

Christmas 2013

Dear Parishioners,

During this Advent and Christmas Season we welcome all our parishioners and visitors who come to celebrate Jesus Christ in our churches of St. John the Baptist and Holy Angels.

A few weeks ago our Holy Father, Pope Francis, published an Apostolic Exhortation, "*The Joy of The Gospel.*" He began this exhortation by saying that "the joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ, joy is constantly born anew."

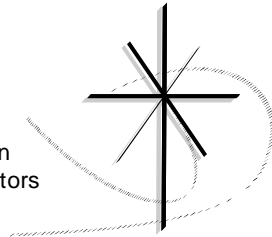
The Holy Father also urged us to share our resources with the poor. For this message he has recently been criticized in the media. The Word made Flesh came to earth to bring glad tidings to the poor, to announce to all the love of God, the care of God for all his sons and daughters. You, our parishioners, have heard the Gospel of Advent, the Gospel of compassion for the poor and needy. You have enlivened this love of God for the poor by your contributions to our parish food bins for St. Vincent de Paul; you have brought your gifts for the Wish Tree. We received more than 200 gifts around the Wish Tree last week. How impressive it was to see you bring wrapped Christmas gifts into both St. John and Holy Angels Churches to put around the tree for the poor and needy.

You do understand the message of Christmas. You do get it. I am so proud and privileged to be part of this parish community who cares so much for the poor, a community who knows how to share its resources and celebrate God's goodness to them by giving to others.

So, while we celebrate the goodness of God to us this Christmas, let's also remember the lives of those who have been broken by tragedy, crisis, loss and hurt and let's raise them to Jesus during the celebration of Christmas at our parish.

Our God who comes to earth, Emmanuel, God-with-us, will console us and give us the strength we need to care for one another and love one another so that the darkness does not harm us and the light and warmth of his love will embrace us. I wish each and every one of you God's blessing and "Merry Christmas."

Father Fiore

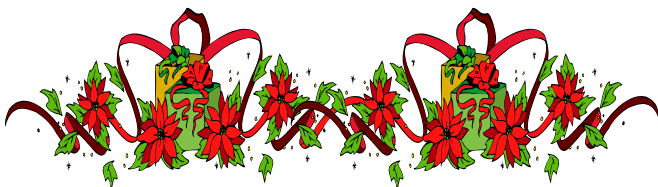


Christmas Proclamation

In religious communities, parishes like ours, great Cathedrals, and small chapels around the world, the Proclamation of Christmas is joyfully sung or read on Christmas Eve. From ancient times, this has been the way the Church begins its celebration of this glorious day.

Whether read, chanted, or simply used for private reading, the words of the Proclamation offer us a sense of the place in history that the birth of our Savior has and invites us to rejoice.

Today, the twenty-fifth day of December,
when ages beyond number had run their course
from the creation of the world,
when God in the beginning
created Heaven and Earth,
and formed man in his own likeness;
when century upon century had passed
since the Almighty set his bow
in the clouds after the Great Flood,
as a sign of covenant and peace;
in the twenty-first century since Abraham,
our father in faith,
came out of Ur of the Chaldees;
in the thirteenth century since
the People of Israel were led by Moses
in the exodus from Egypt;
around the thousandth year
since David was anointed King;
in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel:
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad,
in the year seven hundred and fifty-two
since the foundation of the City of Rome,
in the forty-second year of
the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus,
the whole world being at peace,
Jesus Christ, eternal God and
Son of the eternal Father,
desiring to consecrate the world
by his most loving presence,
was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and when nine months had passed
since his conception,
was born of the Virgin Mary
in Bethlehem of Judah,
and was made man:
The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
according to the flesh.
Amen.



Merry Christmas to all!

Parish Center Holiday Hours

Closed Monday, December 23 – Wednesday, December 25

Reopens Thursday, December 26

Closed Tuesday & Wednesday, Dec. 31 & January 1

Reopens Thursday, January 2



December 22– 28, 2013

Sunday: 2:30 PM Christmas Decorating – Holy Angels Church
6:30 PM Advent Vespers – St. John Church

Monday: 2:30 PM Christmas Decorating – St. John Church
7:00 PM Posadas – Joan Muzzi Athletic Building

Tuesday: **Christmas Eve – See Mass Schedule below**

Wednesday: **Christmas Day – See Mass Schedule below**

Friday: 7:00 PM Spanish Prayer Group – Holy Angels Church Archangels Room

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. John Church

December 22 8:00 AM Robert DiLuchio
10:00 AM Thomas Concavage

December 23 8:00 AM Celeste Soehlke

December 24 8:00 AM Sodality Members,
Living & Deceased
5:00 PM Christmas Remembrance
7:00 PM Christmas Remembrance

December 25 8:00 AM Christmas Remembrance
10:00 AM Christmas Remembrance

December 26 8:00 AM People of the Parish

December 27 8:00 AM Raymond Soehlke

December 28 8:00 AM Terri Crane

December 29 8:00 AM Mary Keogh
10:00 AM Julianna Stout Ilgaz

Holy Angels Church

December 21 5:00 PM William Howell

December 22 9:00 AM Michael Herrigan
11:00 AM Mary Alice Soehlke
1:00 PM Intenciones Comunitarias

December 24 4:00 PM Christmas Remembrance
7:00 PM Christmas Remembrance
10:00 PM Christmas Remembrance

December 25 11:00 AM Christmas Remembrance

December 28 5:00 PM Robert DiLuchio

December 29 9:00 AM Marie Glynn
11:00 AM Antoinette Rago
1:00 PM Intenciones Comunitarias

Question for the Week
Fourth Sunday of Advent – Year A
“Whom do you find it difficult to welcome in your life?
What can you do to overcome that?”

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Holy Angels	St. John
4:00 PM	5:00 PM
7:00 PM (Spanish)	7:00 PM
10:00 PM	

Christmas Day

Holy Angels	St. John
11:00 AM	8:00 AM
	10:00 AM

New Year's Eve

Holy Angels
5:00 PM
7:00 PM (Spanish)

New Year's Day

St. John
9:00 AM

Eternal rest grant unto her...

Please remember in your prayers Viola M. Colpo. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



Newly Baptized

December 14, 2013

Jacob Declan Gonzales, son of Armida Victorio Salvador and Denver Dennis Gonzales Jr.
Gavin Jacob Lammeree, son of Jacqueline Marie Feely and William Jacob Lammeree.



Early Bulletin Deadlines

Due to the Christmas Holidays, the following bulletins have early deadlines for publication. Please submit all bulletin items to the Parish Office as noted below. If you have questions, please call Annie at 731-2200.

December 29 bulletin: (already went to printing company)

January 5 bulletin: Information in by Noon on Monday, December 23

Save the Date! Parish Mission February 8-9-10-11-12

Preview of This Week's Readings

Monday: Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66

Tuesday: II Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;
Luke 1:67-79

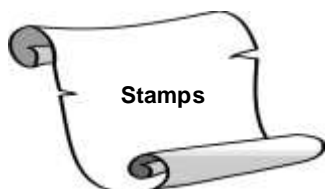
Christmas Eve & Day: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14;
Luke 2:1-14

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

Friday: I John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: I John 1:5 – 2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
Luke 1:39-45

Sunday: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23



Stamps

Wish List Thank You!

Thanks to the Piechowski Family for donating postage stamps to the Parish Center.

We could still use some more stamps, with end of year mailings

coming up shortly. If you could help us, we would be most grateful. Your donation is tax deductible!

Vespers: Our Parish's "Best Kept Secret"

One type of prayer that is always offered in our parish during the Advent Season is Vespers, which is part of the Liturgy of the Hours. Many parishioners have yet to experience this very moving type of prayer, making it our "best kept secret".

Advent Vespers will be celebrated on December 22nd at 6:30 PM at St. John Church. This is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to slow down during this hectic, busy season and pray. Come see what the "best kept secret" is all about!



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Angels School will be closed for Christmas Vacation through January 1, 2014. Classes will resume on Thursday, Jan. 2nd.

All the Faculty and Staff would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014-2015 school year. There are also limited spaces available for this school year. Please call the School Office for more information at 731-2210. (Web address: www.holyangelschool.org)

Holy Angels School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Elementary Schools. Programs are offered in Pre/K3 through Grade 8 with courses available in STEM learning and Common Core Standards.

Our **next Open House** for prospective parents will take place on January 16 from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

We are accepting the following items that generate funds for instruction materials:

- Box Tops for Education
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Printer Cartridges

(Send in an envelope marked "School Office")

(We are grateful for your support!)

Holy Angels School now has a **Spirit Shop**. Please refer to the website at www.holyangelschool.org for information, photos and order form.

Congratulations to the following students who placed third in a Speech/Declamation Contest at St. Anthony of Padua School!

- Tony Lee – Grade 6
- Aidan O'Neill – Grade 7



December 28:

Ice Skating at the U of D Rust
(Time TBD – watch the bulletin for an update)

January 25-26:

LOCK IN – mark your calendars for this great event

Snow Cancellations

Cancellations of parish activities due to poor weather and driving conditions can be on the parish website, www.stjohn-holyangels.com, and also are available by calling the Parish Center, 731-2200.

The following radio stations will be contacted if the 8:00 AM Daily Mass or Weekend Masses are canceled.

WSTW 93.7 FM WDEL 1150 AM WJBR 99.5 FM

Please note: Parish Offices follow the School Closing Policy. If the Diocesan Catholic Schools are closed for inclement weather, the Parish Offices will be closed that day also.



**Annual Election of Parish Trustees
January 12, 2014**

Delaware State Law requires that all corporations have trustees who are elected on an annual basis (**§ 105. Election of trustees: The trustees shall be elected at a public meeting of the society or congregation, held at their usual place of worship, on 10 days notice by advertisements of such place and by a plurality of votes of the members present.**)

Each parish in the Diocese of Wilmington is incorporated and therefore must have a board of trustees. Trustees sign legal documents for the parish and work with the Pastor when needed. Trustees are officers of the corporation.

In accordance with Diocesan policy, the annual election of Parish Trustees will take place on Sunday, January 12, immediately following the 9:00 AM Mass at Holy Angels Church and the 10:00 AM Mass at St. John Church. Ballots and the ballot box will be available after each Mass. Please take a moment to vote before you leave Church that day. The ballots also include space for a write-in candidate.

This year's candidates for election are Mike McLeod and Charlie Colgan, both longtime, active members of the parish.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office, (302) 731-2200.

Thank You!

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Wish Tree Program this year by purchasing gifts and gift cards, or by helping sort and deliver gifts after Mass. Thanks to all of you, numerous families, children and residents in nursing homes and shelters were able to enjoy at least one gift or other needed item this Christmas holiday. We appreciate how everyone opened their hearts to our brothers and sisters in need. It is the call of our baptism. We hope this year brings you all many blessings!

Lindy Walkowiak	Beth Kosinski
Amy Press	Debbie Dolan
Lois Jackson	Michele Kleinhomer
Marie Ruskay	Barbara & Ray Hosbach
Solanda Mera	Kathleen White
Sharon Lennon	Kathy & Bill Fisher
Diane, Jay, Harrison & Hayden Fisher	Ryan Fisher

**Only One Week Left To Purchase!
Calendar Lottery Fundraiser—Winter 2014**

\$20.00 each 90 chances to win!

Only 1000 calendars will be sold!

No duplicate numbers!

- Calendars are on sale now in the Parish Office and after Masses.
- The lottery begins January 1, 2014.
- Calendars will be sold through January 4/5.
- Calendars may not be purchased in the name of a minor.
- Calendar purchases are non-refundable.
- Winning numbers are based on the Delaware State Play 3 night drawing; which is drawn daily at 7:57 p.m.
- Prizes mailed on Wednesday of each week.
- All proceeds benefit the Parish.

Save The Date!



***The Heart of Great Britain
with Father Arthur Fiore***

April 23 – May 4, 2014

12 days/10 nights

**§ A quality, customized tour §
Cost: \$3799 per person, double occupancy**

Visit: London, Windsor, Cotswolds, Stratford Upon Avon, York, Edinburgh, Uphall, Liverpool, Cardiff, Bath, Stonehenge

10 nights in First Class hotels. Round-trip air from Newark. 10 full breakfasts. Six dinners. Two evenings of live entertainment. Sightseeing and entrance fees. Professional tour director. Premier Tours Professional Escort optional. Transportation church/airport/church. Please join us on this exciting tour! For additional information, contact Premier Tours of Owings Mills:

Toll free: (800) 932-9213

Email: Premiertours@verizon.net

Father Fiore: (302) 731-2200

“I was hungry and you fed me.” Matthew 25:35

Your generosity this Christmas Season has been above and beyond all expectations!

We continue to need breakfast items for the food pantry; ie., pancake mix, cereal, syrup, canned fruits, canned fruit juice.

For more information, please call Marie Ruskay, 547-8521.

You are invited to take a survey!

Understanding the many challenges faced by families throughout the world, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, is asking Catholics what they think about “the social and spiritual crisis” impacting family life. Bishop Malooly is inviting Catholics, whether active or inactive, in the Diocese of Wilmington to join in this important conversation by participating in an online survey.

To take the survey, go to the Diocese of Wilmington’s website – www.cdow.org – and click on “Pope Francis and Bishop Malooly invite you to participate in an important survey.” Please respond before December 31, 2013.

Oficina del Ministerio Hispano

Asistente: María del Pilar Carazo (302) 731-2436

Horario Oficina:

Lunes, Martes, Jueves: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Miércoles: 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Viernes: 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

COORDINADORES DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO

Representante Consejo Parroquial: Rubén Lara
Representante Consejo Diocesano: Víctor Lorzo

Ministros de Eucaristía:

Coordinador: Víctor Lorzo

Sub-coordinador: Víctor Cárdenas

Lectores:

Coordinadora: Martha Just

Monaguillos:

Coordinadora: Alicia Gómez

Hospitalidad: Joel & María Lara

Coros coordinador: Milton Santiago

Liturgia de los niños: Leticia Lomeli

Pláticas de bautismo & Charlas

Prematrimoniales:

Roberto Hernández & Georgina Flores

Quinceañeras: Martha Just

Grupo de Oración. Irma Lemus

Sacristía: Javier Lomeli & Héctor Quiñones

Tienda: Rubén Lara



ACTIVIDADES PARROQUIALES

Bautismos: Charlas, domingo de cada mes después de misa. 2:30-PM: Padrinos deben ser casados por la iglesia. Todos traer biblias católica, obligatoriamente y no biblias protestante. No habrá cuidado de niños, busque con tiempo quien se los cuide. Próxima charla: Enero 26, 2014.

Grupo de Oración:

todos los viernes, 7:00 PM. En el salón de conferencia de la iglesia.

El Comité Pastoral Hispano:

Próxima reunión del Comité, Enero 15, 7:00 PM.

Tendremos después un pequeño convivio, traer un platillo para compartir.

Las celebraciones de bodas tienen que ser con un año de anticipación los arreglos en la iglesia. La charla será 15 a las 11:00 AM en la oficina parroquial.

Para anotar misas de difuntos y presentaciones, llegar a la oficina. quinceañeras, bodas, aniversarios, etc.

Todas las familias que tiene quinceañeras para el próximo año. Registrar con tiempo a sus hijas. Solamente habrán dos grupos para preparación. Próxima reunión Diciembre 30. 7:00 PM. Oficina.

LA OFICINA ESTARA CERRADA EL 23, 24, 25, 31 DE DICIEMBRE Y ENERO 01, 2014.

GRACIAS.

FELIZ NAVIDAD

A TODA NUESTRA FAMILIA PARROQUIAL LES DESEAMOS UNA FELIZ NAVIDAD, LLENA DE BENDICIONES Y UNION. QUE EL DIVINO NIÑO TRAIGA TENGA UN LUGAR EN CADA CORAZON. RECORDANDOLES QUE EL MOTIVO DE LA NAVIDAD ES EL NIÑO JESUS.

SON LOS DESEOS DE:

Rev. Arturo Fiore. (párroco)

Rev. Carlos Ochoa. (Coadjutor-Ministerio Hispano)

Rev. Jim Jackson. (coadjutor)

Diácono José Pérez & su esposa Gloria.

Pilar Carazo. (Asistente del Ministerio Hispano).

Y todo el personal de la oficina parroquial: Annie, Amy, Mary, Theresa, Jim, Bill, John Arena, John Phy.