

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 and December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



*Oh Holy Night*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Christmas!*

In Bethlehem, Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. He was born, not by the will of man, but by the gift of the love of God our Father, who “so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (Jn 3:16).

This event is renewed today in the Church, a pilgrim in time. For the faith of the Christian people relives in the Christmas liturgy the mystery of the God who comes, who assumes our mortal human flesh, and who becomes lowly and poor in order to save us. And this moves us deeply, for great is the tenderness of our Father.

The first people to see the humble glory of the Saviour, after Mary and Joseph, were the shepherds of Bethlehem. They recognized the sign proclaimed to them by the angels and adored the Child. Those humble and watchful men are an example for believers of every age who, before the mystery of Jesus, are not scandalized by his poverty. Rather, like Mary, they trust in God’s word and contemplate his glory with simple eyes. Before the mystery of the Word made flesh, Christians in every place confess with the words of the Evangelist John: “We have beheld his glory, glory as of the only-begotten Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (Jn 1:14). [...]

The sign of Christmas has also been revealed to us: “a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes” (Lk 2:12). Like the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we welcome in the Baby Jesus the love of God made man for us. And may we commit ourselves, with the help of his grace, to making our world more human and more worthy for the children of today and of the future.

*- Pope Francis, Christmas Message 2017*

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***Merry Christmas!***

The clergy, wardens, and pastoral team of Our Lady of Fatima Parish  
join in wishing you every blessing this Christmas;  
in your homes, families, schools, and places of work.



**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 - January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Albert E. Piper – RIP – by Linda Piper
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family Felix O. Manzanal – RIP – by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.	<b>Dec. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Thanksgiving by Raymond Abboud & family Bill Yvorchuk – RIP –by the family
<b>Tuesday</b> 11:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Christmas: Nativity of the Lord</b> For the People ( <i>Pro Populo</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint Stephen</b> Annasamipillai Aloysius – RIP – by son & family
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Saint John</b> John Simonka – RIP – by the family
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Holy Innocents</b> Noreen Bolohan RIP – by Joan
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Dec. 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Elvira Durinzi – RIP – by the family
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Dec. 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Holy Family</b> Carlito Carbo Sr. – RIP – by Evelyn & family For the People ( <i>Pro Populo</i> )
<b>Monday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Dec. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>New Year's Eve</b> For Special Intentions of Jessica Abboud – by her mother
<b>Tuesday</b> 11:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Mary, Mother of God</b> For the People ( <i>Pro Pupulo</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Saints Basil &amp; Gregory Nazianzen</b> Orlene Mauris - Thanksgiving – by Julia & Wije
<b>Thursday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Most Holy Name of Jesus</b> Solange Smith-Labelle – RIP – by Linda Piper
<b>Friday</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> In Thanksgiving to the Holy Family – by the Ferraro family
<b>Saturday</b> 10:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Weekday</b> Thanksgiving by the Fatima Families Rosary Crusade
<b>Saturday</b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Jan. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday Vigil</b> Deceased and Living Members of the Rodrigues family – by Leo and Lavinia
<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	<b>Jan. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Epiphany</b> For the People ( <i>Pro Populo</i> ) Olga and Fawzi Bichai –RIP – by Marie Therese Khairy and family

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*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.*  
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**Collection:**

December 16, 2018 - **\$3,618.45**

You Lift Me Up - **\$530.00**

(bringing our total to **\$131,370.00** for our goal of **\$170,000.00**)

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Solemnity)**

January 1st is a holy day of obligation as we celebrate the Solemnity of **Mary, Mother of God**. Join us for the vigil mass on Monday *December 31<sup>st</sup>* at 4:30 pm or on *Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>* at 11 am.

Mary, Mother of God: pray for us!

### **CHRISTMAS WITH THE SAINTS**

"When I arrived at Midnight Mass [Christmas 1937], from the very beginning I steeped myself in deep recollection, during which time I saw the stable of Bethlehem filled with great radiance. The Blessed Virgin, all lost in the deepest of love, was wrapping Jesus in swaddling clothes, but Saint Joseph was still asleep. Only after the Mother of God put Jesus in the manger, did the light of God awaken Joseph, who also prayed. But after a while, I was left alone with the Infant Jesus who stretched out His little hands to me, and I understood that I was to take Him in my arms. Jesus pressed His head against my heart and gave me to know, by His profound gaze, how good He found it to be next to my heart. At that moment Jesus disappeared and the bell was ringing for Holy Communion."  
-*Saint Faustina Kowalska (Diary n. 1442)*

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### **SAINTLY PRAYER**

O Mary, Immaculate Virgin, Pure crystal for my heart,  
You are my strength, O secure anchor,  
You are a shield and protection for a weak heart.  
O Mary, you are pure and unparalleled,  
Virgin and Mother at one and the same time;  
You're beautiful as the sun, by nothing defiled.  
Nothing is worthy of comparison to the image of Your soul.

Your beauty enthralled the Thrice-Holy One's eye,  
That He came down from heaven, forsaking th'eternal See's throne,  
And assumed from Your Heart Body and Blood,  
Hiding for nine months in the Virgin's Heart.  
O Mother, Virgin, this will no one comprehend,  
That the infinite God is becoming a man;  
It's only love's and His inscrutable mercy's purpose.  
Through You, Mother — it's given us to live with Him forever.

O Mary, Virgin Mother and Heaven's Gate,  
Through You salvation came to us;  
Every grace to us streams forth through Your hands,  
And faithful imitation of You only will sanctify me.  
O Mother, Virgin — most beautiful Lily.  
Your Heart was for Jesus the first tabernacle on earth,  
And that, because Your humility was the deepest,  
Wherefore You were raised above Angel choirs and Saints.

O Mary, my sweet Mother,  
To You I turn over my soul, my body and my poor heart.  
Be the safeguard of my life,  
Especially at death's hour, in the final fight  
- *Saint Faustina Kowalska, (Diary n. 161)*