

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

12/25	8:00 am	Joseph Sulla, Jr. & Rose & Anthony Lepore (Sue Sulla)
	11:00 pm	Giacomo & Vincenza Sciarretta & John & Maddalena Albano (Lucy Albano)
	12:30 pm	Giuseppe Giglio (Wife)
12/26	8:00 am	Anthony Lepore (40 th Anniv.) (Daughter, Rosemarie)
	9:15 am	William Ely (Wife, Lucy)
	11:00 am	Eleanor & Richard Dominici (Husband & father)
	6:00 pm	Joseph Dwyer (The family)
12/27	9:00 am	Giuseppina, Benedetta, Giuseppa, & Francesca Buccellato (Margaret Tesoriere)
12/28	9:00 am	Linda Lincoln Collins & Raymond Marston (The family)
12/29	9:00 am	Ruth Parrillo (Michael & Madeline Rozzi)
12/30	9:00 am	Gerald T. Moran (M/M Gerald Moran)
12/31	9:00 am	Joseph Callahan (Andy & Marie Carney)
	5:00 pm	For the Parish

Mary Mother of God

01/01	9:00 am	Thomas Werning (Mother & father)
	11:00 am	For the parish
	5:00 pm	Giacomo, Vincenza & Louie Sciarretta (Lucy Albano)

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

01/02	8:00 am	Deborah & Madeline Froleiks (The family)
	9:15 am	Tyler James (Furguele family)
	11:00 am	Joan Saviano & Rose Pascarelli (The family)
	6:00 pm	Robert Thompson (Dennehy family)
01/03	9:00 am	Michael Marotto (Dennehy family)
01/04	9:00 am	Ruth Parrillo (Agnes Conover)

01/05	9:00 am	Mary Peterson (Mary Furey)
01/06	9:00 am	Barbara Blanchfield
01/07	9:00 am	Anna Sennett & Anne Taverner (Mel Taverner)
01/08	9:00 am	Clorinda Florio
	5:00 pm	Alfred F. Celentano (M/M Gerald Moran)
01/09	8:00 am	William, Elizabeth & Daniel Collins (The family)
	9:15 am	John Faski (The group)
	11:00 am	Josephine Calzone Pote (Kings Card Group)
	6:00 pm	Ignazio D'Attilo (The family)

On the first Wednesday of each month, immediately following the 9:00 am Mass, there will be an anointing of the sick in the sanctuary. Anyone with an ongoing medical condition or who is seriously ill, anticipating a medical procedure or operation, is welcome to come.

MISSION STATEMENT

We the people of St. Jerome Parish, a Roman Catholic community, proclaim our belief in the message and mission of Jesus Christ. As disciples of Jesus we are called to proclaim the Kingdom of God and to work for its values in the local community and beyond. We are committed to: worship, religious education, shared faith and service. We welcome all people with respect, acceptance and support.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers that will adorn our lovely altar for the weekend of January 9th have been donated in memory of Renee Collins from Emma Tobey and Anthony Parillo.

If you would like to memorialize a family member or friend by donating flowers for our altar, you may do so by giving a donation of \$50.00. The name of your loved one will be announced in the bulletin. There will be one donor per weekend. If you are interested, please contact Pat at the parish office at 847-5349 at least two weeks prior to the date you choose.

**REACH**

Grades K-6 will resume January 16, 2005.

Grades 7 & 8 – Check the bulletin for the next class session.

BOTH THE PARISH OFFICE AND THE REACH OFFICE WISHES ALL OUR PARISH FAMILY A VERY HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

BOTH THE REACH OFFICE AND THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 24TH UNTIL JANUARY 3RD. IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE REACH OFFICE, PLEASE CALL 846-2111 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. KATHY WILL BE CHECKING THE MACHINE. IF YOU NEED A PRIEST, YOU MAY CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 847-5349.

Keep your eyes open for the 2005 Volunteer Schedule to arrive either by post or email (if we have your email address). If we don't have an email address for you, please email us at reachstjerome@sbcglobal.net. One of our resolutions for the New Year is to transmit as much information as possible via the Internet. Thanks for your cooperation.

PLEASE NOTE: The next local training session for all volunteers will be at St. Thomas, East Norwalk on January 6th at 6:30 pm. Please register online. The site is Virtus.org and the password is "trust". If you have any difficulty or questions, please call the REACH office.

TOTAL:

Peace~a dream for our moment in time! May the peace of Christ be the gift of this Christmas season and continue in our hearts, families, and faith community of St. Jerome throughout the New Year. The 6:00 PM Mass will continue each Sunday. Our TOTAL programs will begin again after the Emmaus weekend in January. A new calendar will be sent to families of high school parishioners.

EMMAUS, our annual retreat for juniors and seniors will be held on the weekend of January 7-9,2005 at the Seton-Newmann Retreat Center in Danbury. Call Judi for any details at 847-3635 or email at juditotal@aol.com.

BROADWAY

Give yourself a marvelous Christmas present, a ticket to the new musical "Little Women", starring Sutton Foster and Maureen McGovern. Lunch will be at the Waldorf Astoria. **Date: Wednesday, March 9th.** The cost is \$172.00 and includes transportation, lunch and ticket. Payment not due until mid January. For reservations, call Jeanne Tarrant at 847-9480.

See how I love your precepts;
In your mercy give me life.
Your word is founded on truth:
Your decrees are eternal.

Psalm 119

RANDOM THOUGHTS

This bulletin will cover the next two weeks of the Christmas season. Remember that the Christmas season extends through the feast of the Baptism of Jesus, celebrated on Sunday, the 9th of January. You will notice that we keep the lights on the parish Christmas tree lit until the night of January 9th. I am always sorry to turn them off but "symbolism is symbolism".

As you know, the prophet of both Advent and Christmas is Isaiah. So let me give you something to reflect upon these days when the light begins to grow stronger. Read Isaiah 58:12 and then reflect upon this beautiful poem written by the Carmelite nun, Jessica Powers.

REPAIRER OF FENCES

**I am alone in the dark, and I am thinking
what darkness would be mine if I could see
the ruin I wrought in every place I wandered
and if I could not be
aware of One who follows after me.
Whom do I love, O God, when I love Thee?
The great Undoer who has torn apart
the walls I built against a human heart,
the Mender who has sewn together the
hedges
through which I broke when I went seeking
ill,
the Love who follows and forgives me still.
Fumbler and fool that I am, with things
around me
of fragile make like souls, how I am blessed
to hear behind me footsteps of a Savior?
I sing to the east; I sing to the west:
God is my repairer of fences, turning my
paths into rest.**

**Isaiah 58:12 (Douay)
(1952;1984)**

**A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to Titus
Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving
all and training us to reject godless ways and
worldly desires and to live temperately, justly,
and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed
hope, the appearance of the glory of our great
God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself
for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to
cleans for himself a people as his own.**