

GIVING TREE

Look for the tags on our Giving Tree! If you can, please take a tag or two, SIGN it out, and shop for the child you selected. Some tags will have suggestions to help you out. All UN-wrapped presents are due back under the Giving Tree on Sunday, December 17th. Any questions please call the church office at 908-637-4269. If you know of a **parish** family in need, please let us know, all calls are kept confidential.



CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Are available in the back of the church. Each envelope contains 3 wafers. The asking donation is \$5 per package. Family members and friends break off a small piece of the *oplatek* wafer and give it to one another along with a blessing. Breaking off and exchanging part of the *oplatek* with someone is a symbol of forgiveness and is meant to remind participants of the importance of Christmas, God, and family.

A sample blessing can take the form of "I wish you much health, happiness and the Lord's bountiful blessings as well as the fulfillment of all your plans and everything you wish for yourself" or just wishing good grades to a child and good health to your parents. It is also common to put a "shared piece" into the Christmas card you are sending. The tradition of sharing the wafer is one of the rich variety of traditions that the Polish community still celebrate during Christmas Eve Supper which is the most elegant and pompous evening in the whole year.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFING ENVELOPES



Please help us keep our traditions and donate towards our Christmas Flowers. This will also help area flower growers that supply us with our flowers. Offering envelopes can be found on our large brown table in the back of our church. You may

donate in memory of or in honor of loved ones. If you have more than two names, please write all the names on a separate piece of paper and slip it into the flower offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS REMEMBRANCES

If you would like your loved ones, living or deceased, remembered in Christmas Remembrance Masses during Christmas and throughout the month of January, please pick up a Christmas Mass Remembrance envelope found on the large brown table in the back of our church. If you have more than two names, please write all the names on a separate piece of paper and slip it into the remembrance offering envelope. All names will be printed in the bulletin after Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

Our Christmas Midnight Mass choir would love your help. Anyone planning to attend the Midnight Mass and would like to sing with us is invited to do so. Contact Kevin McCann or call the church office for our practice times.



CHRISTMAS PLEDGE

"On my honor, I will do my best to promote the CHRISTmas traditions. I will incorporate, use the word "CHRISTmas": in my CHRISTmas greetings and conversation, in my CHRISTmas cards, CHRISTmas stamps, and every appropriate CHRISTmas way. This I pledge to CHRIST, my Lord."

BE NOT AFRAID

Perhaps priesthood has crossed your mind, but fear pushes the idea away:

- My friends would laugh if they heard I was thinking about the priesthood!
- My parents would be shocked.
- My mom wants grandkids.
- I'm scared to death of speaking in public.
- I'm nowhere near holy enough.
- I don't want to give up sex.
- I'll be lonely.
- Seminary may be too hard for me.
- Being a priest seems lame.

These fears are very common, even for men who are already in seminary. But literally thousands of men have had the same concerns and then went on to become holy and effective priests.

Contact Fr. Mauricio Tabera-Vasquez, Vocation Recruiter, (732) 562-2457, vocations@diometuchen.org



SPONSOR A CHRISTMAS CANDLE



We started this tradition last year and it went so well that we didn't have enough candles for all the demand. So, we purchased more candles this year. Please consider sponsoring a Christmas Candle in honor of your family or for a loved one. The donation for a candle is only \$10 and it will be used to decorate our entire church and stay lit through the entire Christmas season. Our goal is to have all 50 candles sponsored. All family names will appear in the bulletin throughout the Christmas season. What a nice way to receive a Christmas Family Blessing this year.

GENTLE REMINDER...

Think of our beautiful church building as your home. Just as you always want your home to be ready to welcome guests and visitors, please be conscious of picking up after you and your family at the end of Mass; readying the church for others. Please replace all misselettes and song books and take the bulletin with you so we all make the church ready to welcome others for worship.

Sanctuary Lamp / Bread & Wine / Divine Mercy Candle

Please contact the church office, 908-637-4269, if you would like to book the Sanctuary Lamp, Bread & Wine, or Divine Mercy Candle for the week in memory of or in honor of a loved one. The cost is only \$10 for the week. The name(s) will be placed in the bulletin and announced at all Masses for the week it is booked.

AMERICAN FLAG



Would anyone like to sponsor a new 5 foot by 8 foot American Flag for our outside pole. A well-made flag, made in the US, costs approximately \$70-\$80. If interested please contact the church office, 908-637-4269.

RAFFLE WINNERS

Thank you to all our parishioners who purchased raffle tickets for the Right to Life organization. We broke a record here at our church; 83 raffle tickets sold. \$830 was raised. The winners of the raffle are: 1st prize-Theresa Petrucci, 2nd – Lois Jarmicki, 3rd – Curt Muklecicz, 4th – Theresa Celli. Congratulation to all.



WANT TO BE AN ALTAR SERVER???

If you already received your First Holy Communion and wish to serve at Mass please contact the church office (Mon-Fri, 9:30am – 3pm). A training session will be set up for anyone interested. Please call, 908-637-4269 or email: stpeterandpaul@comcast.net.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Boxed 2024 Offering Envelopes are now available in the back of our church. We ask that you take 1 box per family. Please write your last name and an amount on the envelopes if you wish us to keep track of your donations for tax purposes. Using offering envelopes also helps us when it comes time to issue sponsor certificates for a Baptism or for Confirmation.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UPS



It has been a tradition in our Church for a billion years to hold a Children's Christmas Eve Pageant on Christmas Eve at the 5pm Mass. So, we are calling all students from our Religious Ed Program. We need actors in grades K-4 and readers grades 5-8. We have all the costumes and all the readings we just need the "kids". We need angels, Wise Men, shepherds, sheep, a donkey, a cow, a camel, a star and of course a Mary & Joseph. You can find a sign-up sheet on our large bulletin board. Or, contact Diane Francis with any questions at 908-637-4269 or email her.