



Saturday,	January 3, 2015
4:30 p.m.	Sophie Sawicki by St. Mary Church Choir
Sunday,	January 4, 2015
7:30 a.m.	Alice Flynn
9:30 a.m.	Joaquim DaCruz & Fernando DaCruz by the DaCruz family
11:00 a.m.	Bruce Bell by Mary & Andy Smolen
Monday,	January 5, 2015
7:45 a.m.	Carrie Flynn
Tuesday,	January 6, 2015
7:45 a.m.	Jack Flynn
Wednesday,	January 7, 2015
7:45 a.m..	Betty Flynn
Thursday,	January 8, 2015
7:45 a.m.	Alice Flynn
Friday,	January 9, 2015
7:45 a.m.	Ed Welcome by Barbara Wolf
Saturday,	January 10, 2015
4:30 p.m.	Paul Kramer by his family
Sunday,	January 11, 2015
7:30 a.m.	Eileen Woods by her family
9:30 a.m.	David Greiner by MaryAnn & Bob Kenney
11:00 a.m.	Joe Amico by Roland & Elaine Wolf

Readings for the Week of January 4, 2015

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday:	Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/1 Jn 5:1-9 or Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11

Parish Support—December 28,2014

Weekly \$9,065.00

The second collection this weekend is the monthly offering.

Calendar

1/5	7:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary– Gathering Space
1/6	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council - Gathering Space
1/7	7:00 p.m.	Human Needs Mtg. -Gathering Space
1/11	11:00 a.m.	Mass Choir

The sanctuary candle will burn this week in memory of:

Edward L. Burke

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

Join the **Farmington Valley Hunger Collaborative** in supporting the first annual food packing event. One out of every four or five children in our country is hungry (38,000 in Hartford County alone). We are proud to partner with Outreach Inc. - Kids Care in their mission to feed them all. Outreach Inc. organizes food packaging events and then distributes the meals to regional food banks, local food shelves and mobile food share.

Our goal is to package 25,000 meals. In honor of Martin Luther King Day of Service we have chosen Saturday, January 17, 2015 to hold our meal packing event at FVAMC, 35 Harris Road, Avon, CT. More information will be available after masses the weekend of January 10-11! Please contact Paul and Patricia Robotham 860-673-3435, ptrobotham@yahoo.com or Joanne Fishman joannefishman@comcast.net for details.

The Human Needs Committee

will meet Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please call Alice Crozier at 860-673-4282.

Men's Retreat

New Year's Resolution—Gentlemen of St. Mary's, once again we have the chance to relax, reacquaint and renew ourselves. Please join the men of St. Mary starting on Fri., Feb 20 through Sunday brunch. The staff at Holy Family is so welcoming that they seem like an extension of family. Assistance available and no charge for first time retreatants. Contact Bob Bonato, 673-5251 or HolyFamilyRetreat.ORG

St. Mary parish welcomes the following newly registered members:

*Frank & Angela Marchion, Jr., Torrington
Angelo & Jessica Olivieri & daughter, Burlington
David Morgan & family, Avon*

We thank all who were so generous with their Christmas memorial donation to the flower fund. Our sanctuary is a beautiful tribute to the presence of the Risen Christ and those who have shared with the community in worship and prayer.

In memory of:

- Mr. & Mrs. Able Albert, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Martin
Anselmi & Calleo families
Lillian Arcidiacono, Joan Russo
Bagioni & Cugno family
Minnie Baron, Alfred F. Baron
Domenick & Mary Bianchi & Betsy Katz
Francis Bush
- Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Carrier, Mr. & Mrs. Wilbert Berger
Lillian & Alfred Clark, Edward Clark, Margaret Riker
Children of Newtown
Children of St. Therese in Haiti
Cruess, Rourke, Morrissey, Joyce, Cusack & McKenna family
members
- D'Addabbo, Fortuna & Barbuto families
Daniele Cosimo & Micolina, Salvatore Flavio
Helen T. Douglass
Barbara Duclos, Jeanne Heintz
Kathryn Fitch, Mary Fernald
The Garrow & Norris families
Mr. & Mrs. L. Graham, Mr. & Mrs. Skip Woods
Stanley & Richard Gubala
Antonio Guerrera, Maria Mucciacciaro
Mary Hepp, Josephine Schroeder, Raymond Bell
Jakiel & Machowski families
Mike Jakupco
K. Richard Jones, & Celia A. Weaving
Steven J. Kane
Helen Kennedy
Edward Kubica
Grandparents of Neil Kelsey family
Lorraine
Keith Edward Legowski
"Loved ones"
- Kenneth Masek, Kelsie Masek, Placida & Antonio Labbadia
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth McCaffrey, Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Therriault,
Deborah Therriault
William McNamara, Flora Boland
Viola Michaud
James Mitchell
- Margaret F. Noveck, Irvin Noveck, Edna Lamoin
Francis Nunziato, Camille Gagnon
Gabriel, Gabriel & Genevieve Onyiuke
Madeliene Palmese, Helen Wilks
Pace, Bruno family
Leon Pekala
Alfredo Peluso
Harold, Rose & Glen Peterson
Platkiewicz & Kovorcsik families
Prunk & Gerardi families
Deceased members of Quallen & Fialkiewicz families
Eddie Ricker, Vic Ribeiro

- Eugene Rudiak, Kathleen O'Connor, Mary O'Neill, Dan
O'Donoghue, Members of Searle family
Antoinette Russo
Sheridan & Schave families
Mr. Silansky, Mrs. Silansky
Millie S Sambati, Anastasia Czyrko, Dymitro Czyrko, Piotr Dziki
Lisa Anne Striebel
Christopher Swain
Bill Taylor, Helen & Chet Levandoski, Edward Kerk, Rosemary
Borawski, Mary O'Donnell, Marie & Max Peltier
Wallace Family, Malscheski family

7th Annual Winter Reading Used Book Sale—Friday, January 9, 5:00—8:00 p.m. (\$5.00 admission for adults). Saturday, January 10, 9:00 a.m.—600 p.m. & Sunday, Jan. 11, 8:00 a.m. 12:30 (free admission.) Church of St. Ann, Avon, Father Bennett Hall. Please call Sandy Fyler 860 677-6638 with questions.



Italian Christmas traditions—the legend of Befana

Like children everywhere, Italian kids look forward to the arrival of the red-suited Babbo Natale on Christmas Eve. However, this relatively modern tradition pales in comparison to the anticipation generated by the arrival of an old witch in early January. On Epiphany Eve, the old, tattered and soot-covered Befana flies around the world on a broomstick and comes down chimneys to deliver candy and presents to children who have been good during the year. For those who have fallen a bit short of model behavior, la Befana will leave lumps of coal. (Realizing that no one can be perfect for a whole year, these days la Befana often leaves a sweet "lump of coal" made from black sugar.) La Befana has been an Italian tradition since the XIII century and comes from Christian legend rather than popular culture. The story is that la Befana was approached by the Three Wise Men who asked her to lead them to the stable where the baby Jesus lay in a manger. Befana was too busy cleaning her house at the time, so she declined the offer to go with them. Very soon she realized that she had made a huge mistake, so she gathered up a bag full of gifts and set off alone in search of the baby Jesus. Though she followed the same star as the Magi, she was unable to find the stable. Undaunted, la Befana continues to travel the world over to this day searching every house for the Christ child. On January 6, the first day of Epiphany, Italian children hold their breaths as they search their stockings for a sign that they have been good that year. The arrival of la Befana is celebrated with traditional Italian foods such as panettone (a Christmas cake) and marks the end of the long and festive holiday season in Italy.