

MASS INTENTIONS



<u>SATURDAY</u>	December 10, 2011
5:00PM	John & Connie Notte George Wyker III
7:00PM	Joseph Grosch Sr.
<u>SUNDAY</u>	December 11, 2011
7:45AM	Joy Vogt
9:15AM	George Vojtek
10:45AM	Skip Dickson Michael Rubinstein-1 st Anniversary
12:15PM	Marilyn Uccardi
5:30PM	OLM Youth
<u>MONDAY</u>	December 12, 2011
9:30AM	OLM Parishioners
<u>TUESDAY</u>	December 13, 2011
9:30AM	Charles Brown
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	December 14, 2011
9:30AM	Timothy Madden Marie Noble
<u>THURSDAY</u>	December 15, 2011
9:30AM	Cornelius & Gertrude Shea John Sheppard
<u>FRIDAY</u>	December 16, 2011
9:30AM	OLM Parishioners
<u>SATURDAY</u>	December 17, 2011
5:00PM	Anna DeTrolio Edward Windt – 3 rd Anniversary
7:00PM	Joseph Grosch Sr.
<u>SUNDAY</u>	December 18, 2011
7:45AM	Adele Kuchno
9:15AM	Helen Rush
10:45AM	William Carpenter
12:15PM	Lorie Lachbeck Helen Wenger Charles Wilson

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please remember to pray for the sick of our parish community who have requested our prayers.

COOKIE SALE

The Long Valley Columbiettes will be holding a cookie sale after all Masses in the Gathering Room the weekend of December 17-18.

CONTACT INFORMATION FATHER JOE AND FATHER ABUCHI

OLM Parish Office: 908-876-4395
St. Mark's Parish Office: 908-850-0652
Father Joe Cell/Text: 973-945-4045
Email addresses: fatherjoe.olm@comcast.net
fatherabuchi@comcast.net

To receive email updates of OLM news and events, please email Father Joe to be added to his address list.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection 11/20/11	\$10,327.00
Monthly Collection	6,618.00
Food Pantry	106.00
Thanksgiving Collection	95.00
Christmas Flowers	330.00
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TOTAL	\$17,476.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

REMINDER: If you attend Mass at either St. Luke's or St. Mark's, you can drop your Our Lady of the Mountain envelope in the collection basket and it will be credited as your donation to Our Lady of the Mountain.

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS CELEBRANTS

OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAIN

Saturday, December 17

5:00PM Rev. Msgr. Joseph Goode
7:00PM Rev. Msgr. Joseph Goode

Sunday, December 18

7:45AM Rev. Msgr. Joseph Goode
9:15AM Rev. Msgr. Joseph Goode
10:45AM Rev. Msgr. Peter McHugh
12:15PM Rev. Abuchi Nwosu

ST. MARK'S

Rev. Derek Anderson speaking at all Masses
Saturday, December 17

5:30PM Rev. Derek Anderson

Sunday, December 18

8:00AM Rev. Abuchi Nwosu
9:30AM Rev. Abuchi Nwosu
11:00AM Rev. Derek Anderson

ST. LUKE'S WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00PM

Sunday: 7:45AM, 9:30AM, 11:15AM

DECEMBER 11, 2011 ~ THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



WHO ARE YOU?

John the Baptist was challenged by the leaders of the religious establishment to tell them who he was. He responded by saying he was the voice in the wilderness crying out to prepare the way of the Lord. This image has become a popular expression to indicate a person who speaks out against the most popular of beliefs. The image presents a person who voices ideas and opinions that see things in a different way. This voice of the person in the wilderness is often ignored, but at times it is listened to by those who take the time to seriously ponder what is being said. They come to understand that this lone voice has something important to say. John the Baptist knew who he was. He was able to give a prophetic answer and then a challenge to his questioners to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. To all who heard his voice, responded and were baptized for the repentance of their sins, he gave a new hope. Those who closed their ears off to this new and lonely voice missed a really important message that could have changed their lives.

This Advent week, why not be the voice in the wilderness, in your family, work place, and community, be a voice that reminds others what Christmas is really all about. Be a voice to let others know that you care about them, be the voice that challenges others to do something kind and loving for someone in need. Be the voice that proclaims to all by your words and actions that you have heard the voice of the prophet and have come to believe that the Savior of the world has lived among us and became one of us, and because He did it, has made a difference in how we look at all things.

Father Joe

ISRAEL (PART 4 OF 6) REFLECTIONS ON MY RECENT TRIP TO ISRAEL

Last week I wrote of our first days in Jerusalem. We spent five nights in the city. For two days we visited extensively in the OLD WALLED CITY of Jerusalem. It is hard describe the feeling as one enters through the Damascus Gate, one of several that lead you into the walled city. The streets are narrow, there are no cars and walking on ancient cobblestones can be tricky at times. These are some of the same streets that were present in Jesus' time. The highlight of the day began with early Mass in the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher. Our group was fortunate to be assigned to the altar that was nearest to the tomb of Jesus. Afterward we visited the tomb, which takes a while with the crowds because only about four people can stand in that sacred spot honored by all Christians as the burial place of Jesus. It is hard to describe the feeling as you stand there and realize the foundation of our faith begins with the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb. The crowds, while very large, are always subdued as they approach the site. We also followed the way of the Cross. This is not always a quiet and prayerful as you might imagine, because it weaves its way from the remains of the Roman Governor's fortress (Pontius Pilate) through the crowded busy marketplaces of today, as they were in the time of Jesus. When the merchants open their shops, there is really only room for a few people to walk abreast. The stations are marked in Roman numerals on various parts of the city walls and sometimes there is a chapel to mark the site, and at others just a simple number. My favorite station sight is V – *Simon helps Jesus carry His Cross*. I like it because there is a beautiful little chapel built long ago and in the midst of the busy and loud noise you can go in there and pray in a peaceful setting. In addition during our visit to the Old City, we visited the "Upper Room," the traditional site of the room where Christians remember the celebration of the Last Supper. On one side of the room stands a modern sculpture remembering the visit of Pope Benedict XIV. The room is spacious but always crowded with visitors. Another favorite site is the Church of the Dormition where we honor the resting of Mary (a phrase they use to indicate that she died but not buried, as she was taken up to Heaven body and soul (Assumption Feast, August 15)). This is a rather modern church staffed by Benedictine priests and brothers, and in the crypt there is a beautiful model of Mary at rest surrounded by several altars that are used for Mass by various groups. OLD JERUSALEM is something difficult to describe; like they say, you have to experience it to understand its hold on you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (K-8) NEWS

Classes for Grades 7 & 8 will be held tonight beginning with the 5:30PM Teen Mass. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the Teen Mass with their children.

HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Classes meet in the lower level of the Parish Center at 7:30-9:00PM

confirmationolm@comcast.net

CPI (9th Grade)

Monday, January 23 Formation 1, Part 1

CPII (10th Grade)

Monday, December 12 Pam Stenzel 2

NO CLASSES DECEMBER 26 & JANUARY 2!

Information and Service Hours:

KellyAnn Routhier, 908-876-5024.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Meet in Teen Center (basement parish office)

Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00PM

youtholm@comcast.net

Attention all High School Juniors and Seniors -

If you are interested in joining Peer Ministry, please contact Mrs. Gartley.

Information: Caroline Gartley, 908-876-5024

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Our Lady of the Mountain will be holding its Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 12th at 7:30PM. St. Mark's will be holding its Advent Penance Service on Wednesday, December 14th at 7:30PM. Confession at Our Lady of the Mountain will be held on Saturday, December 17th at 4:15PM.

GIVING TREE/GROCERY GIFT CARDS

As we count our blessings, it is easy to see there are so many people less fortunate than ourselves. It is our tradition and custom to be generous to them. Our Lady of the Mountain's Giving Tree will brighten the Christmas of many underprivileged families. We would like to have all gifts returned by Sunday, December 11, 2011. We will have grocery gift cards for sale in the Gathering Room this weekend for your convenience. For more information, please call Kim Smith at 908-876-4395. Thank you for sharing in the spirit of Christmas.

50+ LUNCH GROUP

The Christmas Luncheon for the 50+ lunch group for parishioners of Our Lady of the Mountain and St. Mark's is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14th at *Mama's Café Baci*, Mountain Avenue in Hackettstown at 12:00 Noon. RSVP to Mary Scarda at 908-852-9089 by December 11th if you plan to attend. Please bring a \$15 gift for swapping if you want to participate.

ATTENTION: EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, USHERS, ALTAR SERVERS

Signup sheets are in the sacristy for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses for Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers. Ushers' signup sheets are on the shelf outside of the Gift Shop. Please sign up!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES

Envelopes are on the usher's tables for Flower Donations in honor or in memory of your loved ones this Christmas season. Please drop your envelope in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve ~ Saturday, December 24th

- 4:00PM ~ Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass
- 6:00PM ~ Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass, Children's Liturgy and Pageant
- 10:00PM ~ Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass, featuring the "Our Lady of the Mountain Choir" performing a musical ensemble. Caroling begins at 9:30PM.

Christmas Day ~ Sunday, December 25th

7:45AM, 9:15AM, 10:45AM, 12:15PM
Mass of the Nativity of the Lord

OUR LADY'S CUPBOARD

Our food pantry is in need of coffee, tea, soup, can goods, condiments, and paper goods. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Marks will be hosting its annual Invitational Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 18th at 4:00PM. All are welcome! Admission will be a freewill offering. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 850-0652.

