

Church of St. Sebastian

December 28, 2014 — The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, December 27, Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

5:00 pm Mary Haddad, 7th anniversary and Christmas remembrance
-requested by her daughter

Sunday, December 28, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

9:00 am Dan Lancellotti
-requested by Al & Stephen Lancellotti and families

11:00 am Jean Schinse
-requested by her sister Belle Calenda

Monday, December 29, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, December 30, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00 Mass

Wednesday, December 31, Seventh Day Within the Octave of Christmas

7:00 am Mass

5:30 pm Vigil: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Thursday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation~~New Year's Day~~~
9:00 am Mass

Friday, January 2, Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, Jan. 3, Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, January 4, The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mae Badeau
-requested by her daughter Belle Calenda



"A Happy & Peaceful New Year to All"

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

We celebrate our Christmas Season from the Vigil Mass of Christmas to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 11, 2015.) Placed between these set points are two other feast days: today is the Holy Family, and next week is Epiphany. All of them give us a glimpse into different facets of the Incarnation, that is, the God made man in Jesus.

On this Holy Family Sunday, the Wisdom Tradition of the Hebrew Scriptures presents us with some sage advice. A wise rabbi would train his students in the ways of Wisdom. Today's first reading is a re-write of the Fourth Commandment as given in Exodus and recalled in Deuteronomy. *"Take care* of your father (and mother) when he is old...Even if his mind fails, be considerate with him...it will not be forgotten." This kindness, this honoring has for millennia fulfilled the Fourth Commandment. Moses instructed the Hebrews to honor parents so that it may be a blessing when you reach the Promised Land. With today's dramatic increase in Alzheimer's and dementia, families and caregivers face real challenges in the care for their parents, siblings, and friends. Pray for them today.

The emotion of gazing on the face of this newborn and wondering about Jesus become must have been on the hearts of Mary and Joseph. Entering the Temple, Simeon sees, takes, and lifts up the infant to the God of Israel. His words are recalled at the end of each and every day..."Now Master, you have kept your word..." We reflect on this prophetic moment. That "lifting up," (the very words used in the Gospel of John for the crucifixion), is dramatically foreshadowed at this Presentation in the Temple. Jesus was "lifted up" and that crucifixion thus *took care* of Mary and Joseph, and takes care of us all who believe in Him. The reality of our salvation began with the Annunciation to Mary, brings us now to His birth and Presentation (both events are in stain glass windows in the chapel area!), will continue next week with the revealing of Jesus to the nations (Epiphany) and brings the Holy Family back to Nazareth. There, Jesus grows in age, wisdom, and obedience. This **IS** the message of Christmas: in Jesus, God has taken care of us. What a gift!

A Blessed Christmas Season
~ Msgr. Darcy



Church of St. Sebastian
1915 ~ Celebrating 100 Years of Faith ~ 2015

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 31st, Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

Thursday, January 1st, Mass at 9:00 am



Annual Potluck Supper—January 17th, 2015

In honor of St. Sebastian, whose Feast Day is January 20th, all parishioners are invited to a Potluck Supper to be held in the Church Hall on Saturday, January 17th at 6:00 pm. More information will follow, but mark your calendars now and plan to attend!



ADVENT HAT AND MITTEN TREE

You are invited to decorate the tree in the vestibule with new Hats, Mittens, Gloves and Scarves for women, men and children through January. All proceeds will be distributed to Mary House at St. Patrick's Church in Providence. Thank you for your generous spirit and kindness.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Floral donations in memory of our loved ones may be placed in the collection basket with the special envelopes provided for this purpose. Extra envelopes are at the doors of the Church. A gentle reminder to spell names CLEARLY. Thank you for your continued generosity.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

December 14, 2014

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|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| # of Budget Envelopes Used This Week | 102 |
| Contributions-Budgets and Checks | \$ 5,124.00 |
| Loose Contributions | \$ 461.00 |
| Total Offertory | \$ 5,585.00 |
| Immaculate Conception | \$ 533.00 |
| Religious Retirement | \$ 2,010.00 |

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at www.Parishgiving.org or on our parish website at www.stsebastianri.org.

MONTHLY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

NEXT WEEKEND

Our Monthly Maintenance Collection helps defray the cost of maintaining our beautiful church, rectory and parish grounds. The parish is very fortunate to have staff members who take great pride in keeping our facilities in magnificent shape. A monthly collection of \$3,000 would pay for this ongoing and necessary maintenance. **Please be generous to this important collection to continue necessary improvements on our parish property.**



The generosity of parishioners has enabled Saint Sebastian's to serve the people of God for 100 years. Continue to be a thread in the fabric of this church by leaving a bequest to Saint Sebastian's in your will or estate planning. For more information about memorial donations and legacy giving, please contact Monsignor Darcy at 751-0196.

MONTHLY PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Names of friends, family, and fellow parishioners for whom prayers are asked will be listed monthly. If you would like a person included in next month's Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. **Debbie, Tim Cannon, Jack, Mary M., Peter Pizzarello, Maureen, Betty Mullaney, M. Rachel, Lisa Turbitt, Paula C., Heather, and Ursula Shea.**