

Christmas Blessings

From the Pastor's Desk

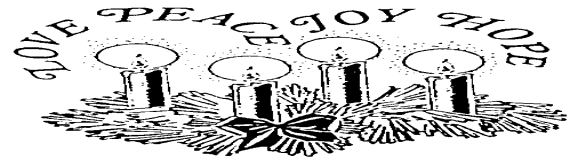
Dear Parish Family and Guests,

A Blessed Christmas to all of you! I want to express a special welcome to all of our guests, in particular any of our non-Catholic brothers and sisters who have come to celebrate with us the birth of our Savior. Christ is the one who promises eternal life for all those who will accept His way of living and loving in this world. It is a life style that calls for us to be aware of the needs of others and to respond in a compassionate and generous manner. This is something that many people do at Christmas, but the challenge that we face as Christians is to make sure that we live out the Good News of Christ not just one day a year or at a certain time of the year. Rather, it is something we must do each and every day of our lives.

Next Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family. Masses will be celebrated on Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sunday at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM. Since January 1st is the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God and a holy day of obligation, the evening Mass on Sunday, December 31 at 6:00 PM will fulfill this obligation. It will NOT be a Mass for the regular Sunday obligation.

It is an exciting time around Little Flower as we prepare to begin our new ministry to the sick and senior members of our parish. On January 8, Grady Haley, a registered nurse and a member of our parish, will become our Pastoral Associate for Health and Senior Ministries. I believe that by focusing on these areas in a very concrete way we can let the sick and elderly members of our parish family know that the sacrifices they made to make our parish what it is will not be forgotten. They have given to us and this will be our opportunity to give back to them. We are a parish with aging facilities and we have done a lot in recent years to address our physical plant. I believe it is now time for us to place some specific emphasis on our spiritual plant as well. We are doing good things already. It is my hope that the new position of Pastoral Associate for Health and Senior Ministries will help us to build on this and to focus more on what really matters in the life of a parish; namely, its people. May the Christ Child continue to smile on all of you.

Fr. Vince



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- 25 December** 9:00 a.m. **Monday – The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas**
Joseph Poetz by Mark and Jo Ann Haendel
- 26 December** 7:00 a.m. **Tuesday**
Clara and Harry Nees by The Nees Family
5:30 p.m. Helen Fillenwarth by Joe Barry
- 27 December** 7:00 a.m. **Wednesday**
5:30 p.m. James W. Boyle by Patti Nachtigall and Ted Fager
Martha Lawrence by Hank and Dolores Bryant
- 28 December** 7:00 a.m. **Thursday**
5:30 p.m. John D. Meno by The Meno Family
Leo White by Mr. and Mrs. George Haddin
- 29 December** 8:30 a.m. **Friday**
5:30 p.m. Therese Dailey by Patricia Mills
Clara Ortmann by Ed Ortmann
- 30 December** 8:30 a.m. **Saturday**
Joseph Jines by Freda Jines
- Vigil Mass** 5:00 p.m. **Feast of the Holy Family**
Mary Haboush by Al, Judy and Arvina
- 31 December** 8:30 a.m. **Sunday - Feast of the Holy Family**
10:30 a.m. For the Parish
Constance Dugan by Steve Grohovsky
- 31 January** 6:00 a.m. **Vigil Mass - Sunday - Mary, Mother of God**
Pat Striby by The Skinner Family
- 1 January** 9:00 a.m. **Mary, Mother of God**
Viola Uberta by Danny Uberta



In Our Parish

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH DECEMBER 26 – JANUARY 1, 2000

Monday	NO	SCHOOL	THIS WEEK
	PARISH	CENTER	CLOSED
Tuesday	PARISH	CENTER	CLOSED
Wednesday	St. Patrick	9:00 am	Bible Study
	Scout Rm.	6:30 pm	Brownies #239
Thursday	Youth Rm.	6:30 pm	Youth Council
	St. Therese	8:00 pm	AA
Friday	St. Therese	8:00 pm	Overeaters Anonymous
Saturday	St. Therese	7:00 am	Men's Prayer Group
Sunday	Parish Ctr.	8:30 am	NO Children's Lit./ NO Nursery/ NO Religious. Ed. NO Coffee and Donuts

RETREAT WITH FR. JIM FARRELL AT FATIMA

On Sunday, December 31st, Fr. Jim will lead a one-night program in preparation for the new year. You will enjoy a special gourmet meal and, at midnight, we will pray in the year 2001 during Mass in a candlelit chapel. Registration fee of \$125 per person or \$225 for married couples includes the program, meals and overnight. Call Fatima at 545-7681.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS – NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

- Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 – 3:30 p.m.
5:30 & 10:00 p.m.
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 – 9:00 a.m.
Feast Of The Holy Family
- Anticipated -Saturday, December 30th - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 31st 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Feast of Mary, Mother of God – (Holyday)
- New Year's Eve – Anticipated Sunday, December 31st – 6:00pm
- New Year's Day - Monday, January 1st - 9:00 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS



**75TH LITTLE FLOWER ANNIVERSARY VIDEO IS IN!
“A Brief History of Little Flower Parish”**

VHS video tapes are now available at a cost of \$5.00. This will be a pictorial collector’s item of the 75 years of history and this past year’s celebration at Little Flower. The non-narrated film features pictures with music of many events, parishioners, relatives, friends and possibly yourself! Call Steve Flynn, for a more in-depth review of the contents and to order – 891-0970.

VIDEO TAPES OF THE CHILDREN’S HOLIDAY CONCERT, “A Not So Silent Christmas” will be available soon. Also **“GLORY DAY” TAPES AND CD’S** are still available. Please call Teresa Eckrich for more info. – 356-1868.



Several faith-filled Legion of Mary members gather every Monday at 3:45 p.m. to recite the Legion prayers and offer the Rosary in the St. Patrick Room of the Parish Center. Their leader, Bernice Borton, would be delighted to share this opportunity for spiritual devotion with other Little Flower parishioners. Call Bernice at 356-6043 for ways you might become involved in this ministry of prayer.

Many women who have had abortions continue silently to suffer the trauma of unresolved guilt and shame. They often feel an incapacity to forgive themselves and an inability to comprehend God’s forgiveness.....

The Little Flower Personal Growth Center will offer a psychotherapy group for women beginning Sunday, January 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Jerome Room.

This small confidential group of 8 – 10 participants will be led by two experienced psychotherapists meeting for 1.5 hours on ten Sunday evenings. Call Jackie Montrie for details - 722-6057. Fee is involved based on a sliding scale.

Our Sympathy

We offer prayers and concern for the families of Charles “Mac” Payton and Raymond Carnes buried from the parish recently.



A special thanks to those who assisted with the Parish Christmas Party; Barb Washburn, Pat Gandolph, Madelynn Miller, Barbara Elliott, Kurt and Mary Hunt., Mary Martha Costello, Cori Bucherl, Anna Heins, Barry Greene, Stephanie Grohovsky, Megan Froehle, Adam Mueller, Gary Still, Jodi Slipher, Holly Slipher, and Katie Bogan.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will close:
Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26 - all day

SCHOOL Resumes – Monday, January 8th

BULLETIN DEADLINES

Bulletin Issue	Deadline
January 6/7	9:00 a.m. Friday, December 29



SAVE YOUR PEPSI & FRITOLAY POINTS

Pepsi and Frito Lay are sponsoring a program that will offer our school the chance to redeem “pepsinotes” for musical instruments and supplies. Please save the “pepsinote points” marked on Pepsi and FritoLay products and put them in marked containers in church during December and January.

Thanks for your help.



CHURCH SUPPORT

GIFTS FOR GOD - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

A thank you to those who planned and participated in the Parish Christmas party. Santa (alias ?) was a big success for the kids and adult “kids” who had a chat with him!

Sunday, December 17	8,210.10
Collected Year to Date	298,544.53
Budgeted Year to Date	305,525.10
Year Budgeted 7/1/00- 6/30/01	635,500.00
Needed weekly for budget	12,221.00

Thank you for your continued support!

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We will soon be forming the next class for preparation for Confirmation in May of 2001. Any eighth grade or high school age youth who has not yet been confirmed and would like to participate should call Tom Costello at the Parish Center at 357-8352. Eighth Graders currently attending Little Flower will automatically be given enrollment information after the Christmas Break.

Also, First Communion Preparation for students who do NOT attend Little Flower will begin soon. If you have a child of at least second grade age who needs to participate in First Communion Preparation, please call Tom at 357-8352

