

**Ste. Rose de Lima Church, 600 Grattan St., Chicopee, MA**  
**Tel. 413-536-4558 ~~~~~ Pastor: Rev. William A. Tourigny**

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***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph + December 27, 2020***

***Readings: + Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 +Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 +Luke 2:22-40***

**STE. ROSE de LIMA MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Dec 26 – Saturday	4:00 PM Leo & Bella Constant (Wdg. Ann Rem) by Peggy & family
Dec 27 – Sunday	7:30 AM Jean Noel & Guy Tremblay by Jeannine Tremblay
Holy Family of JMJ	9:00 AM Arthur & Reina Mayotte & Mayotte & Ploof families by Armand & Gloria
	11:00 AM Yvonne Lepage Rondeau by family
	4:00 PM Irene, Adrienne & Paul Nolette by Jeannette
Dec 28 – Monday	7:00 AM Steven Bourque (10 <sup>th</sup> Ann) by Connie
Dec 29 - Tuesday	7:00 AM Donn Meade by his wife, Patricia
Dec 30 – Wednesday	7:00 AM Jeanne Fontaine, Alice Rivest and Theresa Laroche by their co-workers
Dec 31 – Thursday	7:00 AM Ronald & Doris Berthiaume by their estate
Vigil Mass M,MG	4:00 PM Lawrence & Martha Haughey by their family
Jan 01 Friday	7:30 AM Alvine Maynard by Mary O’Hanlon
Mary, Mother of God	9:00 AM Stella Dupuis & Elizabeth Oleksik by Julie Dupuis
	11:00 AM Helen Desmarais (B’d day rem) by her estate
Jan 02 – Saturday	4:00 PM Evangeline Roy by her children
Jan 03 – Sunday	7:30 AM Anita Barillari by Rita & Jim Odell
Epiphany of the Lord	9:00 AM Bernard & Joanne LaScala by the family
	11:00 AM Leonard Longpre by his niece, Peggy Constant
	4:00 PM Doris & George Rivet by their family

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP: 12/20 Offertory \$6,663.99. School Support \$2,534.00**  
**SJA BOOSTER CLUB Winner for 12/20/20 #51 Ed & Louise Osetek. Thank you!**

***Please remember in your prayers the souls and families of Steven Sliwa and Luke Lessard, Sr. May they rest in God’s eternal peace!***

***Dear Parishioner, Around and about Ste. Rose...***

**Sacrificial Offering**

During these difficult economic times, you the people of Ste. Rose continue to genuinely support your parish. Though the financials are down somewhat, with so many families struggling this year to the economic hardships as a result of the pandemic, last weekend the sacrificial offering was \$6663.99. An additional \$1,536.00 was contributed toward the Christmas Offering. A report of year-to-date will be given in January with a comparison versus 2019 – pre-pandemic period.

**Mass Schedule for New Year’s Day – Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

Thursday, December 31, 2020: 4:00 PM

Friday, January 1, 2021: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 11:00 AM. Though all Mass might not be needed due to the new restrictions from Governor Baker, it is important to keep social distancing in mind as we continue to celebrate the holiday and holy day seasons.

# MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

We celebrate the liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary on January 1st, which is the Octave of Christmas. Only Christmas and Easter enjoy the privilege of an octave, which is an eight-day extension of the feast. The honoring of Mary as the Mother of God can be traced back to the Council of Ephesus in 431. By the 7th century, January 1st was observed as a celebration of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the 13th century, the Feast of the Circumcision of Christ had come to replace the feast honoring Mary; however in 1751, after a push in Portugal for an official feast day celebrating Mary's divine maternity, Pope Benedict XIV allowed Portugal's churches to devote a feast to Mary on the first Sunday in May. Eventually, the feast extended to other countries, and in 1914 began to be observed on October 11. In 1931, Pope Pius XI extended the feast to the entire church, and in 1974, Pope Paul VI removed the feast of the Circumcision of Christ from the liturgical calendar and replaced it with the feast of the "Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God", bringing Mary's feast day back to the first day of the year.



The feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among men. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's fiat, or sanctioning of God's plan with her words, "Be it done to me according to thy word". Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honor we can give to her. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace", the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace". New Year's Day is also designated as the "World Day of Peace", further acknowledging the role of Mary in our hearts and in our world.

*Written by Bill Chapman*

***Happy and Blessed New Year!***

May you and all those you love experience warmth and joy throughout the New Year 2021. For each of us the new year will have many challenges that are yet to be experienced. At times, the new year will bring laughter as well as tears; successes as well as failures; busy times as well as quiet times. As the Book of Ecclesiastes said centuries ago: "There is time for every purpose under heaven." However, if each of us takes one day-at-a-time and gently go about living our daily lives well, walking humbly with our God and with one another, all will get sweetly accomplished. St. Paul said to the Corinthians: "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous... it is not quick-tempered... but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things... endures all things. Love never fails." What better way to welcome the new year than with those words of St. Paul!

*And finally, It is fair to say that 2020 was the most challenging year for each of us. Not only did we become familiar with new words such as 'pandemic,' 'coronavirus,' 'COVID 19,' 'masks,' and 'social-distancing,' but also felt isolation for months and months. Now that a vaccine is being administered there is hope that 2021 will bring about an end to the virus and return to a more normal way of life. Hopefully, we have all learned how vulnerable human life is and attempt to take for granted no longer that "tomorrow" is guaranteed. During 2020 many families experienced serious illnesses, personal crisis, financial crisis, and loved ones passing into eternal life. While it is true that 2021 is about to unfold, not one person can predict any event with certainty. I would prefer to take one day at a time with a hope to the future. In other words, to live in the hope filled expectation that God is with us on the journey and that, as the Evangelist said: "but with God all things are possible." It is in the spirit of that giant leap of faith, that I wish you and your loved ones a hope-filled New Year that will surround you with life and enduring love.*

**Happy New Year 2021 to you and yours!**

*Fr. Bill*

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<p><b><i>An Act of Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.</i></b></p>
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