

**Announcements**  
**For the week of January 1, 2017**

**Tuesday, January 3rd is the deadline to make an appointment with a priest to baptize your baby in January. Baptisms are every 2nd Sunday of the month.**

**Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord, January 6th 12 noon until January 7th 12 noon in the convent.**

**Please pray for all our Military, all the Sick and Shut-In and their families. Take home a copy of this week's bulletin for other announcements.**



**January 1, 2017**

**GOOD EVENING/MORNING PARISHIONERS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND VISITORS!  
(PAUSE)**

**WELCOME TO OUR MOTHER OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH. WE ARE IN  
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE MARY, OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS: THE HOLY  
MOTHER OF GOD. KINDLY TURN TO YOUR NEIGHBOR AND EXTEND A  
GREETING OF WELCOME. (PAUSE 20 SECONDS).**

**BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE PARISH, GIVE GENEROUSLY IN TODAY'S  
COLLECTIONS. THE SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE FOR SOLEMNITY OF  
MARY AND PARISH MAINTENANCE.**

**TODAY'S THEME:**

**Today is the Church's oldest celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
It is also designated as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. There can  
be no better way to start the New Year than to honor our Blessed  
Mother and pray with her for peace in our world. As we pray togeth-  
er today at god's invitation, let us be mindful of how the Holy  
Mother of God cares for the Church and the world that her son died  
to save.**

**OUR CELEBRANT FOR THIS MASS IS:**

**(Priest Name)**

**4:30 P.M.— Fr. Case**

**Midnight—Fr. Perry**

**7:00 A.M.-Fr. Case**

**10:00 A.M.-Fr. Fr. Perry**

**AFTER THE OPENING PRAYER:**

**The sacred scriptures we hear proclaimed today continue our celebration of  
the Christmas season. We still have shepherds, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus at the  
manger in Bethlehem. The first reading recounts a very beautiful blessing  
from our ancient tradition, and Saint Paul proclaims that we are adopted  
children of God through Jesus Christ. Let us ponder these readings today, re-  
flecting on them in our heart.**

# INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

## Octave Day of Christmas: Mary, the Holy Mother of God

**Priest:** With gratitude for the past year and hope for the year to come, let us offer to our loving God our prayers for all those in need.

**Response: *Glory to God in the highest!***

- ◆ For our holy father Pope Francis and the whole Church at the beginning of the new year of grace, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For peace among all nations, and for peace in the hearts of all people throughout the world, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For our parish community as we glorify and praise God by our lives, sharing the good news of our salvation through our good deeds among our neighbors, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all who travel during these holiday, for joyful family visits and for safe return, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all who suffer from the bitter winter weather, especially those who are homeless, we pray to the Lord...
- ◆ For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken... [*pause for 10 seconds; the presider alone concludes...*], we pray to the Lord...

**Priest:** Gentle God, in your generosity you have given us salvation in Jesus, your Son, our Lord and Saviour. Graciously hear these our prayers, which we make through the intercession of his holy Mother.

# **TO ALL MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

January 1, 2016

**PLEASE WELCOME THE VISITORS**

**ALSO PASS OUT THE CHILDREN'S  
BULLETINS TO THE LITTLE ONES!**

**Make sure that you sign the sheet in the book.**

Remember to use the white bags for the collections.  
Please try and refrain anyone from walking during the  
1st reading, 2nd Reading, the Gospel and the Homily.

**Remember to take the count of those present at each Mass and  
turn the count sheet in after the 11:30AM Mass**

**This is very important. Secure collection after Mass**

**Second Collections  
Solemnity of Mary  
And  
Parish Maintenance Fund**