



**Saturday, December 24**  
 5:15 p.m. Christmas Flower Intentions  
**Sunday, December 25**  
 12:00 a.m. At Good Shepherd  
 7:00 a.m. Deceased members of the Winiarski Family  
 8:15 a.m. At Good Shepherd  
 10:00 a.m. Pro Populo  
 10:00 a.m. At Good Shepherd  
 11:30 a.m. At Good Shepherd  
**Monday, December 26**  
 7:00 a.m. Stanislaus Kostka (son)  
**Tuesday, December 27**  
 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass at Good Shepherd  
**Wednesday, December 28**  
 7:00 a.m. William Joerres  
**Thursday, December 29**  
 No Holy Mass  
**Friday, December 30**  
 7:00 a.m. James McDonald  
**Saturday, December 31**  
 5:15 p.m. Joseph & Mary Duarte  
**Sunday, January 1**  
 10:00 a.m. Birthday Blessings Sophie & Isabelle (Paula King)

**Holy Rosary Sodality**

*Intention:*

That all people come to know the peace of Christ and for the return to the Church of lapsed Catholics.

**Memorial Candles**

**Sanctuary:** Thaddeus Pietraszek (Helen & Joan);  
**Divine Mercy:** Deceased members of the Mazurek Family (Sean & Maryann Portley); **O.L.C.:** In Thanksgiving for all the Graces and Blessings received (Valerie A Butler); **St. Pope John Paul II:** Adam Polak 40th Anniversary

**Financial Blessings**

12/18  
 Weekly Collection \$ 1,707.50  
 Needy Families \$ 841.00  
 Repair & Maintenance \$ 70.00  
 Etc. \$ 356.00  
 Thank You!

Any time anyone wants to give a gift that will not be subject to the diocesan assessment, please just put your donation in an envelope and mark it "Maintenance and Repairs." It will be used entirely by the parish.

*From Father Johnson*

**HOLY MASS**

**Pray, brothers and sisters!:** The priest concludes the preparation of the gifts by two prayers. First, he asks the faithful to intercede that "my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father." Why does he ask this? Because the sacrifice of the priest is the one only he can offer, as an ordained priest. Our sacrifices (those of the people, including the deacon) are the ones we have presented with the gifts of bread and wine, and that are now joined to the perfect sacrifice of Calvary. So the people respond by standing and praying for the priest: "May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church." This is the one instance during the Mass when the priest stands silent as the people respond, praying as a Royal Priesthood that God will accept the Eucharistic Sacrifice at the hands of the priest, for their good and the good of the entire holy Church of God. The priest then offers the prayer over the Gifts, the second proper prayer of the Mass (the Collect being the first one). The offertory prayers often display the irony of the human state: everything we are offering to God here has first been given us by him. Here is an example from Christmastide: "Receive our oblation, O Lord, by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that by offering what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self." *Next Week: Dialogue and Preface!*

**Saint of the Week**

**27 December Saint Fabiola**

The life of Saint Fabiola comes to us through the writings of Saint Jerome. A wealthy Christian of Rome, Fabiola married a man much younger than herself. It was a disastrous union. He was an adulterer and his actions so vile that, as Saint Jerome wrote, not even a common slave would have put up with them. Fabiola sought and obtained civil divorce and then a second husband, a move that put her outside the communion of the Church. Although Jerome presumes that her desire in the second marriage was to avoid unchastity, even so, he concluded that Fabiola had unwittingly exposed herself to a wound from the devil. After the death of her second husband, she became suddenly aware of her wound. She appeared in the Lateran Basilica clad in sackcloth and ashes as a penitent. She then sold her possessions and gave the money to the poor and to a monastery. For a time, Fabiola devoutly studied the Scriptures with Jerome and other holy women in Bethlehem. Returning to Rome, she founded a hospital, where she tended the sick with her own hands, doing all the hardest tasks herself. She died in 399, and Saint Jerome lavishly praised her virtues, writing, "In her we have seen a fulfillment of Saint Paul's words. 'We know that all things work to the good for those who love God'." Saint Fabiola, pray for us!

**Respect Life Prayer Intention:**

For all Christians; May the light of Jesus' birth enflame our



# Respect Life Ministry

At the dawn of salvation, it is the birth of a child which is proclaimed as joyful news: "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk. 2:10-11). The source of this "great joy" is the birth of the Savior; but Christmas also reveals the full meaning of every human birth, and the joy which accompanies the birth of the Messiah is this seen to be the foundation and fulfillment of joy at every child born into the world.

~Pope St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*

Sincere thanks to all who sang carols at Southpointe last week. You brought much joy to the residents there.

Please join us for the next Respect Life Prayer Service On Saturday, January 7th at 8:45am.

## Seniors' News

**Foxwoods Casino**, Thursday January 5th. \$16 includes bus fare, gratuity for driver, free play, and buffet. This trip is open to the public. Bus leaves at 8:30am from Good Shepherd Parish parking lot on South Main St. For more information or reservations call Phyllis 508-676-8378, Adele 508-672-0030, or Ann 508-674-7355.

## Parish Prayer Intentions

*Priscilla Barton, MaryJane W., Bill Larson, Mary B., Matt & Cindy Greaney, Alice Gauthier, Crystal Bedal, Debbie Reid, Ricky Nobrega, Steve Marchand, Rita Cabral, Rebekah Ponte, Kim & Anne Fischer, Beatrice Moniz, Michael Facchini, Rose Facchini, Lois K, Marc, Patricia O'Brien, Anne Marie Hallisey, Kathleen Correia, Pat Cabral, Barbara Howard, Ann & Paul Zygiel, Denny & Joe Bucko, Donald Vezina, Marie Gsgnon, Rita Littlefield & Family.* In thanksgiving for all graces and blessings received. To request prayers for a loved one or friend, contact Father Johnson or Leanne Nelson at 508-678-7412.

## STORM HEAVEN WITH PRAYER!



Join the Spiritual Crusade to storm Heaven with prayers, particularly the Holy Rosary, on the **first day of each month**. You will be uniting your prayers and intentions to every Rosary Warrior in the world. Join us in forming a Spiritual Army of Rosary Warriors to besiege Heaven with prayer, and to spread the Light of Truth throughout America and the world.

**Citizens For Citizens Fuel Assistance Program**  
Are you having trouble paying your fuel bill?

In the Fall River area call: 508-676-7397 or 508-679-0041

In the Taunton area call: 508-823-6346

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us," Merry Christmas! Give your children the best gift of all the growing love of their parents. Explore more by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA and March 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at [www.WWMWMA.org](http://www.WWMWMA.org)

## BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Bible Study Saturday, December 24th or Saturday, December 31st. We will resume in the New Year.



January 8th at 1:00pm  
Good Shepherd Hall

### OFFICE FOR CHILD PROTECTION:

**Parenting:** Want to keep your child extra safe? Create a code word for you and your child to be used in a variety of ways. It can be a signal that your child needs to talk to you immediately; it can be the password a trusted adult needs to pick up your child in an emergency; or it can be a code to signal to you that your child is in danger. Practice handling these situations just as you would have family fire drills. Safety is too important to leave to chance!

### 2016-2017 SAINT STANISLAUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

All at 6:30 p.m.

2/14/17 Parish Council

5/16/17 Parish Council

2/28/17 Finance Council

5/30/17 Finance Council