

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS – ST. ANTHONY



3816 East State St. Ext.

Parish Office:
3816 East State St. Ext.
Hamilton, NJ 08619

Tel: 587-4372
Fax: 587-7998
Email:
info@ols-sa.org
Website:
www.ols-sa.org

December 7, 2008



626 S. Olden Ave.

Worship & Sacramental Life
OLS: Our Lady of Sorrows Church
SA: St. Anthony Church

Weekend Masses

Saturday:

4:30 p.m. (SA), 5:00 p.m. (OLS)

Sunday:

7:30 (OLS), 8:00 (SA), 9:00 (OLS)

10:00 (SA), 11:00 a.m. (OLS),

6:30 p.m. (Creole) (SA)

Holy Days of Obligation

Vigil:

7:00 p.m. (SA)

Daytime:

7:00 a.m. (OLS), 12:15 p.m. (SA)

7:00 p.m. (OLS)

Weekday Masses

7:00 a.m. (OLS)

8:00 a.m. (SA)

Holidays as announced

Sacrament of Baptism

11:15 a.m.: 1st Sunday (SA)

12:15 p.m.: 2nd & 3rd Sundays (OLS)

11:00 a.m.: 4th Sunday (Mass) (OLS)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday and by appointment

3:15-4:00 p.m. (SA), 3:45-4:30 p.m. (OLS)

Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. Thomas N. Gervasio, Pastor

Rev. Eugene K. Savarimuthu, Adjunct

Rev. Pierre M. Alabré, Haitian Ministry

Rev. Oscar Sumanga, In Residence

Deacons

James Buchanan

James Challender

Joseph Jaruszewski

Timothy Moore

Kevin O'Boyle

Dennis Slavin

Pastoral Outreach

Mrs. Joan Bartolomei

Youth Ministry

Miss Karen Proulx

Music Ministry

Mr. Michael Amantia, Esq.

Haitian Apostolate

Ms. Magda Dorleans

530 S. Olden Ave, Hamilton, NJ 08629

588-8808

Our Lady of Sorrows School &

Religious Education Program

3800 East State St. Ext.

Hamilton, NJ 08619

Mrs. Teresa Carrick

Principal

Tel: 587-4140

Fax: 584-8853

Mrs. Mary O'Boyle

Pre-School Director

Tel: 586-1422

Fax: 586-1214

Mrs. Mariyam Francis
Religious Education Director

Tel: 587-4140

Fax: 587-4213

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2008

John the Baptist appears in the desert. Mark 1:1-8

Mass Intentions for the Week OUR LADY OF SORROWS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
5:00 p.m. James Militig, Jr. *Mother
Elizabeth Mack *Virginia & William Kelly

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
7:30 a.m. Charles Kachur *Family
Russell & Elma Amico *Family

9:00 a.m. Mary Cook *Rosary Altar Society
Marion Bates *Rosary Altar Society

11:00 a.m. Joseph Nocera *Mother & family
The DiMaio Family *Len DiMaio & Shirley

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
7:00 a.m. Deacon Joseph Peissner *Wife
Louis Usarzewicz *Family

7:00 p.m. Agnes C. Mount *Joan & Bob Bennett
Agnes Thibodeau *Son, Harry

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
7:00 a.m. Frank Zemcik *wife
Antoinette S. Campi *M/M Frank Salzano

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10
7:00 a.m. Frank Silvestro *Family
Jean C. Waranis *Pat & George Burton

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
7:00 a.m. Deceased Members *Holy Name Society
Antoinette S. Campi *M/M P. Ortolani

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12
7:00 a.m. Deceased Members *Holy Name Society
Frances Sigafos *Parish

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
5:00 p.m. Vincent Stillitano *Wife, Marie
Vera Dorsey *Emily Sciarrotta

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
7:30 a.m. Robert D. Foley *Platt Family
Mary Arato *Jack & Betsy Dirk

9:00 a.m. William Plantier *Family
Mary Marco *Daughter

11:00 a.m. Stella Ann Usarzewicz *Family
William Sullivan *Emily & Rose

Mass Intentions for the Week SAINT ANTHONY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6
8:00 a.m. Frank Pellitteri *G. & J. Beres
James E. O'Rourke *Parish

4:30 p.m. Hazel Pierfy *M/M David Pierfy
Livio Troiani *Daughter, Eleanor

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
10:00 a.m. James Muscato *Wife & children
Mario Passerella *Wife, Tina

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
12:15 p.m. For the People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
8:00 a.m. Ann Marie Dickson *Estate
Michael Hogan *Walter & Teresa Mary Kmiec

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10
8:00 a.m. Margaret Flood
*Sam & Isabella Raymond & boys
Intentions of Dave Thoennes
*Connie Gaydos

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
8:00 a.m. Dominic R. Allegretti *Lucy C. Young
Sara Weakly *A Friend

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12
8:00 a.m. Michael David Stearle *Piccinetti Family
Charles Lankford *Msgr. Gervasio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
8:00 a.m. Teresina Rago *Granddaughter
Carmella & Carmen Inverso *Family
4:30 p.m. Lucy Cooper *Mollye Carroll
Rosemarie Cole *Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
8:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
10:00 a.m. David & Patricia Johnson *Mom & Dad
Raymond Costello *M/M David Pierfy

Rectory Office Hours

Mon – Thu: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Fri & Sat: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Closed Sunday

Liturgical Celebrations This Week

Mon., December 8
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tue., December 9
St. Juan Diego

Thu., December 11
St. Damasus I

Fri., December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sat., December 13
St. Lucy

Weekly Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

The lamp that burns before the Blessed Sacrament in Our Lady of Sorrows Church this week is offered for the intentions of Cecil Edwin at his family's request.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners:

St. John the Baptist makes his appearance in the Advent liturgy today. This austere forerunner of the Lord might well be called the "bridge" between the Old and New Testaments. His call to make straight the way of Lord is a summons to personal conversion that Christ might "take up residence" in our minds and hearts. This involves taking a spiritual inventory or examination of conscience. The Baptist challenges us to be courageous enough to recognize and remove those things that block God's entry into our lives. In this spirit, I invite you to participate in the upcoming Advent Penance Service for the parishes of Hamilton at St. Gregory's Church on Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 pm. Many confessors will be available at this service that may well help us to avoid long lines as we approach the Christmas feast.

I also remind you of two other important celebrations. Tomorrow is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. Please note the schedule in this bulletin and that we will not be celebrating an evening Mass today (Sunday).

The other celebration is a concert to be held at St. Anthony Church this Friday, December 12 at 7:00 pm when we welcome the Christian Community Adult and Children's Choirs which will present *Priceless Promise* to help us prepare for Christmas. We are pleased to welcome this popular group to our parish. I hope we can fill the church! The concert is *gratis* but a free will offering will be taken to benefit the great work of Mount Carmel Guild. In coming we have a double blessing—the pleasure and inspiration of music and helping the needy of the greater Trenton area! Come one and all!

With affection,
Msgr. Gervasio

Stewardship Report

Weekly collection: November 23	\$19,172
Weekly collection: November 30	\$19,595

Bishop's Appeal (as of Dec. 1)

Donors:	344
Pledged:	\$72,880
Paid:	\$66,595

Very Important Notice

If you ordered candy from the Pre-school, please remember to pick it up from the Church Meeting Room this weekend. Pickup hours on Saturday are from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; on Sunday, your order can be picked up between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

To the Honor and Memory of DEACON JOSEPH MALLOY "Gaudium et Spes" Award

We share with you the happy news that the long and dedicated work of Deacon Joe Malloy for Martin House and the Mount Carmel Guild was recognized by the Diocese of Trenton. This public expression of appreciation was made by His Excellency, Bishop John M. Smith, at the annual *Gaudium et Spes* Mass held at St. Gregory the Great Church on Saturday, December 6.

Members of our Social Justice Committee attended this annual liturgy offered in thanksgiving for the many and varied groups and individuals who minister to the poor and marginalized of our society and promote the Church's teachings on social justice. *Gaudium et Spes* is Latin for "Joy and Hope"—the first words of the Constitution on the Church promulgated by the Second Vatican Council. The wonderful work of Deacon Joe continues and how blessed we are for this legacy of loving service.

***Happy are those who die in the Lord,
For their work will accompany them!***

The Tradition of the Advent Wreath



The season of Advent is a time to anticipate the coming of the Light of the World. Our Parish continues its tradition of inviting families to carry the lighted Advent candle in procession at

the beginning of each Weekend Mass. If your family is interested in participating in this special tradition, please sign up at each church site. At St. Anthony's, the sign-up sheets are at the side exit near St. Joseph's altar. At Our Lady of Sorrows, the sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the sacristy by the elevator.

Please Pray for Our Beloved Deceased

Jane Adams
Grace Nelson

Mamie LaBella
Desiree Shelmet

Edith Trotti

Holy Name Meeting and News

The Holy Name Society will hold its next meeting on Wed., Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the School Library. The program will be Christmas readings and hymns. Please note that members who wish to participate in the St. Alfonso retreat subsidy must pay their dues in full by December 31.

**A New Church Year
A Time of Welcoming and Renewal**

A couple years ago on a visit to the Basilica of Saints Ambrose and Charles, Rome, I came upon the welcome verses posted by the pastor at the church doors. I was impressed with the message which the pastor happily provided me. The translation is below and will be posted on the bulletin boards of our churches.

Welcome!

COME into your Church.
Walk toward the splendor, the Lord walks with you.
COME with trust and joy and prepare your heart.
COME on your own or with your brothers and sisters,
but COME.
Follow in the footsteps of your forebears.
Whoever you are remember that you have a place in
God's House.
You have brothers and sisters to meet,
saints to imitate,
Our Lady to hear
and the mystery of the Church to live.
If you thirst for joy, delight, justice, love, forgiveness,
COME to draw the living water for the fountain of
salvation.
Whether young and enthusiastic, burdened by suffering,
feeling marginalized or happily living your family life,
COME be enlightened by the Gospel.
Leave reconciled, comforted, renewed.
Announce the Good News to your brothers and sisters:
God loves us and hears us!
ENTER then,
Walk toward the splendor, the Lord walks with you.

Holy Name Meeting and News

The Holy Name Society will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, December 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the School Library. The program will be Christmas readings and hymns. Please note that members who wish to participate in the St. Alfonso retreat subsidy must pay their dues in full by December 31.

Anniversary Remembrance

Friday, December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, marks the 41st Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of His Excellency, John C. Reiss, Bishop Emeritus of our Diocese. Bishop Reiss, a native of our diocese, was named Auxiliary Bishop to Bishop Ahr in 1967 and named eighth bishop of Trenton in 1980. He was succeeded by Bishop Smith in 1997. Please remember Bishop Reiss in your prayers on this anniversary. He currently resides at St. Lawrence Rehabilitation Center, Lawrenceville.

2008—CHRISTMASTIDE—2009

Sacrament of Penance

Area Penance Service - Thursday, December 18

7:00 p.m.: St. Gregory the Great Church, Hamilton

Saturday, December 20

3:15 – 4:00 p.m.: St. Anthony

3:45 – 4:30 p.m.: Our Lady of Sorrows

Solemnity of Christmas

Vigil: Wednesday, December 24

St. Anthony

4:00 & 6:00 p.m. (*English*); 9:00 p.m. (*Creole*)

Solemn Mass at Midnight

Church doors open at 11:15 p.m.

Our Lady of Sorrows

4:00 p.m. (Church & Gym) & 7:00 p.m. (Church)

Thursday, December 25

Our Lady of Sorrows

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

St. Anthony

10:00 a.m. (*English*) & 5:00 p.m. (*Creole*)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Day

Vigil: Wednesday, December 31

Our Lady of Sorrows & St. Anthony

4:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 1

Our Lady of Sorrows

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. only

St. Anthony

10:00 a.m. (*English*) & 5:00 p.m. (*Creole*)

Thank You!

Dear Friends of the Missions,

I just take this opportunity to thank you for your generous World Mission Sunday contribution of \$2,387. Your gift will enable the mission Church to continue being "the bread broken for the life of the world." I respectfully ask you to continue your prayers and sacrifices on behalf of our needy brothers and sisters throughout the world. Together, with Christ as our head, we can make His healing presence available to those who must contend constantly with great pain and suffering.

Thank you, once again, for realizing that Jesus' mission is indeed the mission of us all.

Gratefully in the Lord,

Rev. Msgr. Richard L. Tofani

Diocesan Director

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

God Bless Our Newly Baptized

Nicholas Robert Auletta

Is Yours a Caring Heart?

Caring Hearts volunteers provide non-medical services, such as visiting, transportation, shopping, and help with paperwork, to our homebound elderly and disabled neighbors. If you would like more information on joining this satisfying ministry, either as a caregiver or a care receiver, please call Anne Kantor at 586-6596.

Thank You for Your Generosity!

Thank you so much to everyone who generously donated turkeys, food, and cash to our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We were able to deliver 178 turkeys and 262 bags of groceries to Martin House and Mount Carmel Guild, as well as \$264 in food certificates and \$437 in cash donations. Additionally, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of our parish donated \$500 each to Martin House and Mount Carmel Guild to supplement the food baskets. God bless all of you who saw the face of Jesus in the poor this Thanksgiving!

Pray for the Sick

We commend to your prayers all the sick in the parish. While not every name can appear in the listing below, we remember all those who are ill and pray that they may know the Lord's healing presence.

Dr. Robert Ambrose, Katherine D'Angelo, Paula Donahue, Tom Dzuibek, Patricia Havardansky, Robert Herrera, Edith LaBella, George Loh, Marie Marki, Judy Miller, Charlotte Nucaso, David Parziale, Kathleen Parziale, Richard Pizzuti, Rita Plant, Thomas Powner, Vivian Saxby, Ian Scheuerman, Jennie Scotto, Kimberly Smith, Dave Thoennes, Mary Masick Timian, and Anthony Tonzini

Due to limited space and our desire to include the names of others, absent special circumstances, names will remain on our list for one month only. Please call the parish office (587-4372) to have a name removed earlier.

Expectant Mothers Blessing

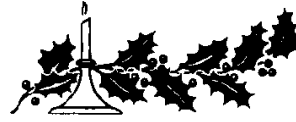


"Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

A special blessing will be given to all expectant mothers in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 14. This blessing will take place at the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Anthony and at the 11:00 a.m. Mass at Our

Lady of Sorrows. If you are expecting and would like to receive this special blessing, please call Doreen at the rectory office (587-4372) and leave your name. Please arrive 15 to 20 minutes before Mass on Dec. 14 and tell the deacon you're there for the blessing.

Many Hands Make Light Work



The Church Decorating Committee at the OLS campus is looking for volunteers to help with the decorating of our church

environment for the special holy seasons of the liturgical calendar. Tasks range from making bows to climbing ladders in order to hang decorations on the church walls. We will need volunteers for the upcoming season of Christmas. If you are interested being a part of this special committee, please call Mary Ellen Sullivan at 587-4732.

Bible Study Groups

Monday Night Bible Study

OLS Lower Church at 7:30 p.m.

Information: Len Communi—800-365-9656 x6561

Wednesday Morning Bible Study & Faith Sharing

OLS Church Meeting Room at 9:45 a.m.

Information: Mary Napolitano—586-2203

Women's Scripture Sharing

1st & 3rd Sunday each month from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

2nd floor of Mary's Haven, OLS Campus

New members & guests welcome.

Information: Pat—587-6838

Bingo Assignments

Saturday: 8 p.m. – Parish Center Cafeteria

The Bingo worker schedule appears below. If there is a scheduling conflict, please contact Karen Brisson (587-4141) or Susan Dolan (324-3985) well in advance so that other arrangements can be made. Workers are asked to arrive by 6:45 p.m.

Dec. 13 **Laurente, Longo, Marion, Martin, Okupski**

Dec. 20 **Piepszak, Stout, Sutton, Walsh, Angelucci**



Important Reminder

If you signed up to adopt a family or a child for Christmas, please remember to drop off your wrapped gifts in the school cafeteria between 1 and 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 14. Thanks to all who contributed!

School News

Catholic Financial Aid for 2009-2010

Families who would like to apply for Private School Aid Service (PSAS), the Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program for Catholic Schools, should note that the application due date for the 2009-2010 school year has been changed. **The forms must be completed by December 31, 2008. Interested families must complete a new PSAS application form each year to be eligible.** Forms are now available in the school's main office. Please call Carole Sluder at 587-4140, ext. 128, or stop by the office for a form.

OLS School Fundraiser at Carella's



"The Brown Dog"
Monday, Dec. 8



2:30 p.m. to Closing

No coupon needed, just tell the cashier that you would like your purchase to benefit OLS School. It's that easy!

Seniors' Activities

Senior Club #1

There will be no meeting or bus trip in December. The Holiday Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 9, at Roman Hall, from Noon to 4:00 p.m. For reservations, please call Lucy (587-3273) or Gloria (587-1151).

Senior Club #2

There will be no meeting on Tuesday, December 16. We will hold our Christmas Luncheon at Rosa's Restaurant. Be there by 1:00 p.m. Trip to Showboat Casino on Dec. 17. Bus leaves the OLS church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Call Bea (298-5559) for reservations.

Senior Club #3

Meeting: December 9, 1:00 p.m.

Church Meeting Room – Table 5 Hosts

No meeting on December 23

Bingo and cards played after all meetings

Christmas Luncheon: December 19, 1:30 p.m.

Rosa's Pizza Star (3442 S Broad St, Trenton)

Call Marie Rizzuto (586-7127) for reservations.

Meetings resume on January 13, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

Church Meeting Room – Table 1 Hosts

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!

Our Seniors Clubs welcome new members! You do not have to be a parishioner to join the Seniors Clubs.

Our Economic Crisis

*A Spiritual Reflection of Roger Cardinal Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles*

I am not an economist...but as a co-disciple of Jesus Christ...I would like to offer a few thoughts about how our faith supports us in such difficult times.

The strongest emotion we may experience is fear—fear that we will lose something, or everything we have worked so hard to achieve. Nothing gnaws away at us as fear of the unknown future. Fear then gives way to insecurity, worry, alarm and even desperation because so much is beyond our control. Where do we turn? I find my strength in Jesus and his promises to be with us—no matter what—and to offer us courage.

By acknowledging that we are powerless to save ourselves with our own ingenuity and strength places us squarely in the embrace of Christ. Once we fix our eyes on Jesus and allow ourselves to feel his personal care and comfort then a key point of discipleship becomes clearer: we advance together, not by ourselves. As Christians we turn to one another to share our strength and to unite our hopes with others.

Parents need to talk to their children about the uncertainties of life and children need to be assured that they can count on their parents to be there for them. The family may have to make many sacrifices and the children may learn to do with less—but they go forward as a family with Jesus in their very midst. All of us need to be attentive to each other, to act quickly if someone is suffering—they need our encouragement and hope. We have a duty to help those even worse than ourselves and in so doing ease the fears of others.

These problems occurring at Christmas] presents us with an opportunity to celebrate what is important: our faith, our families, and one another. The holidays will be far more joyful if we focus on our relationships and not on material gifts. A few simple gifts such as home crafted items, a large family photograph or other similar gifts speak volumes about loving and caring. Involve children by helping them to make gifts for others and to focus upon less fortunate children and let their Christmas celebration be a vivid lesson in giving.

From: *L'Osservatore Romano* (English Edition) 19 Nov 2008 p. 8

Next Week: A Reflection by Cormac Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor, Westminster, Great Britain

Youth Group Calendar

High School Youth Group

Dec. 7 - Advent Meeting (7 – 9 p.m., Mary's Haven)
Dec. 14 - Service Night (7 – 9 p.m., Mary's Haven)
Dec. 21 - Christmas Party (7 – 9 p.m., Mary's Haven)
Dec. 28 - No Meeting

Middle School Youth Group

Dec. 5 - Meeting (7 – 9 p.m., Mary's Haven)
Dec. 19 - Christmas Party (7 – 9 p.m., Mary's Haven)
Bring your favorite snacks to share!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Christmas in Hamilton Craft Show

December 13
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Ladies Auxiliary
Colonial Volunteer Fire Company
801 Kuser Road
For information, call 587-3452

Looking for Work?

If you are unemployed and looking for work, *The Monitor* is introducing a feature to help you. The diocesan newspaper will offer a free *Job Wanted* listing for any individual seeking a job. The listing is limited to a maximum of 10 lines and may be placed by calling Kathleen Bilancio at 406-7404, extension 5507.

A Crockett Holiday Boutique

Enjoy an outing of holiday shopping in a fun and festive community atmosphere on Wednesday, December 10 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria / Commons area of Richard C. Crockett Middle School (2631 Kuser Road in Hamilton). Featured will be several vendors selling various items including jewelry, candles, purses, Avon, baked goods, Ryan's Quest merchandise, wreaths, pine roping, and more. Come check it out!



Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center
Mount Holly, NJ
609-877-0509 FHOP@verizon.net
www.FHOP.org

Preparing Spiritually for Christmas

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 9:30 a.m. – Noon; donation: \$15
Give a morning to preparing your heart and soul to celebrate the Mystery of God's coming into our world at Christmas and into your life every day.

Centering Prayer Evening

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; love offering
We meet one Tuesday a month for 20 minutes of Lectio Divina and 40 minutes of Centering Prayer. These evenings really help to keep your centering prayer practice alive. There is grace in the group.

Advent Evening Prayer

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.; Love offering
Using the Taizé prayer format, this hour of prayer will include singing, Scripture, and silence. Join us for a serene end to your day.

Directed Retreat Weekend

7:00 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, to 1:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21
A weekend of silence, solitude, prayer with Scripture, Spiritual Direction and Liturgy. Donation: \$125 / \$40 non-refundable deposit with registration.

Please Note

St. Mary's Cemetery at Cedar Lane and Olden Ave. welcomes your visits to pray for and honor your beloved deceased. To help maintain the dignity and good order of the cemeteries under our care, we will not allow grave blankets to be placed in any of the cemeteries (i.e., St. Mary, Holy Sepulcher, St. Nicholas, St. Stephen, or St. Francis) for the Christmas season. **Christmas wreaths may be placed in cemeteries.** We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.
Msgr. James H. Dubell, Director, Diocesan Cemeteries

Trip to Showboat Casino

The Happy Days Senior Club sponsors a bus trip to the Showboat Casino on the first Wednesday of each month. The bus leaves the OLS parking lot at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$25. Call Madelyn (586-4549) for reservations and further information.

Catholics

Active – Inactive – Away

Advent Reconciliation Day

Sat., Dec. 13, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
St. Mary's Cathedral
Warren & Bank Streets, Trenton

Whether it has been a few weeks or many years, take time this Advent Season to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Priests will be available for confessions or consultation. No appointment necessary; just come!
For details or directions, call 396-8447 or 800-221-4959

Plan Ahead

The 94th season of America's longest running Passion Play—a modernized version of the Passion Play performed in Oberammergau, Germany, since 1634—will open on March 28, 2009, in Union City (NJ). Show times are 2:00 p.m. March 28 & 29 and April 4 & 5. Ticket prices are: \$24 general admission; \$15 students; and \$10 children under 12 years old. You may make reservations by calling 201-865-6980, ext. 10, or purchase tickets online. For details, including information about an optional lunch cruise on the Hudson River before the show, please visit www.parkpac.org and click on Passion Play.

Holy Father's December Prayer Intentions

General: That in the face of a spreading of a culture of violence and death the Church through her apostolic and missionary activity may promote with courage the culture of life.

Mission: That especially in mission countries Christians may show with acts of fraternal love that the Child born in the stable at Bethlehem is the luminous Hope of the world.

Christmas Concert at Notre Dame

The annual Notre Dame High School Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 11, at 7:30 p.m. Enjoy a relaxing evening of entertainment by the concert choir, Madrigal choir, band, and jazz band.

Admission is free, although a free-will offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the Florida trip to perform at Disney World.

You're Invited

Our Lady of the Angels Parish Community invites you to our Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 22, at 7:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church (540 Chesnut Ave). Whether it has been a few weeks or a few years, celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent Season. A number of priests will be available to hear confessions in English, Spanish, Italian, and Polish.

This Week's Activities*

<u>Day, Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat., Dec. 6	8:00 a.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
	5:30 p.m.	Pre-School Candy Sale Pick-up (until 6:30 p.m.)	Church Meeting Room
	8:00 p.m.	Bingo	Cafeteria
Sun., Dec. 7	8:30 a.m.	Pre-School Candy Sale Pick-up (until 12:30 p.m.)	Church Meeting Room
	10:00 a.m.	DOLS Breakfast	Cafeteria
	Noon	CYO Sports Program	Gym
	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study	Mary's Haven
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 38 Meeting	Lower Church Front & Church Library
Mon., Dec. 8	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Group Meeting	Mary's Haven & Gym
	5:30 p.m.	Jazzercise	Gym
	7:00 p.m.	Social Justice Meeting	Church Library
	7:30 p.m.	Bible Study	Lower Church Front
	8:00 p.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
Tue., Dec. 9	1:00 p.m.	Senior Club 3 Meeting	Church Meeting Room
	5:30 p.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
	6:30 p.m.	PTA Board Meeting	Faculty Meeting Room
Wed., Dec. 10	9:45 a.m.	Bible Study	Church Meeting Room
	5:30 p.m.	Jazzercise	Gym
	7:00 p.m.	Parish CYO Sports Program Meeting	Faculty Meeting Room
	7:00 p.m.	Finance Council Meeting	Parish Office
	7:30 p.m.	Holy Name Society Meeting	School Library
	7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Church Meeting Room
	8:00 p.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
	5:30 p.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
Thu., Dec. 11	7:00 p.m.	Communion & Liberation: School of Community	Mary's Haven
	7:30 p.m.	Baptism Class	Church Meeting Room
	5:00 p.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
Fri., Dec. 12	7:30 p.m.	<i>Priceless Promise</i> : a concert given by the Christian Community Adult & Children's Choirs	St. Anthony Church
	8:00 a.m.	CYO Sports Practice	Gym
Sat., Dec. 13	6:00 p.m.	Haitian Christmas Party for Children	St. Anthony Hall
	8:00 p.m.	Bingo	Cafeteria
		Welcome Sunday	Lower Church Front
Sun., Dec. 14	Noon	CYO Sports Program	Gym
	1:00 p.m.	Adopt-a-Family/Child Gift Drop-off (until 3 p.m.)	Cafeteria
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 38 Meeting	Lower Church Front & Church Library
	7:00 p.m.	High School Youth Group Meeting	Mary's Haven, Gym, & Cafeteria

* Activities listed above represent requested facility reservations. Please contact your group's leader if you have any question about whether or not the activity is still being held.

Our Lady of Sorrows – St. Anthony Parish
Will Proudly Host

Priceless Promise

*A Christmas Concert in the 28th Season Program
of the
Community Christian Adult and Children's Choirs*



Friday, December 12
7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony Church

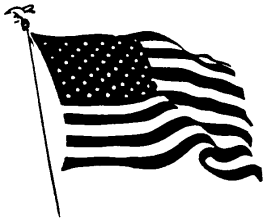


“We are excited to present several selections from Michael W. Smith’s *It’s a Wonderful Christmas*” during our *Priceless Promise* program. It is such an inspirational set of songs that will bring the message of Christmas to our audience,” said Pat Weitz, director of the multi-denominational choir. “The program will also include music from Steven Curtis Chapman and other notable composers, Irish dancing, and many other special additions. The whole program should be fun. If you love Michael W. Smith or Steven Curtis Chapman, you’ll have to hear this program.”

The non-profit, ecumenical, Community Christian Choir consists of more than 130 members of all ages from 45 churches throughout central Jersey. The children’s division is made up of 90 children, ages 6 – 18.

The choir has performed benefit concerts each season for the last 6 years and has raised and donated more than \$122,000 to many local charities. Proceeds from the concert being given at St. Anthony will benefit Mt. Carmel Guild (www.mountcarmelguild.org), which provides a helping hand to children, ailing seniors, and impoverished individuals and families in the Trenton area.

There will be a shuttle bus/school bus running from the parking lot at Trenton Catholic/McCorristin HS from 6:00– 7:30 p.m. and making the return trip following the concert. Anyone who wishes to attend the concert and park at the school is welcome to make use of the bus. For additional information about the entire Christmas Concert Series and the Community Christian Choir, please visit www.ccchoir.com.



*This Christmas,
Remember Our Troops and Their Families*



The NJ National Guard, with Senator Bill Baroni and the Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association, are collecting pre-paid phone cards for our troops overseas. Share the joy of Christmas with the men and women who are serving their country so far from home and their loved ones. Drop-off locations are Senator Baroni's office at 3691-A Nottingham Way and the following fire companies:

Rusling Hose Fire Co.
13 Rennie St.
Hamilton (08610)

Decou Hose Co.
61 Ruskin Ave.
Hamilton (08610)

Hamilton Fire Co.
1805 East State St.
Hamilton (08609)

White Horse Fire Co.
19 Locust Ave.
Hamilton (08610)

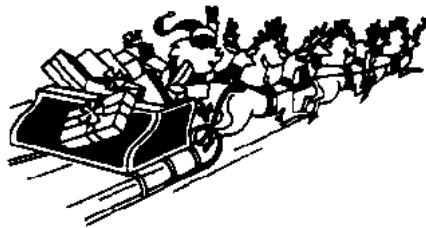
Enterprise Fire Co.
569 Klockner Rd.
Hamilton (08619)

Colonial Fire Co.
810 Kuser Rd.
Hamilton (08619)

Mercerville Fire Co.
2711 Nottingham Way
Hamilton (08619)

Nottingham Fire Co.
200 Mercer St.
Hamilton (08690)

Groveville Fire Co.
4201 Crosswicks-Hamilton Square Rd.
Hamilton (08691)



Also, the NJ National Guard and Senator Baroni will be distributing holiday gift baskets to the families of our troops overseas. If you would like to make a donation, they will be accepting newly purchased items in gift baskets or gift bags including:

- Candles and picture frames
- Baskets of bath items (bath oils, lotion, powder, etc.)
- Small photo albums
- Gift cards to Target, Wal-Mart, supermarkets
- Disposable cameras
- Gift cards to restaurants, movie theaters

Donations may be dropped off at Senator Baroni's office (3691-A Nottingham Way).

The donation deadline for both phone cards and gift basket items is December 19. If you have any questions about either of these efforts, please call 631-9988.



*December 14 Is Welcome Sunday
at Our Lady of Sorrows Church*

Please come for coffee & conversation
after all Sunday morning Masses.

KID'S KOrner

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GOSPEL TODAY

DEC. 7, 2008

MARK 1: 1-8

Prepare the way



of the Lord

John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, was sent to Baptize many people and prepare them for the coming of Jesus, the True Messiah.



SECOND WEEK OF

ADVENT

BE AWARE, PREPARE



We begin the second week of Advent preparing ourselves for the Messiah. Our Advent wreath has 4 candles (3 purple, 1 rose/pink) for the four Sundays, or weeks before Christmas. The more candles we light, the brighter it gets, and the closer we are to the birth of Christ.

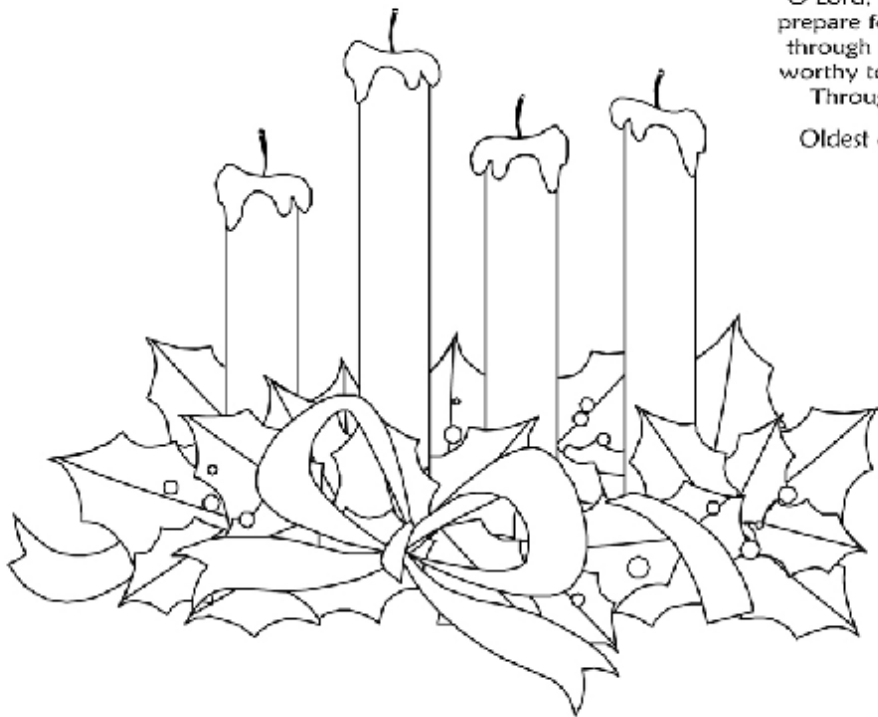


WEEK 2, evening lighting prayer

Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Oldest child lights 2 purple candles.



Color 3 purple and 1 rose/pink candle. Draw flames on 2 purple candles and color the holly leaves green.



The parish family of Our Lady of Sorrows-Saint Anthony congratulates and extends its prayerful best wishes for a long and happy marriage to the couples who were wed in the second half of 2008. They are:

Amy Gallagher and William Martin

Coleen Matthews and Tom Clementson

Jacqueline Saia and Paul Poitras

Gina Gervasoni and Brian Pierson

Sarah Holman and Michael Gulyas

Kristine Jackowski and Michael Gresko

Lynn Chiantese and John Pitko, Jr.

Andrea Hartz and Phillip Pointin

Kristen Seiler and Frank Foldetta

Kristen Iorio and Gary Leonardo

Michele Seneac and Camille Joseph

Rebecca Brennan and Jeffrey Lovelace

Stephanie Carlson and Bryan Stokes

Meridith Tymon and Matthew Wolski

Jessica Szostak and Tedd Pogorzelski

Erica Venslavsky and Gregory B. Rauch

Laura Breitman and Jeffrey Foster

Neisha Sammy and Kenneth M. Jones

Simbang Gabi



Simbang Gabi is one of the longest and most popular among the Filipino traditions in the country. It is when Catholic churches across the nation start to open their doors shortly before the break of dawn to welcome the faithful to the Simbang Gabi mass.

Simbang Gabi or Mass at Dawn is a nine-day novena to the Blessed Mother. The novena begins December 16 as early as 4:00 in the morning and culminates with the Misa de Gallo on Christmas Eve to welcome the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. In some churches, the *panuluyan* (search for an inn, showing the effort of Joseph and Mary to find a suitable birthplace) is reenacted.

Origin

Simbang Gabi traces its roots to Mexico when, in 1587, the Pope granted the petition of Fray Diego de Soria, prior of the convent of San Agustin Acolman, to hold Christmas mass outdoors because the church could not accommodate the huge number of people attending the evening mass.

During the old times, the pre-dawn mass is announced by the ringing of the church bells. In some rural areas, an hour before the start of Simbang Gabi, a brass band plays Christmas music all over the town. It is also believed that parish priests would go far knocking on doors to wake and gather the faithful to attend the misa de gallo. Farmers as well as fishermen wake up early to hear the Gospel before going to their work and ask for the grace of good harvest.

Simbang Gabi Now and Then



The passage of time does not break the preservation of celebrating Simbang Gabi. Although it is celebrated in new ways, the tradition of Simbang Gabi continues. Colorful lights still fill every street. Beautiful parols (lanterns) are hung in every window. Songs of the season are played everywhere to warm the heart. Families, friends, and even individuals go to the nearest church to attend the nine-day novena. Shortly after the misa de gallo, families gather in their homes to celebrate Noche Buena

(translated as "Good Night," it refers to the traditional dinner on Christmas Eve) and feast on delicacies like *queso de bola* (Edam cheese), *bibingka* (a dessert made with rice flour), *puto bungbong* (a snack made from sticky rice), or a drink of *salabat* (ginger tea) or hot chocolate.

Significance

Simbang Gabi has become one of the most popular traditions in the country. But it is not just a tradition that is celebrated because Filipinos need to do so. It is a significant moment, not only because it strengthens relationships among family members, but also because it is the time where faith is intensified. This is the time where the presence of the Lord is felt, because it is the spiritual preparation for Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. It does not matter if one has the stamina to complete the novena or not, what really matters is what is inside the heart. The blessing does not depend on the number of mass attended, but the disposition of the person who receives the Lord's blessing.

Simbang Gabi Mass Schedule

Day, Date	Time	Worship Site
Monday, December 15	7:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Sorrows, Hamilton
Tuesday, December 16	7:00 p.m.	St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton
Wednesday, December 17	7:00 p.m.	Incarnation, Ewing
Thursday, December 18	7:00 p.m.	Blessed Sacrament, Trenton
Friday, December 19	7:00 p.m.	St. Paul, Princeton
Saturday, December 20	7:00 p.m.	St. Raphael, Hamilton
Sunday, December 21	7:00 p.m.	St Anthony of Padua, Hightstown
Monday, December 22	7:00 p.m.	St. David the King, Princeton Junction
Tuesday, December 23	7:00 p.m.	St. Ann, Lawrenceville

All Are Welcome!