



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
December 29—January 4
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

4:00 p.m. Ree Alario; Marlene Morris; Kim Spencer
5:30 p.m. Theresa M. Barry; Stephen Andrew Losee;
Bobby Roesler

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
9:30 a.m. Roberta Wynne Bruley; Jane O'Brien
Chatelain; John J. Clesi; John M. Coogan;
Charles Gegg; Mrs. Emilda B. Formusa;
Nellie James Leone; Carol Mallett; Norma
McClellan; Marc McLyneux, Jr.; Toby
Roesler; John H. Schroder, Jr.
11:00 a.m. Charles Bourg; Heidi Brupbacher; Eric
Gordon Hansen; Cynthia Hemelt; Beverly
"Mickey" Hogan; John Alison Hogan
("A.J."); Stephen Andrew Losee; Beverly
Orillion; Bob Roesler; Karl Snyder, Jr.
5:30 p.m. Ian Spencer; Albert Russell

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Msgr. John Reynolds
5:30 p.m. E. Carltton Guillot, Jr.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

9:30 a.m. Tracy Lynn Cooper; Lolita Rosalie Crespo;
Charles George Favret; Hannah Jernigan;
Kim Spencer; Carmen D. Waterson
11:00 a.m. Eileen McGrath Baynes; Calvin Cage; Alex
& Ginny Neale; Bobby Roesler; Noah
Roesler

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Stephen Andrew Losee; Toby Roesler

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

11:30 a.m. Hannah Jernigan; Noah Roesler; Ian Spencer
12:00 p.m. Erna Haber; Lynne Richter

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
12:00 p.m. Kathie Graythen; Frank Haber; Stephen
Andrew Losee

TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday within the Octave of Christmas
Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.
Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND
BENEDICTION**—Every Sunday, 3:00pm—5:00pm

SUNDAY OFFERING

December 23, 2007
First Collection \$ 23,109
Second Collection* \$ 2,082

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

December 23, 2007
First Collection \$ 22,135
Second Collection* \$ 5,018

* Restoration and Maintenance



SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Holy Day of Obligation—Mass Schedule

Monday, December 31, 2007—Vigil

5:30 p.m. Mass

**Tuesday, January 1, 2008—Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God**

9:30 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY—THE CORONATION MASS

Sunday, January 6, 2008, **Feast of the Epiphany**, St. Patrick's Choir with orchestra will perform Mozart's *Mass in C, KV317 (Coronation Mass)* at the **9:15 A.M. Mass**. Prelude music will begin at **9:00 A.M.** Please note the time change for this Mass.

IN MEMORY OF LISTING—TWO WEEKS

Closing date for submitting names to the *In Memory Of* listing on the back of the Sunday Bulletin is **Friday, January 11, 2008**. At that time the new listing will be sent to the printer. To ensure proper spelling, recording, etc., all requests are to be made by completing the designated envelope form that can be found in the vestibule of the church. The completed form should be hand delivered to the rectory office, or it can be placed in any collection basket. Please do not rely on the United States Postal Service as they are quite often heavily burdened with the amount of mail.

The office staff appreciates your prompt attention and cooperation in assisting with this annual project.



ANNUAL PARISH BUFFET

Everyone is cordially invited to attend
the annual parish buffet to be held in the rectory,
Sunday, January 6, 2008
10:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

FIRST FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2008

7:00 p.m. Confessions
7:30 p.m. Latin Tridentine Mass
8:30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30 p.m. Benediction

FIRST SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 2008

**CRUSADE FOR THE CONVERSION OF GREATER
NEW ORLEANS—MORNING OF PRAYER**

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary,
Confession, Novena and Holy Mass All are invited.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS—REYNOLDS HALL

After the Sunday morning Masses

**THE MASS IS THE GREATEST FORM OF CHRISTIAN
CHARITY—MASS REQUEST ENVELOPES CAN BE FOUND IN
THE VESTIBULE.**

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Tom Alexander; Brett Bradley; Sara Cashio; Tony Clesi; Rene Crane; Ralph DeBlanc; Raymond DeBlanc; Ann Clair Duplechin; Rose Fee; Reverend Stan Klores; Lolita Lannan; Stephen Losee; Betty McArthur; Lucille Ogden; Stephanie Summers; Hugh Ramsey; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; Diane Sikes; Adele Silva, Mary Silva; Turkington Family

SECURITY PROVIDED AT ALL EVENING SERVICES

THE HOLY FAMILY

URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE

Dear Brothers and Sisters! “A holy day has dawned upon us.” A day of great hope: today the Saviour of mankind is born. The birth of a child normally brings a light of hope to those who are waiting anxiously. When Jesus was born in the stable at Bethlehem, a “great light” appeared on earth; a great hope entered the hearts of those who awaited him: in the words of today’s Christmas liturgy, “lux magna”. Admittedly it was not “great” in the manner of this world, because the first to see it were only Mary, Joseph and some shepherds, then the Magi, the old man Simeon, the prophetess Anna: those whom God had chosen. Yet, in the shadows and silence of that holy night, a great and inextinguishable light shone forth for every man; the great hope that brings happiness entered into the world: “the Word was made flesh and we saw his glory” (Jn 1:14).

“God is light”, says Saint John, “and in him is no darkness at all” (1 Jn 1:5). In the Book of Genesis we read that when the universe was created, “the earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep.” “God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.” (Gen 1:2-3). The creative Word of God is Light, the source of life. All things were made through the Logos, not one thing had its being but through him (cf. Jn 1:3). That is why all creatures are fundamentally good and bear within themselves the stamp of God, a spark of his light. Nevertheless, when Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, the Light himself came into the world: in the words of the Creed, “God from God, Light from Light”. In Jesus, God assumed what he was not, while remaining what he was: “omnipotence entered an infant’s body and did not cease to govern the universe” (cf. Saint Augustine, *Sermo* 184, No. 1 on Christmas). The Creator of man became man in order to bring peace to the world. For this reason, during Christmas night, the hosts of angels sing: “Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those whom he loves” (Lk 2:14).

“Today a great light has come upon the earth”. The Light of Christ is the bearer of peace. At Midnight Mass, the Eucharistic liturgy begins with this very chant: “Today true peace has come down to us from heaven” (Entrance Antiphon). Indeed, it is only the “great” light manifested in Christ that can give “true” peace to men: that is why every generation is called to welcome it, to welcome the God who in Bethlehem became one of us.

This is Christmas – the historical event and the mystery of love, which for more than two thousand years has spoken to men and women of every era and every place. It is the holy day on which the “great light” of Christ shines forth, bearing peace! Certainly, if we are to recognize it, if we are to receive it, faith is needed and humility is needed. The humility of Mary, who believed in the word of the Lord and, bending low over the manger, was the first to adore the fruit of her womb; the humility of Joseph, the just man, who had the courage of faith and preferred to obey God rather than to protect his own reputation; the humility of the shepherds, the poor and anonymous shepherds, who received the proclamation of the heavenly messenger and hastened towards the stable, where they found the new-born child and worshipped him, full of astonishment, praising God (cf. Lk 2:15-20). The little ones, the poor in spirit: they are the key figures of Christmas, in the past and in the present; they have always been the key figures of God’s history, the indefatigable builders of his Kingdom of justice, love and peace.

In the silence of that night in Bethlehem, Jesus was born and lovingly welcomed. And now, on this Christmas Day, when the joyful news of his saving birth continues to resound, who is ready

to open the doors of his heart to the holy child? Men and women of this modern age, Christ comes also to us bringing his light, he comes also to us granting peace! But who is watching, in the night of doubt and uncertainty, with a vigilant, praying heart? Who is waiting for the dawn of the new day, keeping alight the flame of faith? Who has time to listen to his word and to become enfolded and entranced by his love? Yes! His message of peace is for everyone; he comes to offer himself to all people as sure hope for salvation.

Finally, may the light of Christ, which comes to enlighten every human being, shine forth and bring consolation to those who live in the darkness of poverty, injustice and war; to those who are still denied their legitimate aspirations for a more secure existence, for health, education, stable employment, for fuller participation in civil and political responsibilities, free from oppression and protected from conditions that offend against human dignity. It is the most vulnerable members of society – women, children, the elderly – who are so often the victims of brutal armed conflicts, terrorism and violence of every kind, which inflict such terrible sufferings on entire populations. At the same time, ethnic, religious and political tensions, instability, rivalry, disagreements, and all forms of injustice and discrimination are destroying the internal fabric of many countries and embittering international relations. Throughout the world the number of migrants, refugees and evacuees is also increasing because of frequent natural disasters, often caused by alarming environmental upheavals.

On this day of peace, my thoughts turn especially to those places where the grim sound of arms continues to reverberate; to the tortured regions of Darfur, Somalia, the north of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the border between Eritrea and Ethiopia; to the whole of the Middle East – especially Iraq, Lebanon and the Holy Land; to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, to the Balkans and to many other crisis situations that unfortunately are frequently forgotten. May the Child Jesus bring relief to those who are suffering and may he bestow upon political leaders the wisdom and courage to seek and find humane, just and lasting solutions. To the thirst for meaning and value so characteristic of today’s world, to the search for prosperity and peace that marks the lives of all mankind, to the hopes of the poor: Christ – true God and true Man – responds with his Nativity. Neither individuals nor nations should be afraid to recognize and welcome him: with Him “a shining light” brightens the horizon of humanity; in him “a holy day” dawns that knows no sunset. May this Christmas truly be for all people a day of joy, hope and peace!

“Come you nations and adore the Lord.” With Mary, Joseph and the shepherds, with the Magi and the countless host of humble worshippers of the new-born Child, who down the centuries have welcomed the mystery of Christmas, let us too, brothers and sisters from every continent, allow the light of this day to spread everywhere: may it enter our hearts, may it brighten and warm our homes, may it bring serenity and hope to our cities, and may it give peace to the world. This is my earnest wish for you who are listening. A wish that grows into a humble and trustful prayer to the Child Jesus, that his light will dispel all darkness from your lives and fill you with love and peace. May the Lord, who has made his merciful face to shine in Christ, fill you with his happiness and make you messengers of his goodness. Happy Christmas!

Pope Benedict XVI