

St. Jerome's Parish

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PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Msgr. Michael Busch

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Parish Secretary: Rocelyn Esposito

Property Manager: Jorge Barbosa



prepare the way...

A Blessed Christmas



Many years ago, my family decided that instead of a huge hoard of commercially produced presents under the tree, we would make donations to charities or participate in programs which helps those who are less fortunate than us. Then on Christmas Day we would share with each other the ways in which we had help those less fortunate than us. This kind of Christmas sounds very radical to many people. But celebrating Christmas this way gave us something else to look forward to than a mound of presents under the tree. It also changed the way we look at the world around us. It helps us to have a more passionate response to those who are less fortunate than us. An ear that listens, a voice that comforts and a hand to hold in times of loneliness, fear and abandonment can bring a lot more peace and joy to this world than a thousand beautifully wrapped presents.

Has Christmas become too big, too flashy and too stressful for you? Has gift giving supplanted the simple story of a child born to give his life to us? Is the only lingering presence of Christmas the roasting pan soaking in the kitchen sink and the credit card bills in January? If so, then maybe the solution is to make it smaller, more joyful, more personally interactive. It will take patient practice to put the right meaning back into our Christmas giving. Start by taking a good look at what goes on in your home this Christmas. What is most important to you? Is it the gift giving, the decorations, the over the top dinner that gives it meaning; or is it the laughter of children, the joy of a partner who has shared the good and the bad with you and the loving community of family and friends that have enriched your life?

This Christmas Day as I share the Eucharist with the parishioners here at St. Jerome's I will give thanks for all those who have strengthened and enriched my ministry. Along with the sacrifice of the Mass and will offer my own commitment to serve you as we share our fears, hopes and dreams for the future. These is my gift to you this Christmas. And there won't be a single shred of wrapping paper or discarded ribbon to clean up afterwards.

~ Msgr. Michael



December 23rd – 28th

Monday, 9:10 a.m.

† Thelma Busch

Tuesday, 9:10 a.m.

† Deceased friends & family members of the Ilic, Taylor & Wilson Families

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

12 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

10:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:10 a.m.

† Angelo A. Ramos Silveira

Friday, 9:10 a.m.

† Daniel Panacci

Friday, 7:00 p.m.

† Romualdo Gregorio

Saturday, 9:10 a.m.

† Barbara & Joseph Seevaratnam

DONATION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS FUND

Please consider donating to the Christmas Flowers Fund for the Church. You will find donation envelopes in the pews. Please place your donations in the collection basket.

Thank you for support!



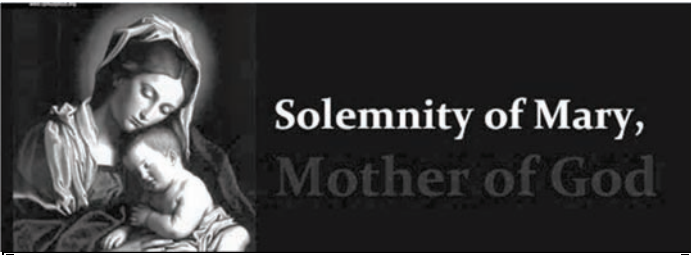
2020 SUNDAY MISSALS

The 2020 *Living with Christ* Sunday Missals are now available for purchase at the parish office. Cost \$5.



**DAY OF OBLIGATION:
CHRISTMAS & NEW
YEAR'S
MORNING MASS**

Please remember the morning Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24th at 9:10 a.m. does not fulfill the obligation for Christmas Mass. Also, the morning Mass on New Year's Eve, December 31st at 9:10 a.m. does not fulfill the obligation for the Solemnity of Mary (New Year's Day). Families are still required to attend the Eucharistic Mass for Christmas and for the Solemnity of Mary (New Year's)



Daily Mass Tuesday, December 31 st <i>(Office closed)</i>	9:10 a.m.
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation Tuesday, December 31 st <i>(Office closed)</i>	5:00 p.m.
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation Wednesday, January 1, 2020 <i>(Office closed)</i>	10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Daily Mass Thursday, January 2, 2020 <i>(Office closed)</i>	9:10 a.m.
Daily Mass Friday, January 3, 2020 <i>(Office closed)</i>	7:00 p.m.



The parish office will close on **December 24th at Noon to December 27th**. The office will be open on Sunday, December 29th, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The office will be closed on **December 30th – January 3rd, 2020**.



**GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES
PROVIDE-A-MEAL PROGRAM**

Thank you to all the parishioners who provided a meal to the Good Shepherd Centre. We donated **35** casseroles last month. The next pick-up date is **Friday, January 3, 2020**. Please remember to drop off your casseroles before **10:00 a.m.** and place it in the freezer in the Social Hall.



CHARITY SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

December 28th & 29th

On the last Sunday of each month, we ask for donations of non-perishable food items or cash donations which are used to purchase food vouchers. This is a much-needed service to assist families in need within our parish boundary and community.



Arrangements are being made for anyone who is interested in attending the *Power & Purpose Conference – Living Hope* in Steubenville. Keynote speaker for the event are: Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, Peter Herbeck and Mary Bielski. If you are interested in attending please contact Vicky at suttonv62@gmail.com or Lydia at Holy Family Parish at 905-857-938. For more information, please visit their website: www.steubenvilleconferences.com



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