



# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>December 13, 2014</b>
4:30 p.m.	Bill McAuliffe by friends & family
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>December 14, 2014</b>
7:30 a.m.	Fern Beaulieu by Judy Welcome
9:30 a.m.	Leo & Mary Crowley by Pat & George Crowley
11:00 a.m.	Michael Zweigle (4th anniversary) by his family
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>December 15 2014</b>
7:45 a.m.	Josephine Pahl by Richard & Nancy Newton
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>December 16, 2014</b>
7:45 a.m.	Alice Flynn
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>December 17, 2014</b>
7:45 a.m.	Ed Welcome by his wife Judy
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>December 18, 2014</b>
7:45 a.m.	Honey Selinga by Dick & Claire Selinga
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>December 19, 2014</b>
7:45 a.m.	Jack Flynn
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>December 20, 2014</b>
4:30 p.m.	Sid Riendeau by his family
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>December 21, 2014</b>
7:30 a.m.	Betty Flynn
9:30 a.m.	Richard Denehy (10th anniversary) by is children Donna, Traci & John Denehy
11:00 a.m.	Nicholas & Grace Moore by Pat & George Crowley

*Readings for the Week of December 14, 2014*

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**Parish Support—December 7, 2014**

Weekly	\$9,405.00
On-line giving	<u>\$1,238.00</u>
Total	\$10,643.00
Monthly	\$5,016.00
On-line giving	<u>\$ 620.00</u>
Total	\$5,636.00

The second collection this weekend supports the Retired Fund for Religious. Thank you for your support.  
You may return your envelope for Christmas flowers at any Mass.

**Calendar**

12/15 7:00 p.m. Legion of Mary— Gathering Space  
12/20 4:30 p.m. Mass Choir

The sanctuary candle will burn this week in memory of:

*Michael Zweigle*

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



**Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24**  
4:00, 10:00 PM

**Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25**  
8:00, 10:00 AM

**New Year's Eve - Wednesday , December 31**  
4:00 PM

**New Year's Day - Thursday, January 1**  
8:00, 10:00 AM

**Giving Tree**

Please remember that this weekend was the deadline for the gifts for the Giving Tree. If you have not brought your gifts back, please call Alice Crozier at 860- 673--4282 to arrange drop-off. Thank you.



St. Mary parish family welcomes through the sacrament of baptism:

*Regan Elizabeth Boland  
Ariana Magdelana Machado*

St. Mary parish welcomes the following newly registered members:

*Clare O'Keefe, West Hartford  
Sophie Sefcik, Avon*



### **Poinsettias**

Legend tells about a boy who had no gift to put by the figure of baby Jesus in church on Christmas Eve. On his way to Mass, he prayed before God and the Angels to forgive him for not having an offering. While he knelt down at a window outside the Church Altar his tears flowed and when he looked down behold a beautiful flower had grown. He picked the flower and laid it by Mary in the stable. Dr. Joel Robert Poinsett, South Carolina congressman, Secretary of War under President Martin Van Buren and amateur botanist, first set eyes on the crimson flora while serving as the first U.S. ambassador to Mexico, where the locals called it "Flor de Noche Buena" (Christmas Eve flower). He brought the flower home with him in 1829 and found that it grew very well in his green house. And by 1836 the plant was adopted as an American Christmas tradition and became widely-known as "poinsettia." The "Red Poinsettia" is said to represent the blood that Jesus shed for our sins. The "White Poinsettia" represents that He was a pure gift given to us by God. This legend also exists about the Poinsettia in that "The Star of Bethlehem" shone so brightly that night upon the cold darkness of the earth that the earth responded by bringing forth the plant, which mirrored the "Star" by producing "White Petals" with a "golden star" in the center. When Jesus died upon the cross many of the flowers' petals turned red representing the blood that He shed but, others remained white to remind us of His purity.



### **St. Mary Church –Unionville**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED (we need the audience!):  
The Nativity Musical to celebrate the birth of Jesus  
through music, to teach and share the Word of God  
to one another.**

Friends welcome, too!

**Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 p.m.**

*Refreshments and holiday fellowship following*

### **The Legion of Mary**

Are you or someone you know home bound and wish to receive the Eucharist? Members of the Legion of Mary would be happy to visit and bring the Eucharist to you. Please call the rectory@ 860-6732422 or Kathy Dossot @ 860 673 3163.



## **Who, What, Where, and When...**

The Archdiocesan Family Life Office will hold its **8th annual marriage enrichment evening** on Sat., Feb. 7 from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at Mary Our Queen Church and Parish Center, 248 Savage St., Plantsville, CT. This year's program will begin with Mass, include dinner, prayer, reflection, fun and a keynote address "How to be Married and Stay Engaged" by Dr. Jim Healy, nationally renowned author, speaker and Director of the Center for Family Ministry for the Diocese of Joliet, IL. The cost is \$25.00 per couple and includes dinner (scholarships are available.) To register or obtain more information, contact Tom and Donna Finn at 860-621-7858 or email to [dffinnmspt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dffinnmspt@sbcglobal.net). Please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 4.

**Mass of Healing and Hope:** Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. the Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield with rosary at 6:55 p.m. Presider: Rev. Paul Halovatch. Trained prayer teams available after Mass. Call the Charismatic Renewal Office 860 242-5573 x 2696 for further information.

### **Defending Our Religious Liberty**

Religious freedom is a cornerstone of our democracy. The federal health care mandate fundamentally alters the fragile balance between government and religious groups created by the framers of our Constitution. The same First Amendment that protects religious freedom protects freedom of the press. We wouldn't stand for the government telling news programs whom to interview or what articles to write. If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

### **Candle Offering Reminder**

The 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.