

**JANUARY 1, 2012- THE OCTAVE DAY OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD -  
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**



**SUNDAY - January 1, 2012 -**

**The Octave Day of**

**The Nativity of The Lord,**

**Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God**

8:00 AM Dr. Emanuel Kopidakis r/o Family  
10:30 AM Melquiades Valerio r/o The Fernandez Family  
12 Noon Martin Guerra r/o The Panaligan & Reno Families  
5:00 PM Anthony Catino r/o The O'Brien Family

**MONDAY - January 2, 2012 -**

**Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**

8:30 AM Maria Buccino r/o Tony Cesareo

**TUESDAY - January 3, 2012 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

8:30 AM Thomas Adamski r/o Daughter, Mary

**WEDNESDAY - January 4, 2012 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

8:30 AM John Damiano r/o Ginny & Dick Comito

**THURSDAY - January 5, 2012 - St. John Neumann**

8:30 AM Margie Smith r/o Maria Ferreria

**FRIDAY - January 6, 2012 - St. Andre Bessette**

8:30 AM Eddie Kochanowski r/o Rosemarie & Ronald Buren

**SATURDAY - January 7, 2012**

**8:30 AM FOR THE MEMBERS OF ST. HELENA  
PURGATORIAL SOCIETY**

**January 2012- January 2013**

**John & Rose Bacha r/o Family**

**Janet Lucchesi r/o Gloria, Chris & Liz DeVito**

**Emmanuel Empaynado r/o Wife & Sons**

**Idalia Sanabria r/o Michael Fan**

**For the Special Intentions of the Olesky Family  
r/o The Jaszak Family**

**Joaquim & Maria Terezinha Fernandes r/o The Dias Fam.**

**Michael Serafin r/o Fr. Anthony M. Sirianni**

**Ryan Patterson r/o The Declares Family**

**Eleanor Castleton r/o Helene & Joe Borowitz  
Rev. Robert Santabarbara**

**Lenora Klopchin r/o Carrie & Frank Viglianti & Fam.**

5:00 PM William Peroncik, Sr. r/o Family

**SUNDAY - January 8, 2012 -**

**The Epiphany of The Lord**

8:00 AM Clara Holt r/o Lee Rebar & Family  
10:30 AM Maria Ngo Thi Khiem r/o Family  
12 Noon Lourdes Fernandez r/o The Fernandez Family  
5:00 PM Phyllis Fritz r/o Maria Ferreira

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

Jan. 7	5:00 PM	Ibuna, Daoud, Yorke, Resil
Jan. 8	8:00 AM	English, Houghton, Olandres, English
	10:30- AM	Decker, Decker, Montilus
	12 Noon	Villanueva, Dias, Quaglieri
	5:00 PM	Vaz, Desouza, Neves, Vaz

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**READER SCHEDULE**

Jan. 7	5:00 PM	R. Yunker
Jan. 8	8:00 AM	R. Yunker
	10:30- AM	J. Gibson
	12 Noon	M. Garcia/K. Whitaker
	5:00 PM	K. Casem

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**EM's - EUCHARIST**

Jan. 7	5:00 PM	*T. Clark, M. Maldony, A. Camardella
Jan. 8	8:00 AM	*I. Quevedo, J. Toth, F. Klinga
	10:30- AM	*M. Capellupo, B. Gibson, M. Ojeda
	12 Noon	*F. Perlin, N. Yu, M. Garcia
	5:00 PM	*M. White, J. DiBella, L. Brandi

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**EM's - PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Jan. 7	5:00 PM	*K. Healey, J. Maldony, F. Milek
Jan. 8	8:00 AM	*F. Klinga, C. Bustria
	10:30- AM	*M. Bolos, F. McGrath
	12 Noon	*A. Garon, T. Chan
	5:00 PM	* C.Y. Fan, E. Schmidt

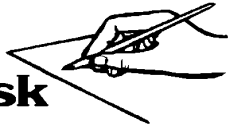
***TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN"...A TIME TO BE HEALED"***

**PRAY FOR THE SICK DAILY** Edith Dellapietro, Cheryl Pandolfo, Anita Mitchell, Michael Giovanniello, Guy Gebler, Sal Medina, George Cote, Jack Ford, Jeremy Osmo, Kathleen Grasso, Eddie & Erica Breitenfelder, Dorothy Purzynski, Rose Pepe, Terry Shanahan, Baby Peyton, Michael Pugliese, Jean Hillyer, Alan Patrusevich, Siobhan McGovern, Shannon McGovern, Pauline Gillick, Karen Staggard, Barbara Menge, Catherine Yascur, Kathleen Grasso, Laurie Battison, Hubert Scheuers, Trevor Calise, Matthew McGrath, Peter Lukawski, Bill Hillyer, Joanna O'Connor, Raymond Lynch, Cathy Gaynor, Pauline Lechner, Virginia Comito, Star Adams, Frank Viglianti, Rita Montalto, Sister Clare Greco, Lisa Olsen, Jaimie Falstrault, Leticia Klatt, Ceil Cieckiewicz, John Capellupo, Dorothy Loeschorn, Marcia Crum

**All powerful and ever living God, the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns in you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.**

**JANUARY 1, 2012- THE OCTAVE DAY OF NATIVITY OF THE LORD -  
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**From the  
Pastor's Desk**



Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Mary was a young mother whose faith-filled yes changed the world forever. She nurtured Jesus, cared for and worried about him and sacrificed for him even though it was foretold that a sword would pierce her heart. How she must have gazed in wonder at her infant son as the shepherds appeared at the stable and the angels proclaimed, "To you this day is born in the city of David a Savior who is Messiah and Lord." Scripture tells us that she kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Most of you know that my favorite prayer is the Hail Mary in which we say Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners. Mary is our spiritual mother who intercedes for us with Jesus. After all, what son could say no to his mother. She was like us, human in all ways, except for original sin. As we begin a new Year let us ask Mary to help us to deepen our faith and have the courage and humility to live Christ-centered lives.

On behalf of Fr. Antony, Fr. Gavin, Sr. Charles, Deacon Danny, Deacon Candidate Bob and members of the parish and school staffs I want to wish you and your families a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year. As we continue to celebrate the Christmas season, may the peace and love of the Christ child fill your hearts this day and every day.

**THANK YOU**

I want to thank all of you who have given cards, gifts, Christmas cakes and cookies and good wishes. I am truly humbled by your support, your warmth, and your generosity.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Sr. Charles and the Decorating Committee for the wonderful job they have done in making our church look so beautiful, the Choirs for the beautiful music at all of our Christmas masses, the Ushers, Altar Servers, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Deacon Danny and all of those who made our Christmas celebrations such a gift to the parishioners of St. Helena.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**I AM TRULY HUMBLLED  
BY YOUR GENEROSITY**

**TITHING**

Due to Christmas and New Year's Holidays, collection data for Dec. 24 & 25 and December 31 & January 1st will be published the weekend of January 8 & 9.

**THANK YOU** I want to thank all the parishioners who have decided to make tithing a part of their lives. Being someone who tithes myself, I understand the sacrifices you are making. I am truly blessed to be a part of St. Helena Parish and to be a part of your lives. God Bless you and your families.

**2011 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL  
*In Faith, With Hope***

Thank you to the parish families who made a pledge to the 2011 Bishop's Annual Appeal. Your gift expanded God's work and enriched the lives of our communities and our Catholic faithful. To date, the Development Department has received pledges totaling \$95,514.61 and payments totaling \$79,818.93 from 358 parishioners. This represents 109.4% of your \$87,300.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts the Diocese of Metuchen. Please consider making a gift today.

**EVERYDAY EVANGELIZERS!**

*Let us share the joy of our Faith, becoming everyday evangelizers by reaching out through the course of our daily lives to everyone, adopting these simple practices...*

- Move to the center of the church pews, theater seat, etc. which invites others to join you and provides an opportunity for conversation.
- Do not judge others. Do not speak unkindly of others. Always look for the good in others and gently point this out when they are being hostile.
- Serve your parish as a Eucharistic minister, lector, greeter, choir member, etc.
- Allow your faith to carry over into your work by insisting on fair prices, good products and fair treatment for customers and employees alike.
- Work in a soup kitchen, a shelter for the homeless or some other charitable agency. Try to see Christ in everyone you encounter there.
- Treat everyone you meet with dignity. No matter what they look like, how they try your patience, or how they speak, they are part of the Body of Christ.



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALIZATION**

The Christmas Flower Offering donated in Memory of your loved ones will be printed in the January 8th bulletin. Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 2nd. Happy New Year!

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**ST. HELENA HOLIDAYS**

**CHALLENGE FOR SELF - CHARITY FOR OTHERS**

*What a busy first half of the year!*

*These are just some of the happenings since September.*

There have been two assemblies for the student body this year. Students in Grades Pre-K through Eight saw the African Dance and Drum Corp for a lively, interactive program. The Pushcart Players from Paper Mill Playhouse presented "The Very Last Butterfly". The story of the student writings from a secret school in Terezin, a concentration camp, was presented to students in Grades Four through Eight.

The Edison Fire Department visited the school to demonstrate their trucks and equipment to students in Pre-Kindergarten through Second Grade. Their demonstration included a simulation in their portable make shift room of how rapidly a fire can spread.

The Pre-Kindergarten students had an opportunity to go to the "pumpkin patch" behind the rectory. Each student got to pick their own pumpkin for Halloween.

In November, students from Grades 5, 6, and 7 participated in the 13th Annual Bishop Ahr Grammar School Competition. Seventeen students participated in the categories of Jeopardy, Athletics, Problem Solving, Drama, and a Spelling Bee.

This year, under the supervision of Mrs. Linda Martin, a Robotics squad was formed. Students from Grades 6, 7, and 8 - calling themselves "The Food Ninjas" - built their Lego Model and practiced for weeks. They participated in a competition at St. Joseph's H.S. in Metuchen and had a great learning experience. Mrs. Martin won the "Mentor of the Year" award.

Basketball season is in full swing. On the weekend of December 11, the teams had their first home game.

The spring production of the Drama Department is set. Students have begun auditioning for the production of "Willy Wonka Junior". Look for more information as the Spring Show date is announced.

There are exciting events planned for the beginning of 2012 -

starting with our plans for **Catholic School Week. Keep watching your school mail and our website.**

**OPEN HOUSES**

**SUNDAY,  
JANUARY 29TH -  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**&**

**TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 31ST -  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**



**BLESSING OF HOMES** - Lord God of heaven and earth, You revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it.

Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. Amen

*Eucharistic Adoration -*

*Tuesday - 9 AM- 5 PM*

*Rosary of Our Blessed Mother at  
4:00 PM*



*for the Intention of Respect for Life  
JESUS is waiting for YOU! Come*

*Tuesday to visit Him. He longs to see you  
and embrace you with His love.*

**ST. HELENA SCHOOL PRESENTS...**

Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lourdes with Barcelona with Optional 2 Night Lisbon Pre Tour Extension September 23 - October 2, 2012. There is still room left - for further information please call the Parish Office at 732-494-3399. Book by March 23, 2012: Double \$2,899; Single \$3,299; Triple \$2,869. If booked after March 23, 2012: Double \$2,999; Single \$3,399; Triple \$2,969 Rates are Per Person\*. Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Newark Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges of \$150 (subject to increase until paid in full), Hotel Transfers. Not included In Price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$175 per person.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Why not give your spouse something special this Christmas that will last long after the Christmas decorations have been put away? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held January 27-29, 2012. Early registration is advisable as space is limited. Phone 1-888-827-NJME for registration and information. visit us at [www.wmcentralnj.org](http://www.wmcentralnj.org) for more information



**Resolutions for Stewards**

- ✓ *I resolve* to trust God more, believing that in His wisdom and abundance He will give me all that I need.
- ✓ *I resolve* to spend more time with God, giving a few more minutes of each day to prayer, worship and spiritual reading.
- ✓ *I resolve* to find more ways to share my unique skills and talents so that my special strengths will make a difference in this world.
- ✓ *I resolve* to give a generous share of my treasure to God's work here on earth, making this the first check that I write each week or each month.

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**ST. HELENA RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

Women and men facing unplanned pregnancies need help – and **Life Choices Resource Center** is there for them. **St. Helena's Respect Life Group** is partnering with **Life Choices** to give parishioners the opportunity to play a part, **no matter how large or small**, in this life-saving ministry. Life Choices is a pro-life pregnancy help center founded on the Catholic principles that human life is sacred from the moment of conception. **All are invited to help; men, women and teens! Will you take a moment to reflect on how you can lend a hand in protecting God's unborn children? Volunteering is not a commitment; it's simply an openness to become involved.** There are no time commitments; you can volunteer once a month or once a year in any capacity; either office work or hands-on as a counselor. The Lord calls us all if you can answer, we'd love to have you. Please consider joining our team. **The more people involved, the more lives we can save and the more hearts we can change. Here are some ways you can help:** Offer Your Private Prayers For Babies & Clients, Join Us In Prayer At The Office (Rosary Tuesdays & Thursdays), Filing, Scanning Records, Community Liaison, Annual Banquet, Annual Walk, Accounting, Processing Baby Bottles, Spanish Interpreter, Light Cleaning, Community Events/Local Fairs, Bulk Mailings (*Folding, Stuffing, Labeling*), College Liaison, Counselor, Post Abortion Counselor, Help With Baby Shower, Knitting Or Crocheting Hats, Blankets, Booties & Pray Shawls, Licensed RN, Marketing/Communications, Ultrasound Technician, **As you can see, the need is great, so please feel free to help whenever or however you can.** Men and Women of All Ages **ARE INVITED TO HELP!** Will you please take a minute to reflect on how you can lend a hand in protecting God's unborn children? Volunteering is not a commitment; it's simply an openness to become involved at your convenience. AND, Yes, **Community Service Hours are Given!** If you are able to help please fill out the tear out below and return to Father Anthony at the rectory or place in the collection basket. Thank you.

**TEAR OFF**-----

PLEASE PRINT: I CAN HELP BY (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please call, visit or email us: Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main St. Metuchen, NJ,(732)-516-0911 [lifechoices@optonline.net](mailto:lifechoices@optonline.net)

**"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." Peter 4:10**