

Holy Family Sunday:  
December 31, 2023

Masses for the Week

Sunday, December 31, 9:00 AM

+ Robert Sager

Tuesday, January 2, 8:00 AM

+ Jeanette Johnson

Thursday, January 4, 8:00 AM

+ John Heydon

Sunday, January 7, 9:00 AM

+ Brient Wiest (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)



Holy Family Sunday:  
December 31, 2023

9:00 AM Liturgy

No Religious Education Classes  
(Christmas Vacation)



The Parish Office is open  
Monday – Thursday from 10 AM to 5 PM.

Ministry Schedule

Sunday, January 7, 9:00 AM

Lector: Anna Troutman

Extraordinary Ministers: Linda Young, Ray  
Bednar

Servers: Jaden & Landen Myers

No Tithing Report today  
due to early publication  
of the bulletin.

NO GREATER LOVE

A five-session biblical study program in which we will walk step by step with Jesus on His journey from His Agony in the Garden to His Crucifixion on Calvary. **Tuesdays** – February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 5 at Our Lady of Hope Parish Hall from 6 PM to 7:30 PM. The cost is \$15 and each person will receive a book and workbook. To register, call Our Lady of Hope Parish office at 570-648-4432 no later than Thursday, January 4.

Maria Kaupas Birthday Celebration

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 7. All are invited, on this Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord to visit the Mother Maria Kaupas Center, (412 W. Avenue, Mount Carmel) any time between 12 and 4 PM to celebrate the 144<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Venerable Maria Kaupas (January 6, 1880). It is an opportunity to learn more about this possible future saint who walked on Mount Carmel streets in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It will be a day of prayerful remembrance, sharing of information about the Kaupas Center, Mother Maria and the Sisters of Saint Casimir and refreshments. Please contact the Center at 570-339-3450 with any questions.

# Announcements

Monday, January 1, 2024

## Solemnity of Mary



Since the Holy Day falls on a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is abrogated. There will be no Mass at St. Patrick or Our Lady of Hope today. Mother Cabrini will have a 10:00 AM Mass.

Parish Office is closed today.

### Pierogies.....

will be made on Monday, January 8. Call the Parish Office to place your order.

### Snow Emergency Days

If Lourdes Regional (Shamokin School District) **OR** Line Mountain is delayed or cancelled there will be no 8:00 AM weekday Mass. Tune in to local TV or radio stations for this information.

### "Race in November"

Our Religious Education Classes recently held a competition "Race in November" to donate money to support Toys for Tots. The total donated was \$104.27, with the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class being the top contributors with \$44.71.

### Calendars

2024 Calendars are now available in the front vestibule of the church. Please feel free to take one.

### Deacon's Corner

## **Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**

### **The Octave Day of Christmas**

The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, will be celebrated on Monday, January 1. This liturgical celebration falls on January 1 exactly one week after Christmas, the end of the octave of Christmas. We honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Mother of God because she conceived and gave birth to Jesus Christ, Our Savior. This solemnity recognizes Mary's faith and trust in God.

Our Blessed Mother is the "Theotokos," which comes from Greek meaning, "God-bearer." In 431 A.D., this title was approved at the Council of Ephesus when the Church fathers finalized the teaching that the one born of Mary was indeed the Son of God. This was done to combat false teachings about Jesus.

The Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, explains, "the Virgin Mary, who at the message of the angel, received the Word of God in her heart and in her body and gave life to the world, is acknowledged and honored as being truly the mother of God and mother of the Redeemer. Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God" (no.53).

On this solemnity, may we pray, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us."

### **Attention:**

All contributions for the 2023 Tax Year must be received by Sunday, January 14, 2024. Anything received after that will be credited to the 2024 Tax year. You may call the office after January 14 to request a copy of your 2023 statement.

**Happy  
New Year**