

**MASS INTENTIONS  
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day (and Eve Masses)**

4:00pm (Vigil)  
6:00pm (Vigil)                      **All Masses will be**  
12:00 midnight                      **Offered for**  
8:00am                      **Christmas Spiritual Bouquet Intentions**  
10:00am  
12:00 noon

**Monday, December 26- St. Stephen**

9:00 Turner & Cruse Families

**Tuesday, December 27 – St. John**

9:00 Jacqueline McCabe

**Wednesday, December 28 – the Holy Innocents**

9:00 People of Holy Spirit Parish

**Thursday, December 29**

9:00 Elaine Gallagher

**Friday, December 30 – The Holy Family**

9:00 Lawrence Finnegan

**Saturday, December 31**

9:00 Joseph Branco

**Sunday, January 1**

5:00pm (Sat. Eve. Vigil) Rose & Albert Pucci  
8:00 Pat Vaccaro  
10:00 Mary LaSala  
12:00 Ellen O'Connor

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**The Sacramental Bread and Wine for the Week of  
December 25<sup>th</sup> was donated in memory of:  
James Badolato and Frank Cassero**



**Thank you for your generosity**

**Offering**

Not Available at Press

*Please mark your envelope with the amount of your contribution, your name and address, so that we are able to record it for your year-end statement. If you are not a registered Parishioner we will gladly send you a registration form.*

**CELEBRANT SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

**Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

5:00pm Fr. Vernon

**Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

8:00am Fr. DeBellis

10:00am Fr. Vernon

12:00noon Fr. DeBellis

**READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY**

First Reading	Isaiah 52:7-10
Second Reading	Hebrews 1:1-6
Gospel	John 1:1-18

**RESPONSE**

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

**PRAYER INTENTIONS**

Peace on Earth

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

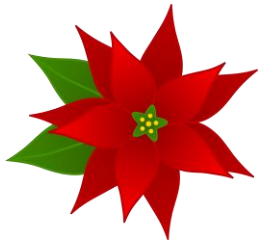
Numbers 6:22-27  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21



The sick are comforted just knowing that we pray for them. Please remember these members of our Parish Family, who are ill, in your prayers: **Paul Munzi, Norma Thomas, Jennifer Johnson, Thomas Hughes, Martin Parenti and Maria DeNardo.** Please also remember the deceased members of our Parish Family in your prayers: **Michael Lauria.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

Please mark your calendar! The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.



## From the Desk of Fr. John

On behalf of the entire staff and clergy here at Holy Spirit, I extend a heart-felt wish that your Christmas be merry and holy. I would like to also thank all those who sent cards, baked goods, and gifts to us. While we may not have had the opportunity to thank each of you personally, it is all very much appreciated. Thanks also to all who helped in cleaning, decorating, and preparing the Church for the Christmas Liturgies.

And finally, thanks to all of you for continuing to be overwhelmingly supportive of all we do here at Holy Spirit and to all those who have already made a special Christmas monetary gift to the parish. All of this makes for a truly Merry Christmas.

As we look to the New Year, plans are currently underway to establish a Seniors Group, and to hopefully develop some new activities for our Youth.

I continue to explore, with the help of the Finance Council, new lighting for the driveway as you enter our property. The project has gone somewhat more slowly because we are considering going solar, which in effect would save us thousands of dollars. Yet, because solar is a relatively new technology we are proceeding more cautiously to make sure we get the right product.

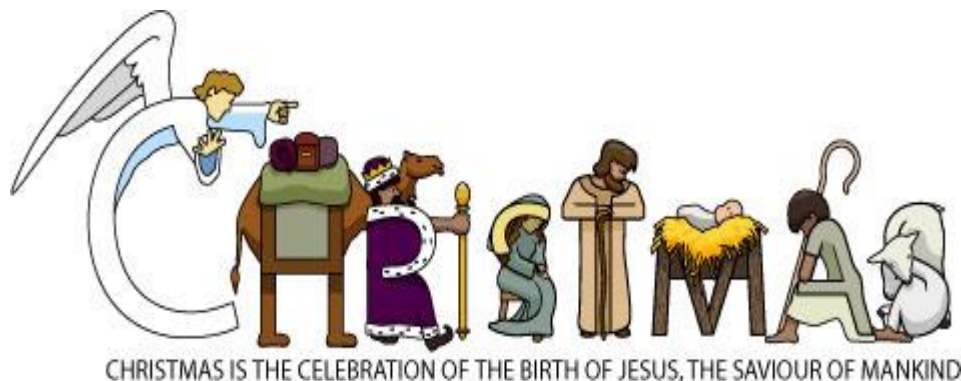
I continue to work with the Archdiocese and our bank to restructure our current debt on the Church building. I am currently negotiating for a lower interest rate which could potentially save thousands of dollars over the life of the loan and allow your donations to stretch further for other needs.

Also, look for our newly designed website which should be ready soon after the New Year and for our Jubilee Souvenir History Book which will be published in the next couple of months. All copies will be complimentary with a reserved copy for all who placed an ad.

The most important job I have as priest is to pray and celebrate the Liturgy. I pledge that in the New Year, I will continue to pray for our families, most especially the children.

May the New Year bring to all the grace for a happy one. And as you all know, nothing has the power to make it so more than the very birth of Jesus which we celebrate with joy today.

God Bless.. **Fr. John**



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

On days when the weather is inclement, please listen to WHUD 100.7 FM for announcements on cancellations. Cancellations are also posted on-line on the WHUD storm center. You can also check the outgoing message on the Religious Education voicemail. The Religious Ed phone number is (914) 734-9243. Generally, because Holy Spirit falls within the boundaries of the Lakeland Central School District, when Lakeland is closed or cancels afterschool activities, Religious Ed classes are cancelled.



### HOLY SPIRIT PARISH Just Got FORMED

As a gift from the Archdiocese, we are excited to announce that our parish has been subscribed to an exciting new online platform: Formed.org with 24/7 access to the truth, beauty and meaning of the Catholic Faith anytime, anywhere. Use it on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. See informative and inspiring teaching from renowned speakers, and much, much more.

Register at [FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG)  
Parishioners, enter code: P8C2TK

At our baptismal font, new life through water and the Holy Spirit came to:



**Cameron Jude DeJesus**  
**CeeJay Anthony DeJesus**  
**Zanna Christine Nielsen**  
**Jeremy Richard Sandoval**

The people of Holy Spirit Parish welcome the newly baptized into our Christian community. Congratulations!



## NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

*Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God,*

*Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>*

*5:00 pm*

*Sunday, January 1, 2017*

*8:00 am 10:00am 12:00 Noon*



### **Who was that baby in the manger?**

At this time of year, we tell a charming tale of a long ago journey on a donkey, a baby born in a cave, and a visit by kings. In truth, the real event was not just charming, it was awesome. That baby was more than a child ...

**He was proof that God always keeps his promises.** That baby was the fulfillment of an amazing promise made to generations of faithful assured a savior to heal the rift created by the sin of our first parents. God spoke His word "*(a)nd the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father*" (John 1:14). God always keeps His word. Trust Him.

**He was love in the flesh.** "*For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him*" (John 3:16). Out of love for us, Jesus willingly took on the indignity of a human body and its frailty to share our nature. Love Him back.

**He is God.** "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*" (John 1:1). God came to free us from sin and open the way to everlasting life. Follow Him.

- Growing in Faith



CATHOLIC SCHOOL REGION  
NORTHERN WESTCHESTER/  
PUTNAM  
*in the*  
ARCHDIOCESE  
of NEW YORK

**Catholic Schools Corner**

*Welcome home!*

*All of us at the Catholic Schools Office, wish you and your families a blessed and peaceful Christmas!*

**The Gift of a Catholic Education**

This year, consider giving the gift of a Catholic education! Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of New York are Christ-centered, academically excellent, and welcoming communities that teach students to be life-long learners and leaders energized by fidelity to Christ, the Church, and one another. To learn more about our faith-based Pre-K, Kindergarten or elementary schools, visit [www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org](http://www.CatholicSchoolsNY.org) or call 646-794-2885 to speak with a Catholic School representative.

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**Holy Spirit Parish**

**Blood Drive**

Please join us to give one more gift this Holiday Season.  
Give the gift of life straight from your heart, donate blood!

**Tues. December 27, 2016**

**3:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Church of the Holy Spirit – Parish Activity Center  
1969 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor, NY**



The blood you donate is used within 7-10 days because the demand is just that high. Give those in hospitals across the Hudson Valley a fighting chance.

**Sign- up sheets are in the children’s Liturgy Room. For more information, please call Jeff Canning (914) 739-5423**

**If you have medical eligibility questions, please call 1-800-688-0900. Please eat and drink well, and bring identification with photo or signature.** If you have a Blood Donor Card, please bring that as your ID for an expedited Registration.

**You must be between 16 and 75 years of age.\* You must weigh at least 110 pounds.** \*Donors age 76 or over may donate with a note from their physician. 16 year old donors require parental permission on New York Blood Center form (available on-line and at the blood drive).