

*“And She gave birth to Her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”*  
(Luke 2:7)

What a life it could have been! *“Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and he placed there the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow that were delightful to look at and good for food, with the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and bad... The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the Garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it.”* (Genesis 2:8-15) The final gift towards perfection was when, *“the LORD God said: ‘It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him.’ So the LORD God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man. So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The LORD God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: ‘This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh.’”* (Genesis 2:18-23) What a life it could have been! What a life it was... before sin.

Due to the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, this harmony with nature was lost. The beauty and ease of that Garden of Eden is a distant memory. We must work the land for our food rather than just caring for it. The accord which once existed between us and the animals has become enmity. Sin has cast us from our home and from our peaceful co-existence with nature. There is no room for us in the Garden of Eden, there is no room for us in Heaven with the Almighty... until that relationship fractured by sin, first by Adam and Eve and now daily by our own sins, is healed by He who did not know sin, Jesus Christ.

We know that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Son of God, was sent by the Father to become like us in all things except sin. God took on our humanity... *“though He (Jesus) was in the form of God, (He) did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.”* (Philippians 2:6-8) Being born in a stable is not simply a scene depicting the great humility of God. The birth of Our Savior is the first of many steps Our Lord is taking to heal the rift that sin has caused between us and nature, by being born in a stable, and between us and God, *“becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.”*

Christmas, the Incarnation, is God’s first step towards making room for us. As we look forward to a new year in God’s grace will we continue the good work God has begun in us? Will sin be cast aside? Will holiness be the clothes we wrap ourselves in? Will there be room for Jesus in our hearts and homes?

A Blessed Christmas to you and yours.

Father Matthew Fernan

Father Anthony Gyamerah

Ms. Gina Mastrangelo

Deacon John Duffy

Father Brian Coffey

Father Terence Lee