



*The heavens roar, the angels sing*

*All glory to our God and King!*

*St. John the Baptist Catholic Church,  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida - Christmas 2017*

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, December 23**

8:45am **Int.** Cody Huy Nguyen  
 5:00pm † Clement J. Ulliana and Lyle Anderson

**Sunday, Monday and Tuesday**

**December 24, 25 & 26 (Christmas Triduum)**

† Lyle Anderson	† Dr. Edward Merrigan
† Beatriz Arango	† Edward P. Murphy
† Arzulia de Arcos	† Marie, Carolyn & Frank Policastro
† Agnes & Ed BiMonte	† Imelda O'Connor
† Peggy Blaikie	† Catherine & Dan Redmond
† Timothy Blaikie	<b>Int.</b> John & Diane Rau
† Marie & John Bonell	† Betsy Russo
† Ena Camargo	† John Rocha III
† Alphonse Della Donna	<b>Int.</b> Phyllis Rocha
† Alice Del Percio	† Martin Patrick Sallarulo
† Joseph Doyle	<b>Int.</b> Dolores San Miguel
† Marti Huizenga	† Mary & Anthony Sorrentino
† Joseph & Anne Jasin	<b>Int.</b> Dolores Stamp
† Veronika Juscakova	† Jean Ann Stock
† Donna A. McFadden	† James P. Warnock

**Int.** Peter McCretton † William & Michelina Williams  
 † Ruth Menza † Donna Yohanan  
 † and **Int.** of Tight/Campbell Families, Counihan/  
 Purcell Families, and the Seiler/Egan Families  
 † Cancer patients, addicted persons & mentally ill

**Wednesday, December 27**

7:00am † Fr. Paul Frank, OMI  
 8:45am † Marie & Carolyn Policastro and Joseph Jasin

**Thursday, December 28**

7:00am † Fr. Tom Dennehy  
 8:45am † Leo Lemoi and **Int.** Jimmy DeReuil

**Friday, December 29**

7:00am † Rev. Gerald McGrath  
 8:45am † Brenda Pollock and Rita Tracy

**Saturday, December 30**

8:45am † Andrea Marie Giattino  
 5:00pm † Ruth Menza and Nelson Jesus Carrodegus

**Sunday, December 31**

7:30am † Roland & Barbara Faria and  
**Int.** Maribeth Campbell  
 9:00am † Rev. Robes C. Charles and Allie Beck  
 10:30am **Int.** Parishioners of St. John the Baptist  
 and † Dr. Silvia Flores  
 12:00pm † Sarah Bova and Vincenzo Sebastiani  
 5:00pm † Michael Bienes and  
 † and **Int.** Counihan/Purcell Family

Dec. 30 & 31	Celebrant	Lector	Extra-ordinary Ministers
Sat. 5:00pm	Fr. Kelly	Richard Spinogatti	Mary Ellen Spinogatti Daniel Toomey Susan Toomey
Sun. 7:30am	Fr. Kelly	Greg Coican	Maureen Buffington Nancy Seiler
Sun. 9:00am	Fr. Bowles	Ed Merrigan	Beverly Green Becky Poljak
Sun. 10:30am	Msgr. Sheahan	Albert Rode	Sue Hooley Lyn Fazioli Tom McCracken
Sun. 12 Noon	Fr. Callan	Bob Bulfin	Gail Bulfin Jody Williams
Sun. 5:00pm	Fr. Callan	Bill Lank	Cathleen Mascarenhas

**Baptism:** Registered parishioners please contact the Parish office at least one month in advance. Baptisms are held on the second Sunday of the month after the 12pm Mass.

**Marriage:** Arrangements are made for previously registered and participating parishioners with six months of preparation.

**Homebound:** Please contact the Rectory to register for home visits for those unable to attend Mass.

**Women's Guild:** Monthly meetings are held Oct - May, 2nd Wed. at 9:30am. Boutique workshops are Wed. at 9:30am

**Men's Club:** Meetings on the 4th Tuesday, Sept - May. Breakfast is hosted after First Friday 8:45am Mass.

**Divine Will Group** meets Wednesday evenings from 6- 9pm and Saturday from 2-4pm in the Parish Hall. Monthly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 1-3pm.

**Our Novena and Benediction Service and Rosary:**

Please join us Monday-Saturday at 8:20am for the Rosary and on Mondays for our Novena and Benediction service immediately following the 8:45am Mass.



Thank you to all in the Women's Guild who helped make the

**Annual Christ Child Tea**

such a successful event! Respect Life is grateful for all donations made in their honor. Special thanks to Ferial and Nabeel Youakim for opening their home to host this special occasion. We

offer tremendous gratitude to the dedicated officers of the Guild and to Chairpersons Carol Jardine, Jan Pozzi and Pat Burke and to Dottie Panza for the wonderful gift bags.

**Thank you for all who donated to the beautiful Christmas Flower display in remembrance of your loved ones. Donation envelopes will remain on the altar throughout the Christmas season.**

***“The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”***

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year,” or so the popular song goes. Truly it is a season of joy, festivity, happiness and atmosphere. Families get together to share love, dining, and gifts. Friends avail of the occasion to gather and celebrate friendship and support. Schools are in recess, tournaments proliferate and shopping is at its peak. Undoubtedly it is a grand time for all.

Appropriately we need to highlight the reason for the festive mood. Regardless of commercial interest, the celebration is essentially that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came among us in a human form for the purpose of securing our eternal salvation. The consciousness of this enormous undertaking should give everyone on Earth reason to celebrate, not only at Christmas time, but every day of the year. Yes, the first steps in our eternal salvation were undertaken when Christ was born in humble surroundings in a Bethlehem stable.

A prayerful understanding of this great mystery will give each of us enormous peace in our hearts. The most important element in our life’s journey is now in our favor and everything else can fall into line. What joy, peace and hope can be ours because of Christ’s birth. Every other issue and occasion pales in comparison to this momentous event. We have at hand the key to unending happiness in heaven.

Reflecting this feeling of security, we now bring support to others through caring, sharing, encouraging, and helping. Life has a new meaning in that we are born anew as representatives of this Christ-child, come to bring love, peace and hope to all those we encounter. Peoples of all faiths, accepting the belief that God sent his Son as peacemaker among his people, must now respond with efforts of their own to bring love and joy of Christ to others. Whether at ground-zero, in the barrio, in the congested housing projects in sprawling suburbia or in traditional urban areas, the hope of all people is in Jesus the Savior. He, and only he, can bring the inner assurance that life with all its challenges has meaning and purpose. He, and only he, can intercede for us with the Heavenly Father. He, and only he, is the Savior who can bring us to an eternity of happiness. Any wonder that it is “the most wonderful time of the year?” It is Christ’s presence among us that gives life meaning and fills the soul with hope.

Blessings,  
Father Vincent T. Kelly



Thank you to the children & teachers for the beautiful **Children’s Christmas Program**. Your creativity and enthusiasm were evident to all in attendance. Special thanks to Catherine Meyer, Louise Cole-Reeser, Wanda Drozdovith and our special team and parents of the Religious Ed program.



The priests of St. John’s extend to each of you the warmth and the love of this sacred celebration of the Savior’s coming among us. May you have peace in your heart as God’s promise of salvation unfolds. You will be included in our intentions as we celebrate mass during the Christmas season.

Jesus came for all of us. Kindly invite a friend or neighbor to join us for this joyful celebration of Christmas.

We welcome all!

Our celebrants for Christmas masses:

**Christmas Eve:**

**5pm**–Father Kelly, **7pm**–Father Bowles

**12 Midnight**–Father Wiesmann

**Christmas Day:**

**7:30**–Father Bowles, **9am**–Father Kelly,

**10:30**–Father Sheahan, **12Noon**–Father Wiesmann

**5pm**–Father Kelly

**Confessions:** Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:15-10am, 4-5pm, and 7-8pm  
**Premass Musical Preludes:** Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm and 11:30pm

The office will be closed Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. December 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, the office will have limited hours, Merry Christmas!



We offer sincere thanks for your gracious generosity on the Christmas occasion. Your gifts to the Lord, in appreciation of His coming among us, reflect your constant feeling of gratitude. May you be blessed abundantly.

WATCH FOR OUR PARISH GIFT TO EACH FAMILY IN TIME FOR YOUR NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION, STARTING DECEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>!

*Perfectly Yourself by Matthew Kelly*

