

Church of St. Sebastian
December 29, 2013 — The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, December 28, Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

5:00 pm Antonio Picido
-requested by Mrs. David Nichols

Sunday, December 29, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

9:00 am Mass
11:00 am For the People

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

7:00 am Theresa Jean Daigle
-requested by Joan and Sam Simmons

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

7:00 am Mass
5:30 pm Vigil of The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Holy Day of Obligation~~New Year's Day~~
9:00 am Virgil Oliver
-requested by Diane Patterson

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

7:00 am Mass

Friday, January 3, Christmas Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, January 4, Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

5:00 pm Charles F. Rogers, Sr.
-requested by his family

Sunday, January 5, The Epiphany of the Lord

9:00 am For the People
11:00 am Mass



"A Happy & Peaceful New Year to All"

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

The Christmas season can at times appear to be chronologically erratic. We are still within the Octave of Christmas, yet now we find the child twelve years old with Mary and Joseph looking frantically for him in Jerusalem. These are most sobering thoughts during this season of Christmas trees, festive lights, and angelic messages. My prayer is that we ever cherish our children and assist them as they "advance in wisdom, age, and favor before God."

St. John wrote some amazing reflections that are used during this holy octave. My favorite is what was read the second day after Christmas, "*What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we looked upon and touched with our hands concerns the Word of Life... (which) we proclaim now to you*" (1 John 1:1-3 *passim*). Is there anything more precious for us than to know that we have received what the Apostle John himself found and experienced with Jesus, the Christ?

The search of Mary and Joseph for Jesus is symbolic of our own search for Him. Many desired to find the child in the Christmas story. Herod searched for the child, but only to kill Him. Shepherds and Magi found him because they sought Him with humility and awe. The three Magi will arrive at our outdoor Christmas crèche this week. So, now it's our turn to seek and to find him in our families. A family provides two things to their children: *roots and wings!* Roots, so that they know they are loved; and wings, so that their children go out into the world confident in faith that God is always their companion. These are two great gifts at Christmas for all the children of God.

Enjoy this Christmas Season
~Monsignor Darcy



Our Lady's Candle is lit this week in memory of Mae Badeau, requested by her daughter Belle Calenda.

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A FEW WORD OF THANKS...

The parish family thanks Toni Dumville and Margaret Pleasants for their time and talent in decorating the Church for this Christmas Season.

Our Church is beautiful...and we thank you so sincerely for your dedication. Also, many thanks to Sue Elliott, who coordinated the Christmas Caroling on December 22nd at the area nursing homes. Great job!

To the Parish Outreach Committee and all those who assisted with the Embrace a Family effort. You helped make Christmas very special again this year.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 31st, Vigil Mass 5:30 pm

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



Annual Potluck Supper—January 18th, 2013

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 18th at 6:00 pm. More information will follow, but mark your calendars now and plan to attend! Sign up sheets are in the vestibule.

Please keep our fellow parishioners and friends in your thoughts and prayers: Maureen Kenner, Carol Anne Theroux, Nicole Ruffine, Beverly DiLello, Elizabeth Dugan, Deborah Bessette, Beatrice Calvo Crozier, James Mullaney, Mariella, Amy, and Ursula Shea. *Please contact the rectory if you would like to add a person to our prayers.*



WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

December 15, 2013

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	70
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$ 3,717
Loose Contributions	\$ 358
Total Offertory	\$ 4,075

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.**



Your generosity has enabled Saint Sebastian's to serve the people of God in this community. Continue to be a thread in the fabric of this church by leaving a bequest to Saint Sebastian's in your Will. For more information about memorial donations and legacy giving, please contact Monsignor Darcy at 751-0196.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2014

Monsignor Darcy will be leading a 10 day Pilgrimage to the Holy Land October 20-30, 2014. Reservations are limited to 38 pilgrims, 22 have already reserved a place for the 4 nights in Jerusalem and 4 nights at the Sea of Galilee. *Participants must be really capable of sustained walking up/down hills and streets, on cobblestones, and possible distances.* Final cost is determined by airfares ... **present estimated price is \$3,495 pp** (double occupancy with private bath) and includes transportation to airport, flights, portage of one suitcase per person, breakfast and dinner daily. Call the rectory to receive the *Preliminary Flyer* (prepared before his sabbatical, but will be updated.)