

January 1, 2017

“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.”

Mary the Mother of God, whose Feast we celebrate this weekend, was human and needed encouragement just as we all do. She had the singular grace of being without sin from her very conception but in every other way, was just like us. In her life, then as the miracle of her Son broke upon the world, she saw many wondrous things. These things would sustain her in her mission to be the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God. We too see the work of Jesus alive in our midst. While not the Mother of God, we are Jesus’ brothers and sisters in baptism. We are sustained by the love of Mary and the works of Jesus her Son. At the start of 2017 then let us allow the grace of Christ to flow into our lives. Thus, sustained by this grace we can live out our mission to be the brothers and sisters of Jesus. This mission calls us to love, give, forgive and share the mercy we receive in Christ.

J. Bell

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

“Octave” comes from the Latin word for “eight,” and since eight is one step beyond seven, the number of days in a week, it has long been seen as a symbol of perfection, completion, and new beginnings. Early Christians called Sunday the “eighth day,” since it was the day after the Sabbath and a day of resurrected life, the Lord’s Day. By the seventh century, people regarded the eight days after Easter Sunday as one great day, an octave, one glorious feast when people were forbidden to fast or kneel. In the seventh century, Pentecost acquired an Octave, too. Christmas didn’t claim the honor of a continuous feast, but it did get an Octave Day. January 1 is the oldest Marian feast, the Octave of Christmas. It was originally a feast of the motherhood of Mary, although for centuries until 1969 it was called the Feast of the Circumcision. Our reformed calendar follows the earlier tradition of celebrating Mary as Mother of God.

January 2 Monday 7:00 pm	FOR: John Wolff BY: Julie Miller
January 3 Tuesday 7:30 am	FOR: Dolores Weiss BY: James and Georgiann Ursch
January 4 Wednesday 7:30 am	FOR: Dulan and Waddington families BY: Norm and Shirley Waddington
January 5 Thursday 7:30 am	FOR: Jack Ozee BY: Jeff and Susie Matsche
January 6 Friday 6:00 pm	FOR: All Souls BY: Gerald Oulson
January 7 Saturday 5:00 pm	FOR: Cliff Beilsmith BY: Terry Lahr
January 8 Sunday 8:30 am	FOR: Anna Shook and Elizabeth Seidler BY: David and Marva Bachman

Sick Friends & Relatives

Sandi Ozee, Jody Hagen (sister of Fran Bellitto), Scott Beilsmith, Kane McCauley, Gene and Bernice Miller, Cliff Woodson, Minnie Richards, Courtney Christopher Craig, Ron Hicks, Veronica Greeling, Phil Owens, Bernadine Kelsey, Alice Turner, Wilma Gibson, Jeremy Hawkins, Ron Scherer, Mary Cambron, Terry Burch, Lindell Thompson, Mark Golike, Walter (Wally) Hunn, Donna Moore, Anna Mae Mills, Tom Mills, Ryan Page, Dan Kallal, Joan Kerkemeyer, Pat Schetter, Bobbie Ulrich, Michelle Miller, Richard Alward, Mike Reno, Kathy Risley, Nancy Quirk Stinnet, Delmar Sandage, Nancy Scharfenberg (sister of Kim Vinyard), Brayden Granda, Steven Ahrens, Lawrence Albert, Kathryn Weiner, Michele Bryant, Patty Carpunky (cousin of Jan Rimbey), Mike Gibbons (son in law of Cal Vonnahmen), Harold Becker (brother of Pat Pohlman), Don Keil, Dolly Grube, Edna Plogger, Forrest Randolph, Ella Curry, Lisa Mosby, Shirley Vinyard, Bob Plogger, Trista Golike, Theresa Beaver, Denise Horton, Dave Drasnin, Phyllis Plogger, Georgie Riddle. We pray that God may grant them strength and courage.

LITURGICAL ROLES

St. Alphonsus

	January 7 Saturday 5:00 pm	January 8 Sunday 8:30 am
Servers	Rachel Wolff Clayton Allen	Maria Berry Amelia Walden
Lector	Lyn Miller	Glenda Walden
E. Min.	J. Diestelhorst P. Schetter M. Miller B. Klunk	C. Huebener F. Huebener G. Walden S. Allen
Gift Bearers	Ushers	Mile Allen family
Ushers	M. Miller A. Grube	M. Allen K. Walden

LITURGICAL ROLES

St. John

	January 8 Sunday 10:30 am
Lector	K. Wilson
E. Min.	J. Alward R. Kern B. Kern
Gift Bearers	J. Wheeler M. Loy
Ushers	P. Tonsor B. Muffley

Mass Intentions 

**January 8
10:30 am**

FOR: Dale Rimbey

Due to an early bulletin deadline, contributions will be listed in bulletin next weekend

FOOD PANTRY

We are continuously collecting for our local food pantry. If you could donate anything non-perishable to our food pantry container, it would be very much appreciated.

Our 2nd donation container in the church is for the **TWIGS** program associated with the St. John's UCC. They provide food/snacks to children in the school district that have little to eat after school and on weekends. Checks may also be made payable to "Loyal Daughters-St. John's UCC" and placed in the collection basket. Suggestions: Fruit roll-ups, individual cereal cups, granola bars, canned soups with pop top, Jell-O or pudding cups.

PASSIONS

We should employ our passions in the service of life, not spend life in the service of our passions.

Happy New Year!

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THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God's own peace!

Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

Altar  **Society**

St. John's Altar Society will meet Saturday, January 14 at 9:30 am. All women of the parish are invited!