

# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2014

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 29	8:00am	† Ruth Hentrich
Tuesday, Dec. 30	8:00am	For the Vystrcil Family
Wednesday, Dec. 31	8:00am	† Mary Vosberg Kruckenberg Francis & Christina Vosberg
	10:30am	Cindy, Mark & Family Manor Care Nursing Home
Eve of the Feast Day Mary Mother of God	5:30pm	Geraldine Dieter
Feast Day of Mary Mother of God	9:00am	For Connie McCabe
	12 noon	Misa
Friday, Jan. 2	8:00am	† Mark & Rose Mergen
	11:00am	For a happy holy death of Gerald U. Coutts Park Place
Saturday, Jan. 3	8:00am	For Joe & Nancy Hood (TLM)
<b>WEEKEND LITURGIES</b>		
Saturday, Jan. 3	4:00pm	† Murt & David Shea
Sunday, Jan. 4	9:00am	For Margaret Lau
	12 noon	Misa

## REFLECTION

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." - Colossians 3:13

Forgiveness – one of the hardest things for people to do. It's amazing how long we can hold a grudge or be angry with someone. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, take this opportunity to give the gift of forgiveness to someone - maybe someone in your family, maybe a friend, maybe a co-worker or neighbor or, maybe yourself. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

**Private Reconciliation**—every day, one hour before each Mass & Thursdays after morning Mass until 9:30am.

**No Eucharistic Adoration on January 1, 2015**

**Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays** beginning after 8am Mass and concluding with Rosary and Benediction at 8pm.

The Parish Office will close  
Wednesday, December 31st at noon until  
Monday, January 5th.

*Wishing you a very blessed 2015!*

## St. Thomas Becket

St. Thomas' Feast Day is December 29th. St. Thomas was born on St. Thomas Day in 1118 of a good family. He was a close friend of King Henry and served in the war with him. The King wanted to make Thomas the next primate of England but Thomas refused, however, Cardinal Henry of Pisa overrode his scruples. He became archbishop of Canterbury in 1162. He died in 1170. Within three years of his death the archbishop had been canonized as a martyr.



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14—Col 3:12-21—Lk 2:22-40.

**Monday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr  
1 Jn 2:3-11—Lk 2:22-35.

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17—Lk 2:36-40.

**Wednesday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope  
1 Jn 2:18-21—Jn 1:1-1-18.

**Friday:** Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church  
1 Jn 2:22-28—Jn 1:19-28.

**Saturday:** the Most Holy Name of Jesus  
1 Jn 2:29; 3:6—Jn 1:29-34.

### The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6—Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6—Mt 2:1-12.



Anyone requesting prayer may call 348-6041. Please call in the morning between 8am & 9am. If no answer please leave your prayer.

## ST. MARY PARISH GIVING

**December 21, 2014**

Weekly Envelopes.....\$4,935.00  
Immaculate Conception.....\$ 100.00  
Christmas.....\$ 400.00  
Offertory.....\$ 460.00  
Weekly Average Electronic Funds \$ 900.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**

## With Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Betty Tyson, whose brother, Pat Kemnitzer died last week. Eternal rest grant on to him Oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

**Saturday, Jan. 3**  
4:00 pm

David Drefcinski  
John Drefcinski  
Ben Drefcinski

**Altar  
Servers**

**Sunday, Jan. 4**  
9:00am

Dushan Vystrcil  
Joseph Vystrcil

### Lector & Leader of Prayer

Nekole Frommelt

Chris Brunette  
Lee Eggers

John Pluemer

Diane Eherenman

### Sacristan

Rose Kuhn

Connie McCabe

### Musicians

Kim & Youth

Classic Choir

### Greeters

Rita Eversoll  
Jan Siegert

### Rosary

Lorraine Fogel

Ave Vystrcil

## 2015 Frassati Fest – Registration is open!

Frassati Fest is just around the corner – taking place from Jan. 30 – Feb. 1 at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells! We have an incredible speaking team in store for the youth of the Diocese – with favorites from years past joining together with local stars from Camp Gray and Love Begins Here. All of the information is up to date [on the web](#).

If you have questions about registering your teens as a Parish group, just e-mail Lindsay ([lindsay.becher@straphael.org](mailto:lindsay.becher@straphael.org)). Individual sign ups are available at [www.tinyurl.com/FrassatiFest](http://www.tinyurl.com/FrassatiFest).

**BREAKFAST IN THE RECTORY**  
After Mass Tuesday, December 30th.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Are you looking for a simple, convenient way to make a gift to charity this year without dipping into your checking or savings account? If you are over 70 ½, you can transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA to charity in 2014 without paying any federal income tax. Your gift can be made simply by notifying your plan custodian of your intent to make a current transfer to benefit your parish, or the diocese. And you will feel good knowing that you were able to make a simple easy gift from your IRA this year. Consult your tax advisor to determine the possible tax saving benefits available to you. For more information on how to make an IRA rollover gift in 2014, please contact the parish office or Jill Driscoll at the Diocese of Madison at 608-821-3039. For more information on other planned giving ideas, visit [www.madisondiocesegiving.org](http://www.madisondiocesegiving.org).



## SEARCH FOR LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring the annual Longest Married Couple Project in the U.S as well as each of the 50 states and territories. If you know a couple with a long marriage, please nominate them for this honor. More information can be found at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).

Deadline is January 9, 2015! Nominations must include the following information:

Names of the couple, Wedding Date, Current address, Name and phone number or email address of the person who is nominating the couple.

Nominations can be emailed to:

[getart@flash.net](mailto:getart@flash.net) or by mail to: Garry & Arla Thomas, 108 Wander Way, Lake in the Hills IL 60156

**Religious Education News**  
**No Classes this week. Classes will resume on January 14, 2015.**  
Happy Holidays!



## PASTORAL COUNCIL COLUMN

At the Gates—An excerpt, from [Anthony Esolen](#)

The night of the Lord's nativity, a night of sounds and silences. In the stable hewn out of the rock, where no babe had been born before, the holy Child is given to us, and no one but the mother and father yet knows it. And the dumb animals look on with their large sad eyes, the first of God's creation to behold their Creator in the flesh. Travelers are milling about the inn nearby, and the muffled sound of human voices reaches the mother and father and the animals. They hear a random word now and again, before it falls, unmeaning, into silence. From the hills comes the occasional soft bleat of a sheep, and something like far thunder, something like a voice. In Jerusalem the world bustles on with all its clatter. Herod drinks and the flatterers cheer. In the east, an old man narrows his eyes to look upon something in the sky.

It is a night attack. Gideon with his trumpet stormed the camp of the Midianites with but a few men, in the dead of night. This army is smaller than his. It comes to seize that most pagan of strongholds. It comes to seize the soul of man. It comes with something more terrible than enmity. It comes with love.

He comes like a thief in the night, quietly, darkly, stealing into that cave, into the small manger, to dwell in the darkness of the human soul and to be among its beasts. We gave him a rack to be born in, and a tomb for his death. Such were the lodgings we provided, for there was no room in our souls for that stranger, that enemy. His vengeance is to give us heaven: to sweep and to deck our souls, so that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

So on this night we may well think of that other darkness, when the powers of the world seemed to triumph, and the pilgrimage of our Lord, who never had a place to lay his head, seemed to come to an end. And the soldiers were milling about, a word here and there dropping into an abyss of unmeaning, while Mary and John and the holy women wept in silence, and the tomb nearby lay waiting, and a faint rumble, something like a voice, seemed to rise up out of the earth itself. Little did the powers know that the wall of the tomb would come down.

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