



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday,</b> 4:30 PM	<b>December 13, 2008</b> John Harris by his family
<b>Sunday,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>December 14, 2008</b> Phyllis Tribuzio by Wilbur & Carole Charette
9:30 AM	Jane Hooper by Vernon & Myrna Gresh
11:00 AM	Bob Frascadore (3 <sup>rd</sup> anniversary) by his family
<b>Monday,</b> 7:45 AM	<b>December 15, 2008</b> Marie Masse (1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary) by her family
<b>Tuesday,</b> 7:45 AM	<b>December 16, 2008</b> Raymond T. Fiora (24 <sup>th</sup> anniversary) by his wife
<b>Wednesday,</b> 7:45 AM	<b>December 17, 2008</b> Ed Welcome by his wife Judy
<b>Thursday,</b> 7:45 AM	<b>December 18, 2008</b> Florence Larkin
<b>Friday,</b> 7:45 AM	<b>December 19, 2008</b> Rosemarie Witkewicz
<b>Saturday,</b> 4:30 PM	<b>December 20, 2008</b> Robert Krenn by Jean & Jim Lewis
<b>Sunday,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>December 21, 2008</b> Ma, Dad, Robert Jr. Gondek by family
9:30 AM	Helen O'Sullivan by Lee Drapeau
11:00 AM	Special Intention–Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Irene Kubica by her family
7:00 PM	Parish Penance Service

### Readings for the Week of December 14, 2008

Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Thursday:	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Friday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Saturday:	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Next Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/ Lk 1:26-38

Thank you for your support of the Retired Fund for Religious this weekend.

Your envelope for Christmas flowers may be turned in at any collection. Please be sure to legibly print or write the names you would like published in the bulletin. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

## Calendar

12/14	2:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant
12/15	9:30 a.m.	Legion of Mary – Hart House
	6:00 p.m.	Reconciliation Service – Gr. 3 & 4
	7:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary – Hospitality Room

The sanctuary candle will burn this week in memory of:

*Raymond T. Fiora*

This is a venerable tradition and we ask you to keep him in your prayers.



### December 21

Parish Penance Service – 7:00 p.m.

### December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., Midnight

### December 25 – Christmas Day

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

### December 31 – New Year's Eve

4:30 p.m.

### January 1 – New Year's Day

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

## Religious Education News

**Grade 9 & 10 Students** - Deacon Arthur Miller from the Archdiocese of Hartford's Office of Black Catholics will be the guest speaker for the Grade 10 Confirmation class on **December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the church.** Deacon Art will talk about efforts to stem the violence plaguing our inner cities and what we can do to help. **Grade 9 students and all parents are invited to attend.**

**Grade 3-4 Reconciliation Service** - A *special Advent Reconciliation service* is scheduled for all grade 3 and 4 students on **Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the church.** Children most readily follow the lead of those whom they know, love and trust. So, parents - please mark your calendars and plan to attend with your child. Classes are encouraged to attend as a group.

**Grade 10 Confirmation Candidates** - Jesus offers us daily opportunities to forgive and be forgiven. Most of all He offers us the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As part of growing in grace and love and accepting greater responsibilities in our community of faith, all students are strongly encouraged to attend the *parish Advent Reconciliation service on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the church.*

**St. Mary's Men's Retreat Coming Up**  
**Save The Date**

Wives, mothers, sweethearts! Do you want your husband, son, or fiancé to be a better man in a matter of days? A weekend retreat will do it. Get him to sign up early. The retreat begins on Friday, February 27 at 6:00 p.m. and ends on Sunday about noon. For more information contact Ray Crozier at 673-4282 or Neil Kelsey at 678-1314. For more information about Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford visit them on line at [www.holyfamilyretreat.org](http://www.holyfamilyretreat.org) or call them at 521-0440 to register.

**Christmas Special**  
**Buy One Cookbook for \$15.00**  
**Two for \$25.00**

Need a gift for a hostess, a good friend, or that person who has everything? The Guild will be selling cookbooks after masses during the month of December. The cookbooks will be beautifully wrapped with a blank gift card so all you have to do is fill out the card and give it to that special person. This is a great way to do some Christmas shopping.

St. Mary parish family welcomes through the sacrament of baptism:

*Nathan Paul Sylvester*

St. Mary parish welcomes the following newly registered members:

*Sheila & Donald Llewellyn, Farmington*  
*Lynda & John Resony, Farmington*

**Bulletin deadline for the holidays**

Please submit articles for the December 28 bulletin by Thursday, December 18 at 9:00 a.m. This is due to the bulletin publishing company's holiday schedule. Thank you.

**Candle Offering Reminder**

The votive candles located in our worship space beneath the statue of our Blessed Mother are available for your lighting in prayerful remembrance and special intention. The suggested offering is \$1.00 and is to be placed into the self-contained box located in the center of each of the two racks. PLEASE remember to light a candle from the top rows – DOWN, to avoid the risk of injury which can be caused by placing your arm over a lighted votive. Thank you.

**Gift Bearers**

Please let the ushers know at least 15 minutes prior to Mass if you would like to bring up the offertory gifts if you have requested the Mass Intention that day. Thank you!

**Keep Us Informed**


Please let us know if you have an address change. Many of you let us know you've moved by updating your address on your weekly envelopes. This is a great way to alert us and keep our census current. Thank you!



**Who, What,  
Where, and When...**

Mass of Healing and Hope: Tuesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. - The Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Bloomfield with rosary at 6:55 p.m. Presider: Bishop Christie A. Macaluso, Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia, Archdiocese of Hartford. Trained prayer teams available after Mass. Call the Charismatic Renewal Office 860 243-8234 with questions.

Need a gift that really keeps giving? Give your spouse or someone you know (married friends, family, co-workers, neighbors) the gift of love by inviting them to a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Upcoming dates are January 16 – 18 and April 24 – 26. For more information, call Joan & Jane Staszowski 860 644-7260.



**Prayer at Christmas**

Lord, on this Christmas Day,  
 in the midst of the joy of our celebrations,  
 help us recall what is truly important about this day.  
 In the midst of opening presents,  
 help us remember the love that each gift represents.  
 In the midst of Christmas dinner,  
 help us remember that you are the source of all life.  
 In the midst of family gatherings,  
 help us remember that you are the fullness of all joy.  
 And in the midst of Christmas Mass,  
 help us remember the supreme act of love, sacrifice  
 and humility that we celebrate on this Christmas day  
 when your Son came as a helpless, unknown baby  
 and grew to be the life and light of the world.

Amen

