



Mass Intentions

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

December 31, 2016

Saturday – Dec 31st –

Vigil of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Veronica Brewer
by Frances Zukowski
7:00PM – Rev. James Joseph Morgan
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

Sunday – Jan 1st –

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:30AM – Helen Hazlinsky
by Dennis and Theresa Bieak
10:30AM – Edward J. Danko (A)
by Family

Monday – Jan 2nd –

Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

8:00AM – Robert Mason
by Darlene Loncosky

Tuesday – Jan 3rd – St Genevieve

8:00AM – Bob Spengler and Bernardine Wehr
by Ann and Dale

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Jan 4th – St Elizabeth Ann Seton

6:00PM – Theresa Acerra
by Sister, Angie Kotch and Niece, Donna Kromer

Thursday – Jan 5th – St John Neumann

8:00AM – William J. Molchany, Sr.
by Mike and Louise Seng

Friday – Jan 6th – St Andre Bessette

8:00AM – Charles J. McCarty, Jr.
by Kathleen and Peggy

Sacred Heart Novena after Mass

Saturday – Jan 7th – St Raymond of Penyafort

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Joseph Kroboth (A)
by Family
7:00PM – The Poor Souls in Purgatory
by Irene Vomero

Sunday – Jan 8th –

8:30AM – John and Margaret Nicholas
by Family
10:30AM – Charles B. O'Donnell (A)
by McCloskey Family

PASTOR'S CORNER

A Resolution, If We Dare, for 2017

St. Paul in his second letter to Timothy writes,

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine but, following their own desires and insatiable curiosity,* will accumulate teachers and will stop listening to the truth and will be diverted to myths. But you, be self-possessed in all circumstances; put up with hardship; perform the work of an evangelist; fulfill your ministry. [2 Tim 4:1-5.]

While most of us would read this as something for the ordained ministers to heed, St. Paul, St. John Paul II, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Francis read this a bit differently. When these great men and pastors read it, they recognize a call to each and every disciple (ordained or not ordained) to holiness of life and perseverance in sound doctrine. It is *every* disciple's job to witness to Jesus Christ and the truth He still speaks through his Church on earth. *No one is exempt from this ultimate mission* entrusted by Christ himself to Peter, Paul and the apostles, and – through them, entrusted to us.

So, while we may or may not make New Year's resolutions, I invite us to consider (re-) committing ourselves to listening to and acting upon what God asks of us. May the year 2018 dawn even brighter because in 2017 we have understood our call and Jesus' teaching just that much better.

Bible study of Matthew's Gospel begins on Monday, January 23rd, in the Parish Hall from 6:45-8:00pm, weather permitting. Registration is required, along with a \$25 donation to cover the cost of study materials. Please sign up on the papers at the entrances to the Church before January 16th.

Be more self-possessed in your faith, Happy New Year!
Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection \$4,112.00
 Christmas Collection \$10,188.00

The **Second Collection** this weekend, **December 31st** and **January 1st**, is the **Solemnity of Mary Collection**.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	J.Drummer D.Sullivan	J.Englert	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	A.Muschko A.Urban	J.Yanek	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	E.Snyder	C.Molchany
10:30AM	C.Ritter M.Ritter	K.McCloskey	L.Bolmer



Pray the Rosary each Sunday
 8:15AM and 10:15AM

Thank You

Thank you to the **First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch 230** for their recent donation of **\$400.00**.

SANTA'S WISH-LIST



HO! HO! HO! We would like to thank one of our parishioners for their gift of **\$500.00**. Any Santa gift made, at any time of the year, to the ongoing renovations of our parish is greatly appreciated!



Our very own **Aggie Chabak** will turn **100 years old** on **Tuesday, January 10th**! To congratulate her in the spirit of our parish, St. John Fisher, we are hoping to shower her with birthday cards to let her know that she is thought of on this milestone day. Please drop off a birthday card with her name on the envelope in the collection basket by **Sunday, January 8th**. We thank you for your kind support for one of our near and dear parishioners – who is a century young!



FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH

ADORATION begins after morning Mass, and continues throughout the day.

7:00PM - HOLY HOUR



SOLEMNITY OF MARY



On the Solemnity of Mary, the Church particularly venerates the Motherhood of Mary. This is, as it were, a last message of the Octave of Christmas. Birth always speaks of the Begetter, of her who gives life, of her who gives man to the world. The first day of the New Year is Mother's day.

We see her then, as in so many pictures and sculptures, with the Child in her arms, with the Child at her breast. The Mother, she who begot and fed the Son of God. The Mother of Christ. There is no image that is better known and that speaks in a more simple way of the mystery of the Lord's birth than that of the Mother with Jesus in her arms. Is not this image, perhaps, the source of our extraordinary confidence? Is it not just this image that allows us to live in the circle of all the mysteries of our faith, and, while contemplating them as "divine", to consider them at the same time so "human"?

But there is yet another image of the Mother with her Son in her arms. It is *la Pietà*: Mary with Jesus taken from the cross; with Jesus who died before her eyes, on Mount Golgotha, and who after death returns to those arms on which he was offered as Savior of the world at Bethlehem.

Saint John Paul II

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Rectory Office will reopen on **Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 10:00AM**.

2016 CONTRIBUTION FORMS

Please fill out this tear-off form to request your 2016 contribution form and place in the collection basket. All forms will be mailed out by the end of January.

NAME _____ ENV # _____

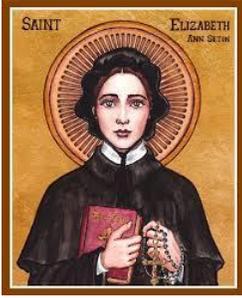
ADDRESS _____

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Born to a prominent colonial family in 1774, Elizabeth married William Seton and bore five children. After William's business failed, he contracted tuberculosis and died. Elizabeth encountered the Catholic Faith through friends in Italy, and was received into the Church at Saint Peter's in lower Manhattan, New York. The victim of anti-Catholic prejudice, Elizabeth accepted an invitation from a Sulpician priest

in Baltimore to found the congregation that became the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joseph and the beginning of the American parochial school system. Elizabeth is the first American-born saint.

~Magnificat, January, 2017



SAINT JOHN NEUMANN

Having reached the New World in 1836, John, a native of Bohemia, was ordained and sent to minister to German immigrants in western New York State. Four years later he joined the Redemptorists in Pittsburgh. John was elected bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. He took the motto, "Passion of Christ, strengthen me!" Streams of Irish and German immigrants were entering the city at the time.

John patiently suffered the violence of the Know-Nothings, virulent anti-Catholic nationalists, all the while creating a system of parochial schools, writing a catechism for children, and establishing new parishes. He collapsed in 1860 at the age of forty-eight. He was canonized in 1977.

~Magnificat, January, 2017



UNDECORATING CHURCH

The taking down of the Christmas Decorations will take place immediately following the 10:30am Mass **next Sunday, January 8th**. We are in great need of help, especially from our younger and stronger guys and gals. Thank you very much.



In case of bad weather or last minute cancelations, please check our Parish Website at www.stjohnfisherparish.com.

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT AND SAINT GREGORY NAZIANZEN

Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen are linked in this feast day, as they were in life; they were schoolmates, co-defenders of the orthodox teaching on the Trinity, and dear friends. Both served as bishops and suffered hostility from the politically powerful Arians. In 379 Gregory preached at Basil's funeral: "Do you, Basil, there also welcome me in your dwelling, when I have departed this life, that we may live together and gaze more directly and perfectly at the Holy and Blessed Trinity. Thus we shall attain the fruition of our desire, and receive the reward of the battles we have fought, and the attacks we have resisted.

~Magnificat, January, 2017