

JANUARY 4, 2015
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS

- Sunday (January 4) The Epiphany of the Lord**
8:00 Mary Popo
Requested By: Debra Popo
10:00 Mathew Ribeiro
Requested By: Lawrence & Maggie Braganza
12:00 Vincent Malaspina
Requested By: Happy Birthday Antoinette Malaspina
7:00 Spanish Mass
- Monday (January 5)**
7:00 John O'Hanlon
Requested By: Al & Peggy Fisher
9:00 Mathew Ribeiro
Requested By: Joaquim & Lucy Aguiar & Family
- Tuesday (January 6)**
7:00 Rosaria Federico
Requested By: Joaquim & Lucy Aguiar & Family
9:00 Rosaria Federico
Requested By: Mr. & Mrs. Gabriele Astrologo
- Wednesday (January 7)**
7:00 Jennie & James Acker
Requested By: Mel & Mary Lou Henning
9:00 Rosaria Federico
Requested By: Dan DeLuca
- Thursday (January 8) Solemnity of Mary**
7:00 Jeanine Miller
Requested By: Glenn & Ellen Creeden & Family
9:00 Gianni Baldini
Requested By: Family
- Friday (January 9)**
7:00 John & Connie Scivoletto
Requested By: Family
9:00 Rosaria Federico
Requested By: Mrs. Lina Ciotti & Family
- Saturday (January 10)**
9:00 Lyn Chomiw
Requested By: Ronald & Joseph
5:00 Catherine Hrdlicka
Requested By: Henry & Nancy Hrdlicka
- Sunday (January 11) The Baptism of the Lord**
8:00 Pro-Populo
10:00 Sofia & Rocky Vidale
Requested By: Son & Daughter
12:00 Brenda Ayala
Requested By: The Labauve Family
7:00 Spanish Mass

DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

January 4	3PM	Mt. St. Francis Convent
January 11	3PM	Assumption Church
January 18	3PM	Mt. St. Francis Convent
January 25	-----	No Holy Hour

MEMORIALIZATIONS

Did you know that Assumption Church offers many opportunities to remember a loved one, either living or deceased? In addition to our Mass cards, you are also invited to memorialize our Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Bread, and Altar Candles. Remembering your loved one this way, enhances the beauty of our communal worship of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Call or stop by the Rectory for further information.

MEMORIALIZATIONS

Altar Candles

Rudy N. Colao
Requested By: Anthony Antunes
Janet Stewart
Requested By: Friend

Sanctuary Lamps

John Auer
Requested By: Parishioner
Grace Cignarale
Requested By: Love You!

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

The Gospels and Carols of the Christmas season prominently feature Our Blessed Lady, the devoted St. Joseph, and the Divine Child. However, there are other characters – and none too savory! Sts. Matthew and Luke mention them as being the recipients of angelic salutations or observers of celestial signs. We sing of them in ANGELS, WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH, SILENT NIGHT, THE FIRST NOWELL, DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? and WE THREE KINGS. They are the Shepherds and the Magi.

In his recording, "Prepare the Way of the King" (Lighthouse Catholic Media), scripture scholar and convert to Catholicism, Dr. Scott Hahn shares the fruit of his research on these familiar persons. He recounts that most of us think of shepherds as "gentle, humble country boys", following in the footsteps of greater shepherds before them: Abel, Moses, and David. Hardly, the case! In the time of Jesus, shepherds were considered "deceitful scoundrels" and "thieves"! So untrustworthy was their reputation that they couldn't give testimony in court because they were generally assumed to be "untrustworthy" "liars"! And if accused of a crime, they were had to prove their innocence!

The Magi fare just as badly. Dr. Hahn reminds us the Scriptures do not name or number them, nor call them kings. They were "magicians", practitioners of the black arts. They lived in a world of omens and portents and superstitious searching. Rabbis called 'accursed' anyone who consulted with them, and in the book of Acts, we read how Simon Magus tried to buy the apostolic powers of St. Peter, forever lending his name to the sin we call 'simony'. Yet God was at work in the Magi's hearts, for when they found the Holy Child, (and thwarted Herod's evil designs), they humbly laid the tools of their trade at His tiny feet: myrrh (used to make the ink for writing spells and incantations), and their gold and frankincense (sprinkled like glitter over their mysterious writings).

Christ did not announce His arrival to Herod or High Priest, but to sinners and sorcerers! Right from the start! Jesus, the GOOD Shepherd, comes for all no matter what we have done or what others think of us! JOY TO THE WORLD!

THEOLOGY-ON-TAP



Assumption Church will sponsor Theology on Tap on Monday, January 5th at 7:30PM, *location to determined*. The short talk titled, "Why do we have a Church? Why can't we just have a direct relationship with God?" Learn how these gifts of the 'one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church' can deepen our spiritual life and enhance our encounter with God. The talk will be led by Father Brian Graebe, Parochial Vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Please join us for a night of fellowship, food, and drinks. Hope to see you there!

TITHING REPORT

Fourth Sunday of Advent 2014.....\$ 14,746.32*
 Fourth Sunday of Advent 2013.....\$ 12,171.00
 Includes Parish Pay \$678.32

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL



Gladys Latimer, Catherine Chesser, Janet Fortier, Linda McGarr, Loretta Donohue, Andrew Muller, George Strumke, Daniel Cairl, George Smith, Fr. Steven Clark, Cecilia Murphy, Walter Bittal, Patricia Cothren, Guadalupe Arango, Mario Garziona, Catherine Gleba, and James Brian Dolman

RESPECT LIFE



Life: An "Epiphany" of God "Life is always a good. ...

Why is life a good? This question is found everywhere in the Bible, and from the very first pages it receives a powerful and amazing answer. The life which God gives man is quite different from the life of all other living creatures, inasmuch as man, although formed from the dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7, 3:19; Job 34:15; Ps 103:14; 104:29), is a manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory (cf. Gen 1:26-27; Ps 8:6). This is what Saint Irenaeus of Lyons wanted to emphasize in his celebrated definition: 'Man, living man, is the glory of God'. Man has been given a sublime dignity, based on the intimate bond which unites him to his Creator: in man there shines forth a reflection of God himself" (The Gospel of Life, n. 34). **The next Respect Life Holy Hour will be on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 7:00 PM**

THE BLESSING OF HOMES ON EPIPHANY



This blessing of the home and inscription of the initials of the three Magi above each door can be performed either by a priest or the head of the family. The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas. Today, Assumption Church will distribute to our parishioners a card with chalk and instructions on how to perform this blessing at your home. The 6th is the night the Three Kings came to the Christ Child. May the gifts of the magi bring you peace, and contentment throughout the new year.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Assumption Church is proud to sponsor this year's Ecumenical prayer service for Christian Unity on January 25, 2015 at 3:00 PM. Christian congregations around the world will come together again the week of January 18-25, 2015, to pray for unity. The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement at Graymoor have planned a week-long schedule of interfaith events in Garrison and Peekskill this year to mark this ecumenical effort for healing of divisions, and they invite Hudson Valley residents to participate with them. Father James Loughran, SA, Franciscan Friar of the Atonement, will preside and speak. The theme for 2015, Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (John 4:7), is based on the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman.

From January 18-25, 1908, Fr. Paul Wattson, SA, and Mother Lurana White, SA, co-founders of the Society of the Atonement at Graymoor in Garrison, NY, celebrated the first Church Unity Octave, an eight-day period of prayers and seminars focusing on the cause of Christian unity. They wrote letters and articles encouraging others to pray with them "that all may be one ... that the world may believe" (John 17:21). In the late 1960s, the Octave was joined with other prayer movements to form what is now observed worldwide as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. On November 11, 2014, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops endorsed the cause for canonization of Father Paul Wattson, SA, Servant of God, and Apostle of Christian Unity and Charity. Refreshments to follow in Father Wilson Hall.

MARCH FOR LIFE WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22, 2015



January 22, 2015 marks the 42nd anniversary of the Supreme Court decision, Roe vs. Wade, legalizing abortion and responsible for the deaths of over 55 million babies in the US. Please consider joining us and hundreds of thousands from around the nation at the March for Life in Washington DC on Thursday, January 22nd. Cost is \$35 per person. Assumption Church is also sponsoring an overnight trip for youth on January 21-22, grades 8 and above, to Washington DC for the March for Life. Events include: the "Life is Very Good" evening vigil of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on January 21 and Youth Rally and Mass for Life, as well as the March, on January 22. Cost is \$60 per person. Sponsorship for cost of the trip available on an as needed basis. Look for further details in future bulletins. Tickets are available for purchase by calling (845) 667-0781 or email at assumptionM4L@gmail.com. Come be a witness as a disciple of Christ for life!

DAY OF PRAYER AND PENANCE

Please be aware that Thursday, January 22, 2015 is a day of prayer and penance for offenses committed against life. Catholics are enjoined to observe this day as a day of offering sacrifices and prayers to God and the conversion of hearts especially toward being Pro Life

**Pre Lenten Preaching Series at Assumption Church
 God's Purpose For You in the Church**

In the Sunday's Leading up to Lent, a special message will be delivered at each Sunday Mass:

WEEKEND	THEME	GOSPEL
Sunday, January 18, 2015	Pillar #1 Prayer	"Come and See"
Sunday, January 25, 2015	Pillar #2 Confession	"Call to Repentance—Apostles"
Sunday, February 1, 2015	Pillar #3 Devotion to Mary	"Expulsion of Demon"
Sunday, February 1, 2015	Pillar #4 Loving our Neighbor	"Healing of Peter's Mother in Law Night in Prayer"
Sunday, February 1, 2015	Pillar #5 Eucharist	Cure of the Leper

**Lent Begins February 18, 2015
 Ash Wednesday**