

Saturday **December 25—Christmas Day**
 9:00 AM Christmas
 11:30 AM Christmas

Sunday **December 26—Holy Family**
 9:00 AM Pam Simms
 11:30 AM Deceased Members of the
 Moscaritolo Family
 5:00 PM Parishioners

Monday **December 27**
 12:10 PM Amelework
 & Daughter Cynthia—Living

Tuesday **December 28**
 12:10 PM Almaz & Families—Living

Wednesday **December 29**
 12:10 PM Rahul Correa—Month's Mind

Thursday **December 30**
 12:10 PM Almaz & Families—Living

Friday **December 31**
 12:10 PM In memory of Theresa, Joseph, Dennis &
 Aurelia D'Souza and Anthony Family

Saturday **January 1—**
 10:00 AM Solemnity of
 Mary, Mother of God
 4:00 PM Vigil of the Epiphany

Sunday **January 2—Epiphany**
 9:00 AM Special Intention
 11:30 AM Pedra Santana
 5:00 PM Parishioners

Parish Support

Thank you for your continuing support. This week's bulletin went to the printer early because of the Holiday, the figures for Dec. 18-19 weekend donations will be in the January 1-2 bulletin.

SANCTUARY LAMP - in Memory of Vincent Raso

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

We hope that each of you had a blessed Christmas. As a reminder to all, the Christmas collection supports the retirement needs of the priest of the Archdiocese of Boston. Currently 40% of our priests are retired, and it requires 10 million dollars per year to provide for their needs. If you have not done so already and you wish to do so, you may include your completed collection envelopes in today's collection basket. Thank you for your continued support of the priests who continue to support us.

SATURDAY MASSES

Because January 1, the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on Saturday, it is not a holy day of obligation this year. We will have a Mass in honor of Mary at 10:00 AM, and we encourage you to attend.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Fearful things can sometimes happen in family life. The local evening news often has stories about the struggles a family may be facing. Maybe it's a fire that drove a family from its home. Or it may be an illness that strikes a child and severely affects the entire family. Or the news story may be about an accident that incapacitates the wage-earner in the household. These kinds of problems seem even more tragic at this time of year, when families gather together and often feel a certain security and warmth in being united.

The Gospel today certainly reminds us that family tragedy can strike anywhere, even the family of Mary and Joseph and Jesus. Living in Bethlehem, and having just received visitors from afar, the family is suddenly uprooted and forced to flee from the wrath of Herod who is out to destroy the newborn child.

For some families today, the flight from persecution is just as real as the flight into Egypt was for the Holy Family. Others seek to flee hardship of a different kind: illness, job loss, despair, fractured relationships. When the evening news presents stories about families with problems there is often a suggestion of a way to help, such as a place to make a donation. When families in the Christian community are hurting, it is an invitation from God for the rest of us to reach out with our love and care. Sometimes that is through a listening ear, at other times through a donation to an organization that can help, such as Catholic Charities or the local St. Vincent de Paul conference. In the end, we are all one family in the faith.



REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY

Christmas day has come and gone. The holiday is over, for most adults it is back to work. Normal work days are in action.

Still in a variety of ways the ending is one that might have a great new beginning. Expectant mothers might concentrate on the great time coming when they will give birth and joyously welcome their new infant and looking forward as a new state of live begins.

We might think of another child of long ago, Jesus of Nazareth and His Mother Mary. The little child is truly eternal God. He is with a Mother who is and ever will be filled with the eternal grace of God.

There is one who is Mother of God. Only she can be so very intimate with her Son that we can say to her, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death".

How blessed we are in being able to have one on such very close terms with God and yet one so dear to us.



OUR GRAND ANNUAL APPEAL

We are pleased to report a total of \$37,746 in pledges and donations, to our Grand Annual Appeal to date, 50% of our goal of \$75,000. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the back of the church. Thank you for your faith, love and generous support! Through your kindness Jesus' work continues.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Malden Catholic would like to remind parents that local Catholic High Schools have a December application deadline. For your convenience Malden Catholic provides an online application system at www.maldencatholic.org For more information, please call 781-322-3098 ext. 308.

And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a Nazorean. - Mt 2:22b-23



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



A Blessed Christmas to everyone!

Our Religious Education group celebrated the end of Advent by creating a Jesse Tree tracing Jesus' heritage, by making Christmas ornaments depicting the life of Jesus and assembling Nativities to take home. Thank you all for a wonderful beginning to our program.

Thank you to Denise Tompkins and Georgeanne D'A-grosa for the wonderful work they did to create our Christmas Pageant. Thank you to all who helped with this year's Christmas Pageant at our 5:00pm Christmas Eve Liturgy. It is always truly wonderful to get the Christmas viewpoint as it is presented by our young people. Their faith and talent brought all of us a bit deeper into the Christmas mystery.

Our lives are enriched by the good work done quietly by people in the Parish.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to all of you have donated to our Christmas Flower Offering to help beautify our church and allow us all to keep your beloved ones in our prayers.

Thanks to all who helped to make our Christmas Celebrations and Church as beautiful as it was. Working together the task was accomplished in a wonderful way. When we work together, His work continues!

Thanks too, for all who gifted the Rectory in the many ways you did. Your kindness and Christmas 'goodies' were appreciated by all. Thank You!

THE ADVENT GIVING TREE

Thanks to all who took an envelope from our Advent Giving Tree. The people of Haiti thank you all for your generosity. Your gift of love brightened a child's Christmas and brought Christ's promise of joy alive to His people.

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