



**GLORY TO GOD
IN THE HIGHEST**

Santa's Prayer on Christmas Eve

By Warren D. Jennings

The sleigh was all packed, the reindeer were fed,
But Santa still knelt by the side of the bed.

"Dear Father," he prayed "Be with me tonight.
There's much work to do and my schedule is tight.

I must jump in my sleigh and streak through the
sky,
Knowing full well that a reindeer can't fly.

I will visit each household before the first light,
I'll cover the world and all in one night.

With sleigh bells a-ringing, I'll land on each roof,
Amid the soft clatter of each little hoof.

To get in the house is the difficult part,
So I'll slide down the chimney
of each child's heart.

My sack will hold toys to grant all their wishes.
The supply will be endless like
the loaves and the fishes.

I will fill all the stockings and not leave a track.
I'll eat every cookie that is left for my snack.

I can do all these things Lord, only through You,



I just need your blessing, then it's easy to do.

All this is to honor the birth of the One,
That was sent to redeem us, Your Most Holy Son.

So to all of my friends, least Your glory I rob,
" Please Lord, remind them who gave me this job."

Holiday Mass Schedule for St. Anne's Church

CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

- 4:00 PM Christmas Vigil
- 7:00 PM Christmas Vigil (Bi-Lingual)
- 12:00 AM Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

- 10:00 AM Mass of the Nativity
- 12 Noon Mass of the Nativity

NEW YEAR

New Year's Eve

- 7:00 PM (antic. Mass for Holy Day)

New Year's Day

- 9:00 AM Mass of the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

3 MORE DAYS OF

Simbang Gabi at St. Anne

From December 15 until 23, a nightly 7 PM Mass (5:30 PM on Saturday and Sunday) is offered followed by dinner in the tradition of Simbang Gabi. Join us!

Join us for the remaining Night Masses in preparation for the Coming of Jesus! Dinner by Filipino Community will be served. For more information please call Jenny Castaneda (201) 659.1545 / Totie Samson 201.653.7735 / John Floresca 917.541.0987 It is possible to sponsor one night dinner. If you are interested, please contact above persons.



SAVE THE DATE!!

March 6, 2016: St. Anne's Parish Auction

Our parish auction will take place once again in 2016 so mark your calendars for March 6. The doors will open at 12:00 noon. If you would like to donate some auction items, please bring all donations (including Gift Cards and Gift Certificates) to the rectory and label them "Parish Auction". We also welcome volunteers who are always needed. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Judy Waddleton at 201-659-4641. Thank you, Merry Christmas and see you next year for this great parish event!



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The search is underway for the longest married Couple in the U.S. Do you think you know who they are?

Maybe it's your parents... grandparents... That nice couple who live down the street... Nominating a couple is easy! Just send their names, wedding date and where they live and your contact information to: wmmelmc2015@gmail.com Nominations accepted until January 10, 2016.

Winners will be announced February 2016 to celebrate World Marriage Day. Nominate a couple you know today!

“Today a Savior has been born.”

By **SR MARY JOSEPH SCHULTZ, SCC**

The Christmas story can become too familiar to us because we have heard it countless times, even on TV as Linus recites the Nativity story in “Peanuts.” When something is heard so often we tend to tune out when it begins and start to think our own thoughts. “Familiarity breeds contempt.” And not really contempt, but simply indifference. But let us listen carefully to this beautiful rendition of our salvation.

Examine the shepherds – poor and obscure, going about their jobs in the fields. Why are they chosen to be the first recipients of the Good News, heralded by a choir of angels? Today, they would insist on being lauded on Facebook and seek an interview the next morning on GMA. But we do not know their names or anything about them. Picture this scene. Immerse yourself in it for a few moments and let it capture you. Now picture some 21st century counterparts of the shepherds. What if angels appeared to a group of day laborers waiting downtown at the train station? What if angels appeared to me and my co-workers? Would we believe their message? Would I go running to see



for myself the infant lying in the manger?

During these wonder-full days, don't put away your manger scene too soon. Bask in the reality. Contemplate the figures at the crèche and do not let the familiar scene lose its magnificent message. Today a

Savior has been born!! Jesus, Incarnate Word, speak in me and through me to a world that so needs this Good News. *This column was first published by St Joseph Outreach. Find more inspiring at stjosephsoutreach.wordpress.com*

The Catholic Church Is Battling Sexual Abuse

While most media focus over the past ten or more years has been on the incidents of sexual abuse within the Church, little has been said about the many positive steps that the Catholic Church has taken to address the issue. Dioceses across the country, and especially the Archdiocese of Newark, have instituted compassionate outreach to victims and support services, training and background checks for staff and volunteers, training for children and youth, codes of conduct, reporting requirements to civil authorities, independent Review Boards to investigate allegations and recommend actions under Canon law for offenders, as well as other initiatives.

To date, the Catholic Church is the only youth-serving organization in the country – private or public -- to undertake such a comprehensive program to create and promulgate safe environments for children and young people.

Independent auditors from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have found the Archdiocese of Newark to be fully compliant with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in every year since audits began in 2003.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child



Our Gospel reading recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit Elizabeth, her cousin, who is also with child.

Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles that they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. If we were to continue to read the verses that follow in Luke's Gospel, we would hear Mary respond to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel.

It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role

of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

JOB ADS

Holy Trinity Church in Fort Lee is looking for a **full time secretary**. Must be professional, organized, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet, knowledge of Publisher, general clerical duties, must be able to multitask. Email resume to holytrinity01@gmail.com or fax to 201-947-1217. For additional information please call [201-947-1216 ask for Susan.

The Schools office of the Archdiocese of Newark is looking for a **Development & Event Planning Assistant** responsible for development, grant writing,

event planning, government programs, and special projects as designated by the Secretary of Education. For a full description of the job and requirements, please contact the parish office.

The Schools office is also looking for an **administrative secretary** for clerical assistance. Education and experience required are a High school diploma and Secretarial school/college or three plus years in a similar position. For a complete description of the position please contact the parish office.

#END45

Catholic Charities Campaign to Help End Poverty in America

By **MATTHEW BORK, BA**

Somewhere between #TBT, #CATHOLICGUILT, and #PICOFTHE DAY, you may have briefly caught a glimpse of a new hashtag: "END45." END45 is the new campaign launched by Catholic Charities to address poverty in America. The 45 in the name comes from the number of millions of Americans currently living in poverty, which was 45 million when this campaign was being planned in 2014 and early 2015.

It may be hard to notice in our community, but according to statistics released by the US Census Bureau, about one in seven Americans across the country currently lives in poverty. As noted by Catholic Charities, who manage to serve at least 9 million individuals in the United States every year, poverty in America does not discriminate. Some are born into poverty, a system which affects children both mentally and physically - a topic we have featured in our bulletins before. Others may have suffered an unforeseen circumstance; perhaps they had an illness which resulted in steep doctor and hospital fees, or they may have lost a spouse who helped support the family and pay mortgages, or perhaps they may have a mental illness which can make finding and keeping stable work challenging. Whatever the reason, 45 million among us battle poverty, and over 15 million of those living in poverty are children.

To combat this mass poverty, Catho-

lic Charities has launched the END45 campaign to coincide with our Holy Year of Mercy. Pope Francis stated that the Year of Mercy will be a time in which "the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty." The strategy of END45 campaign fits well within our Year of Mercy; people are asked to raise awareness by sharing the hashtag "END45," and further support Catholic Charities who are already fighting poverty in the United States.

Catholic Charities currently follows a two-step approach to combat poverty. First, it deals with emergency needs of individuals. By supporting emergency shelters and food programs, Catholic Charities ensures that those suffering from hunger or displacement from a disaster meet their most immediate and basic needs. Simultaneously, Catholic Charities also supports and provides programming, housing, and classes to help individuals who may need help finding permanent housing, managing money, gaining skills and education for work, or help finding a stable job. In this way, Catholic Charities addresses both the pressing needs of the moment while also equipping people to leave the cycle of poverty.

How can you help? There are many ways to help Catholic Charities in its well-coordinated efforts. Donating financially will greatly support the programs they offer, but there are other



ways too. Catholic Charities also asks individuals to participate civically in their community and nation by asking representatives and leaders to focus more attention on addressing problems which cause systemic poverty. You can also help their mission by participating in a local Catholic Charities agency. In the same way that your work, family, and church benefit from your active participation and talents, the local agencies of Catholic Charities could use your help with their programs. Finally, simply staying connected with Catholic Charities will allow you to become more aware of the problems we face and opportunities for you to get involved.

In this coming new year, we should endeavour to be merciful in all areas of our life, to continue to support efforts like END45 beyond the Advent and Christmas season. Sadly, the number "45" in END45 has already grown to nearly 46 million Americans living in poverty; now is not the time to finish following Christ by showing mercy and giving support, now is the time to start. "We need to be vigilant," says Pope Francis, "and to reawaken in ourselves the capacity to see what is essential. This is a time for the Church to rediscover the meaning of the mission entrusted to her by the Lord on the day of Easter: to be a sign and an instrument of the Father's mercy."

When Your Siblings are Disabled

Being the sibling of someone with a profound disability often asks much of the sibling. Though they feel great love for their brother or sister, much is also expected. They typically need to grow up more quickly from additional responsibilities and often their parents' attention is more widely cast with the additional needs in raising an individual with a profound disability. There will be a gathering for teen and young adult aged siblings on Wednesday, January 6 at 7:30 PM at the St John the Evangelist Parish Life Center, 15 North Washington Avenue, Bergenfield. This event is sponsored by SIBS NJ and Pastoral Ministry with Persons with Disabilities. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to Anne Masters 973-639-6536 or

masteranrcan@gmail.com. Questions: info.sibsnj@gmail.com or Nancy Nasr at 973-851-0797

About SIBS NJ

SIBS NJ, Supportive Initiatives for Brothers & Sisters, is a volunteer organization based in Northern New Jersey dedicated to providing the siblings of individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and mental health conditions with information and support. Comprised and organized by siblings and sibling supporters, SIBS NJ seeks to help siblings connect with one another and to the resources they need to help them and their siblings with disabilities live, full, meaningful lives.

SAVE THE DATE!
JANUARY 29-31, 2016

Seekers Retreat

"What's important in my life? What am I looking for? How can I let God in?"

Charis NYC presents a peer-led, weekend retreat to help answer these questions, guided by Ignatian spirituality. Take time away to reflect with others in similar situations, and on your own as you consider how faith can make a difference in your life. For more information, please visit www.Charis.nyc. The retreat will take place at Mariandale Retreat Center, Ossining, NY (Accessible via MTA/MetroNorth).



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Pastoral Team

Fr. Nigel	Parish Priest
Fr. J. Ranieri	Weekend Assistant
Msgr. L.J. Miller	Weekend Assistant
Fr. D.X. Stump, S.J.	Weekday Assistant
Mrs. J. Waddleton & Lt. J. Carroll	Trustee

Weekly Planner

SUNDAY 12/20 • 4th Sunday of Advent

10 AM-1 PM CCD "Breakfast w/ Santa" Church/Convent

5:30-11 PM Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall

MONDAY 12/21

3:30-4:30 PM Legion of Mary Convent Comm Room

5:30-11 PM Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall

TUESDAY 12/22

12:15 PM BINGO Cent Hall

3-4 PM Holy Hour for Priests Convent Chapel

5-11 PM Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall

WEDNESDAY 12/23

5-11 PM Fil-Am Simbang Gabi Church/Cent Hall

THURSDAY 12/24 • Christmas Eve

Rectory Office Closed For Christmas Holiday

4 PM Christmas Mass Church

7 PM Christmas Vigil (Bi-Lingual) Church

12 AM Christmas Midnight Mass Church

FRIDAY 12/25 • Christmas Day

Rectory Office Closed For Christmas Holiday

No Bingo

10 AM & 12 NOON MASS ONLY

SATURDAY 12/26

Rectory Office Closed For Christmas Holiday

SUNDAY 12/27 • Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

10 AM CCD Families Attend Mass

Church No Class

Liturgies

Saturday Evening Church English 5:30 PM

(anticipating Sunday) Misa Español 7 PM

Sunday Church 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 Noon

Monday ▶ Saturday: Mass Church 9 AM

Wednesday: Mass Church 7 PM

Holy Hour

Tuesdays Convent Chapel 3-4 PM

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays Church (Or by Appointment) 5 PM

Schedule of Masses December 21st - 27th, 2015

Monday, December 21

9 AM Angela Aversana Family Mary Shin

Tuesday, December 22

9 AM † Sister Agnes Canavan Ruth Cullen

Wednesday, December 23

9 AM † Rosemary Pelle Family

7 PM † Special Intention OL Perpetual

Help Group

Thursday, December 24

9 AM † Gloria Engelhardt St. Joe's Mrrng Pryr Grp

4 PM For the People of the Parish

7 PM For the People of the Parish

12 AM For the People of the Parish

Friday, December 25

10 AM For the People of the Parish

12 NOON For the People of the Parish

Saturday, December 26

9 AM † Charles B. Gerrity Madeline

5:30 PM † Soul of Lourdes Rendon Salud & Family

7 PM Olimpia C. Molina Family

Sunday, December 27

8 AM † Rena Calvano Annarose & Mickey Smith

10 AM † Arthur Grecco Sr. Smith-Sikora Family

12 PM † Emily Infante Nelson Ave. Block Assn

Sunday Readings

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4A

Psalm: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Weekday Readings

Monday

Sg2:8-14 or Zep3:14-18A/PS33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk1:39-45

Tuesday

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8ABCD/LK 1:46-56

Wednesday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5AB, 8-9, 10 & 14/LK 1:57-66

Thursday

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29/LK 1:67-79

Friday Christmas

The Nativity of the Lord. Reading vary depending on the time Mass is celebrated.

Saturday Feast of Saint Stephen

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3CD-4, 6 & 8AB, 16BC & 17/Mt 10:17-22

Sanctuary Gifts for December 20th - 26th

C Gift In Memory/Honor of Requested By

Altar Wine † Mercian Travasso Piedad Mascarenhas

Altar Bread † Mercian Travasso Piedad Mascarenhas

Sanct. Lamp † Mercian Travasso Piedad Mascarenhas

Altar Candles † Mercian Travasso Piedad Mascarenhas

Sick List

Let us pray for the sick (People will remain on sick list for 2 weeks unless otherwise notified):

Dolores McNamara ● David Cicchine ● Marie Portelli ●

Portelli Niece & Nephew ● Jennifer O'Connor ●

Donna Tuzzo ● Matt Bolger ● Dennis Mallon ●

Marie Carlson ● Lawrence Shin ● Lupe Pena, ●

Frances Kearns ● Josephine Cermak Rowan ● Steve

& Rachel Mastin ● Diane Shea ● Joseph Callandrillo

● Humberto Quintana ● Julia Annicchiarico ●

Javier Vega ● Jennifer Moloughney ● Antoinette

Maddi ● Carol Jordan ● Anthony Biggio ● Sammy

DeLeon ● Shane Quinn ● Alice Daly ● Sadie Krieger

● Dolores DelMonte ● Dianne O'Sullivan ● Carl

Carlson ● Larry Bello ● Miyuki Campbell ● Diane

Albert ● Meghan Connaughton

Ministry to the Sick

We hope to give to all the sick and aged in our parish

the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. If you or

someone you know can no longer get to church,

and would like a Eucharistic Minister to bring you

Communion, please call St. Anne's Rectory at 201-

360-0838 or email: info@sahjerseycity.com

December Papal Prayer Intentions

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of

God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those

who suffer, may find in the birth of Jesus a sign of cer-

tain hope.

Religious Education News

Our Religious Ed Office is located inside St. Anne's

Rectory. Office Hours: M-T-W 9 am to 5 PM, TR & F,

10 am to 5 pm.

Social Media

Please follow the official Twitter channels of the parish:

	sah_promise	Faith Formation Grade K-1
	sah_goodnews	Faith Formation Grade 2-3
	sah_venture	Faith Formation Grade 4-6
	sah_visions	Faith Formation Grade 7-8
	stah_nation	General parish feed

Website & Online Services

Website: sahjerseycity.com

Parish registration: sahjerseycity.com/register

CCD Registration: sahjerseycity.com/ccd

Parish Calendar and online

Readings of the Day: sahjerseycity.com/calendar

How much should I give in the collection basket each Sunday?

We ask each person working in the household to gift one hour's wage to the parish every week.

How much is one hour? Below you can find the recommended contribution based on your annual combined income:

Annual combined income	Hourly Wage (Recommended weekly donation)
\$100,000	\$50
\$75,000	\$38
\$50,000	\$25
\$40,000	\$20
\$35,000	\$17
\$30,000	\$15
\$25,000	\$12
\$20,000	\$10
\$15,000	\$7

We are grateful for your contribution!

Baptism Information

Baptisms take place on the 1st Sunday of every

Month: 2 Baptisms per Mass at 10 AM & 12 Noon

(English). Because they will be promising to help

raise your child in the practice of the Faith, the

church requires that at least one of your child's

godparents be a 'fully initiated Roman Catholic,'

i.e., one who has been Baptized and received the

sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirma-

tion. At the time of registering your child for Bap-

tism, we ask that one of your chosen godparents

provide a copy of their Confirmation certificate

or some documentation from their church of

Baptism or Confirmation indicating the month

and year of their Confirmation. GODPARENTS &

PARENTS are also required to attend a "baptism

instruction" session on Saturday (the day before

the Baptism) @ 4:00 PM in CHURCH (English &

Spanish). A donation to the church for Baptism is

always appreciated: please place your offering in

an envelope marked 'BAPTISM' with your child's

name and drop it in the Sunday collection basket.

Contact the office with any questions. Thank You.

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