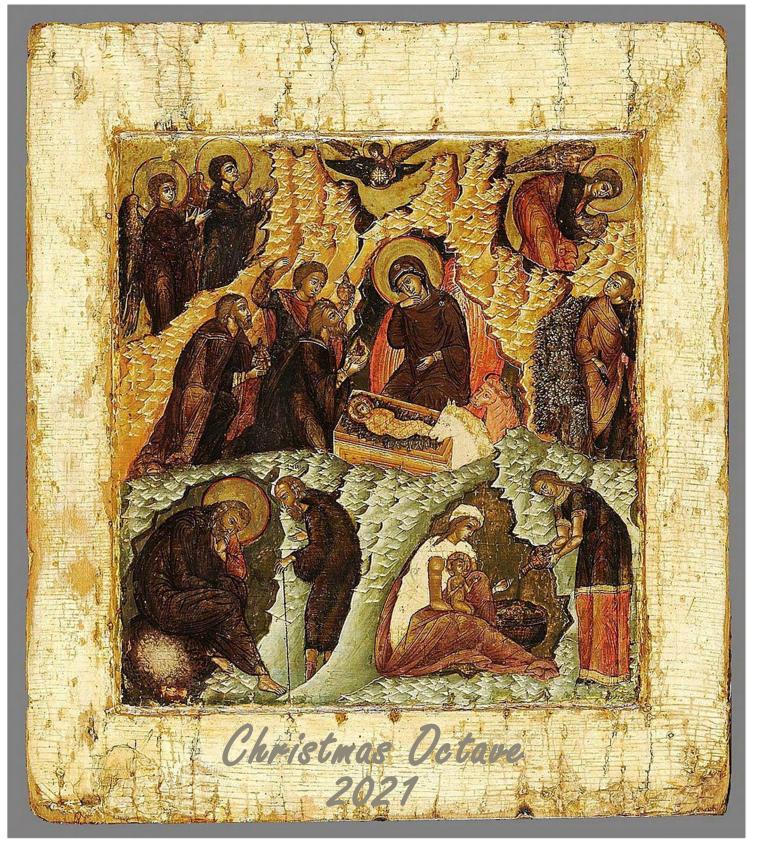
# T. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 Seventh St., Moundsville, W.VA. 26041 📞 304-845-1593 🗾 sfxmoundsville@comcast.net









DEC. 24 FRIDAY

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. For God's protection

of all our children

7:00 p.m. For Victims of natural

disaster

10:00 p.m. For our parish families

DEC. 25 SATURDAY

Christmas Day (The Nativity of the Lord)

10:00 a.m. For those without families during the

holidays

DEC. 26 SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Sara Walters†

Joan Lemasters

10:00 a.m. Charles Freeman†

Kitty & Stan Pazyk

DEC. 27 MONDAY

8:00 a.m. Joseph A. & Mary C.

Patrello†

Cathy & Roger Frame

DEC. 28 TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Philip Patrello†

Pete & Judy Mysliwiec

DEC. 29 WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. James Brinkman†

Jane Klug

DEC. 30 THURSDAY

8:00 a.m. Veronica & William

DiCola†

Rosemary Patrone

DEC. 31 FRIDAY

4:00 p.m. Philip Patrello†

Lewis & Kathy Bee

JAN. 1 SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. For our parishioners

living and deceased

JAN. 2 SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Sara Walters†

Rosary group

10:00 a.m. Mary & Carl Jura†

Carl A. Jura

### When Two or More are Gathered ...

Your purposeful bulletin editor had hoped to fill this issue with Christmastime memories from many parish families for Holy Family Sunday. Many continue to be shy—so parish staff pitched in! We hope their recollections will evoke your memories of Christmas as we also celebrate the love and devotion that exemplify the Holy Family.

Christmas is when God becomes one of us so that we can become part of God. Now because of Jesus we can be part of each other in a meaningful and loving way. So together as God's family, thank you for being with us and may every blessing of Christmas be upon you and in the year to come, Fr. That Son. Sr Agatha, Susan, and Kathy

#### Fr. That Son



For the last week of Christmas shopping, the crowded stores, putting up decorations, people rushing like mad.

It's not like that

everywhere. My childhood Christmas was all spiritual. Getting presents never entered in my mind—no exchange of gifts among friends or family members. No Santa Claus visit ever in our house. but not because I was a very bad boy. On the contrary. I was the best behaving kid in class. (That's how you got your grade in Catholic school in Vietnam—both for academics and behavior). Santa must skip Vietnam altogether! We only had three days off from school for Christmas, but there was an incredible day of festivities on Christmas Eve. The centerpiece of many Catholic homes was the crèche made out of newspapers that took several weeks to make. I can't recall if anyone had a Christmas tree, but families were very proud of their handmade crèche along with the Holy Family and animals. On Christmas Eve. I would pass several times the 'Buche de Noel' cake on our dining table—so much tempted to stick

my finger on it. The cake is a French yule log full of butter and chocolate.

Catholics and Buddhists alike couldn't wait to attend midnight Mass. The Buddhists loved to come to Church to listen to the Christmas carols—only once a year. It's not surprising that some last-minutes Catholics stood outside for Mass and the Buddhists who knew what time for Mass was lucky enough to sit inside. When it came to attending Mass, my Father said we have to be there one hour before, Christmas or no Christmas, so we had seats. Church bells were ringing everywhere at midnight.

After Mass, people were walking home, like ants coming out of the sidewalks, with so much singing of the Christmas carols, and the children mimicking the familiar tunes. My father would lead us home, although my brothers and sisters would want him to walk faster. No one dare to rush in front of him though. When we arrived home, my father gathered the family around the manger scene to give thanks to the baby Jesus and like every year we enjoyed our after midnight dinner of 'Réveillons de Noel' -- roast duck, paté, French bread, cheese, and the 'Buche de Noel' that I was waiting for all night.

# Prayer REQUESTS

**Homebound:** Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Phyllis Prado.

**Nursing Homes:** Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker. Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Sami Wilson, Kathryn Ferrera, Danielle Wilson, Loretta Saporito, Mary Stees, Judith Harbert, Megan Freeland Roskovensky, Annalyn Liette, Mike Gardill, Sandina Leonard, Deanne Ferraro, Celeste Evans, Ted Scarbin, Debbie Hand, Georgia Pettit.

#### Susan



It wasn't until some time in my late twenties that I began to question the existence of Santa Claus and -not by coincidence --

came to know the true meaning of the Christmas holiday. As a youth, I was always Santa's greatest admirer and defender. Year after year he would find his way to our house even though it was mired in boring drabness, unlike all the other gaily lit and festooned houses on our street. Every Christmas Eve my brothers and I would glumly survey our house: no tree, no stockings, no lights. Before bed we would nervously sprinkle bits of carrots around, hoping to grab the attention of Rudolph's nose. Our pleas to our mother to bake something homemade for Santa were met with: "No. Santa likes Oreos." All this combined with an endless list of questionable behavior made it easy to fall into exhausted sleep. And yet every single year, Santa pulled through: no matter how early we awoke Christmas day, a Christmas wonderland awaited our incredulous eves.

This continued, until one year in my late twenties when I suddenly metamorphosed into a wife and mother. That year I remember really looking forward to going to bed Christmas Eve. I really wanted to wake up to a house full of Christmas. On that fateful Christmas Eve however, my husband revealed he did not believe in Santa Claus: furthermore, he stated that he was Buddhist and his tradition was to go to Midnight Mass to listen to Christmas carols. So, that's what we did. To this day, I remain thankful for that new tradition – and thankful for the fact that Santa still hasn't noticed I've moved away from my childhood home where I continue to spend Christmas Day - with the whole darn family.

THIS MODEST space is part of the cavern in Egypt where the Holy Family lived for three months while fleeing from Herod. A church was built over the cavern in the 4th Century by the Coptics to honor the Holy Family's time among them. We hope this view brings inspiration.



(Dru Meyer photo: pilgrimage trip)

#### Sr. Agatha



I grew up on a farm where we kept cattle, donkeys, sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens. Our parish church was seven miles from our farm.

Some of my siblings went to Christmas Eve Mass while the rest would go to the Christmas Day Holy Mass. We had to do it this way so that somebody would tend the animals on Christmas day. We walked to our church because we did not own a car. We did not mind to do that.

On Christmas day in the morning our breakfast was: home-baked bread which mother baked day before. She baked it in a big iron pot in an oven built outside. We had tea with milk and sugar and the homemade bread. We did not drink tea on a regular basis. Corn meal porridge was our usual breakfast. So Christmas day was special for us children because we had the opportunity to drink tea.

For lunch we had brown rice, goat meat, or beef depending on what my parents decided to slaughter for that Christmas. We ate lots of meat that day. There was no cake or biscuits. We did not miss that, because we were very satisfied with the rice and lots of meat. Cake was something I got to eat when I entered the convent. On Christmas day we received new clothes. This is the day we would expect to get new clothes as needed. 26 December was Boxing Day. We continued to celebrate Christmas though we did not go to church. Our priest was not available. We did not have a resident priest in our parish.

## Collection Will Aid Stricken in Kentucky

Bishop Brennan has approved a special collection for the first weekend of January to benefit relief work in

Kentucky. Proceeds will support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities agencies working on the ground to help those in need.

Donations also can be made through the diocese's website: www.dwc.org/disasterrelief

The Sanctuary
Candle
beside the tabernacle burns
this week for the
Darrell & Barbara
Myers Family
From
Cindy Myers-Neisen

#### **SCHEDULES JAN. 1 & 2**

**LECTORS / EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** 

4:00 p.m. D. Prado / M. Taskalines 8:00 a.m. C. Frame / S. Kent 10:00 a.m. E. King / J. Klug ALTAR SERVERS

Please Volunteer

SACRISTY
Ruth Bertrand / Julie Anderson

OFFERING	DEC. 12, 2021
Envelopes	\$3,367.00
Loose Offering	\$496.00
Church Repair	\$442.00
Xavier Hall	\$42.00
Other Collection	<u>s</u>
Retirement	\$686.00
for Religious	\$000.00
All Souls	\$10.00
Shut-In Project	\$20.00
Immaculate Conception	\$145.00
Candles	\$58.00
Memorial Fund	\$90.00
Christmas Flower	rs \$540.00
Online Giving	\$249.65
Attendance	199

Thank you for your generosity



### Christmas 2021

# The beautiful flowers decorating our church this Christmas Season are in memory of:

Barbara Hitt Myers

Darrell Myers II

Walter & Wanda Hitt Familly

Joseph & Stephanie Jacobs Family

Joseph A. & Mary Patrello

Wilbur & Ethel Frame

Philip Patrello

Judy Patrello

Ralph & Bernice Pyles

Regina Regiec

Jim Regiec

Vera Anderson

Frank & Jenny Novel

Mark Joseph Novel

Joseph & Ana "Sally" Novel

Albert & Bernetta Herrick

Mona Snodgrass

Carrie Mae Crow

Alexa Kaylee Barker

Charles Barker

Margaret Wortham

Scott A. Wiethe

Paul & Isabelle Aquaro

Joe Curia

Ellen Curia

Richard & Mary Bee

Levi Samuel & Ina Elizabeth Bee

Donald Joseph Springer

Brian Scott Bee

Ashley Miller

**Peggy Howe** 

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Bert Sr. & Ercella Shelek

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Mr. & Mrs. Carmelo Dicola

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kunik Sr.

Mary Ann Barnes

Don & Mary Agnes Gump

Martin & Theresa Dolinar

Elias & Maggie Gump

Sophia & Stanely Tomczyk

Sophia & Ralph Vilkoski

Stephanie Phillips Eddy

Sylvia Valdez

Larry Holtz

Carry & Violet Carpenter

John & Bertha Vilkoski

Joyce Phillips

John & Hazel Schramm

**Judith & Christopher Fetty** 

William Morgan Hart

Megan Scott

John & Lou Veronis

Harven & Maxine Hulings

Francis Cicholski Sr.

Geneva Cicholski

Frank Curia

John D. Curia

Debbie Curia

Richie & Pauline Britton

Zachary Materkoski



Bombardiere Family	The Kwiatkowski Family	Greg "Doc" Baysal
Curia Family	The Skrzypek Family	Stephanie Phillips Eddy
Paul & Theresa Baum	Bill & Eileen Hart Callarik	Les Criswell
Pat & Jerome Conners	L. R. Lewis & Betty L. Lewis and	Vivian Bradley
Cecelia Cross	Famlies	Betty Campbell
Patrick J. Hughes	Frank & Jenny Novel	Terry & Joyce Phillips
Joseph & Amelia Baum	Mark Joseph Novel	Semon Prado
Carl Baum	Joseph & Ana "Sally" Novel	Calixto & Gregoria Prado
Frank McCarthy	Albert & Bernetta Novel	Harley & Pearl Norris
Marti Buzzard	Agnes Brannan	John & Virginia Springfield
John & Jennie Guzek Family	Kenneth Brannan	Jack Norris
Marcella & Anthony Rejonis Fam.	Grace Yost	Ronnie Norris
Ruth & Tony Rejonis	Raymond Yost	Jim Norris
Frances Rejonis	Philip Patrello	Berger Family
DeTemple Family	Jim Novel	Mancel & Millie Carpenter
Lisa Anthony	Eugene & Erma Lowe	Don McCormick
Yeager & South Families	Robert Lowe	Ray Yocum
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Donald & Bessie Reynolds	Maxwell Family	Bill & Jean Pitcock
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Reynolds Family	Frank & Hilda Dicrease	Nancy Termin
Christopher M. Remke	Bill Termin	Shad Fromhart
William (Bill) & Helen Remke	Harold Ray	William Hubert Fox
Judy Remke Hayhurst	Herbert Yoho	Janice Kull Fox
John & Margaret Lubic	Helen Yoho	Cathrine Frohnapfel Fox
Musilli Family	Kathy Yoho	John Fox
Taskalines Family	Charles Pollock Family	Karen Fox Evans
Don Gordon	Bob & Tillie Hunter	Hubert Fox



Doc & Opal Romanoski

Dennis Romanoski Kathleen Walsh Ann Kark Callahan Mary Campbell Darwish John Thomas Callahan Jr. Nancy Gamble McCullough Diane Kennedy Saldivar Margret Scarbin John Thomas Callahan Sr. Ernie Scarbin Jacob Sean Callahan Kay Darwish Moore Deceased Members of Darwish & Owen James Smith Walsh Families Fred & Norma Holmes Peter & Veronica Mysliwiec Joe Church Sr. **Bob & Bernadine Miller** Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Hedrick Georgetta Ledbetter Mike & Jean Yurisko Faith Callahan Ron Taylor Mike Gunto O. G. Freeman, Jr. Geraldine Bracken John Ducci Violet Freeman O. G. Freeman, Sr. Charles Freeman Ben & Helen Maire Rodriguez Theresa Jane Myer Peggy Rine The J. A. Reilly Family Tony & Ruth Lucci Fr. Ronan Deegan Andy & Sue Gunto Al & Bettye Furline Catherine Ducci Joe Reilly Joseph Kestner The Gunto Family Kathryn Reilly **Deceased Members of Wallington** The O. G. Freeman Family & Maiolo Families Fr. Al Driesch

**Bud & Kay Darwish Moore** Ruth Ann Harrigan Patrick & Betty Healy **Robert & Ruth Hess** Mary Jane Hess Leroy & Martha Hitt Paluszek Family Mary Dugas Mike Dugas Inez Rakoski Maiolo Family Wallington Family

Troy & Nancy Gedden



Wallington Family

Rod Rogerson

Henry Mysliwiec

**Anthony Mysliwiec** 

Tom & Theresa Rogerson

Margaret & Andy Gunto

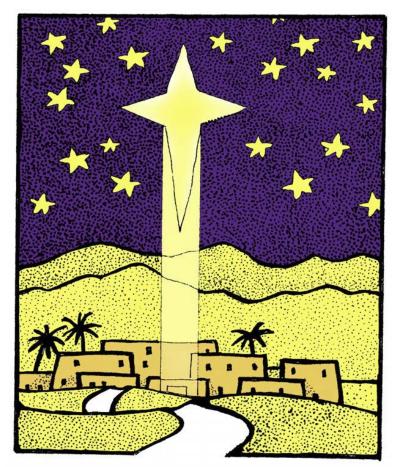
Fred & Norma Holmes

Vince Scarbin

Cornelius P. Walsh



Money collected for the Christmas Flowers is used to purchase the flowers that decorate the church and also to help pay for the flowers sent to our shut-ins. Volunteers from our parish delivered flowers and gifts to the shut-ins on December 18 th. We thank Mary Taskalines, Loretta Remke and the volunteers for their help. Please remember to pray for our shut-ins, and those who care for them.



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