

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 17th & 18th, 2016

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	12/17	David "Charlie" Sturtz (RIP) Requested by Jeanie Sturtz	Fr. Oscar
Sun	12/18	Joe Sr. & Elsie Drexler (RIP) Requested by Linda & Joe Drexler	Fr. Oscar
Mon.	12/19	No Mass	
Tues	12/20	Richard & Anna Kozlowski (RIP) Requested by Linda & Joe Drexler	Fr. Oscar
Wed	12/21	Joe Sr. & Elsie Drexler (RIP) Requested by Linda & Joe Drexler	Fr. Oscar
Thurs	12/22	Richard & Anna Kozlowski (RIP) Requested by Linda & Joe Drexler	Fr. Oscar
Fri	12/23	Tom Trudeau (RIP) Anniversary of Death Requested by Edna Trudeau	Fr. Oscar
Sat	12/24 - 5:30 pm	Thomas Sturtz Sr. (RIP) Tommy Sturtz, Jr. (RIP) Requested by Marguerite Sturtz & Family 11 pm - Frank Waxmunski (RIP) Requested by Susan Todd	Fr. Oscar Fr. Oscar
Sun	12/25 -	Patricia A. Seckora (RIP) Anniversary of Death Requested by Paul & Valeria Seckora	Fr. Oscar

Collections for December 10th & 11th, 2016

Parish Operations (Personnel, Utilities, Office, Postage, Repair & Maintenance, etc.)	
Offertory (including Spanish Mass)	\$7,098.00
Debt Supplement	110.00
Special Collection	85.00
Solemnity of Mary	50.00
Christmas	100.00
Total	\$7,443.00
Amount needed weekly for Parish Operations is \$3,880	
Restricted, Special Use or Sent out of Parish	
Votive Stand \$14/Poor Box \$42	\$ 56.00
Capital Campaign	400.00
Christmas Flowers	152.00
Good Neighbor Center	25.00
Campaign for Human Development	10.00
Catholic Charities	45.00

Thank you for your support of your Parish!

Church Attendance

Saturday, December 10th - 81
 Sunday, December 11th - 154
 Spanish Mass - 46

OLBS Church Cleaning Schedule
 12/11 thru 12/17 - Araceli Roblero (Leader)
 Rosy Gonzalez
 12/18 thru 12/24 - Tom & Rowena Fauber

Calendar for Week of December 19th

Monday - 12/19 - No Mass
 Tuesday - 12/20 - Mass 8:30 am
 Wednesday - 12/21 - Mass 8:30 am
 Thursday - 12/22 - Mass 8:30 am
 Friday - 12/23 - Mass 8:30 am
 Saturday - 12/24 - Christmas Eve - Mass 5:30 pm -
 Midnight Mass 11 pm
 Sunday - 12/25 - Christmas Day - Mass 9:00 am
 Spanish Mass - 11:30 am

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND GOOD HEALTH

Carolyn Alford	Bonnie Kopacki
Elizabeth Alley	Joseph Kovac
Wilhelmina Brieffies	Gordon Langston
Candace Barefoot	Patricia Lanuza
Virginia Becker	Theresa Drexler Moody
Paulette Berberich	Clara Morrow
Ron Blevins	Randy Morrow
Robin Bristow	Specialist Mullins
Joan Buehler	Larry Newtzie
Linda Burch	M.C. 'Sam' O'Connor
Kyle Burch	Christopher Parrish
	Joyce Richardson
	Pam Rigsby
	Emma Robertson
Meredith Crowe	
Vincent D'Elia	
Denise DePompeo	
Donna Donahue	Harriet Ropelewski
Jackie Drayer	Virginia Ryczak
Savio Duong	Jim Tokarz
Sandy Britton Evans	Barbara Schafer
Brenda Frederick	Glenn Sears
Helen Fudala	Allen Smith
Kay Getman	Levi Sturtz
Jim Gregory	Mae Touray
Pat Hinkle	Dorothy Ware
Kelly Hipple	
Mary Ann Hooper	Lois Wilson
Helen Kaczmariski	Robert 'Bobby' Wilson
Victor Kaczmariski	Jody Zogran
John Kellam	Joe Picone
Andrew Konz	

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN NURSING HOME

Annette Tonon Bona Irene Kruger

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Major Jonathan Culberson (Afghanistan)
 Private Logan W. Gay
 Sergeant Nathan Gurganus

Private First Class Austin T. Sturtz (Ft. Lewis, Washington)

ALTAR SERVERS

December 17 – Peter Nguyen, Daniel Gibbs Jr.

December 18 – Tazewell Rae, Colleen Rae, Jovany Velazquez

December 24 – 5:30 pm – Mason Kopacki, Kody Kopacki,
Tazewell Rae, Colleen Rae

11 pm – Andrew Seckora

December 25 – Daniel Gibbs, Jr., Clara DiLandro, Elizabeth
DiLandro

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

December 17 – Cathy Fudella, Gary Silvia, Jackie Silvia

December 18 – Sarah Rae, Scott Rae, Eric Ellingson, Bill
Madigan, Edwina Madigan

December 24 – 5:30 pm – Sarah Rae, Tom Fauber, Bill
Madigan, Edwina Madigan, Kathy Wills

11 pm – Chris Polcyn, Paula Polcyn, B.J. Bui

December 25 – Jim Vadas, Pattie Vadas, Kathy Wills

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

As we learn from Joseph in today's Gospel, following God is messy and unpredictable. It may call for you to take an unpopular stance. It may call for you to do something that appears to be contrary to Scripture and the Law. Yet, it always will call on you to depend upon your relationship with God to hear His message to you. Joseph was able to discern what to do because he had cultivated a relationship with God.

Adults: How much effort do you make in cultivating your relationship with God so that you will better determine His will for you?

Children: What can you do to be better able to hear God's voice in life?

DO YOU KNOW?

Most people think that Christmas is over December 26. Carols stop playing on the radio, stores begin putting out their Valentine merchandise and decorations come down. But for Catholics, Christmas goes on. The Church year celebrates the "octave" or eight days of Christmas from December 25 through January 1, the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (which is a Holy Day of Obligation). The Church feels the birth of Christ is certainly a reason to celebrate for more than one day!

THANK YOU – Many thanks to all who helped with our Christmas pageant: Amber Gibbs, Deidra and Kevin Kopacki, Hope Kopacki, Danielle Smith and Erin Hayden. Special thanks to the children of the parish for their enthusiasm in retelling the story of Christ's birth!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday – December 18th – 10:30 am

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUPS:

There will be no elementary or middle/high school youth meetings in December.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Is scheduled for Sunday, December 18. We will meet at the Boogaard Center at 6 p.m. Please bring an appetizer to share and after a time of fellowship we will leave for caroling about 6:45 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CARD ADDRESSES: If you wish to send a card to Fr. Edgar Cleofe, address it to Diocese of Sorsogon, Magsaysay Street, Sorsogon City 4700, Philippines. Fr. Julz Buena's address is c/o St. Pius X Parish, 7800 Halprin Drive, Norfolk, VA 23518-4408.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SENIORS! Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia is looking for dedicated volunteers to serve in its CARES Program. Volunteers are matched with seniors who live independently but need extra help with transportation to doctor's appointments, grocery stores and on errands. Volunteers choose the appointments they wish to provide a ride for, according to their own needs and schedule. If you are interested in helping, call Vanessa Dunlap 757-875-0060. Thank You for giving of your time!

2017 CHURCH CALENDARS

Are available in the back of the Church. They are available in English and Spanish. Please take one.

THE MEANING OF OPLATKI (Christmas Wafers)

The celebration of Christmas by American families is enriched spiritually when time honored "old country" traditional customs are adopted. These practices serve to downplay the secular emphasis that has made of this holy time more of a "self-celebration". These customs reemphasize what this great celebration is all about – the proclamation of the "good news" for all humankind of our redemption. An especially popular custom is the sharing of the "oplatek" or Christmas wafer, also known as "Anielski Chleb" or Angel Bread. For the people of Poland and other Western Slavonic nations the "Oplatek" has always had a mystical quality. The "Oplatek" is much like the unleavened wheat hosts used at Mass. Different Christmas scenes are embossed in the baking process. For Americans, the "Oplatek" represents a reverent tie to the customs of the "old country." The observance that takes place on Christmas Eve becomes a sign of unity and solidarity with all members of the family, neighbors and friends. Even absent members of the family receive an Oplatek by mail as a sign of their communion with their loved ones at home.