

# PARISH NEWS

*January 1, New Year's Day, has a number of liturgical names celebrating a variety of events. Could you sort some of this out?*

January 1, New Year's Day, celebrates newness. Exactly eight days after Christmas, traditionally it celebrates Mary as the Mother of God. The Greek word for Mary's motherhood is Theotokos, meaning "God-bearer." Becoming official church teaching at the Council of Ephesus in 381, this is one of the most ancient and important titles given to Mary. Chapter VIII of the Vatican II document, Lumen Gentium, which addresses Mary's role in Christian life, refers to her by that title no less than twelve times.

Eight days after the birth of a Jewish male, circumcision was demanded by Jewish law. January 1 also commemorates the circumcision of Jesus. The Gospel reading for the day from Luke recounts the shepherds' visit, the completion of the eight days leading to circumcision, and naming the baby Jesus, according to the angel's direction previous to his conception.



Beginning in 1967, Pope Paul VI requested that this day be set aside as a day of prayer for world peace. For over forty years popes have issued a message encouraging prayer as well as action toward the establishment of world peace.

If we used today to be as loving to others as mothers are to their children, this might be the year that peace becomes a reality. That reality may move us all to renew our commitment to God symbolized by Jesus' circumcision. So maybe these various celebrations do link together. **Happy New Year!**

*Join us to end 2018 and begin 2019 in prayer....we will have a Holy Hour at Our Lady of Lourdes on Monday evening, December 31st from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.*



**Mass Intentions for 2019** Anyone interested in Mass Intentions for your living and deceased loved ones, please contact the Parish Center. Thank You.

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** Monday, December 31st is the last day that you are able to contribute to the parish in order to include that gift in this years tax reports! Thanks for your continued generosity and support.

### AID FOR FRIENDS

The cold weather is here...time to start cooking those savory stews and soups! Please consider cooking extra meals for our needy clients. Trays are available near the church exits. We'd like to fully stock all of the freezers (Lourdes, St. Matthias, St. Denis) in this region, before the cold and snowy weather hits. For info, please call the OLL Parish Center or Ginny Schwartz at 610-348-2947.



During the Christmas—Holiday season we will not have exposition and Vespers in the upper church on Thursdays until January 10th.

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

Fearful things can sometimes happen in family life. The local evening news often has stories about the struggles a family may be facing. Maybe it's a fire that drove a family from its home. Or it may be an illness that strikes a child and severely affects the entire family. Or the news story may be about an accident that incapacitates the wage-earner in the household. These kinds of problems seem even more tragic at this time of year, when families gather together and often feel a certain security and warmth in being united.

The Gospel today certainly reminds us that family tragedy can strike anywhere, even the family of Mary and Joseph and Jesus.



Living in Bethlehem, and having just received visitors from afar, the family is suddenly uprooted and forced to flee from the wrath of Herod who is out to destroy the newborn child. Mary and Joseph become political refugees, forced to live in a foreign land and dependent on the kindness of strangers because they feared for their lives and the life of their child. This is not the picture we usually paint when we imagine the Holy Family.

For some families today, the flight from persecution is just as real as the flight into Egypt was for the Holy Family. Others seek to flee hardship of a different kind: illness, job loss, despair, fractured relationships. When the evening news presents stories about families with problems there is often a suggestion of a way to help, such as a place to make a donation. When families in the Christian community are hurting, it is an invitation from God for the rest of us to reach out with our love and care. Sometimes that is through a listening ear, at other times through a donation to an organization that can help, such as Catholic Charities or the local St. Vincent de Paul conference. In the end, we are all one family in the faith.

### ARCHDIOCESE CATHOLIC NEWS

For the Archdiocese News: visit: [www.CatholicPhilly.com](http://www.CatholicPhilly.com) The website is updated daily with local, national, and international Catholic news. Sign-up for the Free weekly newsletter.

### MARCH FOR LIFE

*Once again, the parish has a bus for those interested in going to Washington DC for the Respect-Life March this coming Friday, January 18, 2019. The bus will leave at 7am. For reservations, please contact the Parish Center at 215-473-1669 OR complete the Registration Form below and place it in the Collection basket. There will be a special collection January 6th & 13th to defray the cost of the bus rental.*

#### BUS RESERVATION FOR THE MARCH FOR LIFE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PERSONS: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**



**Sunday – December 30**

8am-1pm Food for the Needy Dropoff—Rectory Porch

**Monday – December 31: New Year’s Eve**

OLL Parish Center Closed

6pm Holy Hour—Church

**Tuesday – January 1: New Year’s Day**

OLL Parish Center Closed

**Wednesday – January 2**

OLL Parish Center Closed

7pm Legion of Mary—Parish Center

**Thursday – January 3**

OLL Parish Center Closed

1pm Senior Citizens Group—St. Donato Church Hall

**Friday – January 4**

1:45pm St. Frances Cabrini School Mass—St Donato

**Saturday – January 5**

8:30am Saturday Salve—Church

10am Church Cleaning

4pm Devotion to St. Raymond Relic—Church

**Sunday – January 6**

8am-1pm Devotion to St. Raymond Relic—Church

**PARISH MINISTRIES—January 6th**

**Saturday 4:00pm**

Lector: K. Doyle Kelly

Servers: J. Dunson, T. Milord

**Sunday 8:00am**

Lector: G. Boggia

Servers: T. Miller, A. Miller

**9:30am**

Servers: J. Hare, B. Brown, J. Brown, M. Brown

**10:00am (St. Donato)**

Lector: J. Pagano

**11:30am**

Lector: L. Graham

Servers: J. Jackson, G. Wallacavage, D. Ermine

**8:00pm**

Lector: M. Solomon

**POINSETTIAS**

Poinsettias are native to Mexico. They were named after America’s first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett. He brought the plants to America in 1828. The Mexicans in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century thought the plants were symbolic of the Star of Bethlehem. Thus the Poinsettia became associated with the Christmas season. The actual flower of the Poinsettia is small and yellow. But surrounding the flower are large, bright red leaves, often mistaken for petals. *Thanks to all those who donated towards our flowers and decorations in church!*

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center**

1941 Wynnewood Road

Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-473-1669 (phone)

215-473-1670 (fax)

**www.ourladylourdes.org**

For information concerning sacraments or to meet with a staff member, please contact Denise Baker the parish secretary at the office number above.

**REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE**

**Weekday Masses**

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.

**Weekend Masses**

Saturday 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (vigil)

Sunday 8:00, 9:30 (Latin High Mass),

11:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m. at St. Donato Worship Site

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (confessions)**

Saturday 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

**OLL WEBSITE**

Check It Out! Includes the Weekly Bulletin, Calendar, and Mass Schedule, Updates.

Visit: [www.ourladylourdes.org](http://www.ourladylourdes.org)

**Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes**

*If you are new to our area and/or you enjoy coming to our parish, SIGN UP and be a part of our Overbrook Family! Fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or contact the Parish Center to register.*

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

New Registration  Change of Address

Moving out of Parish