

SCRIPTURE READINGS

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

The Lord told Aaron to bestow his blessings on the Israelites. God wanted them to know that by invoking his name they would be blessed by him.



Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Paul describes how through Jesus' birth, we have been delivered from the laws that exiled Gentiles from God's community. Through Jesus, the Gentiles became God's adopted sons and would receive the same blessings that the Jewish converts had been promised.

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds went to Bethlehem to see Jesus and immediately understood all that they had been told about him. They praised God for what they had seen, and Jesus was given the name that the angel had chosen for him.



For the Week of January 1st through January 7th

Sunday

Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Monday

1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:1-28

Tuesday

1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday

1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday

1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

First Friday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28
or 3:28, 31-34, 36, 38

First Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11



The US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides a full listing of the Sunday and Daily Readings, in print and audio format, on its website, <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings>.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31st

4:00 p.m. (SH) Marie Gruber

6:00 p.m. (SJ) Parishioners, living and deceased

Sunday, January 1st

10:00 a.m. (SH) Parishioners, living and deceased

Monday January 2nd

8:30 a.m. Jack DePoulter

Tuesday, January 3rd

8:30 a.m. Janet Hennessy

Wednesday January 4th

8:30 a.m. Parishioners, living and deceased

Thursday, January 5th

8:30 a.m. (SH) Communion Service

Friday, December 6th

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

Saturday, January 7th

4:00 p.m. Mimi Waring

Sunday, January 8th

8:00 a.m. Ray Brilz

10:00 a.m. Sister Barbara Fitzgibbon

REMEMBERING THE SICK OF THE

PARISH: Remember in
your prayers the sick of

the parish: *John*

Troffo, Valerie

Lindyberg, Patricia

Dana, Bob Dunn,

Elizabeth Montague,

Angela Wilmer, Faith King, Jennifer Willis, Joe

Fick, and Delores Carmen, and all those whose

names appear in the PARISH BOOK OF

INTENTIONS located in the front foyer.



NEW TO THE PARISH: Please be sure to register with the Parish Office and introduce yourself to Father Grasing after Mass. Registration forms are available at the doors of the Church, the Parish Office, or online. For additional information, please call 410-778-3160, or go to sacredparish.org.

PREP

Parish Religious Education Program



Bringing the Gospel Home

January 1, 2017

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Luke 2:16-21

Reflection for Families:

When we first held our children in our arms, we wondered so many things about them. Who will they become? What will they do with their lives? What will their growing up years yield? Like Mary, we held these things in our hearts and probably are still holding. But what can we learn from Mary? She trusted, though not fully understanding. What thoughts would have gone through her mind knowing that the name “Jesus” meant “savior?” We don’t know our own future or the future of our children. What we do know is that God loves us enough and wants us to share in the kingdom enough that he gave us his Son.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Today would be a good day to remember the sacrament of Baptism and connect it to the ritual action of naming Jesus in the temple. Take some time after a meal or at the end of the day to talk about every family member’s name, what their name means, why they were named as they were, who else in the family (or family history) shares the names, and family stories connected with the name. Share symbols, photographs, and memories from family baptisms.

Discussion Starters

1. Some of the thoughts I treasure in my heart are...
2. There is someone I would like to tell about Jesus. When I do, this is what I will say...
3. God has blessed me especially in this past year by...

The catechists and young people of our Religious Education Program look forward to continuing our Discipleship during 2017:

St John’s Cemetery - November



Stop Hunger Now - October



Christmas Pageant 2016



PARISH NEWS

NEW TO THE PARISH: The following families have registered in our parish recently: *Donald and Jennifer Paul* of Chestertown; *Joanne Anderson* of Chestertown; and *Ronald and Patricia Holland* of Chestertown. We pray that you will become closer to God through your participation in our Faith Community. We look forward to getting to know you. Welcome!

WELCOME: The people of Sacred Heart Parish welcome into our family *Brody Parker Crow*, who was baptized on December 17th. Congratulations to you, your parents & godparents. God bless you as you begin your faith journey.

Offertory - Week Ending 12/25/16 - Week 26

Thank you for your offering. It is with your continued support and the sharing of your time and talent that the ministries, programs and activities at Sacred Heart and St. John's are made possible. "Whatever you give to the Lord, He will return to you a hundred fold."

	Received	ACH	Budgeted	Diff.
Offertory 12/25-Wk.26	\$5,129	\$590	\$6,346	-\$627
YTD Wk. 26	\$136,726	\$ 25,935	\$164,996	-\$2,335

ELECTRONIC GIVING: It is possible to make your weekly financial commitment to the Parish using Electronic Funds Transfer. We are encouraging everyone to consider using this contribution method. Contact Senta Burton with any questions at 410-778-3160, or senta.burton@sacredparish.org. Sign up forms are available at the doors of the Church.

LET'S DANCE for fun, smiles and exercise!! Zumba Gold® is being offered at Sacred Heart - for the active, older adult/beginner. There is no fee to our Sacred Heart & St. John's parishioners. The class is led by a certified Zumba Gold® instructor. **Classes are every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m.** in the Church Hall. Please contact Sharon Burritt at 410-708-8048 with any questions.

CHURCH OFFICE: Church Offices will be closed Tuesday, January 2nd for the New Year's holiday.

ALTAR FLOWERS - We have not budgeted for flowers or floral supplies. If you would like to make a donation please call Louise Shearer at 410-490-3595 or Mary Johnson at 410-778-2230.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2017: Be a voice for the voiceless! Come and March for Life on **January 27, 2017** in Washington D.C. The Rally begins at 12 noon and the March at 1:00 p.m. The District 26 Knights of Columbus have provided us with a free bus to the Rally. The bus will be leaving Sacred Heart Church at 9:30 a.m. with stops in Centreville, Chesapeake College, and Kent Island, returning to Chestertown by 5:00 p.m. For reservations, please contact Kenny Platt at plattkpc@aol.com or call 443-926-2801.



REMINDER TO ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS AT SACRED HEART: Thank you to the ministers who volunteer to serve weekly at our liturgies. Please remember to "check in" before mass in the foyer of the church. Simply highlight your name on the schedule so that we know in advance if we need to fill positions or make changes. All ministers should check in...Lectors, Greeters, Cantors, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers. Thank you for your attention to this request.

DIALOG: In addition to the newspaper edition of The Dialog that's available in church every two weeks, the newspaper's website, www.thedialog.org, is updated every weekday with stories from the diocese and around the world, including many that don't appear in the newspaper due to space considerations. Stay on top of national and international issues of concern to Catholics, each Sunday's Scripture reading commentaries by Dialog columnists and the work of the church in the nation and world by visiting www.thedialog.org.

PARISH MEETING: The monthly Parish Meeting will be this Thursday, January 12th at 6:30 p.m. Please come and share ideas with your fellow parishioners.



