



MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN

426 West Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126

Phone: 630-279-5700

Email: parish_office@maryqueen.org

Website: <http://www.mqhelmhurst.org>

DECEMBER 24, 2023

4TH SUNDAY

OF ADVENT

4th

Sunday OF ADVENT



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm

Sunday 8:30am and 10:30pm

Weekday Masses

Mon: Communion Service 8:30am

Tues to Sat 8:30am

Rosary

Monday to Saturday 8:00 am

Sacraments

Reconciliation-Sat. 9:00am

Baptism

1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:00pm. Required Baptismal preparation on the 2nd Thurs at 7:00pm. Call Parish Office to register.

Marriage

Please contact the Pastor at least 6 months in advance

Parish Office hours

Mon. to Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm

Pre-school Information

Phone: 630-833-9500

Email: mqhpreschool@maryqueen.org

Website: www.mqhpreschool.org

Religious Education Info

Phone: 630-832-8962

Email: re@maryqueen.org



PASTORAL STAFF

CLERGY

Phone: 630-279-5700

Rev. Santos “Sunny” Castillo

Pastor

parishoffice@maryqueen.org

Deacon Alex Grozik

Baptismal Coordinator and Vocations
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MINISTRY OF CARE

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Minister of Bereavement

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Heather Raffe

RE Administrative Assistant

PRESCHOOL

Genet Pinkerton

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MUSIC

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Deacon Matt Novak

Business Manager
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Communications Coordinator

Kathy Dummer

kdummer@maryqueen.org

A Message from Fr. Sunny

MUSING OF THE SEASON: MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Merry Christmas. Boldog Karácsonyt. Maligayang Pasko. Naimbag a Pascua. Feliz Navidad. Froliche Weihnachten. Joyeaux Noël. Gëzuar festat. Häid joule. Vrolijk Kerstfeest. Mele kalikimaka. Gleðileg jól. Merikurisumasu. Felicem natalem Christi. Linksmų Kalėdų. God jul. Wesotych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia. Mutlu Noeller. Giáng sinh vui vẻ. Meli keuliseumaseu. Jeulgeoun hyuil bonaeseyo. Buon Natale.

Whatever language makes you feel most at home, please know that this greeting for you and your family is being delivered with a lot of love and joy. I have been thinking about the word “Merry Christmas” so please allow me to share some of my musings about this all.

First, notice how close the words “Merry” and “Marry” they practically sound the same. Something about the commitment of marriage that makes the idea of merriment or celebration so special. When we remain committed to the power of God, we get to the wellspring of true and lasting happiness. Christmas shows us about God’s commitment and faithfulness. He espoused the human family into Himself, through Jesus Christ, most certainly expressed in his Incarnation and the Paschal Mystery. So, when we greet each other a Merry Christmas, please hear the wish of someone for you to remain in your commitment and faithfulness to God, as God remains perfectly faithful to you and your loved ones, and His entire Church, to all peoples throughout the world.

Second, the name of Christ is the essence of Christmas. Christ means “the anointed one” because He was chosen to bring Good News to the World, to manifest the very being of God to the human family. Christmas without thinking about Christ is a meaningless festival. We only have Christmas because Christ was born in the world. I always encourage people who feel overwhelmed by all the things that need to be done during this season to FOCUS ON CHRIST, because in doing so, one can sift through the unimportant stuff and be blessed by the things that matter this season, where Christ is at the heart of it all.

Third, the second syllable of Christmas, is just three letters: m, a, and s. Google says that the “mas” in Christmas stands for mass. The word Christmas is derived from the Latin word *Christenmas* which translates to Christian mass. That is why at the end of the day, Christmas is the liturgy of the celebration of the Lord’s birth. Anyone who celebrated Christmas but did not go to mass, if they can, did not really celebrate Christmas after all. That’s an amazing thought! Also, the word “mas” in Spanish means “more.” Christmas seems to say that this season is a time where Christ must be more. He should be praised more, celebrated more, and worshiped more. By this, we also become increasingly blessed and filled with the holiness of Christ.

May the Lord Jesus, born in Bethlehem to the world, be your passion, purpose and the heart of your Christmas and every day of your lives.

With the joy and holiness of the season,

Fr. Sunny Castillo

BULLETIN DEADLINES

for December 31, 2023

TUES. 1:00PM 12/26/23

for January 7, 2023

TUES. 1:00PM 1/2/23

CALENDAR

- 12/23 Saturday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 9:00 am Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm Mass
- 12/24 Christmas Eve & 4th Sunday of Advent**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 10:30 am Mass
- 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 3:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass - Children's Liturgy
- 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass
- 11:30 pm Christmas Choir Music
- 12/25 Christmas**
- 12:00 am Christmas Eve Mass
- 10:30am Christmas Day Mass
- 12/26 Tuesday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 7:00 pm Choir Practice
- 12/27 Wednesday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 12/28 Thursday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 12/29 Friday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 12/30 Saturday**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 9:00 am Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm Mass
- 12/31 New Year's Eve & Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
- 8:30 am Mass
- 10:30 am Mass
- 10:30 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 4:30 pm Mass



PARISH NEWS



NOVEMBER 24, 2023

LEONIDAS ALEXKSANDR BURNS

Parents: John & Katie Burns



PLEASE NOTE from Mary Queen of Heaven Parish Office

If any parishioner has not received their donation envelopes or wishes to stop receiving donation envelopes, please contact the parish office at 630-279-5700. Please leave your name and telephone number before January 1, 2024 so we can contact the envelope company regarding your requests.....THANK-YOU!



FAITH FORMATION NEWS
FROM MARY GLAUDELL, DIRECTOR

Merry Christmas from the Faith Formation Office

A Christmas Prayer

Loving Father,

Help us remember the birth of Jesus that we may share in the song of angels, the gladness of shepherds, and the worship of wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

by Robert Louis Stevenson

“For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.”

(Luke 2:10-12)



REMINDER:

Faith Formation resumes with Family Faith Formation (K-6th) on January 7th

PARISH NEWS

Dear Friends,

As we begin this season of Advent, we are invited by the Lord to prepare our hearts to receive Him more fully this Christmas. One of the gifts I'm asking from the Lord is an increase in vocations to the priesthood from our diocesan parishes. Please join me in asking Jesus to prepare the hearts of many young men to respond to the Father's call in their life. To help them on their journey, the Vocations Office is sponsoring a 1-day retreat (December 28th) for Men Seeking Holiness (18+).

To help you prepare for a great Advent, please listen to Father Steven on the Rooted in the Really Real podcast at rootedinthereallyreal.com. Episode 58.

Thank you and God bless you and your families this Advent season!

Sincerely,

Fr. Steven Borello



PRESCHOOL NEWS

FROM GENET PINKERTON, DIRECTOR



Thank you!!!

Donations of food, money, and toys poured in. Thank you to our amazingly generous preschool families for making this Advent season such a wonderful bounty for families in need of support. Our adopt-a-family will have many presents under their Christmas tree, the Marillac House toy box was filled, the Christmas Food drive was well supplied, and the Seniors loved the ornaments the children made for them. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who make this all possible, we couldn't do so much without you!!!



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS



Lord, We worship You during this [Christmas](#) season. You are our wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace ([Isaiah 9:6](#)). We choose to put You at the center of our family life as we celebrate Your birth. Keep us from distractions and help us to invite You into all our family activities. Teach us to pray and help us to glorify and worship You in our family during this busy time of year. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation that we might know You better ([Ephesians 1:17](#)). Thank you for being Immanuel, "God with us." Open our eyes to realize this each day as we interact with others.

Help us to be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as You forgave us ([Ephesians 4:32](#)). Show us creative ways to love and care for those outside our home. Fill us to overflowing with Your love for the lost. Teach us to do acts of kindness to those who are in need at this time of year. May our family be a refreshment and light to others. We ask You to touch with [salvation](#) those in our family who do not know You . Open their hearts to Your great love for them. Help us to share Your Truth and be Your light. You are the Savior of the world. Amen.....by Debbie McDaniel

WISHING ALL OUR MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN PARISHONERS AND YOUR LOVED ONES A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A JOYFUL NEW YEAR.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 24, 2023

8:30am Russ & Lynn Kubychek
 10:30am Carol Nasca
 3:00pm Al Fuchen
 5:00pm † Gene Georgiann Los

Monday, December 25, 2023

8:30am Virginia & Anthony Carlevato
 10:30am Dr. Thomas Pozen

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

8:30am Parishioners of Mary Queen of Heaven

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

8:30am Dolores Vrlec

Thursday, December 28, 2023

8:30am Priests and Seminarians

Friday, December 29, 2023

8:30am All God's Children

Saturday, December 30, 2023

8:30am Parishioners of Mary Queen of Heaven
 4:30pm † Mary M. Watry

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Homeless and Hungry

† Indicates person is deceased

PRAYER REQUESTS

Tina Cappilupo Carl Kandlbender Paul Cain
 Alexandra Barcal Marie Kandlbender James Cloney
 Patrick Mooney Jim Calderone Deborah Blazer
 Anthony DiVito Maureen Gordon Mary Collis (D)
 Anne Marie Carney Patricia Connour
 Bob & Patsy O'Donnell

CMAA PLEDGE REPORT THROUGH 12-10-2023

GOAL \$ 37,800
 PLEDGED \$ 64,577
 PAID \$ 63,593
 BALANCE DUE \$ 984

Monthly pledge payments for CMAA pledges should be made in the next few days. It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will reach our goal. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 30, 2023 and Sunday, December 31, 2023

	SATURDAY 4:30pm	SUNDAY 8:30am	SUNDAY 10:30am
LECTORS	Ellen Walker	Ken Sutkus	Tim Kowalski
EUCARISTIC	K. Vicary (C) B. Lawlor T. Sabel	K. Diggins M. Mooney	M. Alcorn D. Justus G. Pozen D. Reed & M. Reed

READINGS FOR THE WEEK of DECEMBER 24, 2023

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent

11: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a 16/ Ps 89:2-5, 29/ Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38

Monday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Vigil: 13: Is 62:1-5/ Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: 14: Is 9:1-6/ Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:15-20

Dawn: 15: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/ Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20

Day: 16: Is 52:7-10/ Ps 98:1-6/ Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

696: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/ Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: Saint John, Apostle, Evangelist

697: 1 Jn 1:4/ Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

698: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/ Mt 2:13-18

Friday: Fifth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

203: 1 Jn 2:3-11/ Lk 2:22-25

Saturday: Sixth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity

203: 1 Jn 2-17/ Lk 2:36-40

PARISH SUPPORT

WEEKLY OFFERINGS REPORT	Sunday	\$ 5,273.00
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023	Mail in	\$ 279.50
	Electronic	\$ 1,196.50
<i>THANK-YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY</i>		
	TOTAL	\$ 6,748.59

MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN MONTHLY SUNDAY GIVING

COLLECTION ANALYSIS (rounded to nearest \$)

	NOVEMBER	YTD
Sunday Collection	\$ 21,242	\$ 111,408
Mail In	\$ 1,105	\$ 15,469
WeShare	\$ 11,209	\$ 66,101
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$ 33,565	\$ 192,978
Budget Total	\$ 31,203	\$ 148,212
Over (Under) Budget	\$ 2,352	\$ 44,765