

# January 1, 2012 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Parish Life Director: Sister Linda Hogan csj 623-3021  
Property Manager: Ms. Judith Rozell 222-4140

Sacramental Minister: Rev. Paul C. Cox 656-9464  
Pastoral Assistant for Administration and RCIA: Mrs. Gail DeMarsh 744-9241

Bookkeeper: Ms. Dawn Brunner 623-3021 (Tuesdays)

## WE GATHER

Sunday 10AM Eucharist  
Tuesday 10A Communion Service / Adult Home  
11:30A Gathering Place ..Presbyterian Ch.  
8P AA Jaracz Hall  
Thursday 12N AA Church Hall  
Friday 10AM Morning Prayer and Communion  
11:30A Gathering Place ..Presbyterian Ch.  
Next Sunday 11AM Super Son Day and Adult Meeting  
January 9 Women's Spirituality Meeting 7PM Convent  
January 11 Pastoral Council 7PM  
January 21 Meatloaf Dinner at First United Methodist Church

## WE SERVE

Thank you for the food for the pantry, the detergent for AIDS Ministry, and the cash for North Country Ministry Emergency Fund. These three collections are taken monthly on the weekend with the First Sunday. Many parishioners are very faithful to this way of serving those in need. **Thank You.**



## SHARING TREASURE.

Thank you to the folks who support Saint Cecilia's financially. On Christmas, the contribution for Church Support was \$3,080 (with \$150 of that being makeup.) In outright donations, \$3,145 was offered. \$25 was given for the Youth Mission trip, Fuel and utilities \$123, and \$25 for Faith Formation. From the "Bottle Returns," \$114.65 was raised.

(Why use envelopes? #1 Because you can determine where you want your donation to go. #2 One check covers all (except Mass Stipends have to be separate.) #3 For envelope users, we can easily create a tax letter. In this economy, tax letters are valuable! If you don't use envelopes but wish to start, please email Sister Linda asap at slhcsj@verizon.net . TY)

## SHARING TIME AND TALENT

So many people were helping in so many ways last week and weekend, that names have been lost! Sorry and thanks to all! We must thank the Christmas ministers of the Word and Eucharistic Ministers, the Choirs, the decorators, the "cleaner-uppers." et al. This past week, Ellen Barlow inserted the new music menus into the books. Thank you! (No small task!) And Linda Gaiotti continues to give one day a week to posting contributions. (Huge!) Thank you to the Carolers who brought song, cards, and gifts to our elders last week: Ellen Joens, Beth, Cregan, Aineen, and Mairina Callahan, Susan, Bob, Colby, and Robert Shepler, Judy Rozell, John Schroeter **Two Personal Notes:** #1 Our elders send their thanks! They loved their cards and surprises. Most of all, they loved the visits—so thank you to all this Christmas. #2 Thank you to all who left gifts at the convent! A few plates of cookies and tins of chocolate lost their name-cards. Thank you to all and to the anonymous donors!! slh



## MAINTENANCE

### Help!!!!

As it is now, most of the maintenance is done by Judy Rozell and Sister Linda...both of whom are getting old and arthritic! They cannot lift and lug as they used to. There is no maintenance man at St. C's—although there are a few men who generously assist when asked, thank God. But to tell the truth, if there was a greater response (donate 5 hours a year to St. C's??), it would be simpler and more fair. Twice, in the past, a "maintenance team" has been formed. There is not much that needs to be done, so the "teams" became defunct. But occasionally, help is needed.... Especially at the turn of seasons, like now.

### Please..... 2 projects

First: Behind the garage are four green (dirty—so wear gloves and old clothes) snow shields for the convent cellar windows... This will take about 20 minutes... There is a dolly in the garage that is helpful unless two folks work together. Just put the shields over the window wells.

Second: The church windows leak lots of cold air. Should we put some of that nice clear and tight plastic over the stained glass windows? If yes, then someone is needed to hold the ladder while slh puts clear plastic on the windows. Better yet, if you could find someone to team up with and do it instead of slh, fabulous! (Please let slh know if and when so she can purchase the needed supplies. Thanks!) If someone knows of a really good reason why this should not be done, please let Sister Linda know. Thanks again.

## WE WORSHIP

### Mass Intentions

Sat, 12/31 4:30P Intentions of Parishioners  
Sun, 1/1 10AM Peter Christopher Flynn  
Req. Dr. & Mrs. James Flynn  
Fri, 1/6 10AM Liturgy of the Hours and Communion  
Sat, 1/7 4:30P Edgar Viger, 1st Ann.  
Req. sisters Joan & Jeanne  
Sun, 1/8 10AM Eileen Fausner Req. Gerri Howe

### Important Message ..... Big Change

Father Cox will resume Friday Morning Mass on the First Friday of Lent, which is February 25th. On the Fridays until then, we will do what we did last year: celebrate the **Morning Prayer with Communion**. The big change? **10am Fridays, instead of 9am**. This is a lovely prayer.... And includes faith sharing. The "Friday Morning Community" hoped that more folks would be able to attend at the later time slot. This starts this week.



### Good News for Sunday Snow Boarders and Skiers!!

Luckily, there are many local opportunities for Eucharist other than St. C's Sunday at 10AM..... like Saturday, 4PM, St Isaac Jogues, Chestertown Saturday, 4:30PM, St. Cecilia's, Warrensburg \*\*\*\*Sunday, 8AM, St. James in North Creek **Have a fun and safe time!**

## Seeking Eucharistic Ministers and Ministers of the Word....

Training and updating are being planned for January. It will be offered more than once, trying to accommodate everyone's schedule. If you would like to serve the Church in this way, please tell either Judy Rozell or Alice Damp (4:30AM) or Gail DeMarsh or Ellen Barlow (10AM).



### Last Call for All Willing to Preside at Children's Liturgy of the Word....

Training and updating is being planned. Please speak with Gail DeMarsh today or asap.

### Women's Spirituality Group

Will meet on the second MONDAY of the month. January 9, 7PM at the convent is the next gathering. This is a good time to join, as a new book is being chosen. All are welcome. For further info, please contact the facilitator, Mary Anne Doty at 793-3150 or mjd62@roadrunner.com



### From St. Benedict Priory, Chestertown

494-3733 www.prioryretreathouse.org  
Check out the web page for wonderful opportunities of spiritual growth. ... in our own backyard!!



**Tabernacle Candle** January candle will burn in memory of Genevieve Morwood, at the request of Jim.

**Prayer Chain** Contact Alice Damp at edaldamp@yahoo.com or 623-3618. Would you like to join the prayer chain? It is important ministry.



### North Country Ministry 623-2829

3933 Main Street Clothing Center & Baby's Place  
9-12 Monday/ 9-12 Tuesday/ 1-4 Wed, Thursday, Friday  
The Gathering Place is now located at the Presbyterian Church.  
A hot lunch is served each Tuesday and Friday, 11:30A-12:30

### NEWS FROM NEIGHBORS

St. Mary's in Glens Falls offers a Mass each second Sunday of the month at 5:30PM. Though intended to attract our teens (ages 13 & up), ANYONE is invited to attend. The music is of a contemporary nature, involving volunteer musicians/voices from area churches.

## Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is the oldest celebration of Mary in the Catholic Church. The custom of honoring the Virgin on the first day of the New Year originates in the sixth century, when her celebration was tied to the octave day of Christmas, the eighth day after December 25. In doing so, ancient preachers would remind their congregations about the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. Jesus was born of a woman, and so, as Eucharistic Prayer 4 states, "Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin." The human nature of Christ is rooted in his being born like us. As we round out the Christmas celebration with its Octave Day on January 1, we venerate the woman who gave birth to him.

There is a dual action in today's Gospel that is sometimes overlooked. The shepherds find the infant in the manger as has been told to them by the angel. And then they go out to tell others about the child. In the meantime, Mary reflects on all these things in her heart. These are the two complementary stances of the Christian: action and reflection. Both are needed for a balanced spiritual life. It is, in effect, putting into practice the two great commandments: love God and love your neighbor.

As we begin the New Year, it is customary to make resolutions: to diet, to exercise, to change something in one's life. Like Mary, who reflected on the events surrounding the birth of her child, we take some time to reflect on our own lives: where we have been, and where we are going. The Gospel gives us the opportunity to situate that reflection in a spiritual context. What does the birth of Jesus mean for me spiritually (reflection), and what do I intend to do about that in my daily life (action)?

©2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

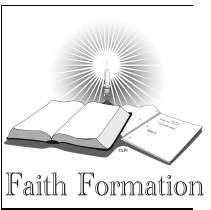
## WE TEACH

### Super Son Day Returns Next Week!

Faith Formation for grades K-6 will enjoy next Sunday's gathering of kings and crowns and cakes! (7-11 graders are needed as helpers. Available? Thanks!)

### ADULTS....

Not just parents... but including parents..... After the children move to the Church Hall next Sunday, we will enjoy coffee and conversation in the narthex around a proposed plan. Please stay next Sunday following the 10 AM Mass. You will be interested! Thanks.



### Needed: 5th / 6th grade teacher

Sundays, 11-12N  
Class size averages between 8 and 10 wonderful kids.  
Course Description: Bible Stories!  
Lots of support, resources, ideas provided!



(You will be amazed at how much you learn!) Please speak with Gail DeMarsh asap.... We resume in two weeks!! (2 teachers working as a team would be great.... Creativity encouraged! )

### Adult Scripture Study

in January / February  
Four folks have signed up at three different times. Hmmm. The schedule is yet to be determined.

### Perfect Attendance for December...

Emma Belanger, Gabriel Belanger, Alyssa Birkholz, Tommy Birkholz, Katie Birkholz, Kiersten Birkholz, Duncan Blydenburgh, Laci Bruno, Megan Bruno, Jayden Cain, Joey Cain, Aineen Callahan, Logan Drino, Olivia Drino, Francesca Lang, Michael Morey, Patrick Morey, Nick Putney, Shane Putney



### Perfect Attendance for the Year to Date:

Tommy Birkholz, Nick Putney, Shane Putney

### Now or in the Future,

### do you anticipate working with our kids????

### If so, this training is a MUST.

It is a requirement of our diocese that any adult who is in any way involved with our kids must take a course called, "Virtus Training." The diocesan description reads: "The Diocese of Albany is committed to providing a safe environment for everyone, especially children. We believe in education that raises awareness of sexual abuse that identifies the signs of sexual abuse, that explains how to control access to our children and vulnerable adults, and that encourages responsible reporting of abuse. This information is critical as we go forward into the future. We have chosen the Virtus program to achieve these goals." Luckily, this training will be provided locally by Sister Fran Husselbeck rsm

**Monday, January 9, 1-2:30 PM, at Blessed Sacrament Church at 7 Goodman Ave, Bolton Landing.**

Yes, even to be a driver on an outing, you are required to have Virtus Training. Just FYI, there have been parishioners who resisted this requirement and yet have come back from the training saying, "Everyone in the parish ought to take this course!" This is not a waste of time, at all. Even if you are simply interested, you are welcome to attend.

(This is not your only opportunity for this training, but it is the closest! Most others seem to be in the Capital District, and at night!) For those who want/need the training but are not able to attend on the 9th, please speak with Gail DeMarsh and perhaps another opportunity can be found.

Thanks!

