Please pray for the Deceased
Especially Theresa Bell, Tom King, Edward Clark, John Zakrzewski, Kathleen Maddekiak, John Zimmer, and All Deceased Members of the Parish.

Please Pray For The Sick

Please pray for an end to abortion.
Ministry Schedule

LECTORS THIS WEEK (12/23-24)
Saturday 4:30 Vigil Lynda Eckes
Sunday 8:30 AM Mark & Monique Coval
11:00 AM Martin Grace

LECTORS CHRISTMAS EVE
Sunday 7:00 Vigil Margie Dippolito
Martin Grace
9:00 Vigil Paul Bendetti

LECTORS CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 8:30 AM Tillie Garczynski
11:00 AM *

LECTORS THIS WEEK (12/30-31)
Saturday 4:30 Vigil Lynda Eckes
Sunday 8:30 AM Dominic Colaizzo
11:00 AM *

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS WEEK (12/23-24)
Saturday 4:30 Vigil Tom Derago
Fran Derago
Sunday 8:30 AM Mark Coval
Conny Lockwood
11:00 AM Theresa Burke
Laura Drake

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS CHRISTMAS EVE
Sunday 7:00 Vigil Jack Ryan
Amy Rivera
9:00 Vigil Laura Drake
Conny Lockwood

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 8:30 AM Theresa Burke
Kathy Weber
11:00 AM Rachael Colaizzo
*

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS WEEK (12/30-31)
Saturday 4:30 Vigil *
Sunday 8:30 AM Rachael Colaizzo
Kathleen Cieplinski
11:00 AM Kathy Markley
Sarah Owens

Offerings

December 10, 2017
Regular Collection $3,619.00
Regular Collection 12.11.16 $3,852.00
(includes Feast of Immaculate Conception)

December 17, 2017
Regular Collection $2,410.00
Regular Collection 12.18.16 $2,829.00

Thank you very much for your generosity throughout the year. When we tithe we are telling God that we trust in Him more than our money.

Lampki

1. +Deceased Members of Kupiec & Heys Family.
5. +Mr. & Mrs. Frank Zalewski of. Daughter.

Readings for Next Weekend
December 31, 2017
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Reading I

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
"The Lord remembers his covenant for ever."

Reading II
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel
Luke 2:22-40

Read the passages online @
http://usccb.org/bible/books-of-the-bible/index.cfm

Enjoy
Perfectly Yourself
Discovering God’s Dream for You
Parish Events Calendar

2017-18

Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve Vigil Masses:
7:00 p.m.—St. Philip Neri Church
9:00 p.m.—St. Stanislaus

Monday, December 25
Christmas Morning Masses:
8:30 a.m.—St. Stanislaus
11:00 a.m.—St. Philip Neri Church

—

First Reconciliation
Tuesday—February 20
11:00 a.m. Mass—SPN

Confirmation
Sunday - March 4
11:00 a.m. Mass—SPN

First Holy Communion
Sunday - May 6

Forty Hours
Saturday - May 19
thru Monday—May 21

Merry Christmas!

From
Your Priests

New Year’s Day
Mass for Mary Mother of God

Monday, January 1
9:00 a.m.—SS

Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

Check out our new parish website at
www.queenvillagecatholic.org

And see our Parish Giving button to register to make donations online.
Pastor’s Letter

Dear Parishioners,

What is the best Christmas gift ever? Is it the newest Nintendo Switch or the impeccable iWatch? Young people are asked by Santa what they want to receive. They have thoughts of what they would like right up to Christmas Eve.

As we grow older we begin to think of what we can give to others. The thought of giving and seeing the response of friends and loved ones who are the receivers is what gives us joy. Sometimes the way the present is wrapped can mean a lot. It shows that what was given was given with love.

It is true that the Christmas season can come with a lot of stress for many of us. We certainly are busy about a lot of things. At times it can be getting the right gift for the right person. Remembering the first Christmas can keep us on target to being involved in the best Christmas ever.

The gift that that will really make a difference is the gift that shows we care and are truly interested in the other person. That is a gift that will make a difference. The really great gifts may not always even be wrapped. They may be actions or words that bring peace or break down walls.

At Mass we meet the greatest gift ever. At Christmas we celebrate the greatest gift ever given. The greatest gift was wrapped in swaddling clothes and placed in a manger on that first Christmas day.

Receive the gift. Give yourself to the gift. Be given by the gift to others. Merry Christmas everyone!

Father Oliver
Christmas Flower Donations

Honor of/Memory of

Sr. M. Carolyn
Rev. A. Ziembga
Rev. C. Stelmach
Rachubinski Parents
Minarczyk Parents
Bertha & Steve Kochinski
Helen Lopez
Sophie Wilk
Stankiewicz Family
Sissy Rockwell
Walter Zuroick
Josie Wierzbicki
Diana Clayton
Marie Cassidy
Anna Pakech
Caroline Trock & Robert Trock, Jr.
Thom Byers & Lenny Byers
Frank & Caroline Lengel
Gallo-Dippolito Family
Lengel Family
Special Intention
Jack Stermel
Douglas Swavely
Anna Swavely
Alicia Tully
Betty Quinich
Robert Tully, Jr.
James Burke
Frank Wisniewski
Joanne Fontana
Henry Ziegler
Tommy King III
Catherine King
Thomas King I
Bill O’Meara
Mae O’Meara
Kazmierz & Genevieve Toczykowski
Charlotte Skalski
Christopher Arnold
Stella Toczykowski
Helen Kwasizur
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Zalewski
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Nevaline
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Zalewski
Lucy & Fred White
Bob & Jeannie Eckes
Mary & Michael Ryan
Kay Smith
Fred White
Yannone Family
Panza Family
Vicki Karson
Katie Morris
Mike & Fran McGonigle
Mazur Family
Czaika Family
Marcie E. Berman
Flordelina Otero Poliquet
Henry P. Brinn & Family
Frank & Kathleen Williams & Family
Willy & Fran Mohoreanu
Al & Kate Mangini
Thomas Boyle, Jr.
Dan, Frank & Jackie Kwasizur
Frank & Rose Kwasizur
Thomas & Sophie Boyle
Joseph Bucia
Helen Bucia
Stephen Green
Eileen Bucia
Gina Baiocco
Jean Dobrzanski
Joseph Dobrzanski
Rose Dobrzanski
John Dobrzanski
David Smith
Rita K. Smith
Hugh Smith
John Drake
Anna Verbitski
Margaret Messner
Mary Rovnak
Edward Martin
George & Catherine Stuski
Regina DiCiacco
Joseph Kane
Kathleen Bachich Green
Donald & Josephine McManus
Edward & Anna Donnelly
Henry & Jean Cieplinski
Naulty Family
Erncharles Family
Smith Family
Czybka Family
Michael Kubiak, Sr.
Michael Kubiak, Jr.
Charles & Sophia Veasey
Anna Kubiak
Margaret Veasey
Joanne Suarez
Sam & Lillian Holton
Walter & Sophie Haraszkiewicz
Josephine & Helen Przygodzinski
Catherine & Foster McKoskey
Katherine & Theodore Wilhelm
Ronald Smith
Roy Hallady
Ronald L. Smith
Lawrence Clifford
Catherine McKoskey
Kathy McKoskey
Nancy Clifford
Michael & Ann Dattilo
John & Norma Olszewski
Mary Deery
Mickey & Madeline Hudson
Edward & Jenny Eells
Ed Griffin
Chuck & Bob Eells
Sis, John, Frank Hudson
Mary Foy
St. Stanislaus Christmas Bazaar
& Polish Food Festival

Profit: $6,192.75

We Thank the Committee and our Sponsors:

The Bagel Place
BJ’s
Blue Cross River Rink
Chick-fil-A
Dave & Buster’s
Esposito Meats
For Pete’s Sake
Froggy Carr
Giordano’s
Gooey Louie’s
John’s Roast Pork
Kaplan’s Bakery
Kissin’ Fresh Foods
Krakus
Linsky’s Pharmacy
Maglio’s Sausage
Miller’s Ale House
Moonshine
Morey’s Piers
Philadelphia Flyers
Phillies
Shadybrook Farm
Shoprite of Whitman Plaza
Villa Di Roma
St. Adalbert’s Parish
for use of their wheels
Swiacki Meats
and all who made Baskets,
gave Donations
. . . this day possible.
Every year at this time, browsing for homily ideas, I page through a little book offered by Plough Publishing: Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas. The daily reflections are simple, brief and wonderful, and they’re drawn from writers as wide-ranging as Bernard of Clairvaux, John Chrysostom, Dorothy Day, Alfred Delp, Madeleine L’Engle, Romano Guardini, Annie Dillard, C.S. Lewis, Edith Stein, John Donne and T.S. Eliot. Borrowing a line or two from the great and good never hurts at Christmas – or ever.

This year though, for this December column, I’ll share instead two items.

The first item is a recent post from Seminarian Casual, the blog of our men studying for the priesthood at St. Charles Seminary. It’s good because it’s simple and true. And it’s worth pondering as Advent enters its last few days, and we ready ourselves for Christmas:

GET MORE, GET MERRIER?

I just spotted an advertisement for Fios which shows what may be a teenage boy or girl (I cannot tell because the person’s face is covered by a virtual reality headset) staring up at the ceiling, or rather into the virtual world they are in, relaxing in plaid pajamas. And the caption reads: “Get more. Get merrier.”

This is certainly a shot in the gut since my Christmas shopping is finished, and I did not buy anyone a subscription to Fios or a virtual reality headset. Spoiler alert to any of my family members reading this. But according to the advertisement, Christmas will not be merry unless I provide a machine that can block out the real world or go into debt so someone can have the best product for a year before the latest model comes out next November.

We can have this mentality around Christmas. “Get more. Get merrier.” And the stores and Internet are filled with the products that are filling people’s homes, all for the sake of getting happier. All so someone can know you love them because the price tag says so. And if you paid less for someone else, that shows where your heart is — in the credit card compartment of your wallet.

How would they react if they were told that there is one thing that will make them merriest, and it is free?

Would parents flock to the Cathedral if they learned that the priest is giving away the greatest gift of all starting at midnight, and doing it again at certain times listed in the bulletin? Would children leave their gifts under the tree for an hour longer if they could sit in the place of their spiritual rebirth and see a life-size scene of the first Christmas? Maybe the person in the advertisement can take off the virtual reality set and actually look at the world and see the love that is offered on that day.

The radio channels have been reminding us that this is “The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year.” But one of my favorites is hearing George Michael sing, “Last Christmas, I gave you my heart,” and thinking that maybe this year, entering the Church at midnight this Christmas Eve, and going up to the altar to receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, “This year…I’ll give it to someone special.”

The second item is a poem-hymn whose words have lived in Christian hearts for more than 500 years:

Lo, in the silent night
A child to God is born
And all is brought again
That ere was lost or lorn.

Could but thy soul, O man,
Become a silent night!
God would be born in thee
And set all things aright.

As the saying goes: Jesus is the reason for the season. May he live in our hearts and guide our lives throughout the coming year. And may God grant all of us and our families a blessed Christmas, filled with happiness.

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Two Annunciations From the Bible - In the Gospel of Luke (1:26) the angel Gabriel appears to Mary. We call this scene, the Annunciation, as the angel, God’s messenger, announces God’s plan to her. She will be the mother of God. Her son, who will be miraculously conceived, will be named Jesus. Mary was promised to be married to Joseph. There would obviously be confusion. So another Annunciation takes place. In Matthew’s Gospel (1:20-21) Joseph had decided to divorce Mary quietly, but then an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream (Matthew is famous for dreams) and tells him that he should not be afraid to take Mary into his home. It was through the Holy Spirit that the child had been conceived.

Paintings of the Annunciation to Mary, abound. It is also the First Joyful Mystery of the Rosary. There is a print of this Annunciation in the gathering space outside the Saint John Neumann Chapel in the lower level of Saint Philip Neri Church building.

Paintings of the Annunciation to Saint Joseph also are extant. Yes, these too exist. Father Maloney informed me that the tempter, the devil, is sometimes included to show that Joseph’s idea to divorce Mary would have derailed the plan of God. May we, like Mary, and Joseph be obedient and follow God’s will in our lives.

From the Readings and Prayers at Mass – On the **Fourth Sunday of Advent** (December 24) a rather interesting prayer was used as the Collect or opening prayer at Mass. It has the elements of the closing prayer of the Angelus. People who pray “the Angelus” would have recognized the phrases as the Mass began.

**December 24—Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**COLLECT**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity Of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen

**THE ANGELUS**

V. The Angel spoke God’s message to Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary . . .
V. “I am the lowly servant of the Lord:
R. Let be done to me according to your word.”
Hail Mary . . .
V. And the Word became flesh
R. And lived among us.
Hail Mary . . .
V. Pray for us, holy Mother of God.
R. That we may become worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray.
Lord, fill our hearts with your grace: once, through the message of an angel you revealed to us the incarnation of your Son; now, through his suffering and death lead us to the glory of his resurrection. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.
One of Fr. Maloney’s Favorites:

“THE LEGEND OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE”

Today, the Christmas tree is a center of our festivities. Topped with a star, and glittering with lights and ornaments, it is a part of the beauty and meaning of the Christmas season.

How did the Christmas tree come to play such an important part in the observance of Christmas?

There is a legend that comes down to us from the early days of Christianity in England. One of those helping to spread Christianity among the Druids was a monk named Wilfred (later Saint Wilfred). One day, surrounded by a group of his converts, he struck down a huge Oak tree, which, in the Druid religion, was an object of worship.

As the Oak tree fell to the earth, it split into four pieces, and from its center there grew a young Fir tree, pointing a green spire toward the sky. The crowd gazed in amazement.

Wilfred let his axe drop, and turned to speak. “This little tree shall be your Holy Tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are built of the Fir. It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are evergreen. See how it points toward the heavens.

Let this tree be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather about it, not in the wilderness, but in your homes. There it will be surrounded with loving gifts and rites of kindness.”

And to this day, that is why the Fir Tree is one of our loveliest symbols of Christmas.

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**Christmas in the Bible - Questions**

1. There are 73 books in the Bible. How many of those books tell the story of the first Christmas?
2. There are 1335 chapters in the Bible how many of them tell of that first Christmas?
3. What are the books of the Bible that tell the Christmas story?

Answers on other side.

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Did you know that Father Piro’s favorite Christmas Carol is in Italian “tu scendi dalle stelle” (You came down from the stars)

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Did you know that Dr. Seuss’ Grinch made his TV debut over 50 years ago. The message is secular and religious.
The Hail Mary
A Christmas Prayer

The Hail Mary is a prayer that comes right out of the Bible. It is a combination of the Angel’s words to Mary and the words that are spoken to Mary by her relative Elizabeth. Read Luke chapter one and see who speaks to the Blessed Mother giving us the phrases used in this most beloved and helpful prayer. Remember, Mary always points us to her son Jesus.

Christmas is all about

JESUS

Take some time in these days to pray before Jesus in the manger scene. Surrender to the Prince of Peace and bring the Peace of the Prince to others.

Santa: Knock, knock.
Elf: Who’s there?
Santa: Olive.
Elf: Olive, who?
Santa: Olive the other reindeer.

Christmas in the Bible - Answers

1. two
2. four

Even the US Post Office reminds us that “Jesus is the reason for the Season”