



St. Mary's /St. Peter's Parish

200 N. James Street
Rome, New York 13440

Pastor: Father Sean P. O'Brien

December 22, 2019



St. Mary's Oratory
210 W. Liberty Street

St. Peter's Cemetery
E. Dominick St. Rome
315-337-8307
St. Mary's Cemetery
W. Liberty St. Rome
315-336-3110

St. Peter's Church

200 N. James St.
Rome, NY 13440

Parish Office 315-336-5072

St. Peter's Fax 315-336-0855

E-Mail:

smsprectory@twcny.rr.com

Office Hours:

Monday 10:30 am - 3:30pm

Tuesday thru Friday

8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Religious Education

Office 315-336-5066

Online at:

www.smspfaith.com

Email: spcdre@twcny.rr.com

Deacon: Deacon Nicholas Rosher

Pastoral Associates:

Sister Rosaire Anne De Mare, CSJ

Mrs. Laura Mack

MERRY
Christmas

Visit us online at
www.stmarysstpeters.com



The Nativity of the Lord

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 21, 2019 St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45)

- 8 :00 am Mass for Jackie Baynes by Family
 and Kay and Lambert Sullivan Kinkell by daughter
 5:00 pm **Vigil Mass** for Michael and Marilyn Palinski by Family
 and Francis and Margaret Sullivan by daughter, Mary Jane Lewis
 and Edward Ehrmann by loving family
 and Patricia Charney (birthday) by Family

Sunday, December 22, 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 8:00 am Mass for Mary Meyers Taylor (Anniv) by family
 and Anna Morat by Pete and Christine Iselo
 and Toni Belmont by The Altar Rosary Society
 10:30 am for Carl Massett, Jr. by Family
 and Martin Simons by Mom
 and Shirley K. Opper by Jack, Mark Opper and family
 and Amedeo and Teresa Beddia by Amedeo, Heidi, Hannah Libertella

Monday, December 23, 2019 St. John of Kanty, Priest (Mal 3:1-4,23-24;Lk i:57-66)

- 7:00 am Mass for Joe Simons by Mary, wife
 12:10 am Mass for Todd Pinti by family
 and Shelly Campbell by the Pinti Family
 and M/M Reinhart Matt (anniv) by Pinti family

Tuesday, December 24, 2019 (2 Sm7:1-5; Lk 1:67-79) Christmas Eve Day

- 7:00 am Mass for Father Maio by Toni Belmont
 and Stephan Paul Granacki by Family

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Nativity Pageant will be presented.

The Gospel will be brought to life by the children of the parish

12:00 AM SOLEMN CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

With choir selections starting at 11:30 pm



Wednesday December 25, 2019

10:00 am Christmas Day THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
 Masses today and the vigil are offered for all our parishioners

Thursday, December 26, 2019

and

Friday, December 27, 2019

Saturday, December 28, 2019 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (1Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18)

- 8 :00 am Mass for John Benedict (birthday) by children and grandchildren
 5:00 pm Vigil Mass for Joseph Utter (13th anniv) by family
 and Carol Hickok (aniv) by Sister, Mary
 and Arthur and Betty O'Connor by family
 and a Healing Mass for Mary McAdoo by Mom

Sunday, December 29, 2019 THE HOLY NAME OF Jesus and Mary

- 8:00 am Mass for Michael Iselo by Pete and Christine Iselo
 and Colleen and J. Michael Reilley by children and grandchildren
 10:30 am for Living and Deceased members of the Benedict Family
 and Shirley K. Opper by Jack, Mark Opper and family
 and Fremont Plopper (6th anniv) by wife Norma, Monty, Patricia, Robyn and Family

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/ CONFESSION

Saturday 4:00 pm
 or by appointment at the Rectory

SACRAMENTS OF MATRIMONY/ MARRIAGE AND/OR SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Rectory Office for information

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK FOR THE HOMEBOUND AND THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL

When a family member or friend may be in need of anointing, please call the Rectory Office.

HOSPITAL

It is important that a family member indicate that the person being admitted to the hospital is a Catholic and belongs to a certain parish. Our Parish Ministers who are visitors go to the hospital almost everyday.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members to our parish family. We invite you to become an active participant of our parish community. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor and please call the rectory to register.

A SPECIAL NOTE:

For those who find it difficult to walk, etc.

The front pews across the Church are reserved for you. Communion can be brought to your pew. If anyone needs

Communion in any pew, please indicate that to the Minister of the Eucharist who will assist the person in need.

No second collection this weekend.

Help Us Grow:

Did you know that your weekly contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account [or processed using your credit or debit card]? Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our parish. Simply scan the QR code using your phone's QR code reader or go to StMarysStpeters.com and locate **DONATE** in the menu. Questions? Give us a call. 315-336-5072



December 15, 2019

St. Mary's / St. Peter's Collection
 Not available until next week.

Thank you for your support!

PARISH EVENTS OF THE WEEK
 December 28th Nocturnal Adoration
 at Transfiguration at 7 pm to 8 pm
 Please join us as we close the year 2019

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE
All at St. Peter's Church
SATURDAY Vigil MASS 5:00 pm
SUNDAYS 8:00 am, 10:30 am
Weekdays Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 am
 Saturday at 8:00 am
Holydays 7:00am, 12:10pm and 5:30 pm Vigil

The Sanctuary Lamp
 will burn the week of December 22nd
 for **Matthew Razzano** by wife and children
 The week of December 29, 2019
 for **Vladimir Williams** by Mom

MEMORIAL FUND DONATIONS
In Mission of the Christ Child
 For **Emma Healy** requested by
 Steve Sislo
 Mary Ellen Bennett
 Brenda Reid
 Daniel and Kathleen McAuliffiee, Jr.

ALTAR CARE
December
 Breanna Kubik
 Ashley Engle

COLLECTION HELPERS
December 22nd
 Bernie Kaier Alex Howe
 John Sorbello
December 29
 Ted and Anne Kehoe
 Cora Sue Howe

HOSPITAL VISITATION
December 22nd
 St. Mary's/St. Peter's Team 4
December 29th
 St. Peter's /St. Mary's
 Team 5



 **Faith Formation**
 From Sunday,
 December 22nd to January 5th
 there are no regular classes for
 Faith Formation.
 Enjoy this recess but don't forget to attend
 the Mass and Church celebrations for
 Christmas and New Year!
God bless you and your families.

FAMILY PERSEPECTIVE
Provided by the Hope Appeal Funds
 Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christ-
 mas resist the pressure to give token gifts.
 Instead, use those funds to give necessities for
 the poor. If our impoverished brother and sisters
 are not on our gift list, we've missed
 the point of Christmas.

St. Peter's Mass Schedules
 There will be no weekday Masses
 on December 26th and 27th
 The weekend Masses for Sat. December 28th and
 Sunday December 29th will be as usual.
NEWS YEARS EVE Vigil Mass will be at 5:30pm
NEWS YEARS DAY Mass will be at 10:00 am
January 1st is the Solemnity of Mary
It is a Holy Day of Obligation
World Day of Pray for Peace

TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
The Twelve days of Christmas song written in England as a Catechism Song
because Catholics in England were not allowed to openly practice their Faith.
An Anonymous individual wrote the Song as a memory song for young Catholics to learn their religion.

1st Day	"Partridge in a pear tree"	= Jesus
2nd Day	"Two Turtle Doves"	= the Old and New Testaments
3rd Day	"Three French Hens"	= Faith, Hope and charity
4th Day	"Four Calling Birds"	=The Four Gospels
5th Day	"Five Golden Rings"	= The First Five Books of the Old Testament: (Pentateuch)
6th Day	"Six Geese a-laying"	= the six days of Creation
7th Day	"Seven Swans a-swimming"	=the seven gifts of the Holy spirit and the Seven Sacraments
8th Day	"Eight Maids a Milking"	=the Eight Beatitudes
9th Day	"Nine Ladies a-leaping"	=the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
10th Day	"Ten Lords a leaping"	=the Ten Commandments
11th Day	"Eleven Pipers Piping"	=the eleven faithful Apostles
12th Day	"Twelve Drummers Drumming"	=the Twelve parts of the Doctrine in the Apostle's creed

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY



The Annual Parish-wide Christmas Party was held on Friday, December 13th at the Franklin. As always, the Franklin did not disappoint with a wonderful buffet. Those in attendance enjoyed great company, great food, Christmas music and festivities!!! Without your continued support we would not be able to generously monetarily gift our Parish and our Clergy Christmas gifts.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PARISH and OUR CLERGY!!!

There will be no Altar Rosary Meetings during the months of January and February.

March will be the Annual PARISH WIDE St. Patrick's Day Dinner

catered by Eddie's Paramount Diner. Details to follow closer to the date. Our meetings will resume in April with our calendar year ending with a June "social" for all Members

THE ADVENT GIVING TREES

Sacred Heart Altar

we are asking you to donate items that will be distributed by the school nurses for the need of so many students.

When shopping...suggestions are:

Elementary Level:

**Size 3 - 6 boys & girls underwear.
Unisex pants, Sweat pants for boys & girls
Size 5/6 unisex colors, hats, gloves
Socks, underwear, Hygiene items**

For High School:

Unisex Sweatshirts & sweatpants, sizes s-xxl

**Additional items: Hygiene kits,
Soap, tooth paste, tooth brushes
Deodorant sticks, feminine products,
cleaning wipes**

"Do not wrap the gifts"



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:21

We see Love

Speak: "Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the holy Spirit." (Matt 1:18)

Read: Isaiah 7:10-16 and Matthew 1:18-25

Reflect: Read and Reflect of Psalm 80:19. Remember that salvation is a gift of love from the Lord. What other gifts has God given you today?

Engage: Show an act of kindness to a child with a parent who is ill or incarcerated, or take dinner to the medical team at your local emergency room or urgent-care clinic.

Pray: Gracious God, we seek you everywhere with expectant eyes that invite us to see love in the world today. Amen.

Christmas Eve/Day: See the Child that changes the World!

Speak: "A child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"

Read: Isaiah 9:2-7 and Luke 2:1-20)

Reflect: Where in your community do you see signs that Christ is changing the world? Where would you like to see more signs of change?

Engage: What will you do today to share God with others?

Pray: Gracious God, we seek you everywhere with expectant eyes that invite us to see all the people that you are calling us to love today. We praise you, O God, for the King of Kings!. Amen

Mass Schedules for Christmas

at

St. Peter's Church:

5:00 pm Vigil Mass and Pageant
12:00 am Midnight with Choir
10:00 am Mass of Christmas day.

St. John the Baptist:

4:00 pm Vigil Mass
12:00 am Midnight Mass
11:00 am Christmas day.

Transfiguration:

9:30 am Christmas Day

St. Paul's:

4:00 pm and 7:30 Vigil Masses
11:00 am Christmas Day

St. Joseph's:

4:00 pm and 10:00 pm Vigil Masses
9:00 am Christmas day.

Life Teen

Students in Grades 9-12
meet Every Saturday evening at
St. John's Church following the 4:30 Mass
Call Robin Colandra 315-272-9319
They meet at the youth center at
Transfiguration Church
For a social evening of sharing and Pizza

Dear Padre,

Why did early Christians begin celebrating Christmas on December 25th?

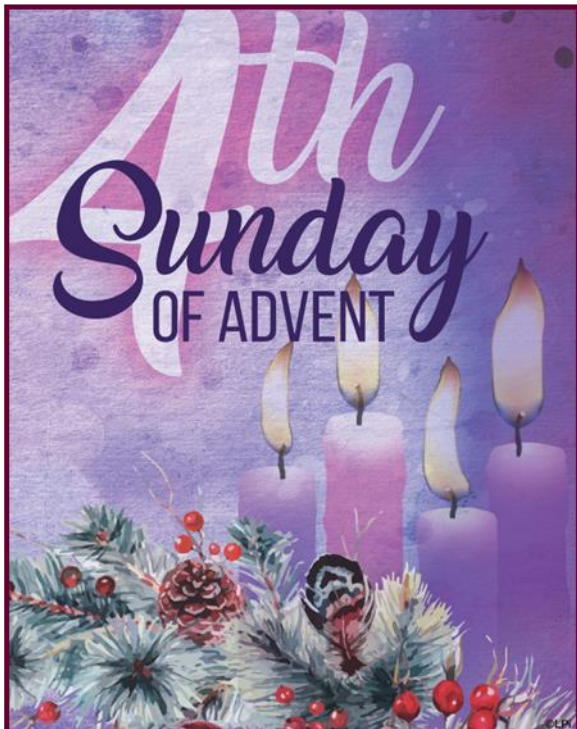
Placing Christmas near the winter solstice can be traced to pagan celebrations in Christianity's early years. The celebration of Christmas in December began in Rome as a Christian response to a civil festival honoring the sun god Sol. The Romans celebrated the sun climbing into the northern skies, signaling the lengthening days after the cold winter nights. On December 25, 274, Aurelian proclaimed the sun god principal patron of the empire. Christmas originated when this sun cult was strongest. Christians wouldn't go to the temple to pay homage to a sun god. They believed in the one true God, and God's only son made human, Jesus Christ.

It's almost as if Christians substituted "son" for "sun" and celebrated the birth of the son of justice into this world. The parallels are uncanny. As the extending sunlight broke night's grip and softened the cold sting on the world, so Jesus' coming broke the long reign of sin and darkness. Jesus was the true son, the light and life of the world, the reason for renewed hope.

Narrow fundamentalists fail to understand that Christmas is more than a birthday celebration of the day Christ was born. It's wider in scope, celebrating the reality that Jesus was born human. It's not the when but the what that we celebrate. So, Jesus' precise birthdate doesn't matter. What matters is that Jesus was truly born human—like us in all things but sin.

For this we celebrate.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSR



BEREAVEMENT GROUP

meets at St. Paul's Parish Center
on the second Sunday of each month.
All are welcome if you need support due to
the loss of a loved one, or for any reason.
Please join them for their meetings.

For more information.
Call Celeste 315-794-9851

ROME AREA

VETERAN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Meets at St. Paul's Parish Center
On the first Sunday of each month.
Call Gene Blackburn For info (315-225-1520)

Today is the 4th Sunday of *Advent*.
We have 3 more days to observe *Advent*.
Then *Christmas* is celebrated starting
December 25th at the Midnight Mass

PARISH STAFF

Director of Faith Formation
Laura Mack (315-336-5066)

Organist

Office Administration
Sharon Hansen

Administrative Assistants
Sister Rosaire Anne DeMare, CSJ

Maintenance Directors
St. Peter's Mark Lagasse
St. Mary's William Link

Cemetery Superintendent
St. Peter's and St. Mary's
Joseph Fusco

**PARISH ORGANIZATION
and PARTICIPATION**

Altar Rosary Society Mary Wahl

St. Peter's Senior Group
W. Warren Sickles, Jr
Readers and Eucharistic
Ministers Kathy Miller
Scripture Study Betty Pettinelli
Prayer Group Barbara Thomas
Funeral Preparations B. Thomas

Volunteers are needed as:
Altar Servers * Collection
helpers
Ushers * Choir * Greeters
Please call the rectory for
more information.

Pope Francis

asks us to pray for one of
his published intentions
each month. To pray with
the Pope daily
Visit: clicktopray.org

**DECEMBER
The Future of the
Very Young**

*That every country
takes the measures
necessary to prioritize
the future of the very
young, especially those
who are suffering.*

**PARISH COUNCIL
MEMBERS**

Meetings are held on the 2nd
Tuesday of each month at 7 pm

Father Sean O'Brien, Pastor

Kevin Barry, President
Betty Pettinelli, Vice President
Joseph Maurer, Trustee
St. Peter's
Dale Rashford, Trustee
St. Mary's
Joseph Stanton, Trustee
St. Peter's

Michael Adey
Toni Belmont
Ginny Craiglow
Sister Rosaire Anne De Mare
Edward Donohue
Doug Holdridge
Carol Kaun
Joan Lamb
Laura Mack
Marguerite Maurer
Patrick Reilly
Deacon Nicholas Rosher

**Let us remember our family, friends and
parishioners in our prayers**

Georgie Amodio
Paula Bailey
Raymond Barbar, Jr.
Al Barone
Doris Barry
Joseph Beasock III
Karen Bieksza
Ben Boulay
James Brooks
Lorayne Callichia
Stepanie Calicchia
Mary Carmody
Barbara Colquhoun
Nick Coonrod
John Cordsen
Tom Delpico
Al Eisinger
Paul Eisinger
Robyn Engle
Bill Evans
Ron Fazio
Judith Ann Fesner
Joan Fiaschetti
Diana Fowler
Julianna Fusco
Lauri Fusco
Michael Gans
Augusta Ginsburg
Scott Ginsburg
Amanda Gold
John Green

Gail Green
Billy Jo Hilldenbrandt
Joan Hinman
Joshua Hedrington
John Hedrington
David Johnston
Lena Johnston
Paula Johnston
Mary Ann Kimmel
Edwin Kindler
Gary Koster
Paul LaSalle
Teresa La Salle
Bill "Dobie" Link
Lori Losowski
Anne Lubecki
David, Liz, and Mitzi
Marcelletta
Geoff Marchione
Russell Marchione
Terry Martin
Mary McAdoo
Brian McQueen
Patricia Melioris
Angie Messineo
Tom Moonan
Ann Moster
Phil Murphy
Beverly Nasci
Tari-Lyn Orton
Robert Pabis
Debbie Pacicca

Barbara Pazdur
Rachel Pawlikowski
Clair Papadametrious
Jim Pekarski
Roxanne Platt
John Preski
Dorothy M. Pomilio
Patrick Quinn
James Rank
Dale Rashford
Bill Reese
Pam Rigglesman
Catherine Roman
Robert Roman
Lisa Ryder
Kelly Sabia
Brian Schilling
Emmalynn Sharrow
Francis Schwartz
Alexander Simpson
Freja Emily Simpson
Kaye Skinner
Russell Smith
Spencer Robert Smith
Blanche Sweatman
Carol Tardugno
Michael Testa
Anne Toepp
Vito Waterman
John Wright
David Williams
Ray "Dusty" Whitman

Please call the rectory for additions, deletions and corrections.



**CHRIST THE KING
RETREAT AND
CONFERENCE CENTER**

call: 315-446-2680

**NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY
December 31st**

**10 am to 3 pm A New Year.. An
End and a Beginning**

A look back at the year that was and
celebrate a year we are about to have.
For reservations call 315-446-2680.
Offering \$30 includes lunch.

"Beauty and the Beast"

December 15th
at Syracuse Stage at 12:30 pm

Plan ahead..

February 26th. Ash
Wednesday Day of pray with Sis-
ter Donald Corcoran

February 26th Young adult
evening of Prayer with Father
Nate Brooks 6 to 8:30 pm



Call for more info and to register call
315-735-6210

**EPIC
A JOURNEY THROUGH
Church History**

January 8th to June 3rd
10 am to 12 pm
or 6 to 8 pm
\$30 per person
Call to register

PAL

Parents of Addicted Loved Ones
Meets every other Monday 6:30
pm to 8 pm Topics to cover ;
4 stages of growth
family lessons about
Recovery Relationships

**ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament
AT TRANSFIGURATION Church Chapel**
Adoration times will be from 6 am to 9 pm with
2 adorers required for each hour. To sign up or for
questions call Bernadette Kapps at 315-337-5439.



PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS
*Lord, hold our troops in your loving
hands. Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the self-
less act they perform for us in our time of
need, and give us peace. Amen.*