





### Parish Mission Statement

We, the community of Saint Mary's, Manhasset, building on our rich heritage of Catholic faith and tradition, center ourselves in the Eucharist and honor God in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be the presence of Christ through our liturgical, educational and social ministries. We dedicate our time, talent and treasure to the service of all as we build the kingdom of God in our world. **We commit to this mission in the name of Jesus Christ.**

#### Masses for the Week

##### Monday, December 28th The Holy Innocents

1 Jn 1:5-2:2, Mt 2:13-18

7:00 AM Henry & Julian Miller

9:00 AM Mary Smyth

##### Tuesday, December 29th St. Thomas Becket

1 Jn 2:3-11, Lk 2:22-35

7:00 AM Donata Filiberto

9:00 AM Frank Hartmann

##### Wednesday, December 30th

1 Jn 2:12-17, Lk 2:36-40

7:00 AM Helen Bova

9:00 AM Walter Fischer

##### Thursday, December 31st St. Sylvester, New Year's Eve

1 Jn 2:18-21, Jn 1:1-18

7:00 AM Donata Filiberto

9:00 AM Eva Yevoli

5:00 PM Alice Hartmann

##### Friday, January 1st The Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, New Year's Day

Nm 6:22-27, Gal 4:4-7, Lk 2:16-21

9:00 AM Sisto Cellenza

10:30 AM For the People of the Parish

12:00 Noon Henry Cheatham

5:00 PM Audrey Hallet

##### Saturday, January 2nd St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen

1 Jn 2:22-28, Jn 1:19-28

8:00 AM Gene Kenny

5:00 PM Jose Moledo,  
Deceased Members of the  
Golden Family,  
Mercedes Segarra,  
Barbara Benz,  
Kenneth Bordeman

##### Sunday, January 3rd Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6, Mt 2:1-12

7:30 AM Msgr. John J. Wiest

9:00 AM Leslie Anne Kempa

10:30 AM For the People of the Parish

12:00 Noon Richard Sullivan,  
Wanda Zakrzewski,  
Rose Tacconi,  
Janet O'Connell,  
Barbara Benz

5:00 PM Sophie Kasinski & Family

#### Parish Directory

**Rev. Msgr. John J. McCann - Pastor**

627-0385 ext. 1004

**Diane Bayen**

Music Director

627-0385 ext. 1021

**Deacon Frank Bice**

627-0385

**Anthony Chiofalo**

Controller

627-0385 ext. 1007

**Lorraine Czarniak**

Faith Formation Gr. K-8

627-4028 ext. 1127

**Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco**

Sunday Assistant

**Vincent Hartley**

Facilities Manager

627-0385 ext. 1002

**Deacon Charles Kammerer**

627-0385

**Patricia McDonough**

Director of Youth Ministry

627-5759

**Dr. Jo-Ann Metzdorff**

Pastoral Associate

627-0385 ext. 1010

**Theresa Perrella Gaudiuso**

Parish & Elementary School

Development Office

627-0385 ext. 1160

**Fr. Vincent Ritchie, SJ**

In Residence

**Fr. Allan Sikorski**

Associate Pastor

627-0385 ext. 1006

**Fr. Raphael Soadwah**

Assistant Priest

**Christine Sutherland**

Parish Social Ministry

365-2705 ext. 1126

**Eileen Symmons '86**

Director of Communications

627-0385 ext. 1001

**Fr. Jacob Vattackattu**

In Residence

**Saint Mary's Elementary School**

627-0184 | www.stmary11030.org

**Celeste M. Checchia, PhD**

Principal

**Elaine Drzymalski**

Assistant Principal

**Saint Mary's College Preparatory High School**

**Dr. Kevin McBride, Principal** 627-2711

**Kristin Lynch Graham '88, Director of Development** 627-4605

#### Please Pray for the Ill

Livia Richards

Dorothy McCartney

Margaret Denihan

Christina Travers

Grace Falcone

Betty Licup Yap

Claro Licup

Harriet Brensic

Mary D'Alba

Antonio Yap

Eugene Travers

Joan Matthews

Joan Delli-Pizzi

DeLing Licup

James Ferlazzo

#### In Memoriam



**Dominick Abrusci**

Names will remain on the list for 3 months. Please notify the Bulletin Editor if you would like to continue.



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

### *A Family Prayer*

*We bless you name, O Lord,  
for sending your own  
incarnate Son  
to become part of a family,  
so that, as he lived his life,  
he would experience  
its worries and joys.*

*We ask you, Lord,  
to shower your blessing  
on our family.*

*Enable us  
who are joined by love  
to support one another  
by our faith and prayer.*

*Make us responsive  
to each others needs  
and witness to our faith  
by all*

*we say and do.  
We ask this through  
Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

*May God Bless You in 2010!*

Rev. Msgr. John J. McCann

**Holy Hour for  
Vocations  
Sunday, January 3rd  
3:00 PM**

**Mass Schedule  
for  
Friday, January 1st  
New Year's Day**

**The Feast of  
Mary, Mother of God**

**A Holy Day of Obligation**

**New Year's Eve at 5:00 PM  
New Year's Day at 9:00 AM  
10:30 AM  
12:00 Noon  
5:00 PM**

*There will be NO 7:30 AM Mass  
on New Year's Day.*



**Eucharistic  
Adoration**

**New Year's Eve  
1:00 to 4:30 PM**

**In the Chapel,  
off the south side of the Church.**

*Come spend some time in prayer!*

*Pray for priests!  
Pray for vocations!  
Pray for your family!  
Spend time in silent prayer before  
the Blessed Sacrament.*



# Stewards of God's Gifts



The first reading today provides a challenging guideline for the good stewardship of our family relationships. How do I measure up?

*We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who seek to use their gifts of healing and forgiveness to promote healthy relationships within their families as well as the wider community.*

## ST. MARY'S *Gift Shop*

COME AND SEE OUR  
GIFTS, CD'S, BOOKS  
AND RELIGIOUS ARTICLES



OPEN TUESDAY & THURSDAY  
9:30 AM-12:00 PM  
SUNDAY 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

UNIQUE RELIGIOUS GIFTS & CARDS NOT  
FOUND ANYWHERE ELSE ARE AVAILABLE FOR  
EVERY OCCASION,

THE GIFT SHOP IS LOCATED ON THE LOWER  
LEVEL OF THE CHURCH  
PHONE - 627-0385 X. 1106

*All Proceeds Benefit Parish Social Ministry*

## *Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing*



**Reading I:** *1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28*

As long as he lives, he shall be  
dedicated to the LORD.

**Reading II:** *1 John 3:1-2, 21-24*

We are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

**Gospel:** *Luke 2:41-52*

Did you not know that I must be  
in my Father's house?

*Question for Adults:*

How can I help my family to grow together  
in our love of God?

*Question for Children:*

What can I do this week to show  
every member of my family  
how much I love them?



## Adult Faith Formation

### Do You Know?

**This week’s question: As a child, I remember always celebrating the feast of the Epiphany on January 6th. Why do we now celebrate this feast on a Sunday and not on the actual date?**

**Answer to last week’s question: Monday, December 21st is the Winter Solstice. How does that connect to our celebration of Christmas?** The earliest evidence we have of the celebration of Christmas is around 336 AD. One of several theories about the date of Christmas surrounds the pagan celebration of the Feast of the Unconquerable Sun King established by the emperor Aurelian in 274 AD. This theory is called the History of Religions Hypothesis. The pagan feast was celebrated on December 25th, the day of the winter solstice in the Julian calendar. This theory states that the nativity of Jesus was established by Constantine on this day to counteract the pagan Roman feast. However, scholars also suggest that the December 25th date was already established by Christians prior to this, and the pagans chose the date of their feast to create a Roman alternative to the celebration of the nativity of Christ. What is interesting about both feasts is that they occur on the date in the Julian calendar when the days begin to grow longer. For the pagans, this signified the return of the sun. For Christians, it is the birth of the Son of God. It is also interesting to note that John the Baptist’s birthday is celebrated on the summer solstice in the Julian calendar, when daylight begins to decrease until the time of Jesus’ birth. For John himself said, *“He must increase, I must decrease”* (John 3:30).

**If you have a question you would like to see answered in this column, please send it to Jo-Ann Metzdorff at [joannm@stmary.ws](mailto:joannm@stmary.ws) or drop it off in the Parish Office.**



The Pastoral staff wishes to thank all who assisted with our Christmas celebrations. We thank those who helped decorate the church making it a beautiful place to celebrate our Lord’s Nativity. We thank our lectors who proclaimed God’s word, and the many Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who assisted at these our most crowded Masses of the year. Thank you to our collection takers and those who assisted in seating people. Thanks to our young sacristans who worked hard, especially with our additional Masses. In a special way we thank our choirs, cantors and instrumentalists who, as always, make the Christmas season more joyful with their music.

### Faith Express

This next meeting is January 4th when Pat McDonough will explore the **Fourth Commandment: Honor Thy Father and Mother.**

### Baptism Reunion

All families who had a baby baptized during 2009 are invited to attend a baptism reunion on Sunday, January 10th, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The celebration will begin with the 9:00 AM Family Mass followed by hospitality in the Marian Room.





# Parish Social Ministry



**Prayer  
for the  
New Year**

*May we remember our fellow brethren in our prayers. Allow us to share with them the gifts of our faith, charity, human kindness and love. We pray for peace among the nations of the world.*

*The Office of Parish Social Ministry would like to extend our best wishes for a happy, healthy, and blessed New Year!  
- Chris Sutherland, Coordinator*

# Faith Formation Grades 1-8



*Holiday  
Schedule*

There will be no classes this week. Classes resume on Monday, January 4th. The Faith Formation Office will reopen at that time.

**WINTER  
Retreat**  
Women's Silent Retreat

The darkness of these winter days stands in contrast to the light of Christ within us. This weekend provides us with time and space to enter into prayer and deep silence - the perfect preparation for the new year that lies ahead.

January 8th - January 10th, 2010

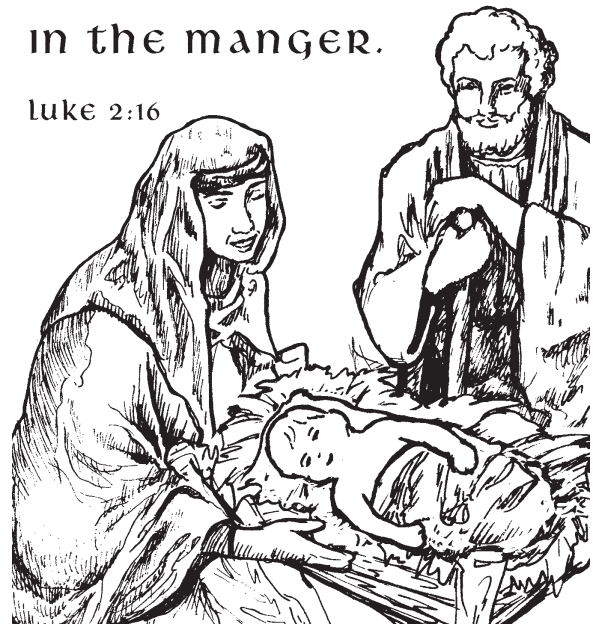
Presenter: Sister Maria Regina Loures, IHM

Cost: \$200.00

Our Lady of Grace Center  
e-mail: [olgcenter@gmail.com](mailto:olgcenter@gmail.com)

**So they... found mary and joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.**

luke 2:16





**2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

March 5-6, 2010

**Sports Night**

Brother Kenneth Robert Gymnasium  
Doors open 7:30 PM | Showtime 8:00 PM

March 11, 2010

**Ladies' Night Out:**

Boutique, Fashion Show and Dinner  
Leonard's | Dolce Vita  
555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck  
6:30 PM Cocktails | 7:30 PM Dinner

*Join honorary Sports Night captains Sr. Mariette Quinn, IHM (White) and Mrs. Diane Papa (Blue) for a night of memories and tradition. Sponsored by the Gaels Parents' Association.*

April 22, 2010

**60th Anniversary Celebration of St. Mary's High School**

Plandome Country Club  
6:00 PM Cocktails & Buffet Dinner

*Join former faculty members, coaches, administrators and classmates for a night celebrating the rich tradition and educational mission that has been St. Mary's since its founding in 1949. Formal invitations to follow.*

April 24, 2010

**Lacrosse Reunion**

Denihan Field  
All lacrosse alumni are invited to an alumni game and reception. Invitations to follow.

May 15, 2010

**Class of 1985 25th Reunion**

Strathmore-Vanderbilt Country Club  
Formal invitations to follow.

September 23, 2010

**18th Annual Don Monti Memorial Golf Classic and Fall Alumni Dinner**

Plandome Country Club  
Formal invitations to mail Summer 2010.

October 9, 2010

**Class of 1960 50th Reunion**

4:00 PM | Tours of St. Mary's High School  
5:00 PM | Mass at the Church of St. Mary  
*Celebrated by Father Bill Brisotti '60*  
7:00 PM | Cocktails and Buffet Dinner  
The Roslyn Claremont Hotel  
1221 Old Northern Boulevard, Roslyn  
\$105 per person

**For more information on these events, please call 627 4605 or visit [www.stmaryalumni.ws](http://www.stmaryalumni.ws).**



*The Bread and Wine this week are offered in loving memory of*

*Walter Fischer*

*If you would like to make an offering of the bread and wine for the week please call the Parish Office.*

**MASS SCHEDULE**

(subject to change)

**December 31st - January 1st**

**Thursday, December 31st**

5:00 PM Msgr. John J. McCann

**Friday, January 1st**

9:00 AM Fr. Raphael Soadwah

10:30 AM Fr. Vincent Ritchie

12:00 Noon Fr. Allan Sikorski

5:00 PM Fr. Anthony Refalo



# All I Want For Christmas is Peace, Love and the Spirit of Jesus

By Patricia Pitta Ph.D., ABPP

Over the years I have heard people say that Christmas has become too commercial! Parents have said, “Children think only about what they are going to get.” With a tenuous and difficult economic environment, maybe this is the time to think about making new traditions to include more personal involvement other than presents and the trimmings. When I think about “presents” the word “presence” comes to mind. Isn’t that the greatest gift of all to give your “presence”? When you give your “presence” by offering your full attention (let the other talk without interrupting, judging or telling him what to do) you give love, feel inner peace and share the spirit of Jesus. God is always present for us! Can you ask yourself, “How can you as an individual and a family member give the gift of peace, love and spirit”? In this Christmas season, spend time each day with your children and spouse and talk about the concepts of bringing peace, love and the spirit of Jesus to your home. You might ask, “How can I do this”?

Many parents ask children to write a Christmas list of what they want from Santa. Can you ask your child, no matter what their age, “What they want to give to bring more peace, love and the spirit of Jesus into the family during the Christmas season”? Each day spend time with the family maybe before dinner or before bedtime discussing the gratitude for your gifts as well how to share your gifts with each other to bring peace, love and the spirit of Jesus. What are your gifts (your energy, thoughts, attention, time and your special talents)? Let’s say someone in the family has a good voice. Maybe he or she can sing a song for the family at Christmas. Maybe another person likes to cook or bake. They can make a special treat for the family. Maybe someone likes to draw. Draw a picture that you can offer to the family and talk about it. If someone likes to read; share a story you have read. If you are a Bible reader, share a story from the Bible. For parents, reading a story from a children’s or teen’s Bible might be a good idea. Do the same with your spouse. Explore how each can contribute (how can you help each other) to bring peace, love and the spirit of Jesus into your marriage. Just talk about these concepts and give your “presence” to each other. Share what you have right within you and it doesn’t cost money. Ask yourself to give in a way that will promote the feeling of connection with your family members that can bring about peace, love, and the spirit of Jesus. Maybe if you can do this at Christmastime it can be a tradition you can practice throughout the year.

You might be saying, “I live alone; this doesn’t apply to me.” You couldn’t be more wrong! Call a friend, share a dinner and give your attention to another. The point is to share your “presence” with others and that is the greatest present you can give and receive in the Christmas season. Here is a Christmas prayer that you can say alone and with others:

Jesus you are my friend and ever present guide. May I be there for others as you are.

May the concerns of the day and my life be worked out with peace, love and your spiritual guidance.

My Christmas gift is to give my “presence” to others and to celebrate through my loving, peaceful actions and words the birth of Jesus.

*Dr. Pitta ([www.drpatriciapitta.com](http://www.drpatriciapitta.com); [drpatpitta@optonline.net](mailto:drpatpitta@optonline.net)) is a Clinical Psychologist and a Board Certified Family and Marital Psychologist practicing in Manhasset and is the chair of the Mental Health Ministry of St. Mary’s. She is also a professor of psychology at St. John’s University and a graduate of the Pastoral Formation Institute of Rockville Centre.*





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# High School News

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## Guides to Great Adventures

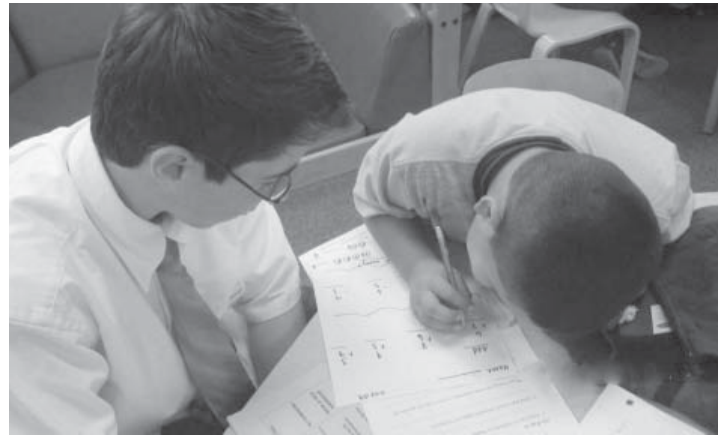
By Diana Shorthouse, Junior Staff -*The Magnificat*

Since 1995, students from St. Mary's High School have been attending Adventures in Learning, a tutoring program coordinated by Mr. Kupferman and Mr. McDermott. Also known as the Jacob Marley Foundation, it is a great program that helps younger children with their homework while helping them realize their goals. Students from St. Mary's participate in this program, aiding younger students with their academics while also assisting in golf, arts and crafts, and Boys and Girl Scouts.

Every Monday through Thursday, at the Hagedorn Community Center of the Manhasset/ Great Neck area, St. Mary's students tutor younger children and help them with their homework. It is a nurturing environment where children learn and develop new skills.

Diana Holden, the main coordinator of Adventures in Learning "watches the younger children sprout and learn new things. It gives the students many opportunities." Holden feels so proud of the successes that the students achieve through the hard work that they demonstrate. Junior Kevin Won stated, "I enjoyed helping younger children, I feel as if I really get through to them and that they appreciated what I was doing in order to help them."

As a reward at the end of the day, the younger students are given a special treat for their success. The children that need the most help tend to enjoy the program more. Gina, a seven year old student, says "I really love it; I do a lot of things such as being helped with my math and reading. The students that helped me were really nice and made me feel special. I feel that I made a difference in my work since I started coming here."



*Sophomore Nick Diblasi helping a student at the Hagedorn Community Center.*

Many St. Mary's students participate in Adventures in Learning for volunteering and community service hours. Other St. Mary's students attend it because it is a fantastic way to connect with younger children and to reminisce of the times they were in similar learning situations.

Junior Stephanie Guzman states, "I really enjoy it very much, I feel great knowing that I was able to help kids that needed it."

The St. Mary's students main role in helping younger children is to make the young ones understand what they have to do with their work. The St. Mary's students also guide the younger children through their homework nightly.

"I mostly did writing with the younger students because it tended to be a weakness. I enjoyed seeing them getting questions correct. I definitely recommend this program to students around Long Island," says Junior Vanessa Vass.

