

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Reverend Michael S. McCormick, Pastor

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1, 2023

800 Mulberry Street, Montoursville, PA 17754

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E-mail: parishoffice@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org

Website: www.ourladyoflourdesmontoursville.org

Facebook—Our Lady of Lourdes Montoursville

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00 p.m.
Sunday ~ 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Friday ~ 9:00 a.m.
Thursday ~ no daily Mass

Adoration

Monday ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptismal instruction offered at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month. Call the office to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday ~ 5:00 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Saturday ~ 3:00 ~ 3:30 p.m.
Anytime by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arranged at least six months in advance

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Notify the parish office whenever someone ill, hospitalized, or homebound wishes to receive Communion.

RCIA

Mondays ~ 7:00 p.m.

Parish Membership

New parishioners are always welcome
Please call the parish office to register.

Knights of Columbus Council 14329

Parish Council

Wendy Bonus
Bob Nolan
Russell Gombosi, M.D.
Rita Clayton
Deb Steinbacher
Paul Moerschbacher
Jamie Wieder
Mary Etta Legarski
Sharon O'Malley
Keith Kuzio



Mission Statement

We are a Christian Community rooted in Word and Sacrament striving to fulfill our Baptismal commitment by following the example and teaching of Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we endeavor to pass on our faith, through the Roman Catholic Tradition, to the next generation for the greater glory of God.

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parish Family,

We Catholics begin our new year as we always do by celebrating the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God. Yes, we call Her the Mother of God, for Her Son Jesus is true God and true man. St. John Chrysostom has written:

Truly great is the wonder of the Virgin. What can ever be found greater than all that exists? She alone has appeared wider than earth and heaven. Who is holier than she? She is unsurpassed by our ancestors, by the prophets, apostles, or martyrs, by the patriarchs or the Fathers, by the angels, thrones, dominions, seraphim or cherubim, or by any other created thing visible or invisible. She is a servant and the Mother of God, a virgin and a mother.

I often say that the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Mother brought me back to the Catholic Church when I had strayed during my college years. I just could not live without Holy Communion "like it is in the Catholic Church". My experience of Holy Communion from the first time I received Jesus from Fr. Manley at Mater Dolorosa changed me forever. This longing persisted even during those times during my college career when I had a grudge against the Church for one reason or another. I know now that I was so full of hubris that I felt I knew better than anyone the proper understanding of the Bible. In fact, at that time I even considered any attention paid to Mary constituted idolatry. But when I came to a more full understanding of the Birth of Jesus, my darkness and doubt regarding Mary were taken away. It was replaced with a beautiful grace.

I have come to believe that to say Mary is the Mother of God is not just a statement of faith, but an incredible grace we are given to participate in the mystery of Salvation which began at the birth of the God made Man, and grew when that Divine Savior gave Her to us from the Cross as our Mother. Ever since that moment She coddles us, nourishes us, prays for us, loves us and leads us.

What a wonderful way to start a new year! Much more than a few New Year's resolutions, we are given all that we need through Mary to make this year both new and truly blessed. At the beginning of the year we recognize the beginning of faith made possible in Christ Jesus our Lord. It began with a humble maiden who said yes to God. "Be it done unto me according to Thy Word." Let us echo Her Fiat this day. It may be our first time or the thousandth time we join our Mother in professing our faith. Let it be our most powerful and sincere expression of gratitude to God as we with Mary embrace His Divine Will and receive His Divine Love in Jesus.

A Blessed New Year to All,

Fr. Michael



January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus



Gifts to the 2022 Diocesan Annual Appeal impact the lives of our brothers and sisters in need. As Christmas draws near. Ask God what gift you can offer Him in Support of the poor, lonely and vulnerable in our Community.



Donate now at: annualappeal.org
or click the QR code below



GIFTS OF ALL SIZES ARE NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish has reached 67% of our Appeal goal of \$41,000 by pledging \$27,317 as of December 9, 2022. Thank you, all who pledged so far, for your generosity!

Parish Office

The Parish Office will reopen Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

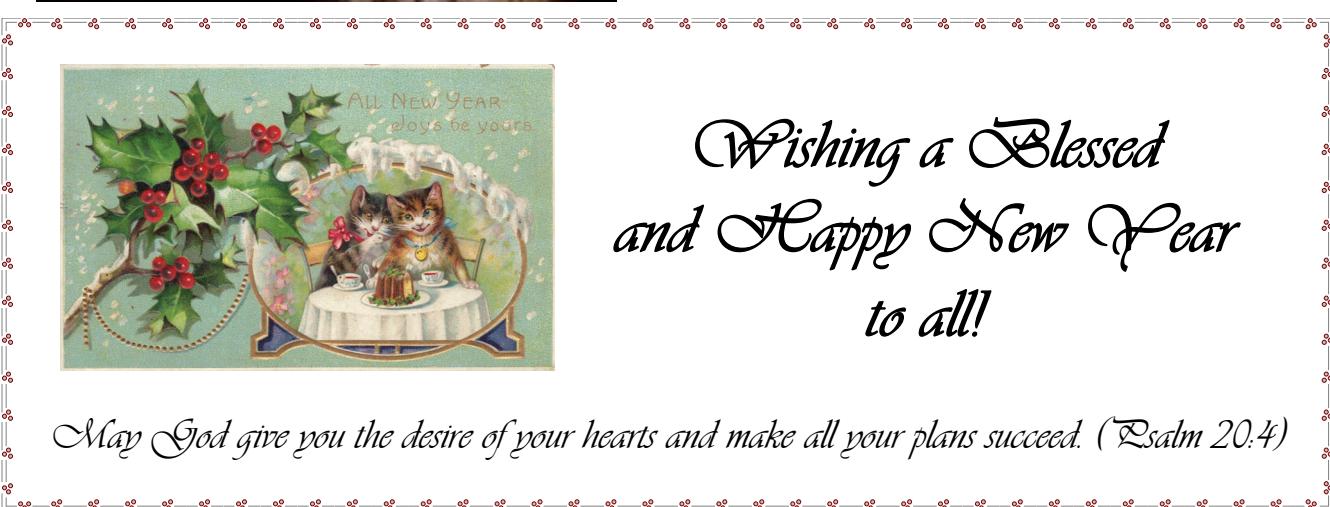


"To Love and Serve Jesus Christ" Program

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming "To Love and Serve Jesus Christ" Program at Our Lady of Lourdes Church. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of Our Lady of Lourdes Church. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on January 28 and 29. If you have any questions regarding the "To Love and Serve Jesus Christ" Program, please feel free to call the parish office.

Advent Bible Study

The Advent Bible Study has been extended for two additional weeks in January, Wednesday, January 4, and Wednesday, January 11, beginning at 7:00 p.m.



Community

This Week at Our Lady of Lourdes

~Sunday, January 1

Happy New Year

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

December 26, 2022 THROUGH January 2, 2023
OFFICE REOPENS January 3, 2023

~ Monday, January 2

Holy Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.

Confessions ~ 6:00 p.m.

~ Tuesday, January 3

Coordinating Team ~ 6:30 p.m.

~ Wednesday, January 4

Adult Faith Formation ~ 7:00 p.m.

~ Friday, January 6

Confessions ~ 5:00-6:00 p.m.

~ Sunday, January 8

Religious Education Classes grades 1-8 meet

Come and See Retreat

Learn more about a vocation as a Sister of Christian Charity for young Catholic women ages 17 and up to be held January 6-8, 2023, Mallinckrodt Convent, 350 Bernardsville Road, Mendham, New Jersey Register at: TINYURL.COM/comeSCCsee

Ministry Corner

Solemnity

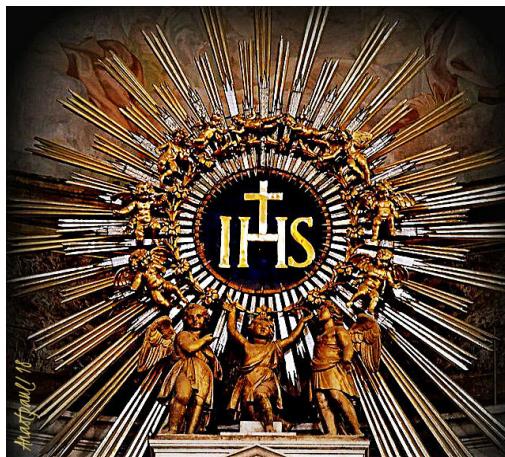
By Deb Steinbacher

Happy New Year! We hear this every year and, certainly, the wishes are sincere. But perhaps in our mission to evangelize we could start with, "Blessed Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God - may she be with you throughout the new year." The eve and the first day of the new year are often filled with parties, laughter, celebrations, football, etc. These are fine and even a respite from the troubles of the world, but can we first embrace the solemnity? Solemnity is not about Mary's countenance, but about the ranking of liturgical celebrations, of which solemnities rank the highest. When we observe this greatest of Catholic liturgical celebrations, we also celebrate Jesus through Mary and, hopefully, this becomes apparent to others by the way in which we lead our lives. Mother Angelica once said, "*We're supposed to reflect, like a mirror, the brightness of the Lord. Now, what is the brightness? Is it holiness? Yes. Is it virtues? Yes. Our lives have to reflect something of Jesus.*" (*Daily Quotes from Mother Angelica Perpetual Calendar, 2017*). Whatever ministry we choose to begin or continue, whatever resolution(s) we make for 2023, can we include drawing nearer to Jesus through His Mother? Can we celebrate this solemnity every day and reflect this in our chosen ministries? Blessed Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God!



Mary

Connect the dots for the missing letters and color the picture.
Thank Mary for her love for you.



CCC 2668

The invocation of the Holy Name of Jesus is the simplest way of praying always. When the Holy Name is repeated often by a humbly attentive heart, the prayer is not lost by heaping up empty praises but holds fast to the Word and "brings forth fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15).

This prayer is possible at all times because it is not one occupation among others but the only occupation - that of loving God, which animates and transfigures every action in Christ Jesus.

Worship and Service

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31

Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 4:00 p.m. John Leisenring (*Family*)
I Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-13; Jn 1:1-18

Sunday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 New Year's Day
 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 10:30 a.m. Karen Heitsenrether (*Romey Fagnano Family*)
Num 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Monday, January 2

SS Basil the Great & Gregory Nazienzen
 Bishops & Doctors of the Church
 9:00 a.m. Timothy J. Crotty (*Wife, Ruthanne*)
I Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Miraculous Medal Novena
 9:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Mondell Family
(Dave & Joanne Mondell)
I Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1-6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday, January 4

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
 9:00 a.m. Joey Prato (*Teresa & Joe Moore*)
I Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1-9; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday, January 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop
 NO MASS
I Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-52

Friday, January 6

St. Andre Bessette, Religious
 9:00 a.m. Helen Schamberg (*Jim Pagana*)
I Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-20; Mk 1:7-11

Saturday, January 7

First Saturday
 Vigil of the Epiphany
 9:00 a.m. Wanda J. Card (*Hoff Family*)
 4:00 p.m. Walt, Nellie, Charles & Richard Dunn
(Family)

Sunday, January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord
 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 10:30 a.m. James & Margaret McNichol
(The Brown Family)

Offertory Collections (Includes on-line contribution)

12/17-18/2022

Loose	\$ 821.00
Offertory	\$ 8,449.00
Maintenance	\$ 169.00
Fuel	\$ 84.00
Votives	\$ 95.00
Religious Education	\$ 22.00
Initial Envelopes	\$ 20.00
Christmas	\$ 236.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 165.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 25.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 45.00
Total	\$10,131.00

Diocesan Collections

Catholic Relief Services	\$ 10.00
Rice Bowl	\$ 25.00
Care & Education of Priest	\$ 102.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 20.00
Human Development	\$ 1.00
Total Diocesan Collections	\$ 258.00

Collection Counters Schedule

January 3—Group 2—Glenda Farrington, Mary

McNamara, Carol Everett

January 9—Group 3—Judy DeGregorio, Barbara Gallagher, Jan Ransdorf

Faith in Action



We continue to collect **16 ounce jars of peanut butter** to help support the Montoursville Area School District Backpack Program. Please help us feed the hungry. Drop off donations inside the church.

Sponsor of the Week Kaufman's Funeral Home

We want to highlight our sponsor of the week, **Kaufman's Funeral Home**. We appreciate their support, and that of all our advertisers. Please support them as they do Our Lady of Lourdes.

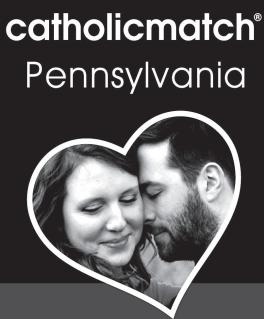
Prayer List for the Month of January

If you or a loved one would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Karen Boyle, Jerry Dincher, Ann Marie Dorin, Margie Foulds, Carissa Foulds, Geraldine Hamm, Michael Hook, Cliff Hales, Mary Kranz, Kathleen Maiolo, Karen Marlett, Linda Phillips, Robert Steinbacher, Sofia Steinbacher, Carl Ulsamer, Debbie Winterer



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