Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord, December 25, 2011

Parish Staff Team 756-3145		Mass Intentions			
Pastor : Rev. Fr. James J. Kane	Sat. Dec. 24 (Vigil)	4:00 pm	Priest' Intentions	Pastor	
frjim@tcosp.org Ext. 301 Deacon: Deacon James E. O'Rourke dcnjim528@gmail.com Ext. 308	Fourth Sunda	9:00 pm	For all Parishioners, especially Christmas peace, joy and love	Pastor	
Pastoral Associate for Administration: Mrs. Lori Nunziato lori@tcosp.org Ext. 302 Pastoral Associate/D.R.E. for Faith	Sun. Dec. 25	9:00 am	For all Parishioners, especially Christmas deco- rators, donors and liturgical ministers	Pastor	
Formation: Br. Ron Davis, FSD Ext. 304 broron@tcosp.org Pastoral Associate for Music:	Mon. Dec. 26 St. Stephen		NO MASS here 8 AM Mass at St. Mary's Coxsackie		
Mr. John Schmitt john@tcosp.org Ext. 303 Volunteer Office Assistants:	Tues. Dec. 2 St. John	7	NO MASS here 8 AM St Mary's Coxsackie		
Mrs. Donna Hagen Ext. 300 Mrs. Tina Irwin Mrs. Michelle Fralick	Wed. Dec. 28 Holly Innocen		NO MASS here 8 AM St Mary's Coxsackie		
church@tcosp.org Volunteer Sacristan: Mrs. Joan A. Lipscomb Ext. 300 Facilities Maintenance:	Thurs. Dec. 2	9	NO MASS here 8AM St. Mary's Coxsackie		
Mr. Ron Racine ron@tcosp.org Ext. 308	Fri. Dec. 30 Holy Family		NO MASS here		
	Sat. Dec. 31	9:00 am	NO MASS here		
St. Patrick's Cemetery Cemetery Manager: Mrs. Lori Nunziato Sexton: Mr. Charles Burns Groundskeeper: Mr. Angel Perez	Sat. Dec 31	4:00 pm	Mary Vasto	Kathy & Mike Di Napoli	
Any questions regarding cemetery plots and/or mausoleum space please call 756-3145. New Families	(Vigil) Octave Day of Christmas	8:00 am	Orlando Ferraro	Catherine Giacomini	
WELCOME! We would like to include you in our Parish Family. Please call the rectory or stop by to register.	Blessed Virgin	od			
Personal amplifying units available for the hearing impaired Restrooms in the Parish Center		ay	For all Parishioners, especially, peace, on this World Day of Prayer for Peace	Pastor	

Stewardship

Ministry Schedules

Altar Servers - Eucharistic Ministers - Lectors - Counters - Greeters - Camera

Dec. 31/Jan. 1 Group B January 7/8 - Group C January 14/15 - Group D January 21/22 Group E January 28/29 Group A February 4/5 - Group B

Attention Eucharist Ministers: Those serving Mass during the weekend are asked to PLEASE come into the Sacristy to sign in.

Stewardship	Number	Average	\$ Amount	2010
A Way of Life Envelopes & Checks	127	25.24	3,206.00	4,333.00
Loose cash			305.00	447.00
Totals: 12/17- 18			3,511.00	4,780.00
Budget			4,846.00	
Stewardship			176.00	
2nd Collection				

Reflection

The shepherds who heard the joyous news from the angels on that first Christmas night and then hurried to find the infant Savior must surely have been changed by that experience. How has His coming changed my life?

Living Stewardship

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who rejoice because the Word became flesh and dwells among us! O come let us adore Him!

Attendance for the weekend of 12/17-18 was 391 (total number of registered families = 891)

Linens - January - Jackie Lynch

Anyone willing to do church linens please call the Rectory 756-3145

Pantry News

Thank You to all of those who donated money for the Christmas baskets

Dec 1st thru Dec 16th

of families 55
of children 0-17 82
of adults 18-64 98
of seniors 65+ 12
using diapers, formula 6

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The "Pantry" is closed December 19th thru
December 30th(Jan 3)

~ Diane Hoffman, Coordinator

Thrift Shop

Jan 5 - Lois Williams - Betty Jane Costanza

Jan 6 - Angie Meilak - Rose Schermerhorn

Jan 7 - Rae Panico - Marie Wilsey

Thrift Shop Hours

Thursday - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Jan 5)

Friday - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Jan 6)

Saturday - 10:00 am - noon (Jan 7)

Pantry Hours

Tuesdays - 10:00 am - 11:00 am (Jan 3)

Wednesdays - 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm (Jan 4)

Fridays - 10:00 am - 11:00 am (Jan 6)

Quote of the Week:

"Every year, as we start to think of Christmas, the world is bathed in a warm current of love. It is a celebration of joy and love. This is the star toward which all of us are moving." -St. Edith Stein

Prayer of the Week:

"Oh, God, our loving Father, help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen."

-Robert Louis Stevenson

"Question of the Week:

"In what ways does the Christ Child invite you and me to the serious call of discipleship?" "Pastoral Patterns (Winter 2011-2012)

From the Pastor's Desk:

CHRISTMAS PEACE. JOY AND LOVE FROM YOUR PASTOR AND PASTORAL STAFF.

~Fr. Jim Kane

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR

ADMINISTRATION: I would like to wish each and everyone of you a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us keep in mind the true meaning of Christmas. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Decorating Committee for the beautiful job done in decorating our church, it is truly beautiful. I would also like to thank Diane Hoffman the Director of the Food Pantry and her helpers and Donna Hagen the Chairperson of the Giving Tree and her assistants for a wonderful job in preparing for the Christmas Giving. Thank you for your time and efforts in making the less fortunate have a brighter Christmas. ~Lori Nunziato

My Dear Parishioners:

Today is the beginning of the most beautiful story ever told. The fact that God loved us so much that He sent his only begotten Son that we might have life eternal. I often wonder if we realize the impact of such a beautiful event. It is because of God's plan for redemption and sending us a savior that we are allowed to enter heaven. We also celebrate Mary's response to God when she was told by the angel Gabriel that she was to be the mother of Jesus. Her beautiful "fiat" be it done to me according to your word," was indeed an acceptance of God's will for her. Do we accept God's plan or will for us? Are we willing to play our part in the story he has written for us?

Faith Formation Ministry

Our faith formation students have been involved in learning about the advent season and of course the celebration of the event that we know as Christmas. I stopped into the practice for the Christmas pageant and you could just see the wonder in the eyes of the children as they prepared for the birth of Christ. If we could only have that same sense of awe and wonder and see these events through the eyes of a child. Perhaps we would realize most that in their innocence that have captured the true meaning of Christmas.

At Christmas time, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our faith formation staff for their gift to our families and children for all that they do to enlighten their hearts and minds with the word of God. I would like to thank those involved in putting together our Christmas pageant. What a wonderful example of passing on the living word of God.

You are reminded that classes resume January 8th for K-8. Grades 9 & 10 resume on Sunday January 22nd. Confirmation students are reminded to have their journals with them and to complete the work on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

May all of you enjoy a blessed and happy Christmas and New Year! Find a home in your hearts for that little tiny child and in this season of giving ask yourself what are you prepared to give him?

Did you know that St. Francis of Assisi and his brothers were responsible for the tradition of the nativity scene?

In Christ and Francis,

Br. Ronald-Francis Davis, FSD,-

Pastoral Associate and Director of Faith Formation

Church Calendar

Dec. 26 - Rectory office closed for Christmas holiday

Dec. 30 - Rectory office closed for New Year's holiday.

Jan. 2 - Rectory office closed for New Year's holiday

Jan. 3 - Prayer & Worship Mtg, 7 PM, Rectory

Jan. 4 - Events Committee Mtg, 7 PM, Room 5

Faith Formation Calendar

Religion Classes

Dec. 25-No Classes

Jan. 1 -No Classes

K-8 Jan. 8 -

Jan. 15 -No Classes

What does Christmas really mean By Warren H. Hedden

What does Christmas really mean?
Packages wrapped in red and green
Reindeer pulling a flying sled
Carrying a fat man dressed in red.

Colored lights on Christmas trees
New ice skates or maybe skis
Packages piled up on the floor
And mistletoe, hung over the door.

Finding places to hide the toys
The dolls for Girls and bikes for Boys
Turkey piles on plates so high
With mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie.

Office party's with lots of booze
Are these all things we should choose?
Or, should we celebrate in another way
The birth of the Savior born that day.

So what does Christmas really mean?
There are deeper meanings than what is seen
Bright lights & tinsel don't mean a thing
If we forget about the new born King.

So keep in mind on Christmas morn
This is the day that Christ was born
And every year upon this date
He is the reason we celebrate.

Why Christmas never grows old

I think Christmas never grows old, because it is a deeply human, as well as a divine mystery.

God, in becoming a human being, raised humanity to the dizzy heights of the divine, but at the same time he made it manifest, disclosing its mystery to people in ecstasy.

Christmas means the warmth of the family, The amazing phenomenon of motherhood, The continuity of life through fatherhood.

Christmas means, for the Christian and
For humanity -besides the dawn of the redemption -the day in which humanity rediscovers
itself, its true self,
because it is grafted into God.
 ~Chiara Lubich
From Christmas Joy, New City Press, 1999



Christmas means: He has come.

He has illuminated the night. He has made the night of our darkness, the night of our lack of understanding, the cruel night of our fears, And our hopelessness into Christmas, the holy night.

In the Word made flesh, God has sent his last Word, his most profound Word, his most beautiful Word into the world. And that Word means: I love you, world and humanity.

Light the candles! They have more right to be here than darkness.

~Karl Rahner From We Have Seen a Great Light: 99 sayings on Christmas, New City Press, 2007



Let Us Tray

For The Dead

Our deceased loved ones, parishioners and benefactors:

Andrew Giacomini

In Loving Memory of

Joseph C. Vasto

Love,

Mary

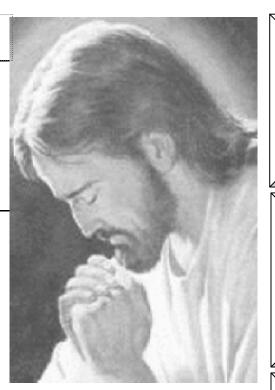
In Loving Memory of

Louise Persico

Love,

Josephine, Tom, Thomas

& Teddy



In Loving Memory of

Geraldine Bruno

Love,

Jimmy & Daughters

Sanctuary Lamp - December
In Loving Memory of
Christopher J. Biscone

Love, Angie

Altar Bread - December In Loving Memory of

Justin John Bonafide

Love, Grammy & Poppy

Altar Candles - December

Deceased members of the Amedio & Biscone Families

> Love, Angie

Sacraments

Baptism:

Please contact the Office to make arrangements. Baptisms take place on a seasonal basis.

January 13 th-Baptism Prep Class 7 pm Room 5 January 15th - Baptisms - noon

Memorial [as in above]

Memorials are available for your loved ones. Call and sign up as soon as possible to insure that you can get your choice.

Sanctuary Lamp - 2 weeks - \$15.00 Altar Candles - 1 month - \$15.00 Altar Bread - 1 month - \$50.00 Memorial Block - 1 month - \$35.00

Marriage:

Please contact the Office at least six months before the proposed date of the wedding.

Homebound: 10:00 Mass can be seen on Ch. 11 T.V. at 10 A.M. each Sunday.