

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

- **4:00 PM MASS** Remember to come early if you want to get a seat at this very popular Mass! No tickets are required.
- **6:30 PM MASS** If your family is carrying one of the Nativity statues in the Procession to the Manger, please be in the church by 6:00 PM. You should have received specific instructions last week from Jeanmarie. If not, call her at 301-942-8790.

CHRISTMAS BREAKS:

- The RCIA will resume on Wednesday, January 7th.
- The SOR will resume on Sunday, January 11th.
- The Monday night Bible Study will resume on January 5th.

EPIPHANY FOOD DRIVE: As we celebrate this Christmas season, please join parishioners from throughout the Archdiocese of Washington in giving the gift of food to local families in need. Donations to the Epiphany Food Drive will be given to the Capital Area Food Bank and the Southern Maryland Food Bank, helping families throughout our community who are hungry.

Grocery bags will be distributed after all Sunday Masses on **December 28th**. Simply fill the bag with the food requested and return it to Lewis Hall on **January 4th**. We will do this in conjunction with our normal First Sunday Food & Clothing Drive.

Thank you for sharing your gifts for those in need this season during the Epiphany Food Drive.

LET'S TALK ABOUT MARY! The parish Book Group is reading Archbishop Fulton Sheen's classic retelling of the story of Mary, *The World's First Love*. Read it over the holidays and come join our discussion on Tuesday, January 6th, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Quinn Hall dining room. Call 301-942-8790 for more information.

GABRIEL PROJECT BABY BOTTLES: A heartfelt thanks to all who participated in the Gabriel Project fundraiser. \$1,830.33 was collected. This is a testimony of the caring of the Holy Cross Community. Your donation is going to help provide prenatal care, clothing, diapers, and other necessities to mothers in need.

REMINDER: There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this week or next week. We will begin again on January 6th, 2009.

CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST HERE -- why not buy merchandise certificates for Safeway, Giant, Shopper's and Grosvenor Market from Holy Cross and give them as holiday gifts/stocking stuffers and for all that holiday food shopping you'll be doing. Everyone goes to one of these grocery stores so everyone can use them. We've heard that you may be able to use your Safeway merchandise certificates at Safeway to purchase the many gift cards Safeway sells for other merchants.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE	
21 SUNDAY	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>
10:15 -- 11:30 AM:	SOR Classes (school)
2:30 -- 3:30 PM:	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (<i>Church</i>)
22 MONDAY	
23 TUESDAY	St. John of Kanty
24 WEDNESDAY	
25 THURSDAY	<i>Christmas Day</i>
26 FRIDAY	St. Stephen, Protomartyr
27 SATURDAY	St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
9:00 AM:	Confessions
28 SUNDAY	<i>Holy Family</i>

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK			
<u>Monday, December 22, 2008</u>			
6:45 AM	Geneveive Ann Deikel	8:30 AM	Bernardo Rosa (living)
<u>Tuesday, December 23, 2008</u>			
6:45 AM	Margaret Cronin	8:30 AM	Maria Giovanna Masucci
<u>Wednesday, December 24, 2008 Christmas Eve</u>			
8:30 AM	Geneveive Ann Deikel	4:00 PM	Peggy O'Brien Hunt
6:30 PM	Zelaya-Quesada Family	10:00 PM	Mary Angela & Samuel Peter
<u>Thursday, December 25, 2008 Christmas Day</u>			
9:00 AM	John & Ruth Barnak	10:30 AM	Victor J. Articola
12:00 PM	Bernardo Rosa Family & Diana Phelps (Living)		
<u>Friday, December 26, 2008</u>			
6:45 AM	Marie Guppy	8:30 AM	Peggy O'Brien Hunt
<u>Saturday, December 27, 2008</u>			
8:30 AM	John O'Neill		
5:00 PM	Mary Angela Memmo		Fr. Yaga
<u>Sunday, December 28, 2008</u>			
7:30 AM	Roberta Mulcahy		Fr. Perkins
9:00 AM	Betty Finn		Fr. Perkins
10:30 AM	People of Holy Cross		Msgr. Hill
12:00 PM	Mary Agnes Williams		Fr. Yaga

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Daniela Anderson; Bob Beatty; Felipe Caraan; Thomas Choi; Young Choi; Sister Collette Marie, csc; John DeConcini; Anne & Mark Eller; José Ferrario; Hans & Rupert Finke; Michael Gouzoulis; Leonard W. Harsel; Larry Heitkemper; Mary Miller; Philip Moyer; Richard Mlynarczyk; Pat Obrimski; Anthony Paige; Daniel Pereira; Adrienne Quenneville; Bonnie Ridenhower; Martha Scully; Mirella Setien; Rebecca Shephard; Jacqueline Surmeier; Nicoletta Stephanz; Jim Taylor; Elizabeth Tolton; Dorothy Turner; Jim Weikert; Jane Whalen; Roland Young

COLLECTIONS:	
Offertory 2nd Sunday of December 2008.....	\$ 10,812.86
Offertory 2nd Sunday of December 2007.....	\$ 13,827.31
FAITH DIRECT	\$ 13,777.40
POOR BOX Rockville Pregnancy Center	\$ 99.76
12/21 Community Ministry of Montgomery County; 12/28 Bethesda Helps	

**Schedule for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to serve
4th Weekend 12/27/08 & 12/28/08**

5:00 PM	Carlos Hernandez; Jan St. John
7:30 AM	Stephan Beauchesne; Charlotte King
9:00 AM	Annemarie Rogers; Don & Yolaine Watkins; Steve Toomey
10:30 AM	Lynda Gage; Pat Durbin; Roberto & Mary Jo Ibanez;
12 Noon	Virginia Pedone; Carlos Hernandez