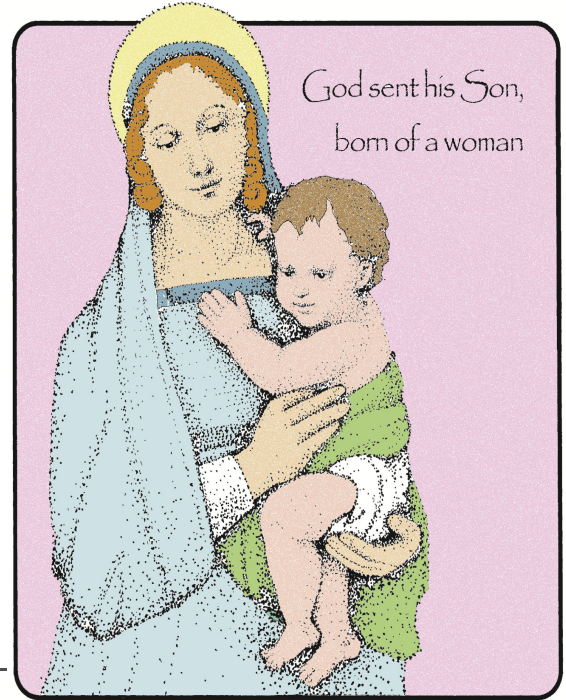


Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.— Luke 2:19

Liturgy Intentions for the Week January 1st - January 8th

- Monday
7:00 PM Charlie Ficke by Paul & Sharon Martin
- Tuesday
9:00 AM "Van" Jones by Rosemary Boutwell
- Wednesday
9:00 AM
- Thursday
No Liturgy
- Friday
9:00 AM Robert Maddon by The Haskens
- Saturday
5:30 PM Intentions of Margaret Hughes by Father Don
- Sunday
9:00 AM Bishop Michael Burbidge, D.D. by the Parish



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PLEASE NOTE: If you are having a Mass said and would like to bring the gifts up for that Mass, please see an usher before Mass.

Today's Readings

First Reading — The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:22-27).

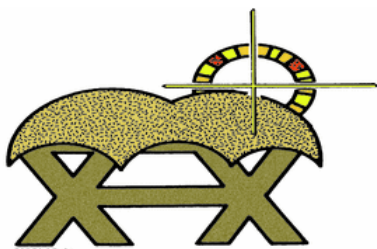
Psalm — May God bless us in his mercy (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — God sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but an heir, through God (Galatians 4:4-7).

Gospel — The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (Luke 2:16-21).

Readings for the Week	
Monday	1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday	1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
Thursday	1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
Friday	1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Saturday	1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11
Sunday	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Saints and Special Observances	
Sunday	The Octave of Christmas New Year's Day Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God World Day of Prayer for Peace
Monday	Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen
Tuesday	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Wednesday	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Thursday	St. John Neumann
Friday	St. André Bessette; First Friday
Saturday	St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday



TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of. —Benjamin Franklin

Happenings for the Week

Monday—January 2

6:30 PM Respect Human Life Rosary

7:30 PM

Tuesday—January 3

8:30 AM Rosary for Life

9:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration commences

Wednesday—January 4

8:30 AM Rosary Prayer Group

8:30 AM Eucharistic Adoration concludes

Thursday—January 5

7:00 PM

First Friday—January 6

8:30 AM Pro Life Rosary

First Saturday—January 7

5:00 PM Pro Life Rosary

Sunday—January 8

8:30 AM Rosary for Lost Souls

10:00 AM Faith Formation K—5th grade

11:15 AM Faith Formation 6th grade—Confirmation

Faith Formation classes will resume on January 8th.

Stewardship

December 17th & 18th: Offertory: \$ 4,449.19

Building Fund: \$ 3,246.00

Christmas Donations: \$ 1,120.00

Sincere thank you to Joanne & Jim Flexer and Janet DePaoli for their service.

Appreciation and gratitude to all our parishioners and visitors for their generosity to the church.



Any parishioner needing a Contribution Statement for the Income Tax year 2011 can request one through the St. Mildred website or you may pick up a request form in the hall of the Parish Center. Requests for statements will be available January through May.

Please pray for those of our parish and the community who are ill or may be in distress as well as those deceased who may be in need of our prayers. If you would like to submit a name for special prayers, please contact the Prayer Chain **via Terri Speciale at 252.393.6678**. You may also email her at terispeci@yahoo.com. If you would like to be a part of the Parish Prayer Chain, call Terri and she will add your name and phone number to the list.

Upcoming Meetings

The Knights of Columbus will have their business meeting on January 2nd at 7:30 PM, **after** attending the 7:00PM Liturgy.

The next **Parish Council** meeting will be January 9th at 7:30 PM. All are welcome!



The next meeting for the **Women's Guild's** will be January 11th. There will be a meeting following the 10:00 AM Mass. Bring a friend along to share in the fun of this wonderful women's group!



The 4th Degree Assembly **will not** hold a meeting during December. The next meeting for the Assembly is January 16th after the 6:30 PM Rosary and followed by the 7:00 PM Mass.

The next **Home-school Mass** will be January 18th at 9:00 AM. All are invited to join us. Our home-school children will provide short presentations exhibiting some of their studies during or immediately following the Mass.

Music Ministry News - Anyone 6th grade to adult is invited to join in on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. We happily welcome all who enjoy praising through music.

The Rosary. . .

The Rosary is always in season, for it helps us enter more deeply into the central mysteries of our faith that we celebrate in the liturgy throughout the year.

Eucharistic Adoration

...takes place weekly starting at 9:30am on Tuesday and continuing until 8:30am on Wednesday. All are welcome. Come & spend some quiet time in the Lord's presence. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer or substitute for maintaining the vigil during Adoration, please call Don Keating at 252.393.6106.



In the 1680's Our Lord told St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, "I promise in the excessive mercy of my Heart that My all powerful love will grant to all those who communicate on the First Friday in nine consecutive months the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My displeasure nor without receiving the Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in the last moment."



The beautiful Poinsettias that adorn the altar this Christmas are the results of the kind and generous nature of the parishioners and visitors of St. Mildred. Vicky Stump and the Youth Ministry would like to thank all who supported us through your generous purchases, you all are very much appreciated. May all your intentions and prayers be answered by our good and gracious Lord, not only for the Christmas Season, but always.



As the new year begins we would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt Thank You to Tim Bennett, Harold Yingling and Dan Shipko for all their hard work, dedication and service these past years to the Parish Council, it is greatly appreciated...Thanks!



Please join us for a retreat on March 16th - 18th at Casa Maria Sister Servants of the Eternal Word Convent in Birmingham, Alabama. (departure March 15th) The topic will be: Prayer in the School of

Pope Benedict XVI, presented by Father Roger Landry. The cost for the retreat will be \$160 per person, or \$270 for double occupancy (friends can be considered double occupancy). There will be an additional cost for transportation (vans), which will be determined at the end of January, based on attendee number. Casa Maria is only minutes from EWTN Studios and we do plan on attending Mass on the first day there, as well as visit their wonderful gift store. Check out Casa Maria's website at <http://www.sisterservants.org/index.php>. Casa Maria also has a wonderful gift store, as well as beautiful and peaceful grounds. The first 60 people registered for the retreat (including non-St. Mildred people), will be able to stay at the retreat center, with meals included at no additional cost. Space is limited, so kindly let us know by January 8th, if you are interested. We will also need a \$50 deposit by this date, checks made out to Casa Maria. Please contact Anne Jelinek at 252-764-2351 or Francine Sabisch at 910-326-5589. Casa Maria is the new home of our very own, Sister Victoria. Go to: <http://www.sisterservants.org/content/visitCasaMaria.php> for a video of Casa Maria.

May you find peace and happiness through our Lord for your generous spirit:



Prayers for . . .

- In Thanksgiving by Pat Boni
- Kohurt & Murawski Families by Helen Murawski
- Leslie Mallard by Elizabeth Mallard
- Mary & Frank Asta by Phyllis Nastasi
- Angela & Nicola Nastasi by Phyllis Nastasi
- All by Susan & Mike Regensburger
- Anna Moriarty by The Wootten Family

In Memory of . . .

- Mr. & Mrs. Bill Balog by Patti Hill
- Col. & Mrs. Glen Hill by Patti Hill
- Margaret & Bob Bailey by The Belser Family
- Bob Godwin by The Belser Family
- Richard Baulch by Lillian Baulch
- Patty Bragg by Frank Bragg & Family
- Bertha Bragg by Frank Bragg & Family
- Audrey & Herb by Sue & Roger Brake
- Helen & Doug by Sue & Roger Brake
- Christine & Erin by Sue & Roger Brake
- Hilda Carreau by Elizabeth Mallard
- Pauline Cotto by Mr. & Mrs. L. Cotto
- Arthur Crosby by Anita Crosby
- Becky & Greg Graham by Deacon & Mrs. Fatica
- Fatica & Graham Families by Deacon & Mrs. Fatica
- Bob Daas by The Daas Family
- Cordelia Daas-Fox by The Daas Family
- Sharrion Gleghorn by Sharron Mohr
- Graham & Lelek Families by Bill & Eileen Graham
- John & Jean Klepacki by Chris & Craig Brewer
- Ernest & Dot Brewer by Chris & Craig Brewer
- Teresa & Jesus Muniz by Maria Hickox
- Mary & Frank Asta by Phyllis Nastasi
- Angela & Nicola Nastasi by Phyllis Nastasi
- Kathleen Oehl by Mike Oehl
- Reynold & Anna Peduzzi by Carolyn Peduzzi
- Adelson & Viola Wilson by Carolyn Peduzzi
- Our Son, Christopher by Susan & Mike Regensburger
- Regina Sewell by Margaret Hughes

For those who supported us . . .

- Susan Gasperson Lillian Harter
- Anne Jelnik Debra Olsen
- Richard Naldi The Women's Guild

Thank you one and all!

A Note from the Kitchen. . .

Sorry to disturb everyone during this busy time of preparing for the Lord's birth, but I have a burning question for everyone who uses me. I was taking inventory of my family and it seems that some of them are missing! The Pitchers came to visit this past year and after holding their water and lemonade they must have gotten upset because they up and just waded on out of here and wouldn't you know that The Tongs did the same thing! The Tongs said that they were going to stick around for awhile to help serve but they too grew feet and ran off! The Plates have also abandoned us and that happened right after they held the most spectacular food that has ever come out of my doors! While I'm thinking of it I think that the Dishtowels have packed up and left too.

So my burning question to you all is, if you should happen to see any of my family members can you please direct them back home? I do miss them so much and they were so very useful when they were around. I would appreciate it immensely! May you all have a Merry Christmas with your families, as I search for mine!

Thank you,
The Kitchen

Congratulations. . .

Congratulations go out to our newly elected Parish Council members. They are:

Chip DePoali	Bill Graham
Joanne Flexer	Gary Harrison
Susan Gasperson	

Welcome and see you at the meetings!



PARENTS!!! Please note that Faith Formation Classes will resume, **JANUARY 8th** at regular times.

10:00AM - 11:00AM—K to 5th grades
and 11:15PM – 12:15PM— 6th grade to Confirmation



The **first Sunday of each month** we will be doing a food drive for Infant of Prague Catholic Church for their food pantry, which is in dire need. IOP averages about 100 bags of groceries each month and help all surrounding areas. Please consider putting this necessary cause on your shopping list.

open the book, build the foundation, grow your faith.



CATECHETICAL INSTITUTE

Catechetical Institute Session

facilitated by Wojciech

The next course of Diocesan Catechetical Institute of the Diocese of Raleigh will begin on **January 25, 2012** at 6:30pm. This course is a requirement towards becoming a Certified Catechist. There is no registration or fee. Please, invite a friend, neighbor or relative to attend.

The theme of this Catechetical Institute Session is: *Christian Prayer and Spirituality.*

New Years Prayer

Thank you Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And the happiness it brings.
Please give the leaders of our world
A courage born of peace
That they might lead us gently
And all the fighting cease.
Please give to all upon this earth
A heart that's filled with love
A gentle happy way to live
With Your blessings from above. ~ Charlotte Anselmo ~

WASHINGTON MARCH FOR LIFE - The Raleigh Respect Life Group is reserving buses for the Annual March for Life on Monday, January 23, 2012. The cost of the day trip is \$50.00 per person. This year we are offering an overnight trip, one bus will leave for DC on Sunday, January 22 and return on Monday, January 23. Price per person for the overnight trip is \$72.20. Price includes hotel, light breakfast on Monday and round trip bus ticket. (hotel rate is based on 4 occupants/per room). Make your reservation through email address: blk4jmi@gmail.com. Reservations after December 5 will be put on a waiting list. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Klein at 815-1369 or Bob Klein at 815-3237.

**WELCOMING CHRIST IN THE MIGRANT:
NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK 2912 TO BE
CELEBRATED JANUARY 8-14**

Catholics called to offer hospitality to those in need.

Washington-National Migration Week will be observed in dioceses around the country January 8-14. This year's theme "Welcoming Christ in the Migrant" is in regard to the disciples welcoming a stranger on the road to Emmaus.

"Just as on the road to Emmaus, Christ's disciples met him in the guise of a stranger, this year's theme helps remind us that Christ makes himself present to each of us in the lonesome traveler, the newcomer, and the migrant," said Archbishop Jose' Gomez of Los Angeles. "We are called to open our hearts and provide hospitality to those in need, especially for migrants who find themselves far away from home and in vulnerable situations." Archbishop Gomez is the chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Migration.

Pope Benedict said "Christian communities are to pay special attention to migrant workers and their families by accompanying them with prayer, solidarity and Christian charity, as well as fostering new political, economic and social planning that promotes respect for the dignity of every human person."

The Catholic Poland - 12 day Tour (May 10-21, 2012) will be directed by our Pastoral Associate, Wojciech. Join us for a wonderful experience of the Catholic culture of Poland and visit places of great religious and historical significance. Please contact Wojciech at: 910-340-2300 for more information.



Outreach to the Poor by the Diocese of Raleigh

The Diocese maintains over \$00,000 of ongoing deposits at the Self Help Credit Union, the Latino Credit Union, Generations (African-American) Credit Union, and Mechanics and Farmers Bank, all of which provide loans and other services to underserved and economically disadvantaged communities in our state. The Diocese also provided a loan of approximately \$2 million and also provided land at Immaculate Conception Parish in Durham for the Emily Krzyzewski Family Life Center, which provides outreach to economically disadvantaged students in the Durham community.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

On this feast, we can see how devotion to Mary has been a beacon of hope to the sick throughout history. In the new cathedral of Los Angeles, the faithful enter through a single door topped by a striking sculpture of Mary with arms stretched down in compassion. Sculpted into the massive bronze doors are the titles of Mary most treasured by various cultures. Many of them speak of how the sick are consoled by a sense of Mary's presence.

Dorothy Day once recalled St. Bonaventure's remark that after the Lord's long forty days of fasting in the desert, when he was diminished and weak from his struggle, the angels who ministered to him went first to the Blessed Mother's house. There they saw the soup that was on her stove, and took some to the Lord so that he would delight in it even more since his mother had prepared it. "Of course," said Dorothy Day matter-of-factly.

In praying the rosary and savoring the stories of Mary's steadfast love in the face of all suffering, the sick are strengthened by one of our tradition's most shining treasures, and the whole Church is enriched.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Fetal Development of "Jacob" - Week 40

Celebrate! Don't be surprised at how Jacob looks after birth. Jacob's head may be misshapen and the skin may be discolored with patchy looking rashes. Jacob, like all babies, is made in the image and likeness of God. Even though childbirth is frightening, it helps to keep positive support people around you. "*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.*" (Luke 2:14)

THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God's own peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

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P A R I S H D I R E C T O R Y

Accountants
Diane Scarborough
(910)326-5589

Altar Server Trainer
Phillip Lewis
(910) 326-5589

Bereavement Hospitality
Joan Knobel. .(252) 393-8101
O'Celia Riley. .(252) 393-7998
Phyllis Nastasi.(252) 393-2135

Bulletin Editor
Vicky Stump...(910) 325-3638
Email: smbuletin@centurylink.net
Bulletin Advertising
J.S. Paluch Co. Inc: 1-800-432-3240

Parish Outreach Ministries
Dolph Bomba. . .(252) 354-2762
Dorothy Bernard..(252) 354-9223

Cemeteries
Evelyn McLoughlin
(252) 354-4852

Eucharistic Adoration
Don Keating
(252) 393-6106

Funeral Planning
Rosemary Boutwell. . .(910) 326-4788
Sophie Martin.(252) 354-5260

Grounds
Knights of
Columbus

Helping Hands
Carolyn Peduzzi. .(910) 326-7502
Cherie Shell.(252) 764-3011

Hispanic Ministry
Jilma Reilly
(252) 393-7650

Knights of Columbus
Wayne Crump. . .(910) 787-2769

**Faith Formation (CCD) &
Altar Server Scheduling**
Francine Sabisch. . .(910) 326-5589
Email: stmildrededu@embarqmail.com

Liturgy Committee & Lay Ministry Scheduling
Margaret Hughes. . .(910) 326-1616
Email: mahughes@embarqmail.com

Music
Kristen Viszneki. .(252) 354-3429
Fred Smith.(910) 346-9787
Elaine Keating. . .(252) 393-6106
Laura LeBlanc. . .(910) 326-4480

Maintenance
George Turner
(910) 326-4203

Outside Publicity
Kathy Mueller. . .(910) 325-1394
Email: jkmueller888@earthlink.net

**Parish Records/
Webmaster**
John Laursen
(910) 326-1742

Prayer Chain
Terri Speciale. . .(252) 393-6678
terispeci@yahoo.com

Pro-Life
Janet Oehl
(252) 764-2797

Welcoming
Dorothy Bernard
(252) 354-9223

Women's Guild
Donna Szeba. . .(252) 725-4486
Donna@swansboroportrealty.com

Youth & Adult Choir
Kristen Viszneki
(910) 326-5589

Youth Ministries
Vicky Stump. . . (910) 325-3638
Email: youthgroup@centurylink.net