

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS

December 25, 2016

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm, Holy Cross
**Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve - midnight, St. Martin's
Elsie Smith, by Linda Columbus**

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day - 10:00 am, Holy Cross

Monday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent

Tuesday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Wednesday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Thursday - 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, Dec. 31 - Vigil of the Solemnity, 4:30 pm, Holy Cross

Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, 7:45 am, Holy Cross

**Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, 9:15 am, St. Martin's
Jaylin Rose Johnson by family**

Sunday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, 10:45 am, Holy Cross

Weekly Offering: \$532

Second Collection This Week: Christmas Offering

Second Collection Next Week: Solemnity of Mary

Thank you to all who make up their envelopes for weekends missed due to vacation, illness or inclement weather.

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Zachary Fleming, Ruth Alie, Bob Young, Janet Clark, Marie Quader, Marie Jacques, Trey Niles, Margaret Murdock, Connie Hamel, Sandy Kulvete, Alice Ostrowski, Deb Nichols, Mary Amistadi, Dylan Murray, Anne Marie Beliveau, Rachel Catlow, Alicia Wieszorek, Bob Brown, Claudette Yackowski, Emma Blais, Angela Martin, George Yackowski, Donald Leblanc.

WEEKDAY MASS CANCELLATIONS

When conditions warrant "Delays or No School" cancellations, there will be NO MASS also. Mass intentions can be transferred to another day. We value the lives of our parishioners. Stay Safe!

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Lamp which burns near the Tabernacle, a reminder of the Lord's Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, will burn this week in memory of Jaylin Rose Johnson.

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

"And the Word became flesh" John 1:14



Jesus is God's ultimate gift of love to us. The countless other blessings that God showers upon us are nothing compared to the gift of His only Son.

The only appropriate way for us to respond to such generous love is with our own generous love. When we dedicate our lives to sharing all the gifts God has placed in our hands, the peace

of Christ truly will control our hearts and we will know the joy of Christmas every day.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! FROM YOUR PASTOR

My Dear Family in Christ,

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas time and wonderful New Year of 2017, overflowing with the power of Divine Mercy of God.

May we all seize this Christmas season and make it our primary purpose to talk to someone about the wonderful joy, peace and love that Jesus Christ brought to all mankind 2000 years ago when He came from heaven to earth!

This unchanging message still brings hope, excitement and blessed assurance of eternal salvation to millions of people around the world, as He died, rose again, ascended to the right hand of His Father in Heaven, and is coming back soon as King of kings and Lord of lords!

Please pray for me and I promise that I will keep you and your families in my prayers too. God bless you. — Fr. Marcin

RESPECT LIFE

"What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

~ John 1:3-4

WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Due to a printing delay, the boxed sets of collection envelopes for 2017 have not yet arrived at the church; they are expected to arrive soon. In the meantime, blank envelopes are available in the vestibule if you would like to take a couple home to cover a week or two.

RITE OF CALLING

Rite of Calling for Confirmation students, Gr. 11 will be on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at the 10:45 am Mass at Holy Cross Church.

CCD CLASSES

Classes will not be held this weekend or next weekend.

March for Life Registration

The 44th Annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 27, 2017. Buses will leave from Cathedral of St. Paul on Thurs., Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Sat., Jan. 28. Cost is \$70 per seat for registrations postmarked by Dec. 31, and \$85 thereafter. It will be first-come-first-served basis until all seats are full. For information, visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life or call 508-929-4311.

120 CLUB

Last week's winner was #69, Bob Columbus. The final drawing will be held soon... if your ticket is not yet paid up, please see Linda Columbus. Tickets must be paid up in order to be included in the big drawing.

BOOK EXTRAVAGANZA

The Religious Education Board & Rosary Sodality will be hosting their Second "Book Extravaganza" January 29, 2017 at Holy Cross Church. We are in need of gently used books for ages: Preschool - Gr.11. We will also have an adult section for our adult parishioners. Please mark donations for which age group, to help with sorting, and leave the books on the stage in the church hall. We will be collecting books from now until Jan. 27, 2017.

TEMPLETON FOOD PANTRY

The Templeton Food Pantry is always in need of donations. Non-perishable food may be brought to Mass any Sunday and volunteers will deliver your donations to the Pantry. Please help our neighbors in need. The pantry is located at the rear of the Senior Center, 16 Senior Drive in Baldwinville, and is open from 9 am - 1 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us," Merry Christmas! Give your children the best gift of all-the growing love of their parents. Explore more by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWME.org.

St. Martin's Catholic Church

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