

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 7, 2018

FAITH DIRECT®
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Sunday, January 7

7:30 am † Bishop William G. Curlin
9:00 am † Rev. Msgr. William Kane
11:00 am † *Pro Populo*

Monday, January 8

12:00 pm † Eileen O'Brien

Tuesday, January 9

12:00 pm † Thomas and Emily Brewer

Wednesday, January 10

12:00 pm † Rita Horbett Burns

Thursday, January 11

12:00 pm † Mary G. Ford

Friday, January 12

12:00 pm † Mary Ellen & Steve Trimble

Saturday, January 13

5:00 pm † Thomas & Patricia Brewer

Year-End Contributions: At the end of January, after we close out our books, the parish secretary will be sending your 2017 total contributions tally to you in the mail. Please note that the parish office keeps a record of your contributions as long as you indicate your name and address on any correspondence and envelope; cash in the basket without envelope identification does not allow us to include that amount in your annual contributions. If the parish accounting does not match your own record of contribution, please contact Peter Catama at (202) 96-6288 or email at stann@stanndc.org. Thank you.

New Parishioners: If you are new in the area, you are encouraged to register with the parish. Registration forms are available at the main entrance of the Church or from the Rectory Office. Completed forms may be returned by dropping them in the Sunday collection basket, mailed, or brought to the Rectory. Please let us know if you are relocating or moving away by dropping a note or calling the Rectory Office at (202) 966-6288.

St. Ann's Outreach to the Elderly and Infirm: We want to learn more about the needs of our members, especially the needs of our older parishioners. In addition to this important initiative, the Sovereign Military Order of Malta can facilitate the parish ministry for the sick and imprisoned. Kindly inform Msgr. Watkins at 202-966-6288 of parish members infirm, ill or imprisoned in order that St Ann's Church can extend the ministry of the parish and the Order on their behalf. The idea being that between Deacon Devaney and the cadre of Eucharistic ministers we can get to the homes of the infirm and ill, get a handle on potential maladies for Lourdes, and to be sure we enroll imprisoned parish members in the Malta Prison Ministry.

Your online gift to our parish helps to sustain our ministry and outreach efforts, as well as ongoing repairs and maintenance to our beautiful church building. Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness; please tell your friends about St. Ann's! Go to our website stanndc.org and use our St. Ann's **Church CODE: DC811**. You may be aware we have had a way of supporting our parish through "eGiving" called Faith Direct. Nearly 50 registered parishioner families at St. Ann Church uses Faith Direct. We hope you will enroll today. To those of you who are using the Faith Direct service to make your generous donations to our parish, Thank you very much! Your support has made this program a cost-effective, efficient and secure way for our parish to receive your gifts. The Faith Direct program gives you:

- A convenient and consistent way to support St. Ann Church by electing to use direct debit from your bank or credit card account.
- The opportunity to support our parish even if you are absent from Mass for travel or illness.
- A solution to a situation we know many families face on their way to Mass: where did I put my envelopes?!

How does it work?

- You can visit faithdirect.net or stanndc.org and enroll securely online.
- For those of you who would not be comfortable going online, you can still enroll in this program by completing an enrollment form (**attached**) and mailing it in to the secure PO Box address.
- You can elect to have your specified bank or credit card account debited on the 4th & 15th of the month for both offertory and any second collections you support.
- Parishioners can elect to receive "offertory cards" in lieu of envelopes to be placed in the collection basket. For assistance, call Faith Direct at (866) 507-8757.

Saint of the week: Blessed Gregory X 1210 to 1276 (Feast January 10). Teodaldo



Visconti was an Italian canonist tapped by Pope Clement IV to preach a crusade to recover the Holy Land. He went on pilgrimage to Palestine and Syria and negotiated for the pope with the Eastern emperor. After the pope died, a three-year vacancy ensued; a committee of six cardinals finally chose Teodaldo. He returned to Rome, was ordained both priest and bishop, and in 1272 was crowned Pope Gregory X. He called the Second Council of Lyons in 1274 to organize a new crusade. The council secured a short reunion with the Greek Orthodox, enacted clerical reforms, and established new procedures for papal elections, but never mounted the crusade.

Monthly Telephone Rosary: Join the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) to pray the Rosary on the 4th of each month at 8:00pm. Everyone is welcome to pray as a community by calling 605-468-8016 and inserting access code: 357090#.

You're Worth It! Day Retreat for Women: The Church of Jesus the Divine Word in Huntingtown, MD is hosting award-winning Catholic author/speaker/blogger/talk-show-host/mother-of-eight, Danielle Bean, on Saturday, January 27 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. In the You're Worth It! Day Retreat for Women, Danielle invites women to find their worth by seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus. Tickets are \$30 per person if purchased in advance through the parish office, and \$40 at the door. The day begins with Mass and offers talks, guided meditation, private prayer/Adoration, music, breakfast, lunch, and more. For more information, contact Karen Burns at 410-414-8304 or religiously@jesusdivineword.org.

Respect Life News: In a recent bulletin we suggested prayers asking for the intercession of our Lady of Guadalupe in defense of life. This week, we provide some of the background of our Lady of Guadalupe's title, "Protectress of the unborn." The Blessed Virgin "has appeared many times to many different people in many different parts of the world. In only one, however, does she appear as a pregnant mother," namely, "when she appeared to Saint Juan Diego in December 1531" on Tepeyac Hill near what is now Mexico City. "In the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe," imprinted on Juan Diego's tilma or cactus cloak the Blessed Mother bears within her womb the unborn Christ child – the Incarnate Word. "In 1999, St. Pope John Paul II gave a gift to the Catholic Church and the pro-life movement when he formally declared Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas, the Empress of Latin America, and the Protectress of Unborn Children. He also designated December 12 as her feast day – the day of her last appearance to Juan Diego, and the day he unfurled his cloak, imprinted with the miraculous image of Our Lady." Under her motherly care I place ... the innocent lives of children, especially those who are in danger of not being born,' John Paul II said in a homily during his apostolic visit to Mexico in January of 1999. I entrust the cause of life to her loving protection (Adapted from a December 11 article by Father Shenan J. Boquet, president of Human Life International, posted on line in "News and Commentary, Spirit and Life").

Give the Gift of Service: Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back this New Year. For information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer

Save the Date: First Archdiocesan Intercultural Conference on Saturday, April 21, the Archdiocese of Washington will host the First Archdiocesan Intercultural Conference at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine. The diversity in our local Church provides new and exciting opportunities to strengthen our evangelization efforts, as well as new opportunities for encounter and accompaniment. This conference, sponsored by the Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach, will help participants grow in the knowledge of the role of culture in the process of faith transmission. Additional information will be provided in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, call 301-853-5335 or email culturaldiversity@adw.org.

Christmas Greetings from Bethlehem: From the heart and cradle of Christianity "Bethlehem City" and in this blessed Christmas season we share with you the messages of peace, revolutionary love, and faith. Every year each one of us celebrates Christmas with great joy and hope, we pray endlessly to Baby Jesus to fill our lives with his eternal grace and to grant our world with his peace, wisdom and courage to do what is right! Unfortunately, what we are witnessing today from killing, terror, jealousy, ignorance and injustice has destroyed our beautiful world and created barriers, fears, uncertainty among all of us. The question that we always ask is, where is peace?! Today, shall we allow our fears to control our lives and determine the path of our future?! Christmas is a period of time where we are called to have an inner journey into ourselves to reflect and take decisions that can shape our destiny, it is a time for prayers, contemplation, evaluations and decisions making. We are not only capable to steadfast but also to enlighten others and lead them by example of our Lord and Savior "Jesus" Christ. We ask to root ourselves in each other and work collectively to create better future for us, for our children and among all for the Glory of God. When St. John Paul II visited Bethlehem in the year 2000, he said four important words that created a contagious state of hope and faith for all of us, he said; "Do not be afraid". If God is with us, if the spirit of Christmas embraces our lives every single moment and water our hearts, souls and minds with wisdom, care, and faith; then why we should be afraid; no matter what we are witnessing today, we must not surrender, nor allow our fears to prevent us from prevailing what we are called to do, and thus perusing our happiness! In this Christmas, we will pray for the refugees, the hungry, the persecuted, the wounded, the sickness, and the sinners, we pray for and with them to end their sufferings and heal their wounds. We pray to God to grant us the courage to decide, and act towards building and spreading the Christmas messages of openness, brotherhood and revolutionary love! When we are rooted in each other, when we decide to be a real agent for the change we want to see in our world, when we decide to commit and follow the teachings of our Savior "Baby Jesus", then the Journey of truth towards discovering our inner peace, love and mission can really begin! Finally, we thank each one of you for lending the hands of help and faith to us and to others as well, as we will not forget the love and respect you have shown us, God Bless You! "Oh Baby Jesus, grant us the wisdom to do what is right, and the courage to carry our cross with faith, resilience and smile" Wish you all a blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. George Saadeh, Outreach Director.

We welcome all of our children to Mass and invite our parents to use the small "Crying Room" near the vestibule of the church when your child needs some fresh air. We leave the good judgement to the parents to assist their children when they may need to step out for a moment. Thank you so much for your cooperation.