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MARY KAY HENNESSY, PRINCIPAL

December 31, 2017

MASS & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:30PM;
SUNDAY MASSES: 7:30, 9, 11:30AM; **Spanish** 1:30PM; 6PM
Youth Mass

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 6:30, 8AM; **Saturday** 8AM

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4-5PM; **Thursdays** 7-8 PM or by Appointment

Adoration: Thursdays 8:30AM—8PM; Saturdays 4-5PM

CLERGY

REV. MICHAEL J. LEE, O.PRAEM., PASTOR
REV. STEVEN ALBERO, O.PRAEM., PAROCHIAL VICAR
REV. CARL W. BRASCHOSS, O.PRAEM., PAROCHIAL VICAR
(PART TIME)
DEACON JOHN P. LOZANO
DEACON WILLIAM M. MASAPOLLO (RETIRIED)

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

"[H]e thought the one who had made the promise was trustworthy." Abraham trusted in God, although what God had promised seemed impossible. And yet, God fulfilled his promise to Abraham and Sarah and gave them a much-longed-for son, through whom the people would be as numerous as the stars of the sky.

Mary and Joseph fulfilled the law of God by bringing Jesus to the temple for the customary rites. They obeyed the law of the Lord, even though it could be argued that Jesus, being God, was exempt from the law.

We see in their example how faith in God is considered "an act of righteousness." We can follow in their footsteps and believe that the Lord is one whose promises are trustworthy.

GOD'S WORD HAS BEEN FULFILLED

In this joyous Christmas time, it is fitting that we turn our attention from all the angels and shepherds and kings to take a look at the more intimate picture of the Holy Family in their ordinary life. They come with Jesus to consecrate him to the Lord, as is written in the law, and they come upon Simeon and Anna, prophets of the Lord, who have amazing things to say about this child and Mary, his mother. One can wonder what Mary must have thought when Simeon told her that "you yourself a sword will pierce." We interpret that in hindsight she would suffer greatly at the crucifixion of her beloved son. But what must she have thought at the possible literal interpretation of this prophecy? And yet she was, as always, obedient to God and accepting of God's word for her.

TWO PROPHETS

Simeon and Anna recognized in this infant the Messiah of God. Both were "righteous and devout" and prayed in the temple constantly. Simeon spoke at length to Mary and Joseph about this child, and Anna proclaimed to all the salvation of Israel in Jesus. Throughout the centuries, God had made use of many prophets to proclaim the coming of Jesus, as Jesus explained to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. But people, being hard-hearted and somewhat clueless, did not recognize these prophecies as referring to the Messiah and later, to Jesus. Many in his time heeded the words of the prophets and believed, but many walked away. To those who believed, he gave the words of eternal life. They believed that "the one who had made the promise was trustworthy." These loving parents would protect and raise this miraculous child, and he "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him."

TODAY'S READINGS: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

December 31, 2017



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The child grew and became strong,
filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God was upon him.
Luke 2:40

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

"My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples." — Luke 2:30-31

Sunday, December 31

Vigil	†Brian Zwaan
7:30	Parishioners
9:00	†Paul Cerevy, Jr.
11:30	Autumn Hill
1:30 PM	†Margaret Welsh
6 PM	†Kitty McQuaid

Monday, January 1

10:00	†Margaret Fragassi
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Tuesday, January 2

6:30	†Brian Zwaan
8:00	†Justin Newland

Wednesday, January 3

6:30	†Stephanie Walsh
8:00	†Theresa Pellegrino

Thursday, January 4

6:30	†Beatrice Corcoran
8:00	†Mary Lyons and the Lord's Blessing on Corinne Kerrigan

Friday, January 5

6:30	†Beatrice Corcoran
8:00	†Delfino Finocchio
9:00	†Maria Kozom

Saturday, January 6

8:00	†Anthony Cimeo
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Sunday, January 7

Vigil	†Peggy Welsh
7:30	†Janet Hogan (4th Anniv)
9:00	†Thomas W. Morelli
11:30	†Debbie Arnold
1:30 PM	Spanish Mass
6 PM	Parishioners

"Confession is not so much about how bad you are, but about how good God is."

— Fr. James Martin

**OUR VISION**

St. Norbert Parish aspires to become one in Christ as a community of fervent disciples, who listen attentively for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and who lovingly embrace Jesus, present in the poor, the alienated and the spiritually hungry.

Stewardship

Your Dream?

The primary purpose of The Feast of the Holy Family is to present the Holy Family as a model for Christian families.

In Italy there is a saying, "La famiglia è tutto," which means, "the family is everything."

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has made families one of the focal points of his papacy. He organized a conference on families in 2015. Speaking to the gathered families, he said, "You cannot have a family without dreams. I am very fond of dreams in families. For nine months, every mother and father dream about their baby. They dream about what kind of child he or she will be... You can't have a family without dreams. Once a family loses the ability to dream, children do not grow, love does not grow, life shrivels up and dies. So I ask you each evening, when you make your examination of conscience, to also ask yourselves this question: Today did I dream about my children's future? Today did I dream about the love of my husband,



my wife? Did I dream about my parents and grandparents who have gone before me?"

All of today's readings have to do with families and family life. The reading from Sirach, our First Reading, emphasized the Fourth Commandment, "Honor thy father and mother." We are commanded to respect and love our parents. However, it is a two way street. The Gospel Reading speaks of the development of Jesus, and that should inspire parents to understand that our prayers are the same as the prayers of Joseph and Mary — that our children will become strong in spirit and filled with wisdom. ©catholicsteward.com

PRAYERS & READINGS

PRAY FOR HEALING:

Corinne Kerrigan, Greg Kleckner, Maria Palfy, Ryan Schlecht, Julian D'Orazio, William Denney, Elena Prota, Maria Morales, Michael Fullam, Aaron Gelstine, Mary Corcoran, William Wilbur, Tim Dippel, Alice Bowman, Dorothy Wilson, Ed Rofi, Guillermo Ramirez Maldonado, Rudy Spina, Helen Gelstine, Peter Lim, Ed Welsh, Ann Sassaman, Clare Rossmeisl, Diana Reyes, Frank Henriquez, Phyllis McCullough, Lonz Baldino, Patricia Boyce, Louanne Armstrong, Joan Schauble, Ruth Chavez, John Francis Erickson, Trudy DiNardo, Sr. Helena Mayer, John Valenti, Debra Ulicny, Roberto Barajas, Joseph Mongiello, Mary Alice Spina, Sue Birmingham, Todd Monastero, Margaret Maguire, Dan Petrella

PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS:

Pvt. Matthew Cress, USA; Pvt. Jessica Flowers, Pvt. Michael Flowers, USA; Capt. Rob Kersey, USN; 1st Lt. Spencer Lahiff, USMC; Sgt. Justin Lansford, USA; Pvt. Bryan McCormick, USA; Lt. Col. James Merenda, USAF; Sgt. R. J. Paski, USA; Sgt. Matthew Paski, USAF; CPT Brian Wallin, DO, USA

"With a humble person, whether he is laughed at or esteemed, praised or blamed, honored or despised, whether people pay attention to him or pass him by, it is all the same to him."

— St. John Vianney on Pride

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Pastor's Pulpit

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 . . . “CAKE WALK”

I am sure there are areas of the United States where there are customs welcoming in the New Year. New York comes to mind with the dropping of the ball in Times Square and the thousands upon thousands of people who gather there to watch and celebrate the beginning of a New Year.

I've never been in New York for New Year's Eve; however, growing up in South Philadelphia I guess you could say New Year's Day and the traditional Mummers Parade is in my DNA. If you are from this area — particularly South Philly — then there is no need to explain.

The picture nearby is a very old shot of the South Philly String Band, which was started at Saint Gabriel Parish in South Philadelphia. Somewhere in this 1957 picture you might find a very young Father Mike following the South Philly String Band. This is kind of like **Where's Waldo**. I had a full head of hair and I was 12 years old. So, that may be a clue. Good luck!

On a more serious note we all welcome the New Year



in various ways. For some it is a great celebration looking forward to the coming year and packing off the past year with a hearty good bye.

For some it has been a sad year with the passing of loved ones. We believe that our assurances of life eternal — and with the Grace of God — we will all be together: “In my Father’s house [where] there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” (John 14:2)

As a parish we give thanks to God for the many blessings we received this past year and pray for those for whom 2017 was a very difficult one.

I am truly blessed to have been part of the Mummers Celebration as it has for decades been a part of South Philadelphia. My step mother’s father, Bill Eells, was one of the original members to “cake walk” and the proud father of ten children that grew up on Second Street. Most of my family were part of the other side of Broad Street in St. Gabriel Parish where the South Philly String Band began in the kitchen of Sam Hamilton on the 1500 Block of 30th

Street.

May 2018 be a year of grace-filled-moments for all. And, if you get a chance, look for me on Broad Street welcoming in the New Year and enjoying the MUMMERS PARADE.

— Fr. Mike

TREASURES OF OUR TRADITION GAUDI'S SANDCASTLE TO THE HOLY FAMILY



There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família (Expiatory Church of the Holy Family — photo right).¹ The church was to be “a symbolic expression in stone of the Christian faith with the Family of Nazareth (left photo) as a model for a united family.”

The modern artist Antoni Gaudí dedicated his life to the project, living in the build-



ing, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, “My client is not in a hurry.” (Gaudí's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. So far there are eight towers, with four to go [with each symbolizing Biblical figures in the New Testament]. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry.²

¹ Adapted from Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

² <http://www.sagradafamilia.org/en/the-meaning-of-the-sagrada-familia/>

News & Events



RESTARTING IN THE NEW YEAR

JUST FOR MEN

That Man Is You (TMIY) starts up again on **Thursday, Jan 18 to Apr 19** from **6-7:30 AM** in the school cafeteria. This effort is an honest look at the pressures and temptations facing men today in our modern culture. TMIY seeks to transform men who will be capable of transforming homes and society. This session is timed to coincide with Lent and you don't have to have attended the Fall session to start this one. Check out videos and sign up now at

<http://paradisusdei.org/that-man-is-you/>

REGISTER for this **FREE** program online at
https://ww2.paradisusdei.org/index.php/about/location_detail/107196

CONTACT: Tom Cancelmo at 610.254.7437 or tcancelmo@btcmarketing.com for more information



COMING THIS LENT FROM CAFFE...

DEEPENING MARRIAGE

"How Can You Enrich Your Marriage in a Deeper Way?" is a special evening coming Lent for Married Couples to unwrap the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Join us **Thursday, Feb 22**, from **7-9 PM**, in the St. Norbert school dining hall. The evening begins with wine and cheese, followed by an inspirational talk, some quiet time with your spouse and finally with some walk away "Lenten resolutions" to help strengthen your marriage and to encounter Christ together as a couple this Lent.

This evening is hosted by our CaFFE Family Life Ministry and baby sitting will be provided. Please register online at



ST. NORBERT CAFFE www.stnorbert.org

CAFFE FAMILY LIFE PRESENTS...

POSITIVE PARENTING

Positive Parenting Playbook is a 5-week course on **Sundays, Feb 4 to March 11**, from **10:15-11:15 AM**, between our two morning Masses. This program, led by **Lisa Corcoran**, will empower you to parent your children in ways that build up and help both parent and child

grow together. Topics including:

- ♦ **"Why they do that?"** Understanding your child's behavior
- ♦ **"Motivating through Encouragement"**
- ♦ **"Listen up mom and dad:"** Learning how to hear your child
- ♦ **"I own that."** "I" messages and problem solving
- ♦ **"Is there another way to discipline?"**



Lisa is a long-time St. Norbert parishioner with 9 children, 6 siblings and 97 cousins, which may have led to her to study parenting. She founded The Parenting Playbook that combines her Alfred Adler studies with practical tools to raise loving, responsible, confident and happy children. "God desires for us to have homes of happiness and harmony and this workshop will help you make that a reality," she added. Husbands and wives and encourages to come together. **COST:** \$75 per couple and \$65 for one parent or \$20 per drop-in session if you are unable to make the entire course. Workbook 20. Space limited. **REGISTER:** <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=3045a9>

CONTACT: Mark Griswold at 610.644.1655 ext 114 or mgriswold@parish.stnorbert.org

BRINGING HOME THE VICTORY . . .

XC CHAMPS

Congratulations to Ian Beauparlant, Derek Courtney, Charlotte Fritz, Liam Fritz, Molly Ryle, and Owen Walker for



their individual performances at the Coaches National Cross Country Championship meet that was run on November 18th in Cincinnati, Ohio. Derek and Owen placed 7th and 23rd respectively, earning a medal in the Minor division for their age group. Molly participating in her final CYO XC meet set a personal record and finished 26th overall in her age group. These St. Norbert athletes were participating as members of the Philadelphia CYO team that finished in second place in the boy's novice division and the minor boy and girl divisions, outpacing 20+ teams from across the United States on a wet and muddy course with wind gusts of 30+ mph! Well done!

TIS THE SEASON . . .

YOU MADE IT SPECIAL

Sometimes it is difficult to understand our outreach endeavors at the parish when you cannot see where the food is going or who gets the toys you bought or who received that gift certificate. Maybe you ask yourself, "Do they really need all those coats and gloves we donate?"

I have had the great privilege of seeing who gets the food, who receives the toys, who gets the gift cards, and who is the beneficiary of the clothes.

It is so gratifying and humbling to see the homeless man's eyes light up when he gets his \$25 Wawa gift card

Around Our Parish

Fr. Mike's **Elves** mysteriously appeared to decorate the Parish Office for Christmas (1). Our landscape artists wonderfully decorated outside and our maintenance team did the trees, lights and Rt. 252 manger scenes. Staff decorated the Church. Thanks to all. The **School Nativity** was once again an epic production with sheep (2), angels (3 & 5), Mary and a real baby Jesus (4), Magi, Roman soldiers (7), shepherds, elves and an angelic choir (6). "I was amazed that the students memorized all their lines with some long very long pieces. Orchestra, scenes, costumes, all were amazing and a tribute to Ceil Frack, Mary Riisen, volunteer moms, dads and everyone. A grand production which I'm told may be available via video. Stay tuned," said Fr. Mike.



and he cannot stop thanking you.

It is the best present you can get when you see the mother who had to flee her home and is in a shelter with her 2 kids, crying with utter joy at the delivery of gifts for her 2 children. She will indeed have a great Christmas and then she realizes she is also getting a gift and the tears burst forth.

Then we discover a family that has absolutely nothing in their house but 3 mattresses on the floor. We are able — through the generosity of you our parishioners — to provide them with furniture, sheets, linens, food, toys and clothes right before Christmas. That mother who had no reason to dream, now dreams of the great Christmas she and her kids will have.

There are many more touching stories that can be found on our website at http://parish.stnorbert.org/news_events/st-norbert-parish-news/12-20-2017-you-made-it-special. Also, there are many unsung heroes here at St. Norbert's who work behind the scenes to make these daily miracles possible.

Although they are very humble, we want to give a special thanks this New Year's to our volunteers working especially at:



♦ **Bethesda Project** which helps house, feed, clothe and especially love the homeless. Thanks

Michele Howard and your team.

♦ **Wednesday Procurement Program** that collects, sorts and



distributes food to Birthright, Gaudenzia House, St. Joseph's House, St. Gabes Food Cupboard and 20 local families. Thanks **Nina Gal-lacher, Kay Wasson** and your team.

♦ **Christmas Giving Tree** that distributed gifts and gift cards to over 1,300 people and institutions at Christmas. We help them go from despair to sheer happiness. Thanks **Marsha and Manny Menendez, Carol Coyne Shannahan** and your support team.

♦ **St. Gabes Food Cupboard** where we help feed over 700 families, provided over 1,000 bags of turkey trimmings, and over 500 turkeys to families at Thanksgiving. Hope not only at Thanksgiving, but all year around. Thanks to **Forrest Fisher** who heads up the team of delivery drivers.

As Jesus said in Matthew, Chapter 25:40,

"...Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

You, as parishioners, did and do so much for these least brothers of ours daily, weekly, monthly and during the holidays.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

— Ed Grady, Director of Parish Outreach Programs

MARCH FOR LIFE . . . ON THE BUS



Our Respect Life Ministry will sponsor the annual March for Life bus trip on **Jan 19** to Washington, DC, in support of all lives matter. **CONTACT:** Joe Maxwell of the Respect for Life Ministry at 610.955.5701 or jf.maxwell@verizon.net **COST:** Seat reservation \$10/person for parishioners. **RSVP:** Send checks to Joe at 2310 Pine View Drive, Malvern, PA 19355. **TRANSPORTATION:** Bus leaves St. Norbert at 8:45 AM and returns at 7:15 PM. Also visit the table in the Narthex the weekends of Jan 6-7 and 13-14. **REGISTER:** To sign up for a spot on the bus, go to:

<https://www.kofcpaoli.org/respect-for-life/>

SAVE THE DATE . . .

SERVICE APPRECIATION

The annual Ministry Appreciation Breakfast will be held on **Saturday January 13** at **8:30 AM**. Come join us for Mass at 8 AM followed by a delicious breakfast. All are invited in appreciation of the members of our 50 ministries for their service and to anyone interested in becoming more involved. To find out more about all the Ministries here at St. Norbert parish go to our website: <http://parish.stnorbert.org/pdf/Ministry-Broch-11-14.pdf>

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS . . .

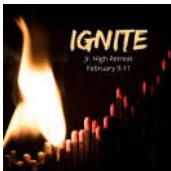
XANTEN XIV 4 TEENS

Hey Teens, are you listening? Hearing any voices? How about "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me" (John 27:10).

Join us as we "**FOLLOW**" – this year's Xanten XIV High School Retreat, **Jan 19-21** at Camp Sankanac in Spring City. **COST:** \$125.

CONTACT: Clare Kane ckane@parish.stnorbert.org or 610.644.1670 ext 127 **REGISTER:**

<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=fae60>



MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT: 7th & 8th graders: A special "**IGNITE**" overnight retreat will be held for you **Feb 9-11**. **CONTACT:** Clare Kane at 610.644.1670 ext 127 or ckane@parish.stnorbert.org or **REGISTER:**

<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=6a7259>

LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED . . .

SOUND PEOPLE NEEDED



Do you love music? Do you want to get involved, but don't have much time? Join the Sound Ministry! We will train you and in a short period of time, you could be working the sound board. A once a month commitment at Mass provides a great service. **CONTACT:** Paul Stadter, stadterpm@yahoo.com or 610.710.6117

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEKLY:

Sundays: EDGE 10:05-11:15 AM Youth Group Room; **Youth Group** following 6 PM Mass; **Dads Basketball**, 7-9 PM, Gym

Tuesdays: Dawn Seekers Bible Study, 8:30 –10 am, Parish Office Dining Room; **Walking With Purpose** 9-11 AM.

CONTACT: Lisa McGowan at mcgowanlh@gmail.com; **Young Adults** Faith Sharing, Parish Office Lower Level, 7:30-9 PM , **CONTACT:** Hank Fila at 610.513.9768 or hankfila@gmail.com

Wednesdays: **Christian Practice of Yoga** 10:30-11:30 AM Parish Office Lower Level; **JCREW** Youth Group, 7-9 PM, Youth Group Room

Thursdays: **Adoration** 8:30 AM –8 PM, Oratory with **Reconciliation** 7-8 PM; **Legion of Mary**, 9-10:30 AM, Sacristy Meeting Room. **Saturdays:** **Adoration** 4-5 PM; **Reconciliation** 4-5 PM or by appointment

UPCOMING:

Jan 1 & 2 **School Christmas Holiday**

Jan 5 **Festival of Praise**, 7:30 PM, Oratory

Jan 6-7 **Outreach Food & Clothing Collection**, Narthex (food) & Parish Activity Center (clothing/house items)

Jan 11 **Prayer & Healing Night**, 7:30 PM, Church.

CONTACT: Pete Radice at prfr@comcast.net

Jan 13 **Ministry Appreciation Breakfast**, 7:30-8:30 PM, Fr. Burke Center

Jan 14 **Gethsemani 12 Step Spirituality Night** 7:30 PM, Oratory. **CONTACT:** Martin K at 610.291.1140

RENEW YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Make your plans now for a 50+ Group Spiritual Retreat at Malvern Retreat House on **Tuesday, Jan 23**, from **9 AM – 2:30 PM**.



This 50+ group inaugural spiritual retreat with Father John Meyers on "The View from the Top of the Hill," will explore how we can refresh and re-energize our relationship with Jesus as well as continue to find meaning and fulfillment in our lives and reflect on our spiritual legacies. A full day that includes Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, personal reflection time, and fellowship over breakfast and lunch. **RSVP** early to reserve your place! **DEADLINE** is **Jan 15**. Drop off or mail the registration form below along with payment to the Parish Office. **CONTACT:** Nancy Stemper at nancystemper@comcast.net or Nina Gallacher at ngallachero@aol.com

50+ GROUP SPIRITUAL RETREAT

AT MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE

Tuesday, **Jan 23**, 9 AM-2:30 PM

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Total Enclosed: _____ (\$30/person, cash or check payable to St. Norbert 50+ Group)

Return or mail completed form with payment to the St. Norbert Parish Office, 50 Leopard Road, Paoli, PA 19301 **by Monday, Jan 15**. If Office is closed, please use mail slot next to front door. Thank You.