



Saturday, 4:30 PM	December 15, 2007 Deceased members of the Carroll family
Sunday, 7:30 AM	December 16, 2007 Mary Dunne Ocain by the Ruzbasan family
9:30 AM	Tina & Henry Slomski by family
11:00 AM	Mike Griswold by family
7:00 PM	Parish Penance Service
Monday, 7:45 AM	December 17, 2007 Ed Welcome by his wife Judy
Tuesday, 7:45 AM	December 18, 2007 Edgardo Perez & Antonia Bonilla by Norma Sachdev
Wednesday, 7:45 AM	December 19, 2007 Fr. James Boyle
Thursday, 7:45 AM	December 20, 2007 Intentions of Maria Skirvin by the Onyiuke family
Friday, 7:45 AM	December 21, 2007 Intentions of Theresa Anene by the Onyiuke family
Saturday, 4:30 PM	December 22, 2007 Andrew J. Santacrocce by Jane & Joseph Mack
Sunday, 7:30 AM	December 23, 2007 Ma, Dad, Robert Gondek, Jr. by family
9:30 AM	Carrie Keniston by Tim & Diane Conway
11:00 AM	Fredrica Walsh by Walsh/Cunningham family

Readings for the Week of December 16, 2007

Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Thursday:	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
Saturday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Next Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Fund for Religious.

Calendar

12/17	9:30 AM	Legion of Mary – Hart House
	7:00 PM	Pre-baptism mtg. – Rectory
	7:30 PM	Legion of Mary – Hospitality Room

The sanctuary lamp will burn this week in memory of:

Barbara Lombardi

This is a venerable tradition and we ask you to keep her in your prayers.

Thank you!

We are genuinely grateful to all who attended, and participated in our parish carol-sing last Sunday and to those who assisted with the provision of refreshments after. It was heartwarming to see so many enjoy, through the gift of music, the spirit of the holiday season.

Advance Notice Necessary For Children Singing: Christmas Eve Mass

Parents who plan to have their children (ages 6-up) sit with other children in the section of pews nearest the organ at the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve, to help lead the congregation in song) **MUST, WITHOUT EXCEPTION,** contact Rick **in advance** to ensure that an adequate number of pews are reserved. Historically this mass is extremely well-attended and therefore severely limits seating space. We hope your children will participate. Please speak with Rick after any mass or contact him by phone: 793-2737, or e-mail: rickdaddario@hotmail.com Thank you.



December 16

Parish Penance Service
7:00 PM

December 24 – Christmas Eve
4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, Midnight

December 25 – Christmas Day
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM

December 31 – New Year's Eve
4:30 PM

January 1 – New Year's Day
7:45 AM, 10:00 AM

St. Mary parish welcomes the following newly registered members:

Frank Novakowski, Avon, CT
Todd Jones & Meghan McCabe, Farmington
Jay Valigorsky & Genevieve Guilmette, Unionville

On December 22 the Teens of Leap!

will be meeting at the church at 7:00 PM for a fun night! We will do a little bit of Christmas Caroling for our friends at Maple Village and then hop on a bus to Simsbury Farms for ice-skating and a game of **Broom-ball**. Please e-mail Karen - kherbertct@comcast.net ASAP! The cost is \$10. Refreshments will be provided. Please bring skates if you have them. They have them available if you don't...and a bike helmet! Pick-up time will be 11:00 PM at the Teen Center.

DIVE – Deeply Inspired-Visualized Eternity

The middle school youth group met last Saturday night for pizza and movie night and so much more. We saw the movie 'Evan Almighty' a must see for all families of any age. Then we talked about the possibilities that God gives us in answering our prayers. We wrote letters to the soldiers in Iraq and lit candles with intentions of peace and a safe return. The next meeting will be in January. Please e-mail or call Karen 675-7970 if you would like to hear about upcoming events.

St. Mary's Men's Retreat Coming UP
Save the Date

Wives, mothers, sweethearts! Do you want your husband, son or fiancé to be a better man in a matter of days? A weekend retreat will do it. Get him to sign up early. The retreat begins on Friday, February 22 at 6:00 PM and ends on Sunday about noon. For more information, call Ray Crozier 673-4282 or contact the Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford at 521-0440, or register on line at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

Parish Prayer Line

If you or someone in your family is in need of prayers and would like to be added to our parish prayer list, please call Joyce Cruess at 673-2945.

Gift Bearers

Please let the ushers know at least 15 minutes prior to Mass if you would like to bring up the offertory gifts if you have requested the Mass Intention that day. Thank you!

Candle Offering Reminder

The amber-colored votive candles located in our worship space beneath the statue of our Blessed Mother are available for your lighting in prayerful remembrance and special intention. The suggested offering is \$1.00 and is to be placed into the self-contained box located in the center of each of the two racks. PLEASE remember to light a candle from the top rows – DOWN, to avoid the risk of injury which can be caused by placing your arm over a lighted votive. Thank you.

Attention First Holy Communion Parents

Our children's special day will be videotaped by a professional videographer and VHS tapes or DVD format will be available for purchase. All orders must be prepaid and are offered at \$35.00 per DVD and \$22.00 for VHS. Both morning and afternoon sessions will be available. Please contact Olivia Germano 678-0597 or send her your name, your child's name, your address and telephone number to 25 Firenzi Lane, Farmington, CT 06032. Please be sure to include payment payable to Olivia Germano for each DVD or VHS ordered as indicated above. All questions regarding the videotaping and purchase must be directed to Olivia. The rectory and religious education office do not have information on the purchase of these tapes/DVD's. Thank you!



Giving Gifts

At the Savior's birth,
Magi from the East presented gifts
of gold, frankincense and myrrh,
reflecting Christ's kingship, divine nature,
and human nature subject to death.

Though the magi once worshiped the gods of their land,
they knew before them was a king greater than all kings
And a God greater than all gods they'd known.

As we buy or make gifts for one another this Christmas,
may we remember amid the hustle, bustle and commotion
that Christmas gift-giving honors our Savior and Lord,
who came to dwell among us as one like ourselves.

May we remember that the giving of gifts
was a sign of love
begun in response to the greatest gift of all from God:
the only-begotten Son.

