

# *St. Mary of Czestochowa Church*

## *Established 1914*

*201 Vosseller Avenue*

*Bound Brook, New Jersey 08805*

**REV. LEON S. ANISZCZYK, PASTOR**  
**Rev. John Stec, Parochial Vicar**



**SUNDAY MASSES:** 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. (Polish)  
**SATURDAY EVE:** 5:00 p.m.

**MONDAY Thru SATURDAY:** 8:30 a.m.

**NOVENAS WITH BENEDICTION:**  
Tuesday—after 8:30 a.m. Mass

**HOLY DAYS:** 9:00 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. (English)  
**Vigil Mass:** 7:00 p.m. (Polish)

**CONFESIONS:**  
Saturday: 8:00a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  
4:00 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.

**PARISH OFFICE:**  
Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

**BAPTISMS:** Every third Sunday of the month at 12:00. Parents are expected to attend Pre-Baptismal Classes. Arrangements to be made at the Parish Office. **Only practicing Catholics may act as Godparents.**

**MARRIAGES:** Specific time is set for the celebration of marriage on Saturdays. The common Policy for all the Dioceses of New Jersey requires a period of preparation for the sacrament of Marriage, which includes sessions with the parish priest and attendance at either the Pre-Cana conferences or the Engaged Encounter Weekend. Therefore, arrangements are to be made at least one year in advance and before any social plans are finalized.

**FIRST PENANCE, FIRST EUCHARIST, CONFIRMATION:** Though immediate preparation is given to children before receiving these sacraments, it is expected that children receive a Christian education within their family life, through formal religious education classes, and by attending Sunday worship services.

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:** Arrangements for Communion Calls to the sick at home may be made by calling the Parish Office.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** Our parish welcomes new members to our faith community. Catholic persons new to our area must complete a registration form and be interviewed by the pastor. Please call or stop by the Parish office to complete a registration form. We should also be notified if your address has changed or if you are leaving the parish..



**Parish Office**  
**Ph:** 732-356-0358  
**Fax:** 732-356-5348

**Website:** [www.stmarys-boundbrook.com](http://www.stmarys-boundbrook.com)  
**e-mail:** [stmarybb1@verizon.net](mailto:stmarybb1@verizon.net)

**Rectory**  
**732-384-5925**



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Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17, 2017

*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-17*

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

### MONDAY, December 18

8:30 AM + Helen & Waclaw Ptaszynski  
r/o Family

### TUESDAY, December 19

8:30 AM + Helen Sikora  
r/o Amelia Sunga

### WEDNESDAY, December 20

8:30 AM + Parishioners

### THURSDAY, December 21

8:30 AM + Mary Berni  
r/o Daughter Jean Fenske

### FRIDAY, December 22

8:30 AM + Sam & Lucy Papa  
r/o Daughters Chris & Vinnie

### SATURDAY, December 23

8:30 AM + Estelle Rudnicki  
r/o Daughter & Grandson  
5:00 PM + Yombrick Family  
r/o Jennie Yombrick

### SUNDAY, December 24

9:00AM + Edward Gabrielski  
11:00 AM + Genowefa Wawzycki  
r/o Helen Massaglia  
5:00 PM + Special Intention  
12:00 PM + Special Intention

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** - As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice spring up before all the nations.

**Second Reading** - Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good.

**Gospel** - I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord.

### Reflecting on God's Word

Certain watchwords are associated with each season of the church year, almost becoming a motto. Advent's is "Wake up." It then leads to other words like "Watch," "Wait," and "Witness." But every Third Sunday of Advent, we anticipate the coming Christmas season, whose key word is "Rejoice." This Sunday was traditionally called *Gaudete* ("Rejoice") Sunday. Priests continue to wear rose-colored vestments today, signaling joy.

Joy is not only for Christmastime and the occasional Sunday. Before Vatican II, Mass began with the "prayers at the foot of the altar." The priest would begin: "I will go up to the altar of God." The server responded: "To God, my exceeding joy."

It was a reminder that God is the source of all joy and that joy is one of the great gifts of God, one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. St. Paul reminds us that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control". Now there is a good list for Christmas giving. Tell your loved ones your Christmas gift this year will be to pray throughout the coming year that the Spirit will bring them one of these gifts.

John's gift to the people who came out into the wilderness was to call them to prepare for the Lord, to give them a sense of heightened anticipation that the One coming to them would fill them with joy.



## PARISHIONER PRAYER LIST

### **NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING:**

Bernadine Hnasko, Sonia Karney, Jim Kilcoyne, Stephanie Lazarczyk, Anthony Lazarczyk, Adeline Melesurgo, Donna Rabke.

**HOMEBOUND:** Walter Figel, Richard Freiligh, DeMonte & Rose Guido, Catherine McLaughlin, Nora Specian, Florence Suk, Debbie Vance, Vincent Yannetti, Marge Zuchowski.

**NOTE:** Please call the Parish Office (732) 356-0358 with the names of homebound, nursing home / assisted living or hospitalized parishioners.

Please also notify the Parish Office when the status of a parishioner changes.

## **GOD'S GIFT FOR GIVING**

This past weekend, our Generous Stewards of St. Mary's Parish Contributed:

**Saturday, 5:00 pm \$1584.00**

**Sunday, 9:00 am \$1420.00**

**Sunday, 11:00 am \$ 909.00**

**Total \$3913.00**

**Immaculate Conception \$ 1080.00**

**Oplatki (Christmas wafers)** are available in the Parish Office weekdays and in the Meeting Room on the Weekends.

Offerings for **Christmas flowers** are being accepted. Drop your request in the collection basket.

**Please print** the names of your loved ones to prevent misspelling. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Christmas Gift Suggestions

To your enemy, forgiveness

To an opponent, tolerance

To a friend, your heart

To all, charity



**Thank You!** *St. Mary's Rosary Society would like to thank all of our parishioners who made our Bake Sale our most successful thus far! From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you and bless you for your generosity and support.*

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## Weekend Schedule - December 23-24, 2017

### Saturday, December 23

<b>5:00 pm</b> Lector	Evelyn Dziedzic
Eucharistic Ministers	Frank Kolodzieski*
	Martha Ptaszynski
	Ed Hagan

### Sunday, December 24

<b>9:00 am</b> Lector	Theresa Rudnicki-Jones
Eucharistic Ministers	Anthony Provenzano*
	John Todaro
	Charles Ilsley
<b>11:00 am</b> Lector	Joanna Maciorowski
Eucharistic Minister	Anna Grochocki

## Christmas Eve - December 24, 2017

### Sunday, December 24

<b>5:00 pm</b> Lector	Joe Pizzo
Eucharistic Ministers	Anthony Provenzano*
	Karen Graebener
	Ed Hagan

### 12 Midnight Mass

Lectors	Evelyn Dziedzic
Eucharistic Ministers	Yolanta Gnap
	Frank Kolodzieski
	Martha Ptaszynski

### Christmas Day, December 25

<b>9:00 am</b> Lector	Stephanie DePass
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim DeMaio*
	Charles Ilsley
	John Todaro
<b>11:00 am</b> Lector	Dorota Sokolnicki
Eucharistic Minister	Mark Litwinko



## **KOLENDA**

We will continue the beautiful tradition of blessing homes in January. If you would like to have your home blessed, please provide the information below and place it in the collection basket.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call in the daytime \_\_\_\_\_

Please call in the evening \_\_\_\_\_



## The Story of Christmas Spiders'

### Thoughts at Christmastime - -

*It seems that the path of Jesus is traveled just one time of the year. Why the need to attend only Christmas Mass? Is it for a warm feeling inside - does it go well with the Christmas tree and wrapping paper? Is it a place to go before dinner - a place to show off the newest and costliest gifts just received?*

*Why isn't the Church full all other Sundays and Holidays? Do we think Jesus looks for company on His birthday? Or do we feel we are presenting Him with the great gift of our presence? How sad to think that only one day makes us feel the need to visit Jesus, to come and see Him in His home.*

*Is He such a terrible host that we avoid Him and make a yearly visit as an unloved friend or relative? How sad to only need Him at Christmas - something is terribly lacking in our lives. We have time slotted for everyone and everything - when it is convenient for us -family and friends when we are in need, and Christ, when things go wrong.*

*Christmas should be the culmination of a year full of many days with many visits and many thanks. Christmas Mass should be our yearly Greeting Card to a Lord who has traveled the entire year with us - through the good and bad, happy and sad. Christmas is Christ on our lips and in our hearts, not a Christ to be brought out and shown once a year and then packed away.*

*Christmas is a forever feeling, a forever love, and a forever bond.*



In a quiet cottage in the woods lived a gentle widow and her eight children. The widow worked very hard to keep her children warm and well-fed, but money was not plentiful. When the air grew crisp, and the snow began to fall, the widow knew Christmas was coming. But instead of feeling joyful as the holiday approached, she felt sadness and sorrow. She knew that she did not have enough money to buy her children any gifts to open on Christmas morning. "I cannot afford new toys or books," she thought, walking home through the woods one night. "What will I give my children?"

On Christmas Eve the family ate their simple Christmas dinner together, and the widow tried to conceal her worries. After tucking her excited children snugly into bed, she pulled her chair close to the fire and tried to erase the visions of their little disappointed faces from her mind. After all, what fun is Christmas morning without gifts to open?

"Perhaps a Christmas tree would make my children happy," the widow sighed.

She put on her coat and hat and walked through the woods in search of the right tree. She chose a small but beautiful evergreen, chopped it down with her husband's ax, and brought it to the cottage.

For hours, the widow carefully decorated the fragrant tree branches with colorful fruits, bits of ribbon, and Christmas cookies. Then she blew out her candle and went to bed, hoping the tree would make her children's empty Christmas a little bit brighter.

While the tired widow slept, tiny spiders crept from the cracks and corners of the cottage. They had watched her hard at work, decorating the tree for her children. Onto the branches they jumped, spinning delicate strands of silky web which gracefully covered the small tree from trunk to top. It was a beautiful sight.

When the family awoke on Christmas morning, they could not believe their eyes. The webs of silk had been turned into pure silver, covering the tree with dazzling brightness! During the night, Santa Claus had come with gifts for the children and saw the tree covered with spiderwebs. He smiled as he saw how happy the spiders were, but knew how heartbroken the widow would be if she saw her tree covered with spiderwebs. So he turned the silky webs into pure, shining silver.

The next morning, as the widow watched her children sing and dance around the beautiful shining tree, she knew it would be a wonderful Christmas after all!



## Penance Service and Confessions

Monday, December 18, 2017 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

## Christmas Masses

**Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24, 2017**

5:00 pm Mass (English)

11:30 pm Choir (Polish Carols)

12:00 Midnite Mass (Polish)

**Christmas Day, Monday, December 25, 2017**

9 am (English)

11:00 am (Polish)

## New Year's Masses

**New Year's Day, January 1, 2018**

9:00 am (English)

11:00 am (Polish)

## INFORMATION SHEET

Church name & address: St. Mary of Czestochowa

# 511246

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### *Living God's Word*

*Unlike those who were baptized by John, we were baptized "with the Holy Spirit". If that is so, then "what sort of persons ought" we to be? Like Isaiah, John, and Peter, we ought to be both heralding and "hastening the coming of the day of God".*