

**Christmas  
December 25, 2017**



**Masses for the Week**

Saturday	Sal Bulla	5:00pm
Sunday	People of the Parish	8:00am
Sunday	Regina Mihm	10:00am
	<i>Christmas Vigil</i>	4:00pm
Monday	<i>Christmas</i>	8:00am
	<i>Christmas</i>	10:00am
Tuesday	<i>St. Stephen</i>	8:00am
	Nelson Diordano	
Wednesday	<i>St. John, Apostle</i>	5:15pm
	Wm., Elizabeth & Bill Zentner	
Thursday	<i>The Holy Innocents</i>	8:00am
	Sal Bulla	
Friday	<i>St. Thomas Becket</i>	5:30pm
	Hal Holly & Gail O'Kelly	
Saturday	Nelson Diordano	5:00pm

**Please Pray for Our Sick**

Fanny Bonventre, Herb Cahill, Billye Doria, Hal Holly, Fred Kimlin, Maureen Krom, Lynne Lazzaro, Mary McNamara, Grant Nicolson, Joseph Mongelluzzo, Tony Peralta, Joe & Virginia Petras, Daniel Sweeney, Alice Theiss, Thomas Vavrinec, Irene Waddell, Luisa Walsh, Denise Woltman, Amelia Zak

We also want to remember parishioners who are currently in Nursing Facilities. They are: Frank Cahill, Elizabeth LaFera, Robert LaFera, Rose Sferrazza, Shirley Spornyak and Alice Tochterman

**Please Pray for Our Deceased**

Eulalia Priest & Peter Genero

**Tithing \$4,496.00**



**Holiday Mass Schedule**

**Sunday, Christmas Eve 4:00pm**  
**Monday, Christmas Day**  
 8am & 10am  
**Sunday, New Year's Eve 5:00pm**  
**Monday, New Year's Day 10am**

**Christmas Calendar**

Looking ahead into the Christmas season, these are the next few week's celebrations: this coming Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> will be the *Feast of the Holy Family*; January 1<sup>st</sup> will be the *Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God* the following Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, will be the *Feast of the Epiphany*; and the following Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> will be the *Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*. That feast will mark the end of the Christmas season and Tuesday we return to Ordinary Time.

**Religious Ed News**

Religious Ed classes will not be in session December 27<sup>th</sup> but will resume on January 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**VERITAS News** – Yes, it's cold outside, but you can never start too early thinking about summer camp! VERITAS registration will begin January 1, 2018! Sign up your teen (going into 7th grade (Fall 2018) to senior in High School) for Catholic sleep-away camp in Wurtsboro for the week of August 12 – 18, 2018. Sign-up soon, spots are going FAST! ([www.campveritas.org](http://www.campveritas.org)) In 2017 Wurtsboro sold out in early February. You can also attend camp at Mount Saint Mary (Newburgh) July 22 – 28, 2018. Other camp locations – including Ireland and Florida (new for 2018) are listed. If you have questions about camp give Michelle a call at 331-3002. Thank you to all campers, volunteers, parents and donors that made the 2017 Camp Veritas year incredible! Lives changed, spirits lifted, souls healed because of the power of God!

**Christmas Reflection**

“Let us beg from our Lady to make our hearts ‘meek and humble’ as her Son’s was. It was from her and in her that the heart of Jesus was formed. Let us all try during this month to practice humility and meekness. We learn humility through accepting humiliations cheerfully. Do not let a chance pass you by. It is so very easy to be proud, harsh, moody, and selfish—so easy. But we have been created for greater things; why stoop down to things that will spoil the beauty of our hearts? How much we can learn from our Lady! She was humble because she was all for God. She was full of grace. She made use of the almighty power that was in her, the grace of God. . . . If you are humble, nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are. If you are blamed, you won’t be discouraged; if anyone calls you a saint, you

won't put yourself on a pedestal. If you are a saint, thank God; if you are a sinner, don't remain one. Christ tells us to aim very high, not to be like Abraham or David or any of the saints, but to be like our heavenly Father. . . Humility always radiates the greatness and glory of God. How wonderful are the ways of God! He used humility, smallness, helplessness, and poverty to prove to the world that he loved the world. Don't be afraid to be humble, small, and helpless to prove your love to God."

*Mother Teresa*

**Mariapolis  
Luminosa,  
Nativity Displays**

Most of you are probably familiar with Mariapolis Luminosa, one of the projects of the Focolare Movement. Every December, Luminosa displays over 200 Nativity scenes from over 50 countries the world at the Chiara Lubich Conference Center at 200 Cardinal Road, in Hyde Park. Many visitors come from neighboring communities to see this beautiful display. Suggested donation \$5. For more information call 845-229-2030 ext 127 or write to luminosa.office@gmail.com. Nativity Display. Dec 8, 2017 - Jan 7, 2018



**Young Adult Retreat  
February 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>  
Marianist Family Retreat center  
Cape May, New Jersey**

Come and join other young adults, ages 22-35, married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. The time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and fun.

Cost; \$130 per person dbl occ  
Register: [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or  
call 609-884-3829  
Financial aid available

**Silent Night, Holy Night**

"Silence. Why does it frighten us so much? It can be frightening because we become accustomed to a life filled with noise. It frightens us because it challenges us to confront ourselves and how well we live out our divine calling as Christians. Silence is powerful because it is in silence that we are able to examine our lives in the light of Christ. In silence, we are confronted with ourselves—for better or for worse. It is in this confrontation that we are either challenged to become more Christ-like or are frightened by our wretchedness and thus run from Christ—the One Whom we should be striving to become like. . . .

It may seem as if attaining silence is impossible. Sure, we can easily turn off the television and the cell phone. But what about dealing with the people we live with? The solution is simple. Take any free time we might have—those precious few minutes after the baby is put to bed or when the college roommate leaves the room. Instead of turning on the TV or going online, give *God* this time, allow *Him* to do the 'talking.'

Let us take a break from the noise and allow the silence to fashion us into other Christs in our world."

*Br. John Kozlowski OP, 9-14-06*



**FORMED Resources for Kids**

FORMED gives parents the tools to teach their children the basics of our Catholic faith and more. Whether it is an inspiring family movie, children's videos, audios, and books, Discover all the new children's programs, books, movies and audio at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) St. Peter's Code **66ZG2B**

**Rosary Altar Society**

Next weekend team *five* is scheduled

**WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE**

Knights of Columbus announce the starting of the "2017 Annual Winter Clothing Drive". All proceeds and donations go to benefit all in need of our local community. Please drop off well-kept and near new items in box in the back of the church.

**CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE  
"WAY OF ST. PAUL" SUMMER OF 2018**

Join Father Michael McLoughlin, Pastor of St. Columba, Hopewell Junction and Peter's Way Tours on a wonderful Pilgrimage to Greece "In the Footsteps of St. Paul" on July 29 – August 7, 2018. It will make the Letters of St. Paul come alive! Stops include Thessaloniki, Philippi, Veria, Meteora, Athens (including the Parthenon) and Corinth. A three day cruise is included! Stops include Mykonos, Ephesus (Mass at the House of the Virgin Mary), Patmos, Heraklion (Crete) and Santorini. Please call Father Michael at St. Columba 845-227-8380 or emailrectory@stcolumbaonline.org for a Pilgrimage Brochure! Spaces are limited so do not delay.