

**JANUARY 1, 2017**  
**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Sunday (January 1) Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**  
8:00 Pro Populo  
10:00 Constancio Clemente  
*Requested by: Family*  
12:00 Margaret Kiley  
*Requested by: Ralph and Mariann Landolfi*  
2:30 Spanish Mass  
7:00 Spanish Mass
- Monday (January 2) Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors**  
7:00 Teresa Zuzarte  
*Requested by: Family*  
9:00 George Smith  
*Requested by: Lucy Aguiar*
- Tuesday (January 3) The Most Holy Name of Jesus**  
7:00 Alex Risoli  
*Requested by: The Fonseca Family*  
9:00 Nancy DeLucia  
*Requested by: Priscilla Bianco & Fred Bianco III*
- Wednesday (January 4) Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**  
7:00 Annie O'Neill  
*Requested by: Troy and Luiza Fonseca*  
9:00 Rose Franceschini  
*Requested by: Kathryn Vignini*
- Thursday (January 5) Saint John Neumann, Bishop**  
7:00 Tony Catalano  
*Requested by: Fran and Ray Levesque*  
9:00 Mathew Ribeiro  
*Requested by: Joaquim & Lucy Aguiar and Family*
- Friday (January 6) First Friday; Saint André Bessette, Religious**  
7:00 Louis Sasso  
*Requested by: The Di Roma Family*  
9:00 Frank Garzione  
*Requested by: Mr. and Mrs. Carmine DeLuca*
- Saturday (January 7) Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest**  
9:00 Jennie and James Acker  
*Requested by: Mel and MaryLou Henning*  
5:00 Pro Populo
- Sunday (January 8) The Epiphany of the Lord**  
8:00 Frank Garzione  
*Requested by: The Pascetta Family*  
10:00 Paul Palmina Ascenzo  
*Requested by: The Tino DeRico Family*  
12:00 Diogo L. Fernandes  
*Requested by: Natalia and Family*  
7:00 Spanish Mass

*Please notify an usher if you would like to bring up the gifts during a Mass for your loved one.*

**MEMORIALIZATIONS**

**ALTAR CANDLES**

In Memory of the Carey & Eible Families  
*Requested by: Family*

Johnny Baldini  
*Requested by: Family*

In Memory of Nicola Pertelesi  
*Requested by: Elena and Ray Matheson*

In Memory of Mary Ann and Clifford Matheson  
*Requested by: Elena and Ray Matheson*

**ALTAR BREAD AND WINE**

Domenico Federico  
*Requested by: A Friend*

**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE**



January 1	– No Holy Hour –	
January 8	3 pm	Assumption Church
January 15	3 pm	Assumption Church
January 22	3 pm	Assumption Church



**Wedding Banns**

Second Time: Peter Loewenberg & Julia Loewenberg

**DISCOVERING CHRIST 2017**

*“Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst.”*  
(John 4:14)

Come and quench your thirst! Please join us on Monday evenings for “Discovering Christ,” a seven-week series at Assumption beginning **Monday, January 23, 2017** and continuing through March 6 (with a life-changing retreat on Saturday, February 25). Share a meal, listen to a dynamic teaching and explore answers to questions about God and the meaning of life. As the group of participants is limited in size, reservations are required, and you must be at least 18 years of age. To reserve your place, please go to [www.dcassumption.eventbrite.com](http://www.dcassumption.eventbrite.com) OR you can e-mail [discoveringchrist.assumption@gmail.com](mailto:discoveringchrist.assumption@gmail.com) OR telephone (914) 402-4439.

**99.5% AND CLIMBING...**



Thanks to the great generosity of our wonderful parishioners, Assumption is a mere \$6,120 shy of our goal of raising \$1,115,500 in the Renew + Rebuild capital campaign. At the time of this bulletin's printing, pledges total a whopping \$1,109,380. If you would like to contribute to help put our parish over the top, please contact the Rectory at (914) 737-2071.

### TITHING REPORT

Christmas 2016 (Sunday, Dec. 25).....\$26,115.25  
(includes Parish Pay amount of \$781.25)

Christmas 2015 (Friday, Dec. 25).....\$22,533.00

If you would like to enroll in Parish Pay, please go to [www.parishpay.com](http://www.parishpay.com) OR call the Rectory

### RESPECT LIFE



**Happy New Year!** The beginning of a new calendar year brings us a special joy and hope. It is a reminder that time is a gift of God, given to us from His eternity, for us to use to prepare for our eternity. The passing of each year and each day is meant to be an exchange with God. He gives us time, and we give our days and years back to Him in service and love, bringing as much good as possible into the world and into the lives of others. The New Year is an opportunity to resolve, above all, to serve God faithfully: to believe more firmly, to hope more ardently, to love more generously. That is what makes a new year "happy" and that is what leads us to the happiness that never ends.

**The next Respect Life Holy Hour is Friday, January 27 at 7:00 pm.**

### BAPTISMAL CLASS CHANGE

One of the most important days in our life is the day we are baptized. Assumption Church loves to minister to families baptizing their children. An essential part of the preparation is the attendance of parents at a mandatory one-time baptismal instructional class. (Godparents are welcome to attend as well, but are not required to do so.) Pre-registration for parents is required; please call the Rectory at (914) 737-2071 ahead of time. Please note that, beginning this month, our baptismal class schedule is changing: the class will now be held on the **second Thursday** of each month (but still at 7:30 pm). The first class on this new schedule is **Thursday, January 12.**

### EVERYONE NEEDS A DAY OF REST...

...to replenish themselves, even – perhaps especially – our priests. Since the days of ancient Israel, God commanded His people to rest on the Sabbath. ("For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest... You shall not do any work; it is a sabbath to the Lord..." Leviticus 23:3) And so, in 2017, the "day of rest" for Father Higgins and Father Vincent will be as follows:

- Father Higgins – Mondays
- Father Vincent – Tuesdays

### DAY OF PRAYER AND PENANCE

Please be aware that, this year, the day of prayer and penance for offenses committed against life is **Monday, January 23** – a day Catholics should observe by offering sacrifices and prayers to God for the conversion of hearts toward being pro-life.

### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL



Gladys Latimer, Catherine Chesser, Janet Fortier, Linda McGarr, Andrew Muller, George Strumke, Cecilia Murphy, Mario Garzione, James Brian Dolman, Suzi Jo Bondra, Sheila Fleitz, Tony DeMilio, Margaret Kang and Carli Hermina.

### PRAY ALSO FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Josephine Lanuto  
Timothy Maloy  
Jennifer Brennen

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."*

### MARCH FOR LIFE 2017

The pilgrimage to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life takes place on **Friday, January 27**. Forty-four years ago, the Supreme Court handed down its decision in Roe v. Wade, legalizing abortion and leading to the deaths of 60 million babies in the USA. Please join hundreds of thousands from around the nation as we march to stop abortion. The cost is \$40 per person. In addition, Assumption is once again sponsoring an overnight youth trip to Washington (**Thursday, January 26 into Friday, January 27**) so young people (Grades 8 and above) can attend the Vigil Mass and a "Life is Very Good" evening prayer on Thursday, then participate in the Youth Rally and the March on Friday. The cost of the youth trip is \$70 per person, and sponsors for the cost of that trip are very welcome! Tickets are available by calling the Rectory at (914) 737-2071 or calling Juliet Juarez at (914) 382-3185 for the day trip or Blanca Zhungo at (914) 774-4011 for the overnight trip. Come witness to life as a disciple of Christ!



### A PRAYER TO MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

On this Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, why not say this prayer? (Why not say it every day?)

*Heavenly Father, You blessed the Virgin Mary with the fullness of grace.*

*She is my model of faith, hope and love.*

*I give this new year to her intercession and ask for her holy prayers.*

*Place my needs into the protection of her motherly love.*

*With her help, I want my faith to grow.*

*Give me an increase in the virtue of hope when troubles tempt me to despair.*

*Guide me in understanding Your infinite love.*

*And join my heart, dear Lord, to the Holy Mother's Immaculate Heart,*

*that I may improve in loving everyone unconditionally, in imitation of my Savior, Jesus. Amen.*



## BEHIND THE SCENES AT ASSUMPTION

It takes many people to see to it that a parish runs smoothly. In our continuing series highlighting parish employees and volunteers, we focus this week on John Bischoff, Cemetery Manager at Assumption Cemetery.



*"Hello, my name is John Bischoff. I was born and raised in Peekskill and have been a part of the Assumption parish since I was a child. I received my sacraments at Assumption Church after going through Assumption's religious education program.*

*Upon graduating from Peekskill High School in 2002, I attended the College of Mount Saint Vincent from 2002 through 2005. In the summer of 2005, I started working at Assumption Cemetery.*

*I have been blessed with a wonderful family – my amazing mother Catherine, my sister Christine, my niece Ziva and nephew Bennie – and let's not forget my dog Princess!*

*I am currently the Cemetery Manager and have two great employees: Gary Diehl and Billie Clark.*

*I'm honored to be a part of such a caring parish while also serving the Lord and our community by fulfilling one of the seven corporal works of mercy – to bury the dead."*

## LET'S BRING ON THE HEAT!

Come enjoy a delicious Spaghetti Dinner on **Thursday, January 12** and, in the process, help the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Peekskill raise funds for crucial repairs. Their 150-year-old Mount St. Francis Convent on South Street is in dire need of four new boilers and major heating repairs in both the Chapel and Records & Archives Room. The feasting will take place at the Peekskill Elks Club (1038 Brown Street) from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, and the fun will include a 50/50 raffle and prizes. The cost is \$25 per person. To purchase tickets, to volunteer or donate, or for more information, please contact Leslie Lawler at (914) 260-5973 or at [jl801@optonline.net](mailto:jl801@optonline.net).

## CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New York are academically-excellent communities teaching students to be lifelong learners and leaders, energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church and one another. The Catholic School Region of Northern Westchester invites parents of prospective students to experience Catholic schools in action by visiting on an upcoming "Touring Tuesday" open-house event – January 10, January 31, February 14, March 14 and April 4, from 9:00 am – 11:00 am OR by appointment. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (646) 794-2885 to speak to a representative OR by going to [www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org). Additional open-house dates and times will be scheduled during Catholic Schools Week (January 29 – February 3).

## NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Feasts of the Christmas Season:  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1, 2017)

While many will be making (and breaking) New Year's resolutions and suffering from self-inflicted hangovers on the first day of the year, the Christian world for centuries has observed January 1 in a variety of religious celebrations.

Veneration of Mary as the Mother of God – not merely as the mother of Jesus of Nazareth – was given official recognition in 431 AD by the Council of Ephesus, giving her the Greek title "*Theotokos*" or, in Latin, "*Dei Genetricis*" – i.e., she who "generated," "gave birth" to God. In its primary assertion of the divinity of Christ, Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Council, of necessity, declared Mary to be Mother of God.

The Feast of the Annunciation (March 25) was already being observed, encouraged especially by the Councils of Toledo (656 AD) and Constantinople (692 AD). But by the Seventh Century, celebrations of the Annunciation and the Assumption began to eclipse Mary's divine maternity.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries, the focus of medieval Rome, Spain and Gaul (France) was on the observance of the Circumcision of the Lord and the Octave of the Nativity: "*And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus...*" (Luke 2:21)

In 1578, January 1 officially became the feast of the Naming and Circumcision of Jesus, lasting until the 20<sup>th</sup> Century when changes were made by Pope Saint John XXIII (restoring the observance of the Octave of the Nativity) and by Blessed Pope Paul VI, who reclaimed January 1 as the current Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Because Christmas and its Octave both fell on a Sunday this year, the Feast of the Holy Family (also reinstated in 1969) was not observed, but music – especially the German carols – celebrate all three!

The 16<sup>th</sup> Century Leipzig mystery-play lullaby, JOSEPH DEAREST, JOSEPH MINE, derives its melody from the 14<sup>th</sup> Century carol "Resonet in laudibus."

LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING (#91) dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

O COME, LITTLE CHILDREN (#92) is the beloved work of Johann A. Schulz, an 18<sup>th</sup> Century accompanist, conductor and chapel master for the royalty of Germany, Poland and Denmark.

SEE AMID THE WINTER (#89) is a contemporary piece by Kevin Keil, written for a 19<sup>th</sup> Century lyric.

Come up to the loft! Sing with the Choir as we celebrate the Virgin Mother, glorious St. Joseph and the Divine Child!

## COULD YOU NOT PRAY WITH ME...?

First Fridays of every month are special times to visit our Lord, who is truly present in the Eucharist and exposed in the Church. This **Friday, January 6**, our Lord Jesus Christ, in the Eucharist, will be on the altar for adoration from 12:15 pm – 7:00 pm. At 7:00 pm the Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament takes place. Come and spend time adoring the Lord Jesus with us.

## ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

### RENOVAR + RECONSTRUIR: 99.5% Y SUBIENDO...

Gracias a su generosidad estamos a \$6,120 de alcanzar nuestra meta de \$1,115,500. Si desea ayudarnos, por favor llame a la Rectoría al (914) 737-2071.



**LA LEGION DE MARIA INVITA ESTE  
SABADO 7 DE ENERO DEL 2017  
Y TODOS LOS DIAS SABADOS AL ROSARIO  
DE LA AURORA A LAS 5:00 AM**

**INVITAN A SUS REUNIONES LOS DIAS MIERCOLES  
DESDE LAS 7:00 PM HASTA LAS 8:30 PM EN LA  
LIBRERIA DE LA CASA PARROQUIAL**

### ¿QUE ES LA LEGIÓN DE MARIA?

"Es una organización apostólica de laicos en la Iglesia Católica con cerca de cuatro millones de miembros activos y más de siete millones de auxiliares en el mundo, nació en Dublín, Irlanda el 7 de setiembre de 1921. EL NOMBRE de Legión de María obedece a que el espíritu de la organización quiere ser el mismo de la Virgen Santa María. Ella es la reina de los Apóstoles, porque fue la primera en presentar a Cristo ante los hombres.

¿QUIÉNES PUEDEN PERTENECER? TODO CATÓLICO que practique fielmente su religión y desee ser útil a la Iglesia y a la sociedad, y que esté dispuesto a cumplir las normas funcionales de la asociación.

¿QUÉ HACE? Orar y trabajar apostólicamente. Funciona con reuniones semanales de grupo, donde se ora, se revisa la actividad apostólica, y se estudian temas formativos para hacer más eficaz el apostolado.

SU SISTEMA es sencillo. Cada legionario activo debe:

1. Asistir puntual y semanalmente a la junta de su grupo, donde se mezclan íntimamente la revisión del trabajo efectuado, la formación espiritual y humano-apostólica, con la oración en común.
2. Rezar diariamente la Catena, que es el Magníficat de la Virgen, la oración de los pobres y de los humildes.
3. Realizar un trabajo apostólico concreto cada semana, con duración mínima de dos horas, acompañado de otro legionario.
4. Mantener en secreto los asuntos discutidos en la Junta o conocidos en el ejercicio del trabajo legionario."



**SABADO 7 DE ENERO 7:00 AM  
MISA MENSUAL  
EN HONOR AL DIVINO NIÑO**

**Bendición de vientres de madres embarazadas.**



**FIESTA EN HONOR  
AL SEÑOR DE LA MISERICORDIA  
SAN FERNANDO  
SABADO, 7 DE ENERO DEL 2017**

**Novena: Del 26 de diciembre al 6 de enero del 2017**

Invitamos para que nos acompañen a la Solemne Eucaristía en honor al Señor de la Misericordia de San Fernando a partir de las 7:00 pm, después de la Misa ofreceremos un variado programa espiritual-musical con el hermano Wilfredo Ortiz y un compartir comunitario en el Auditorio Padre Wilson.



**IV - ANIVERSARIO DE LA CORONACIÓN  
DEL NIÑO VIAJERO  
DOMINGO 8 DE ENERO DEL 2017**

**"Solemnidad de la Epifanía del Señor"**  
Santa Eucaristía en la Iglesia Asunción,  
Peekskill - 2:30 pm  
**Celebrante: Padre Ángel López**



**FIESTA EN HONOR AL MILAGROSO  
SEÑOR DE ESQUIPULAS  
GUATEMALA  
XVII CELEBRACION**

**Celebrante: Padre Juan Pablo Lobos**

**Novena: Del 4 al 12 de enero del 2017**  
Lugar: 940 Orchard Street, Peekskill - 7:30 pm

**Sábado 14 de enero del 2017**  
5:00 am Despertar mañanero con Mariachis.  
6:00 am Celebración Eucarística  
7:00 am Desayuno Chapín  
7:00 pm Celebración Eucarística  
8:30 pm Procesión al Salón Padre Wilson y compartir!



**HORA SANTA POR LOS  
MATRIMONIOS**

El Grupo Matrimonial "Jesús, María y José" invitan el día jueves 12 de Enero a la Hora Santa de Adoración al Santísimo, desde las 7 de la noche. Esta noche iniciaremos por primera vez el rezo del rosario Eucarístico de reparación. Todas las parejas y personas que deseen crecer en oración y alabanza son bienvenidas!



**VIRGEN DE LA ALTAGRACIA**

La Comunidad Dominicana invita a las fiestas en honor a la Virgen de la Altagracia, protectora espiritual de la Republica Dominicana, la Celebración Eucarística será el día Sábado 21 de Enero a las 7 de la noche, iniciaremos con la novena el jueves 12 de Enero. Mayores detalles con los servidores.