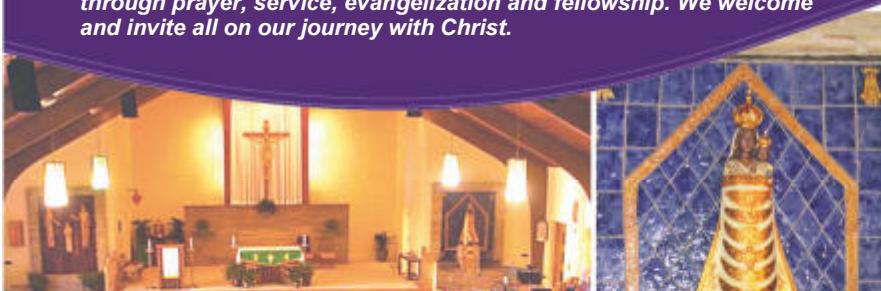


THE TRAVELER

Our parish Family is a Catholic faith community serving Jesus Christ and His Church. Together, we reach out to the congregation and larger community through prayer, service, evangelization and fellowship. We welcome and invite all on our journey with Christ.



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

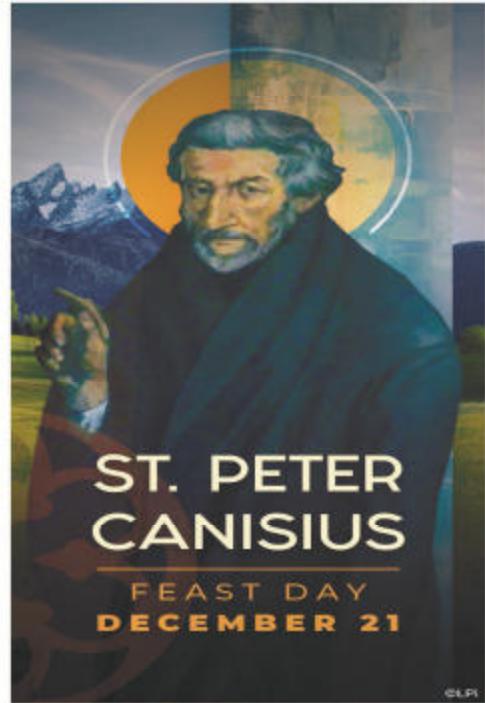
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world's political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God's fix be made known.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Born in Holland, St. Peter Canisius (May 8, 1521 – December 21, 1597) was a preacher, teacher, and writer throughout his whole life. At the age of 19, he received a master's degree from the university at Cologne. Soon afterwards, St. Peter met Peter Faber, the first disciple of Ignatius of Loyola, who influenced him so much that he eventually joined the Society of Jesus.

St. Peter Canisius founded colleges and seminaries, served as a missionary, cared for the sick or imprisoned, and wrote close to eight volumes of letters — many about St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great.

A man blessed with many talents, St. Peter Canisius is a wonderful example of a man who developed his talents to further God's work here on earth.

STEWARDSHIP

CHRISTMAS STEWARDS

From: CatholicStewardshipCouncil

Stewardship and Christmas:

Turning the World Upside Down

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. For women in the ancient world, motherhood was prized and desired above almost all else. Sacred scripture tells of many women who pleaded with God to let them conceive. From Sarah, the mother of Isaac, to Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, women who finally, were granted the gift of motherhood for which they had begged God. How significant it is, then, that in the town of Nazareth those many years ago, a young girl named Mary, unmarried and probably feeling altogether unready for motherhood, was visited by an angel who delivered God's plea: would she give God a child? Mary's response is a model for all those who aspire to be good stewards: 'Behold, I am the Lord's servant. Let it be done to me according to your word'.

And so, the real mystery and beauty of Christmas is delivered: God turns the world upside down. In the words of the Magnificat, Mary proclaims the hope of every good steward: 'My soul magnifies the Lord'. He has dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart, lifted up the lowly, filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. Here is a new understanding of the God who desires not our begging and our pleas, but our 'yes' to God's invitation to be active stewards in his plan of salvation. For the Christian steward, the consumerism, gaudiness, excesses of our cultural Christmas can be overcome by answering the call to live simpler lives, to use less, feed the poor, quiet ourselves in stillness rather than grow louder in frenzied activity.

The early Christians tell us that the surest way into the heart of God is to be still. In being still we learn to be attentive to the stillness that permeates all.'

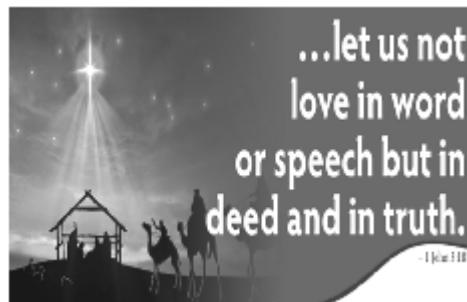
In a world which prizes and desires wealth above so many things, the Christian steward finds in the stillness the true hope which lies at the heart of Christmas. Christ has come, and he comes again and again, and finally in the end, Christ comes. Once again, God implores us to receive this child in the stillness of our hearts, and respond to his call to transform the world's values – to turn the world upside down."

God bless!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

It takes practice to be aware of God's presence and to trust God in all things. We are all called to trust and believe in God. In today's Gospel passage we hear how Elizabeth greeted Mary and how she shared the news of the coming birth of John the Baptist who is to prepare the way for Jesus. John leapt for joy as he heard Mary greeting his mom.

The story reminds us to be a joy-filled person. We must remember that God is always with us and he continues to make good his promises to us. So let us receive Jesus, a great reason to REJOICE. Thank God today and trust that God is working in us. May our lives reflect to others the joys of trusting God in all circumstances.

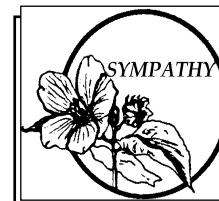


Notes: Please use a plain envelope for your Christmas Flower donation, and include your envelope #.

Also, our wonderful money counters request that you write a separate check for your Christmas donation if you usually write one check which includes several weeks' donations. THANK YOU!

CHRISTIAN SERVICE NEWS

May God reward you a hundred times over for your caring generosity. The recipients of our Christmas food drive received boxes overflowing with food and supplies to insure their children have a hunger-free Christmas vacation and then some. You have helped provide a Merry Christmas and Hope for a Happy New Year! Thank you.



Our Lady of Loretto Parish Family extends their prayers and heart-felt sympathy to the family of Vivian Brokenshire, who is related to Deanna Taranowski and Christina Petriches. May Vivian rest in peace and joy with our Lord.

Schedule for the Week 12-19-21

Monday, December 20

8:30a Mass
6:00p Religious Ed Classes
6:30p Bible Study

Tuesday, December 21

8:30a Mass/Adoration
12 Noon Benediction
6:30p Mary's Cardio Exercise

Wednesday, December 22

6:30p N.A.

Thursday, December 23

6:30p Mary's Cardio Exercise
6:30p Legion of Mary

Friday, September 24

Christmas Eve Masses
4p Children's Mass
6p Mass
Mass at Mid-night

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day
10a Mass
(no 4p Mass)

Sunday, December 26

The Holy Family
10:00a Mass
7:00p AA





"Can you not spend one hour with Me?
Eucharistic Adoration
Every Tuesday
After 8:30am Mass until NOON



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Visit retiredreligious.org to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Walking with Purpose ~~~ by Laura Phelps

DO YOU WANT YOUR LIFE TO CHANGE?

This was the question that Dynamic Catholic Founder, Matthew Kelly, posed to a packed church parish hall ten years ago. I can't speak for the other attendees' responses at the retreat that day, but I can share mine. It was a solid yes.

The solution Kelly offered wasn't anything that I was expecting and certainly didn't align with the solutions the world offers. He didn't tell me

to go to therapy, practice mindfulness, walk in the grass barefoot, or lose weight. He simply suggested, "If you want your life to change, go to daily Mass every day for two weeks." He followed up with, "Some of you will, and some of you won't."

As for me? I did. And he was right. My life radically and profoundly changed because of the Mass. But please do not mistake "changed" for



Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servants to health once more. Please remember to keep in prayer...



Sheila Alaska
Minnie Armstrong
Barrett Family
Patty Baumgardner
Mildred Beck
Art Bork
Tom Borkowski
Bob Brown
George Cascos
Carmen Cassar
John Dallacqua
Christopher/Susan Davenport
Margaret David
Isabella Davis
John Davis Family
Mike DeCapua
Don Devine
Andrew Fedor
Tony Ferro
Nikole Frederick
Eileen Graham
Juan Hernandez
Lisa Hernandez
Joan Kelly
Jim Kilmark
Jim Kimpton
Jennifer Koskie
Joe Kuzniar
John/Nancy Lengyel
Dee McClain

McClain Family
Bea MacDonald
Debbie MacDonald
James McDonald
Harlean McGrath
David Mallory
Michelle Martoia
Les/Carol Miner
Marilyn Mootsey
John Mueller
Mike Murphy
Joanna Nannini
Suzanne Nattress
Margarete Pringle
Grant Racine
Kais Rayes
Mary Rayes
Liam S-W
Suzanne Sands
Tim Simpson
Angie/Rich Sloan
Victoria Steakley
Robin Sunday
Pat Taylor
Helen Walker
Debbie/Pat Weier
Lynne Wendt
Williamson Family
Joe Willim
Woodward Family

Walking with Purpose ~~~ Cont'd. by Laura Phelps

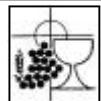
"eliminated trial and tribulation." My active participation in the holy sacrifice does not serve as a magic pill that makes troubles melt away. The "change" goes deeper than external and current circumstances. It is an ongoing stretching and pulling of the heart. An interior transformation. I have narrowed my own experience of how the Mass has changed my life down to three significant, yet super simple points and, if you so desire, can apply to your own life.

Start every day with God's Word
The Mass is an invincible weapon
The Mass rightly orders our worship

Some of you will read this and feel inspired to attend daily Mass. Others will find my suggestion highly inconvenient and logically unrealistic. Others will think how strict and outdated the rules of the Catholic Church are that, in today's busy day and age, church attendance is even a requirement. "But the true state of the case is that the law of the Church is so strict because Christ is present in the Mass. But it is in the Holy Mass alone that He offers Himself to His Father as the Lamb that was slain. How can we forego that sweet and solemn action?"

Do you want your life to change? If so, go to daily Mass every day for two weeks. Some of you will and some of you won't. I pray that you all will.

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, December 20, 2021

- 8:30am + Bill & Doris Maiert by OLL Parish Family
SI Janice & Mark Sur by Susan Gregor
SI Susan & Jim Stewart by Susan Gregor

Tuesday, December 21

- 8:30am SI Jane & Bob Reynolds by Susan Gregor
SI OLL Parishioners

Friday, December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE!

- 4:00pm + Theresa Johnson by the Pastore Family
+ Julius Jablonsky by Del Lind
6:00pm + Frederick & Hanna Families by the Families
SI OLL Parishioners

- Mid-night + Marilyn & Robert Elder by the Family

Saturday, December 25: CHRISTMAS DAY!

- 10:00am + Colleen Bender by the Family
+ Mario Collado by Mila Collado

Sunday, December 26: Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 10:00am + Jose Noronah by Jane Noronah
SI Whitney-Anne Freeman Birthday wishes by Mom
+ August & Rose Weier and Rosalie Stirling

Celebrate the 12 days of Christmas

One fun thing to do is to include a present under the tree that is to be opened by the family that has an envelope for each of the 12 days. Inside the envelope varies from day to day with an activity to do as a family that day. One envelope could have tickets to the zoo and another could have directions to bake cookies to bring to your neighbors or someone who lives alone and might be feeling lonely. Other ideas might include: getting to go to the bookstore to pick out a new book, volunteering at a food pantry if your children are old enough, making sandwiches to hand out downtown to people who are displaced, building forts in the living room for a movie night or a new museum membership.

Along with the activity card in the envelope, the day's Mass readings can also be included and read aloud over breakfast with a little prayer to the Holy Family to sanctify your own family!

Pick names for secret acts of kindness: Borrow from the tradition we had in my Brazilian community. Near your nativity set where Jesus has just arrived, have a tiny bowl with pieces of paper with each family member's name on it. As each person approaches the manger to pick a name, they pray to grow to be more like Jesus in the coming year — one who sees the other and finds small ways to bless their life.

During Christmastide, the family member pays special attention to the needs of the person they picked. Maybe secretly doing their chore, setting out a piece of candy on their pillowcase to find before bed, leaving a card with all of your favorite things about them, letting them go first or spending extra quality time together. One bigger gift is to be planned and given on Epiphany! As some added fun, you can guess who had your name before they are revealed!

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: We celebrate the

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, on New Year's Day, which is a holy day of obligation. We always go to the vespers Mass on New Year's Eve before going to any parties. But more fun than anything is to tie the feast day into New Year Eve celebrations. Lots of gold and lots of stars! The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer".

During the party, you can have a basket of saints for each guest to choose a Saint of the Year. Then you can have correlating prayer cards or coloring sheets for the saints to be used in a craft to make a little shrine to have in their room or home throughout the year. Each person can share.

You can make fun star crowns and make star garlands (there are lots of tutorials online).

Then together you can pray a rosary to invite Mary into your new year and discuss how you hope to be God-bearers in the world.

Celebrate the Epiphany: In many cultures around the world, Epiphany is a bigger holiday than Christmas. There are so many beautiful traditions to look to. In Mexico there is a Rosca de Reyes cake. Inside the cake is a tiny baby Jesus figurine. Whoever has the figurine in their piece of cake has to bring the tamales for the party at Candlemas, February 2nd.

Bless the doorway of your home with holy water and scrawl in chalk C+M+B (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) — plus the year. The "C, M, B" also stands for the Latin blessing Christus mansionem benedicat which means "Christ bless this house."

ALL Saints

- 12-21: St. Peter Canisius
- 12-23: St. John of Kenty
- 12-25: The Nativity of the Lord

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

Alan Baumgardner, Coby Carpenter, Cooper Frederick, David Fry, Heather Ingalls, Christopher Larry, Christopher Laveirge, Eric Polson, Robert Previch & Michael Genga.

Lord, Hold these men and women in your loving hands and protect them as they protect us and bless them for their selfless acts. We pray for peace in our world and an end to war. Amen

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Facebook: Our Lady of Loretto Redford
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52SUNDAYS.com

Office hours:

8:30a - 3:30p Mon. - Thurs.
8:30a - Noon - Fri.

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ollpastor2020@gmail.com

Pastoral Associate..... Sr. Margretta Wojcik
Srm.wojcik@gmail.com

Deacon Ron Vader..... 248-767-9199

Deaf Ministry
Fr. Michael Depcik 586-439-0146

Faith Formation Director
Donna Kohn 313-534-9000

Music Ministry
Paul Lusch 313-534-8206
Maureen Livernois

Parish Secretary Kristine Freeman
oll48240@gmail.com

Bookkeeper Angela Arrington

Parish Council
Maryann Aiton (*Chair*) 313-534-9000

Disabilities Representative
Sandie Brown 313-531-6192

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening 4:00 pm
Sunday 10:00am
Mon. & Tues. 8:30 am

CONFessions: Sat. 2:30 pm & by appt.

BAPTISMS: Family must be an active registered parishioner. Class held as arranged. Baptism by appointment.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements must be made in advance (6 months min.). At least one of the couples must be an active registered member of OLL.

SICK & COMMUNION CALLS: We are happy to visit the sick. Notify the Rectory.

REGISTRATION: All new members are asked to register in person.



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy." - Lk 1:43-44

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