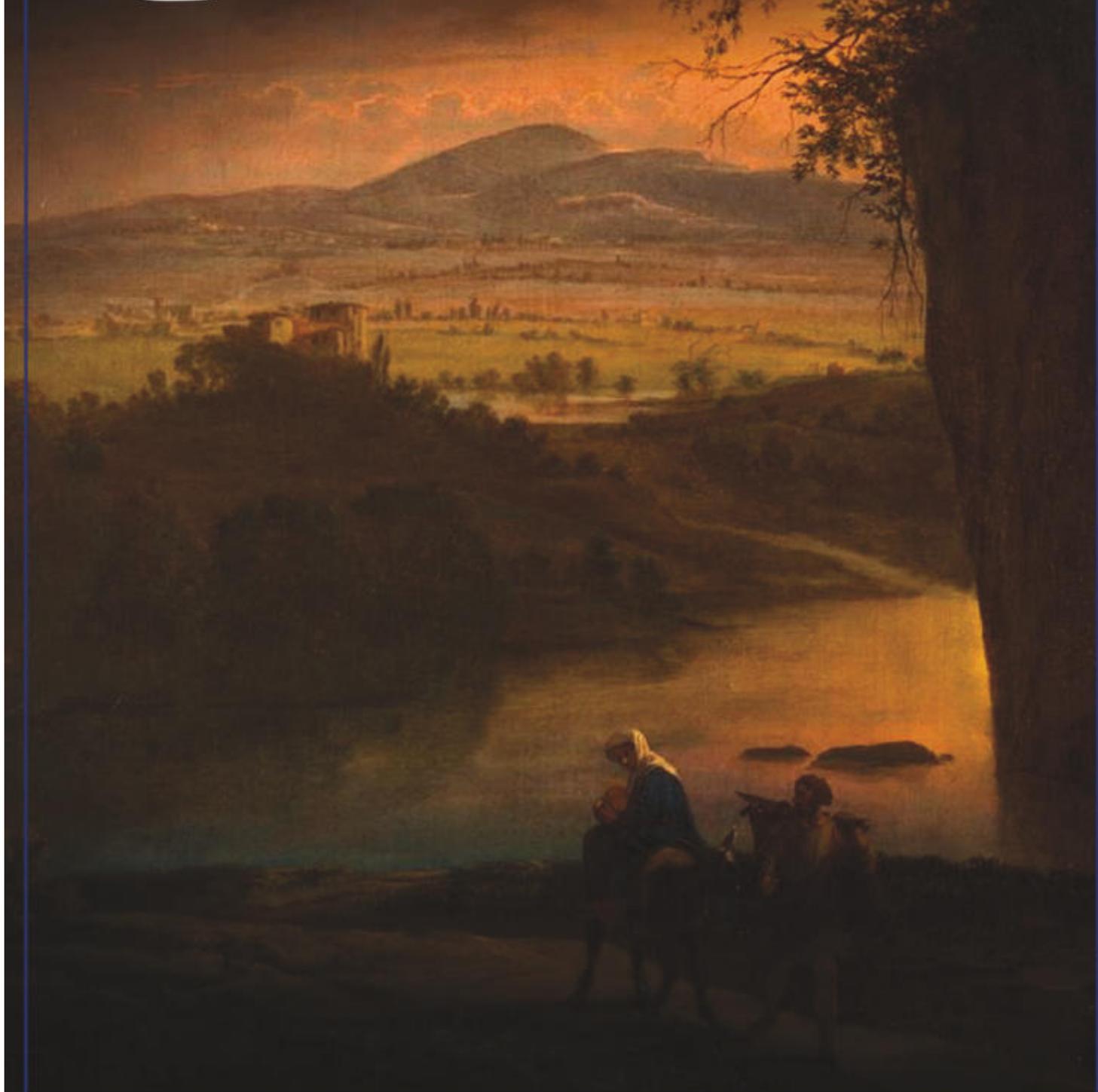


GOOD SAMARITAN | OUR LADY OF PEACE | SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST | SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

GREAT PARISH GROUPING + BEAVER VALLEY EDITION

# Evangelion

*(Evan-JEL-yon, Greek, "the good news")*



HE is HERE! | December 27, 2020 | The Holy Family

"Flight into Egypt," by Jan Asselyn, c.1640

# THE HOLY FAMILY + DECEMBER 27, 2020

## **PROCESSIONAL—“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With angelic hosts proclaim: “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Text: 77 77 D with refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; adapt. by William H. Cummings, 1831–1915. Reprinted with permission ONE LICENSE# A-718331.

## **FIRST READING—Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3**

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying: “Fear not, Abram! I am your shield; I will make your reward very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what good will your gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my heir the steward of my house, Eliezer?” Abram continued, “See, you have given me no offspring, and so one of my servants will be my heir.” Then the word of the LORD came to him: “No, that one shall not be your heir; your own issue shall be your heir.” The Lord took Abram outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so,” he added, “shall your descendants be.” Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. The LORD took note of Sarah as he had said he would; he did for her as he had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time that God had stated. Abraham gave the name Isaac to this son of his whom Sarah bore him.

## **RESPONSORIAL—Psalm 105**

**Response: The Lord, the Lord remembers for ever.**

Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name; make known among the nations his deeds. Sing to him, sing his praise, proclaim all his wondrous deeds. (R.)

Glory in his holy name; rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD! Look to the LORD in his strength; constantly seek his face. (R.)

You descendants of Abraham, his servants, sons of Jacob, his chosen ones! He, the LORD, is our God; throughout the earth his judgments prevail. (R.)

He remembers forever his covenant which he made binding for a thousand generations which he entered into with Abraham and by his oath to Isaac. (R.)

## **SECOND READING—Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19**

Brothers and sisters: By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age—and Sarah herself was sterile—for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy. So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore. By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name.” He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol.

## **GOSPEL—Luke 2:22-40**

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of

## **GOSPEL—Luke 2:22-40 (cont)**

a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted—and you yourself a sword will pierce—so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## **THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **RECESSIONAL—"Joy to the World "**

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Text: CM with repeats; based on Psalm 98:4-9; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: T. Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833; George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759; adapt. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872, alt..Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE# A-718331 All rights reserved.



# THE HOLY FAMILY

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JAY

**I**t is so fitting that we celebrate the Holy Family during a time when so many couples get engaged. The excitement and joy in planning a wedding and building a life together is felt. But sometimes along the way, disillusionment sets in as marriage seems to fall short of the perfect plan of endless happiness and laughter. But wait... Perfect? No marriage is or ever will be picture perfect. The truth is, a successful marriage is filled with ups and downs, laughter, hard times, happiness, trials, and joys—which, when all wrapped up, make a perfectly imperfect marriage! Each of those moments, while some are painful, are made up of two people who won't give up, who continue to choose the "I do" every day!

Research has shown that couples who pray together, go on date nights and practice modern fertility awareness experience successful and holy marriages!

**COUPLES WHO PRAY TOGETHER STAY TOGETHER.** *One of the earliest studies by Gallup on prayer in marriage shows couples who pray together on a daily basis have less than 1% divorce rate. Research validates power of prayer. Couples focus on shared needs, rather than individual concerns. They experience a higher sense of emotional intimacy, vulnerability and grace, while increasing trust and intimacy.*

**MARRIED COUPLES NEED DATE NIGHTS!** *The National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia published The Date Night Opportunity, a study of couples who devote time specifically to one another at least once a week, finding they experience high quality marriages, satisfying sex and lower divorce rates. With frequent date nights, married couples communicate better, share fun and passion for one another and have less stress.*

**FERTILITY AWARENESS IS ATTRIBUTED TO GREATER THAN 95% SUCCESS IN MARRIAGE!** *Did you know couples who use Fertility Awareness Based Methods (FABM's) in marriage are 50 times less likely to divorce than those who don't? FABM's teach the couple to recognize the woman's natural observable signs of fertile and infertile days, which is used to achieve or avoid pregnancy. There are no adverse side effects and when used correctly, are up to 99% effective. A woman's fertility is a vital sign to her overall health contributing to early detection of cancers and reproductive disorders as well as treating diagnosed issues, including endometriosis and PCOS.*

I try to celebrate and lift up in daily prayer the amazing miracle of all our Parish Family marriages for this husband-wife relationship is a holy union of two imperfect people, embracing God's grace, on a journey to eternity. Invite God into the bumps along the way—into your prayer, date nights and fertility—and you will find success.



# MARY

*DID YOU KNOW?*



There are many songs written about Mary, the Blessed Mother, which we listen to in Church throughout the year around the Marian holidays. As we are about to celebrate *Mary, the Mother of God* on January 1, I wanted to share a few thoughts of one of those Marian songs and my own Mother. One of my favorite Marian songs to listen to is “Mary Did You Know,” written by Mark Lowry in 1991. One morning as I was listening to the song, I started reflecting on a painting that my Mother did back in the 1970’s when I was a little girl that still hangs in my house today. The hours spent on the image of Mary and taking every step to make sure it was perfect must have been a very prayerful experience—one that I can appreciate every time I gaze at that same image. Even though my Mother did the painting for herself, did she know I would still reflect on it 40 years later in prayer? Did my Mother know that her devotion to Mary would inspire my devotion to Mary? Just as the song asks if Mary knew that when she kissed her child, she was kissing the face of God, I wonder if parents and grandparents today know that they hold the key to passing on their devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. As we approach the next Marian holiday, I am asking all parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles, to make sure you teach your children about the Blessed Mother, pray the Rosary together, and help them to fall in love with her. I hope that 40 years from now, your children can reflect back and say that you were the inspiration for their devotion to the Blessed Mother.

—Cindy Deschaine

## MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS TIMES

at QUIGLEY

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31—5:00 PM**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021—9:00 AM**

## A BRIEF ORIGIN & HISTORY OF

# CHRISTMAS CAROLING

**BRIDGET JARSULIC**

Director of Music Ministry  
bjarsulic@greatgrouping.org

SOURCES: Time Magazine – “Christmas Caroling” by Kristi Oloffson, Dec. 21, 2009

“Caroling, Caroling – The History of Caroling” by Karen DeSimone, Dec. 4, 2012 (blogs.jwpepper.com)



Caroling began a few thousand years ago as pagans sang songs to celebrate the Winter Solstice. Originally, carols were written for all four seasons. But caroling in the Christmas season is the only one that has survived.

Saint Francis of Assisi adopted a new tradition in 1223 when he began doing Nativity Plays in Italy. These songs (“canticles”) were sung to help tell the story. Instead of being written in Latin, many times these were written in the native tongue of the audience so they could sing along.

During the Victorian era, Christmas caroling grew in popularity as Christmas became more commercialized and popular. Many new carols, such as “Good King Wenceslas” were written during that time.

There’s a distinction to be made between carols—songs stemming from medieval musical traditions—and today’s Christmas caroling, says Daniel Abraham, musicology expert and choral director at American University in Washington, D.C. “The concept of carol in its origins has actually nothing to do with Christmas,” Abraham says. Medieval carols were liturgical songs reserved for processions in the 12th and 13th centuries. And though modern carols sometimes take their form from these original carols — starting with a refrain, followed by verses of uniform structure — they’re separate entities.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The word “carol” (also called a “noel”) refers to a dance or song of praise and joy
- In some countries, if Christmas carols are played before December, or after Christmas Day, it is thought to be extremely bad luck? (makes you think about those all-Christmas music stations that begin around Thanksgiving, huh?)
- Such tunes as “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “Away in a Manger,” and “Jolly Old Saint Nicholas” were written in the U.S.?
- “Jingle Bells” was not written as a Christmas tune initially? It was written as a Thanksgiving song in 1850 by James Lord Pierpont.
- “Silent Night” was sung simultaneously in French, English and German by troops during the Christmas truce of 1914, as it was one carol that soldiers on both sides of the front line knew.





"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."  
—1 Peter 4:10-11

# Samaritan Kitchen

## Meet the COOKS!

In 2015, Krista Kollitz and Natalie Donaldson wanted to create a community event at Saints John & Paul where people of all ages could come together and help make meals for people in need. They called this new ministry group *Meal Makers*. Over the years, *Meal Makers* have served organizations such as, *Light of Life*, the *Red Door*, *Mission to Mars*, *Shepherd's Heart*, *Mars Home for Youth*, *Jubilee Kitchen*, various cold weather shelters, and many more.

In March of 2020 when the world shut down, a lot of the organizations they had originally served were no longer accepting outside food from organizations. That left a big hole in the ministry's talents and desires. Krista and Natalie did not sit idle for long. They began making frozen meals to be handed out on Fridays at Good Samaritan in Ambridge, so families would have a good meal over the weekend when food was harder to find.

In July, when the *Samaritan Kitchen* started, they were the first group to make a monthly commitment to cook for our new "soup kitchen" COVID style. On the first Tuesday of every month, the army known as *Meal Makers* shows up with their trays of food (prepared by many different families), and they package the meals together that then are handed out in our drive-by food distribution.

God calls each of us to do different things. Natalie and Krista answered God's call to help feed those in need, and they continue to answer that call with their work in the *Samaritan Kitchen* as well as all of the other organizations they help. What is God calling you to do? If you are interested in helping the *Meal Makers* with their ministry, please contact Krista Kollitz or Natalie Donaldson and join the *Meal Makers* in helping to feed others in need.



[bkkollitz@aol.com](mailto:bkkollitz@aol.com)



## MASS INTENTIONS

We have opened our 2021 Mass Book. Forms are available online at [greatgrouping.org/online-forms](http://greatgrouping.org/online-forms), on the Welcome tables at the entries of Quigley or by calling the office (no walk-ins) at (724) 266-6565.

## JANUARY RAFFLE TICKETS

Our Lady of Peace is selling a January Raffle Ticket. The ticket is good for the entire month with various prizes. Tickets are available at the Parish Center and after all Masses. \$5 per ticket.

## COVID GUIDELINES FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

In order to protect everyone attending our campuses we ask that all parishioners, staff and visitors adhere to our CoVid-19 Safety Guidelines found on our website [greatgrouping.org/mass-registration](http://greatgrouping.org/mass-registration). If you are exhibiting any signs of illness, have been in contact with anyone who is being tested for, or has tested positive for, COVID-19 please refrain from visiting our campuses until it is safe to do so.

## OFFICES CLOSED

Our offices will be closed **Thursday, December 24 through Sunday, January 3**. We will be back in the office on Monday, January 4. If you are need a priest during this time please contact Deacon Tony Giordano at (724) 385-8628.

## ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR EMAILS?

We issue a monthly email to all of our registered parishioners at the beginning of each month. We also email important COVID-19 related updates. If you are not receiving these emails please sign up online at [greatgrouping.org/welcome](http://greatgrouping.org/welcome).

## MARY'S MANTLE

The Apostolate Ministry from the Great Grouping, Our Lady of Peace, would once again like to give a huge thank you to everyone who made afghans, lap afghans, or slippers to be distributed to nursing homes, shut ins, and those very sick for Christmas. The updated count of afghans/ lap afghans was around 80. These have been donated to nursing homes, the Veteran's Hospital, and many shut ins already. This would not have been possible without all your generous help. We pray our good Jesus and His Blessed Mother will bless one and all and grant much love, safety, and good health to everyone.

## DIVORCED AND SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP

The Divorced and Separated support group will offer a virtual cycle of meetings starting on **Monday, January 11 and ending on Monday, April 5**. Meetings are on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM and will be conducted via Zoom.

This peer led group provides caring support to anyone who is experiencing the pain of separation or divorce. Topics covered include anger, loneliness, annulment, forgiveness, financial survival and more. Anyone who has questions or would like more information should contact Ralph Joy (412) 741-5456 or [ralph.r.joy@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.r.joy@gmail.com) If you wish to attend the meetings, you must register in advance at the following website: [divorcecare.org/groups/128566](http://divorcecare.org/groups/128566)

## MINISTRIES MEETING VIRTUALLY

All of our ministries are meeting virtually until further notice due to the spike in Covid-19 cases in our area. If you are interested in attending a ministry meeting please contact the ministry leader for more information. [greatgrouping.org](http://greatgrouping.org)

## LUMINARIES FOR LIFE

Due to the restrictions surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, our parish grouping will not be traveling to Washington D.C. for the Annual March for Life on January 29. The Respect Life Committee of our Great Grouping will be making luminary kits available for parishioners to display at home on the evening of Thursday, January 21 Suggested donation for the luminary kits: 2 luminaries for \$1.00; 10 luminaries for \$5.00 Place your order online [greatgrouping.org/luminary](http://greatgrouping.org/luminary) before January 6. Pick-up of the luminary kits will be the week of January 16-20 in the foyer of the Upper CDC at Saints John & Paul.

## THE WAY

The Way, our discipleship forum, is a two-month formation experience for those who have been awakened to a personal relationship with Jesus and are wondering, "what's next?" In The Way, you will discover how to live as a disciple of Jesus in today's world. Upcoming Cohorts begin in January. For more information or to register visit [mtyryou.org/the-way](http://mtyryou.org/the-way)

## MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 28** (1 JN 1:5—2:2/MT 2:13-18)

8:00 AM Good Samaritan • Tara Roche (Mom & Dad Roche)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29** (1 JN 2:3-11/LK 2:22-35)

6:30 PM Good Samaritan • Edith Costanza (Marilyn Maiello)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30** (1 JN 2:12-17/LK 1:57-66)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • The Priestly Vocation of Fr. Michael Roche (Parishioners)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31** (1 JN 2:18-21/JN 1:1-18)

*Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God*

5:00 PM Quigley • Larry Salamone, Sr. (Leslee Brewster & Larry Salamone, Jr.)

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 1** (NM 6:22-27/GAL 4:4-7/LK 2:16-21)

9:00 AM Quigley • Ted DiMarzio (Wife, Jean)

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 2** (1 JN 2:22-28/JN 1:19-28)

4:00 PM Quigley • Trzcianka Family & John Meyers (Dolores & John DeLuca)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3** (IS 60:1-6/ EPH 3:2-3a, 5-6/MT 2:1-12)

8:00 AM Quigley • Agatha "Gay" Bohinsky (Elaine Bohinsky)

9:30 AM Quigley • Alex Gaudino (Gaudino Family)

11:00 AM Quigley • Jerome Indovina (Family)

4:00 PM Quigley • Spanish Mass

### THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

#### SANCTUARY CANDLE

(SJ) In Memory of Linda & Jeff Modrovich  
by Betty & Bonnie Francis

(SJ) In Memory of Bill LaRue  
by Family

(GS) In Memory of Margaret Konarski  
by Jeanne & George Fitzgerald

(GS) In Memory Nick Giver  
by Lynn & Marge Berckmiller

#### BLESSED MOTHER SHRINE CANDLE

In Memory of Margaret Konarski  
by Daughter, Kathy & Family

#### BREAD & WINE

(SJ) In Memory of Linda & Jeff Modrovich  
by Betty & Bonnie Francis

(GS) In Memory of Rose Platz  
by Dr. Charles & Mrs. Evlyn Loschiavo & Family

### THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

#### MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In Memory of Philomena Smedley  
by Our Lady of Peace Christian Mothers

In Memory of Ceci Martini  
by Our Lady of Peace Christian Mothers

### OUR GIFTS TO GOD

For the weekend of December 13

#### GOOD SAMARITAN

Weekly Offering—\$5,949  
Online Giving—\$997  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$42,600

#### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Weekly Offering—\$2,360  
Online Giving—\$75  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$8,809

#### OUR LADY OF PEACE

Weekly Offertory—\$4,281  
Online Giving—\$1,231  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$31,737

#### SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

Weekly Offertory—\$25,175  
Online Giving—\$6,957  
Parish Share—\$1,495  
Parish Share Online—\$175



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## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Monday, December 28

Office Closed

### Tuesday, December 29

Office Closed

4:00 PM Outreach Samaritan Kitchen (GS)

5:30 PM Confessions (GS)

### Wednesday, December 30

Office Closed

6:15 PM Choir Practice (GS)

### Thursday, December 31

Office Closed

5:00 PM Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass (Quigley)

### Friday, January 1

Office Closed

9:00 AM Solemnity of Mary Mass (Quigley)

### Saturday, January 2

8:00 AM Confessions/Mass Blue Army (Quigley)

3:00 PM Confessions (Quigley)

### Sunday, January 3

11:30 AM Maronite Mass

Father Jay Donahue, Administrator—(412) 697-5876 | [seefrjay@gmail.com](mailto:seefrjay@gmail.com)  
Father John Batykefer, Sr. Parochial Vicar—(724) 470-6689 | [frjib317@gmail.com](mailto:frjib317@gmail.com)  
Father Michael Roche, Parochial Vicar—[fatherroche@gmail.com](mailto:fatherroche@gmail.com)  
Father Joe Carr, Parish Chaplain—(412) 867-8673 | [frjoecarr@me.com](mailto:frjoecarr@me.com)  
Father Antoine Kairouz, Maronite Priest-in-residence  
Deacon Anthony Giordano, Deacon James Olson, Deacon Tom Boucek

## REGULAR MASS & CONFESSION TIMES



**8:00 AM Good Samaritan**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**



**7:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**5:30 PM CONFESSION at Good Samaritan**  
**6:30 PM Good Samaritan**



**8:00 AM Saint John the Baptist**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**



**7:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**6:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul**



**8:00 AM St. John the Baptist**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**1st Friday 7:00 PM Saints John & Paul**



**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**3:00 PM CONFESSION at Quigley**  
**4:00 PM Beaver Valley Vigil Mass at Quigley**  
**4:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul**  
**5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Saints John & Paul**



**7:30 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**8:00 AM Beaver Valley Mass at Quigley**  
**9:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**9:30 AM Beaver Valley Mass at Quigley**  
**11:00 AM Beaver Valley Mass at Quigley**  
**11:00 AM Saints John & Paul**  
**7:00 PM Saints John & Paul**  
**4:00 PM Spanish Mass at Quigley**

*For Holy Day & Holiday times, please see Week Ahead*

## HELP LINES

**24 Hour Child Abuse Hotline**  
**1-800-932-0313**

**Crisis Pregnancy Option Line**  
**1-800-395-4357**

**Post-Abortion Healing/Project Rachel**  
**(412) 456-3167**

**Pittsburgh Diocese Victim Assistance**  
**1-888-808-1235**

**Crisis Management Services**  
**1-888-796-8226**

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

As Catholics, we believe that Christ becomes truly present within the Blessed Sacrament. As promised by Him, His Presence is abiding, not something that vanishes at the conclusion of Mass. During Eucharistic Adoration, we can sit silently in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces.

