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### Staff:

Rev. Paul Tomasso, *Pastor*

Rev. Daniel McMullin, *Parochial Vicar*

Rev. Louis Nhien, *Parochial Vicar/  
Vietnamese Ministry 458-3647*

Deacon Carlos Vargas, *Youth and  
Spanish Apostolate (S.F.)*

Deacon John Antenucci, *(S.A./H.A.)*

Deacon Hoc Thai Nguyen *(S.A.)*

Sr. Dorothy Mary Leising, SSND,  
*Pastoral Minister (H.A.)*

Dolores Mary Brien, *(S.F.) Parish Coordinator*

Bonnie Fenner, *(H.A.) Parish Coordinator*

Sr. Jacqueline Robinson, S.S.J., *(S. A.) Secretary*

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**"Please remember your  
parish in your will."**

### FROM FATHER PAUL'S DESK

This is a holy season, holy because of the birth of Je-  
sus Christ. A beloved reminder of this event is the crib  
or manger scene which first was arranged by St. Francis  
of Assisi in 1223. Francis invited his followers and  
neighbors to join him on Christmas Eve at a near-by  
cave in which he had placed hay and living animals. He  
told a friend: "I want to celebrate seriously the coming  
of the Son of God upon earth and to see with my own eyes  
how poor and miserable He wished to be for our sake."

A priest celebrated Mass over the empty manger,  
such was Francis' reverence for the Eucharist. But it is  
said that at the conclusion of Mass Francis was seen  
holding an infant lovingly, and the Child was smiling at  
Francis. For Francis and those with him, the manger  
scene was not simply a Christmas decoration but a true  
expression of human faith before the wonder of God's  
genuine love for us. The manger scene celebrated and  
taught the presence of God with us, and awed and glad-  
dened human hearts.

Manger scenes can be living, enriching symbols  
today if we will speak of them that way. A beautiful op-  
portunity is to take a moment to place the infant in the  
manger with a blessing prayer. Alone or with others, in  
your home or theirs, draw symbolism and grace from the  
gesture of placing the infant. Use a prayer of your choice,  
or a Scripture reading, or the following prayer by Peter  
Mazat (LTP, Chicago):

"Bless us, Lord, as we come to Bethlehem where ani-  
mals and angels, shepherds and seekers together behold  
your face. Here snow becomes straw and frost becomes  
flowers as winter melts into everlasting spring. In our  
holy Christmas give us the riches of your poverty. Show  
us the wonder of simplicity as we join the angels in pro-  
claiming your praise: Glory in heaven and peace on  
earth, now and forever. Amen."

Enjoy the manger scene, however small or large,  
new or old, private or public. Enjoy it but also draw in-  
spiration from it. Invite others, like Francis did, to see  
Christ come among us by blessing with a short prayer  
this original and very best Christmas gift of all.

God Bless

By patronizing our sponsors, we are saying "thank you" for their support



## MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 21, 1997 -

## 4th Sunday of Advent

- 8:30am - (HA) William McKay - Family  
 9:00am - (SF) Grace Basso - Gerry & Mary Martino  
 10:15am - (SSPP) Gerard Fess  
 10:15am - (HA) M/M Frank Vaccarelli, Lee & Larry - Mr. Yare  
 11:00am - (SA) (Vietnamese)  
 12:00pm - (SF) (Spanish) Dona Rosa Vazquez - Lena, John & Robert LoVullo

Monday, December 22, 1997

- 8:00am - (HA) Katherine & Daniel Byrne - Lauretta Ford

Tuesday, December 23, 1997 -

- 8:00am - (HA) M/M Anthony Baldassare - Son & Daughters  
 12:10pm - (SSPP) M. Raymond Driscoll - Ann S. Kelly

Wednesday, December 24, 1997 -  
CHRISTMAS EVE

- 4:00pm - (HA) People of the Parish  
 4:30pm - (SF) People of the Parish  
 4:30pm - (SA) People of the Parish  
 7:00pm - (SF) (Spanish) For All Of Our Children

Thursday, December 25, 1997 -  
CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8:30am - (HA) People of the Parish  
 9:00am - (SA) People of the Parish  
 9:00am - (SF) For Peace & Joy in our Homes, Neighborhood & World  
 10:15am - (SSPP) People of the Parish  
 10:15am - (HA) People of the Parish  
 11:00am - (SA) (Vietnamese)

Friday, December 26, 1997 - St. Stephen

- 7:15am - (SA) In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony for Favor Received - Lena Brasile Perticone  
 8:00am - (SF) Michael Mully - Connie Nye

Saturday, December 27, 1997 -

St. John, Apostle, Evangelist

- 3:30pm - (HA) Alexander Montanarella - Wife & Family  
 4:30pm - (SF) Pam Santangelo - Frances Bondi  
 4:45pm - (SA) Maria Tessitore - Daughter, Teresa Marcione

Sunday, December 28, 1997 -

## THE HOLY FAMILY

- 8:30am - (HA) Nicholas & Patrick Doyle - Grace Doyle  
 9:00am - (SF) James Zicari - Family  
 10:15am - (SSPP) People of the Parish  
 10:15am - (HA) Grace Basso - Bill & Maureen Skehan  
 11:00am - (SA) (Vietnamese)  
 12:00pm - (SF) (Spanish) Bonifacia Colon - Anna Colon

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & LECTORS  
DECEMBER 27TH AND  
DECEMBER 28TH

- 3:30 - LEC: Cathy Cottrone - HOST - Dolores LaLumia, Betty Spaziano & Sr. Ann d'Assisi  
 - CUP - Joe Camelio & Deacon John/Mario Ciminelli  
 4:30 - LEC: Dick Thorpe - HOST - Chip Ognibene  
 - CUP - Pat Gatti & Shirley Gatti  
 8:30 - LEC: Carolyn Mastrella - HOST - Barbara Huber - CUP - Betty Juliano & Deacon John/Steve Staub  
 9:00 - LEC: Dolores Brien - HOST - Dick Thorpe  
 - CUP - Phyllis Burruto & Betty Ann Cordero  
 10:15 - LEC: Audrey Renna - HOST - Barbara Stifter - CUP - Patty Lippa & Deacon John/Ursula Lippa-Allen  
 10:15 - LEC: Madeline McWilliams & Dorothy Frederick - HOST - Frank Battaglia - CUP - Joanne Corcimiglia

DECEMBER 13TH AND  
DECEMBER 14TH

CHURCH	OFFERING	ATTENDANCE
Holy Apostles	\$2,335.37	377
St. Anthony	1,293.10	260
St. Francis	616.00	162
Ss. Peter & Paul	545.98	75

## PERSONAL MEMORIAL DONATIONS

This week the Holy Apostles Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of **ARTHUR & FRANCIS TASCIONE** requested by **MARY LOU, DIANE & FAMILY**.

This week the St. Anthony Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of **GEORGE (SONNY) MARCELLO** requested by **WIFE, RO & CHILDREN**.



## Pray for the Sick of Our Parishes

Joanne Pratt (HA), Lucille Martini & Jean Santangelo (SF) (Rochester General)  
 Dolores Mammarello (HA) & Mary Martino (SA) (St. Mary's)  
 Vincent Dalesio (SF) (Park Ridge)  
 Mary Cannan (HA) (Strong)  
 Constance Corcoran (HA) & Tuoi Nguyen (SA) (Highland)  
 And all who are sick at home or in nursing homes.

## CALENDAR

Sunday - December 21 -

## First Day of Winter

- 8:00am Alcoholics Anonymous (SSPP)  
 10:15am - Children's Liturgy of the Word (HA & SSPP)

Monday - December 22

- 7:30pm - Bingo Team #7 (HA)  
 7:30pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (SF)

Tuesday - December 23

- 7:30pm - Bingo Team #3 (HA)

Wednesday - December 24 (No Morning Masses)

- 11:30am - 12:00pm - Individual Confessions (SF)  
 11:30am - 12:00pm - Individual Confessions (HA)  
 7:00pm - Narcotics Anonymous (SF) (SF Hall)

Thursday - December 25 -

## MERRY CHRISTMAS - OFFICE CLOSED

- 7:00pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (HA) (School Hall)

Friday - December 26 - OFFICE CLOSED

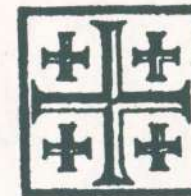
- 5:30pm - Liturgy of the Hours (HA)  
 7:00pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (SF)

Saturday - December 27

- 5:00pm - Narcotics Anonymous (SSPP)

Sunday - December 28

- 8:00am - Coffee Hour - David & Sue Klaus - Parish Council  
 10:15am - Children's Liturgy of the Word (HA & SSPP)



(SF) - Our giving basket will remain in church until the Epiphany, January 4. Simple gifts of soap, toothpaste, gloves, mittens, hats and similar items are being collected for Charles House. Thank you for sharing.

## ADVENT WEEK III

Let us pray as Advent draws to a close for the faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God. Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

(SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION) - On Wednesday, December 24, individual Confession will be available at St. Francis of Assisi, 11:30 - 12:00 noon, and at Holy Apostles, 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Individual Confession is available every Saturday, 2:30 - 3:15 p.m. at Holy Apostles.

## PARISH NEWS

(All) - Parishioners are welcome to make a contribution for our Christmas flowers in memory of their loved ones. Simply fill out the form below with your loved one's name, who the donation is given by, the amount and which parish it is for, then put it in the Sunday collection or drop it off at your rectory office. We will publish the names in the bulletin in January. To accomplish this we would like all donations to be in by Christmas Day or no later than the weekend of December 27-28. Thank you.

We wish to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the flower fund.

The flowers are in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

May Parish is \_\_\_\_\_

(DEACON THOMAS PHILLIPS) - Deacon Tom passed away Wednesday, December 10 of cancer which was discovered only days before. We offer our sympathy and prayers to his wife Barbara and his children and grandchildren. We also express our gratitude to them and to the Lord for letting us share these few months with this genuinely good man. He showed us humor and humility, generosity and innocence, warmth and strength.

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Invite family and friends to share the Eucharist with us at any of our Christmas Masses:

DECEMBER 24: (No Morning Masses)

- 4:00pm - Holy Apostles  
 4:30pm - St. Francis of Assisi  
 4:30pm - St. Anthony of Padua  
 7:00pm - St. Francis of Assisi (Spanish)

DECEMBER 25:

- 8:30am - Holy Apostles  
 9:00am - St. Anthony of Padua  
 9:00am - St. Francis of Assisi  
 10:15am - Ss. Peter and Paul  
 10:15am - Holy Apostles  
 11:00am - St. Anthony of Padua (Vietnamese)

(BRING A GUEST) - Next weekend, December 27-28, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. Everyone is invited to bring family, friends, neighbors to celebrate this day with our holy parish family, to pray together, enjoy the decorations, and at some Masses refreshments too. Please invite someone to join our parish family for the Eucharist this weekend.