

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (December 24) MOLOP
8:00AM Faithfully Departed by Mike & Chris Nightingale

Christmas Eve (December 24)

4:00PM Our Parish Families
4:00PM Our Parish Families **MOLOP**

Christmas Day (December 25)

8:30 AM Our Parish Families **MOLOP**
10:00AM Our Parish Families

Thursday (December 26) MOLOP

8:00AM **NO MASS**

Friday (December 27)

9:00AM **NO MASS**

Saturday (December 28)

4:00PM David Klauer by Jean Klauer & Family

5:30PM Esther Shiemeyer by Jim & Barb Ziegenhorn
MOLOP

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (December 29)

8:30AM Nancy Harlow by Jo Schnerre Family **MOLOP**

10:00AM Our Parish Families

Reconciliation Saturdays 3-3:30
or by Appointment
Call Fr. Tony at 309-581-2923

There will be no Mass Thursday, Dec. 26 or Friday, Dec. 27th here at St. Maria Goretti or at MOLOP. Parish Office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 26 and limited hours on Friday Dec. 27th.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

From Fr. Tony and the Parish Staff

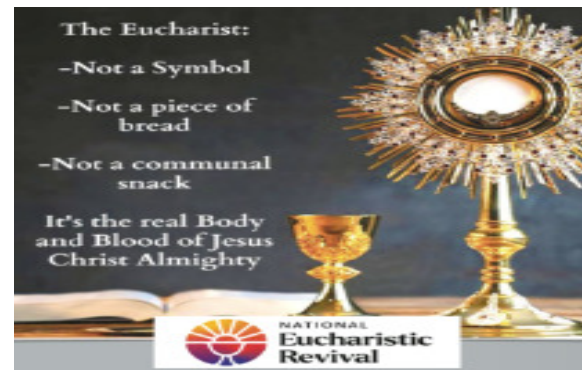
LITURGICAL MINISTERS
DECEMBER 2024

LECTOR/READERS

Saturday 4:00a.m. Chris Hicks
Sunday 10:00a.m. Camy Stone

USHER/GREETER

Saturday 4:00 p.m. Crystal Arnold & Marcia Jacobs
Sunday 10:00 a. m. Randy & Christy Jaminet
Donna Davis & Marge Bowerman



Thank Jesus for the gift of himself in the Eucharist.



Bible Trivia Question

The angel said to Mary that Jesus would "reign over the house" of which Old Testament character?



PRAYER REQUESTS

Those in need of healing at St. Maria Goretti...

Sr. JT McNulty, Cheryl Alleruzzo, Marge Behn, Dave & Sandy Bledsoe, Patrick Bredeck, Marilyn Cronkleton, Fred & Lois De-Coster, Gwen Escajeda, Lorraine Gengler, Dave Gorge, Velda Grief, Lee Kimball, Cullen John Jamieson, Gene Mourisse, Kathy Mosley, Rex & Julie Shake, Flip Shemek, Maureen St. Clair, Charles Stone, Marolyn Tope, Dcn. Bob Vogelbaugh, Richard Wilks

Those who are Homebound or in Healthcare Facilities... Jan Seibert

Those in need of healing at Mary Our Lady of Peace... Brian Carlson, Pat Dzekunskas, Jim Hamerlinck, Owen Hink, Alice Isaacson, Janet Jacobson, Debbie Jones, Ryan Jones, Gabe Laleman, Ava Lawson, and Tom Schulenberg

Prayers have also been asked for...

Jason Bauer, John Baumunk III, Kyle, Scott Bowerman, Brie Bredeck, Jason Ferguson, Patrick Fons, Kevin Francescon, Carolyn Ghezzi, Lucas, Glenn Meeker, Vonna Quick, Megan Severson, Claire Strayer, Dcn. Robert & Ann Viviano & Family, Matt Wadlow, Bernie Weidner, Jerry Wilcox



Thank you to everyone who picked a name off our angel tree this year. These precious children will have a happier Christmas because of you!! You are truly appreciated!!

St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church
220 E. 22nd Avenue *P.O. Box 159 *Coal Valley, IL 61240
Parish Office:(309) 799-3414
E-mail: StMariaGorettiParishCV@gmail.com
Website: smgcv.org
Pastor Fr. Tony Ego (309) 799-3414 (SMG)
(309) 581-2923 Rectory (MOLOP)

NEWS AND EVENTS



From the Pastor's Desk

"What a wonderful time of the year.." as the song goes. Indeed it is. As we once again gather to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior we are filled with joy as we embrace the great event of our salvation, the Lord God taking on human flesh-the Incarnation. We are familiar with the Christmas story which oftentimes can get lost in the trappings of the season. The pieces of our Nativity sets remind us of what our celebration is all about. We have the Holy Family, the shepherds, the animals and all the rest. As we gaze on the truth of this day, a day which changed the world forever. Because of Christmas our lives are changed. As I reflect, please be assured of my prayers and warm wishes for all of you this Christmas and I must say what a great pleasure it is to celebrate with you. It is truly a blessing and a great joy. May the joy of Christmas be yours today and all the days of 2025.

Wishing all A Very Blessed and Merry Christmas and the best in the New Year.
Fr. Tony



Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be celebrated as a Jubilee Year of Pilgrims of Hope. He has invited local Bishops to open that Year of Jubilee in their Diocese on **December 29, 2024**, the Feast of the Holy Family. Bishop Tylka invites you to join him as he celebrates the **10:30am Mass** at the Cathedral of St. Mary, Peoria to open the Year of Jubilee. There will be a pre-Mass ritual that will begin at 10:00am at the Spalding Pastoral Center which will include a Gospel reading, a reading from the Papal Bull for the Jubilee Year, and a procession to the Cathedral. The ritual will continue at the beginning of Mass with a showing of the Cross with the relic of the True and a Sprinkling Rite. All who wish are invited to join us for that ritual.



Isaiah 9:6

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Let us gaze upon the child given to us this day; let us receive his smile, the smile of God. Let us allow ourselves to smile back, and let us know that life is good, that we are good, and let us bring the hope that is born of such a smile to the world around us this Christmas.

Jubilee Year 2025

Pope Francis has invited "everyone to an intense experience of the love of God" and "calls on all Christians to become Pilgrims of Hope." Pilgrims of Hope is the theme for the 2025 Jubilee Year which will begin on December 24, 2024, with the opening of the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome and will continue until the closing of the Jubilee Year on January 6, 2026.

Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone." We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world. We are called to rediscover the spirituality God's creation and promote peace among nations.

Globally, thirty-five million pilgrims are expected to visit Rome for the Jubilee Year. As part of the Jubilee, pilgrims to any of the sacred sites will be able to obtain the grace of the Jubilee Indulgence under the usual Indulgence conditions.

So what is a Jubilee Year. A Jubilee Year is also called a "Holy Year." They are celebrated every 25 years within the Catholic Church. The focus is on forgiveness, reconciliation, spiritual renewal, faith reflection and pilgrimages to sacred sites. The Jubilee Year is above all about Jesus Christ.

The origin of the Jubilee Year goes back to the Law of Moses where he prescribed a special year for the Jewish people, "You shall hallow the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land." (Lev 25:10-14) The celebration included the restitution of land to the original owners, the remission of debt, the liberation of slaves & the land was left fallow. In 1470 Pope Paul II changed the interval between Jubilee Years from 50-25 years.

Let us use this Advent as a time to prepare for the upcoming Jubilee Year. As Fr. Mark Thibodeaux says, "In Advent, God is calling us to step out our learned hopelessness and step into the river of hope."

Something to Think About.....

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."

-Luke 2 : 11

Bible Trivia Answer: Jacob (Luke 1:33)