

**M A S S S C H E D U L E**

**Monday 12/21 7:30am Fr. Spellman**

Song of Song 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18  
Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21  
Luke 1:39-45

**Tuesday 12/22 7:30am Fr. Idomele**

1 Samuel 1:24-28  
Samuel 2:1, 4-7  
Luke 1:46-56

**Wednesday 12/23 7:30am Fr. Idomele**

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24  
Psalm 25:4-5, 8-10, 14  
Luke 1:57-66

**Thursday 12/24 7:30am Fr. Idomele**

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16  
Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29  
Luke 1:67-79

**Friday 12/25 10:00am Fr. Spellman**  
**12:30pm Fr. Spellman**

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 98:1-6  
Hebrews 1:1-6  
John 1:1-18 or 1-5, 9-14

**Saturday 12/26 7:30am Fr. Spellman**  
**4:30pm Fr. Spellman**

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Psalm 313-4, 6, 8, 16-17  
Matthew 10:17-22

**Sunday 12/27**  
**Feast of the Holy Family**

**8:00am Fr. Idomele**  
**10:00am Fr. Spellman**  
**12:30pm Fr. Spellman**

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28  
Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10  
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24  
Luke 2:41-52

CDs of Sunday Masses are available in the Church Office on Tuesday of each week.

**In need of prayers...**

Ethel Allen, Genevieve Alexander, Susan Augustine, Arleen Bouscher, Iola Brown, Rebecca Braithwaite, McCoy Brown, Inez Cameron, Nicholas Dudley, Bettye Epps, Olivia Griffin, Amy Gosey, Henry Green, Margaret Guillory, Rudi Eagleson, Milton Johnson, Ellender Julian, Irene Johnson, David Little, Ruth Revis, Edna Valdry, James Smith, Eva Smith, Phyllis Troupe, Elsie Weston, West "Ted" Williams, Mary Wiley, Thad Wiltz, Donald Aubrey, Phyllis Pope, Jose Gonzalez, Ruben Palamaris, Elrena Dandy and Ruth Howard (Sisters of Tina Floyd), Ophelia Walker, Sheryl Cooper-McGinest, Naomi Sealey, Berenice Scott, Eva Anderson, Lucy Byrd, Zelandia Fero, Taylor Brown, Jordan Brown, David Lewis, Gerald Winn, Susan Hughes, Karla Martinez Ochaeta (niece of Carmen El-Khour), Joshua Bolden, Warren Knox Jr., Edwin Thomas Sr., Barbara Ellis, Clyde Mitchell, Lloyd Moses, Oscar Antonio Romero, Thurman Johnson, Edna Bendy, Debra Stewart, Gary Elliott, Herbie King, Mario Toledo, Kelly Matthews, Angie Dupre, Shirley Miller, Emily Lewis, Basil Lewis, Mrs. Oliska Batiste, those seeking employment, and those struggling to make ends meet during these tough times.

**Church Bulletin Board**

**Monday, Dec 21, 2009** 7:00pm Bible Study  
7:00pm Renew 2000 (Spanish)  
7:00pm Journey through the Bible

**Tuesday, Dec 22, 2009** 7:00pm RCIA  
7:00pm Substance Abuse  
7:00pm Spanish Intercessory  
7:00pm Youth Group

**Wednesday, Dec 23, 2009** 6:30pm MSC  
7:00pm Mariano Ministry  
7:00pm Spanish Baptism Class

**Thursday, Dec 24, 2009** 12:30pm Bible Study  
7:00pm Confirmation  
7:00pm Spanish Prayer Group

**Friday, Dec 25, 2009** Merry Christmas!

**Saturday, Dec 26, 2009** ++++++

**Sunday, Dec 27, 2009** ++++++

**LA Marathon 2010**

It is time to get ready for the 2010 Los Angeles Marathon; on a new date and a new route, "from the stadium to the sea". The 2010 LA Bike tour will not be held on the day of the marathon. It has been postponed until a later date. For registration and more information go to [www.lamarathon.com](http://www.lamarathon.com).

**Pastor's Letter**

We are now coming to **the end of Advent**, our time of watching, waiting, and preparing to celebrate the birth of Our Savior. Yes, we all have those last-minute gifts to buy, that Christmas card to send to the person whose address we finally found on our desk, and the last things to pick up at the grocery store as we prepare our tables for Christmas dinner. Each of these things are symbolic of this sacred time of year; when families gather together to hug one another and to watch the eyes of someone opening that special present that you have been hiding since last summer!

This is also a time **to prayerfully reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ**, the One who came among us as a tiny infant, born in a stable, and laid in a manger, because there was no room for the Holy Family in the inns in Bethlehem. (I think I was in high school before I realized that a manger was actually a feeding trough for animals!) Do you ever wonder what the townspeople of Bethlehem were thinking when the wise men entered their village, with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh? (I doubt that anybody even noticed the shepherds, and were simply hoping that they wouldn't bring along too many sheep. Nobody wants to clean up after sheep!)

As we reflect on the thoughts of the people of Bethlehem 2,009 years ago, **what are our thoughts surrounding the events that took place in that small town in ancient Palestine?** During Advent we have been hearing of St. John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord. Have we prepared our hearts to hear His Word? The most vivid descriptions of Christmas that we find in the Bible are in **the Gospels of Matthew and Luke**. Both tell the story from a different viewpoint, but the message is the same: the world will never be the way it was before that first Christmas Day!

During this coming week, let us take some time to gather together as a family to pray with the Scriptures, to reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas, and to open our hearts to the message of the Savior of the world!

May the Lord continue to bless us always and in all ways, *Father Paul*

**We Need Your Help!**

**The Altar Society needs help decorating the Church for Christmas. They will be decorating the church on Tuesday, Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm and Wednesday, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm. Please come and help! Thank you!**

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**On Sunday, December 27, 2009, the newly-formed Young Adult Ministry will host the liturgy at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We invite ALL young adults to come and join us in celebrating the Mass. We invite all young adults to the Acacia Center for light refreshments after mass. Come and hear more about the Young Adult Ministry!**



**Mass Schedule for Christmas and the New Year**

**Thursday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>-Christmas Eve**  
4:30pm - Mass (English)  
6:00pm - Las Posadas (Spanish)  
7:00pm - Mass (Spanish)  
11:30pm - Mass (English)  
*(Midnight mass with Morning Star Choir)*

**Friday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day**  
10:00am - Mass (English)  
*(Children's Mass with Brighter Day Youth Choir)*

**Thursday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>- New Year's Eve**  
7:30am - Mass (English)  
11:30pm – Healing Mass (English) - Father Joseph

**Friday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>- Mary, the Mother of God**  
10:00am - Mass (English)  
12:30pm - Mass (Spanish)

Approximately 130 preschool students and their parents spent a blessed morning December 15, 2009 at Holy Name of Jesus School. The students and their parents were special invited guests to the school's Pre-schools Appreciation Day. The school's band, cheerleaders, praise and modern dance team were among the performers that entertained the preschool students. Later in the program, HNOJ students joined the preschoolers in singing Christmas songs. The students also took photographs with Santa Claus and received a Christmas toy courtesy of HNOJ students.



### **HNOJ launches Annual Fund Appeal**

A warm thank you to the following parishioners who have responded immediately to Holy Name of Jesus School's Annual Fund Appeal for 2009:

Jenny Millender  
 Verna Lipscomb  
 Gloria Banner  
 John Takenaka  
 Ella Jackson  
 Martha Hamiter.

The appeal will run for the remainder of December and early January. Kindly get in touch with the school if you have not received your Christmas Greetings and appeal forms in the mail. Thank you to all our donors and may God continue to richly bless you! You are making a difference in the lives of our students through your kind contribution.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### **FIVE TIPS FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN**

The Archdiocese mandates that all people who work with children and youth in our parishes and schools must undergo child abuse prevention training through the VIRTUE program. The training details five steps to prevent child sexual abuse: 1. Know the warning signs of an inappropriate relationship with a child. 2. Control access to children by carefully selecting the adults who work with children and youth. 3. Monitor all programs for the safety of children and youth. 4. Be aware of and sensitive to what is going on in the lives of children. 5. Communicate concern to the appropriate person in authority.

**SHARMAINE HAYLOCK, CHAIRPERSON  
 HOLY NAME CHURCH SAFEGUARD  
 THE CHILDREN COMMITTEE**

### *Healthy Living...*

#### **Dry Skin: Soothing the Itch in Winter Does your dry skin make you want to hibernate?**

(www.webmd.com)

##### **1st Step for Dry Skin Care: Prepare Your Skin**

###### ▪ *Clear Away Old Skin Cells*

To shed old skin cells exfoliate with an over-the-counter or prescription keratolytic moisturizer, one containing lactic or salicylic acid. And exfoliate *gently* -- a soft scrub is all you need.

###### ▪ *Take Time to Moisturize*

Soothe winter-dry skin with an oil-based moisturizer. You can also help dry skin with basic moisturizer ingredients such as mineral oil, petroleum jelly, or glycerin. Whichever product you choose, be sure to smooth on your preferred moisturizer right after a shower, then pat your skin dry.

##### **2nd Step for Dry Skin Care: Clean the Right Way**

###### ▪ *Warm Showers and Baths Only, Please*

Learn to warm up to short, lukewarm baths and showers, which help your body retain its natural, skin-protecting oils. And when you bathe, use soap only on the spots that really need it, such as your face, underarms, groin, and feet. Since the rest of your body doesn't tend to get very dirty, a simple warm-water wash everywhere else is fine say the pros -- and it helps you retain those vital natural oils.

###### ▪ *Use a Gentle Cleanser*

That's why many skin care experts suggest using non-scented, mild cleansers or soap-free products like Aveeno, Cetaphil, Dove, Dreft, or Neutrogena. Body washes with petrolatum (petroleum jelly) are also a great option for soothing very dry skin, helping to trap in water as you clean.

##### **3rd Step for Dry Skin Care: Be Aware of the Sun**

###### ▪ *Keep Using Sunscreen*

Though the sun's rays are less intense in winter, those rays can still burn and damage your skin. And give your UV protection an even bigger boost by donning sunglasses, a hat, and scarf.

##### **4th Step for Dry Skin Care: Get Your Diet Into the Act**

###### ▪ *Eat Up for Better Skin*

A diet rich in healthy fats can be another crucial element in your fight against dry, itchy skin. Give your diet an essential fatty acid boost with omega-3-rich foods like flax, walnuts, and safflower oil, as well as cold-water fish such as tuna, herring, halibut, salmon, sardines, and mackerel.

###### ▪ *Hydrate Yourself -- And Your House*

Dry indoor air can really irritate your skin, so give it a fighting chance by keeping inside air moist. Use a humidifier to pump up the moisture, or even surround yourself with indoor plants. And don't forget to humidify from the inside out by drinking lots of water, 6-8 glasses daily.

##### **Is Your Skin Still Dry? Talk to a Pro**

If you're skin gets really dry in winter and these tips aren't helping, it's time to talk to a dermatologist.

The Altar Society is accepting donations for Christmas flowers in memory of Loved Ones. Please use the Christmas flower envelopes and place your donation in the collection basket. Thank you!



Any Youth that need community service hours you will be able to serve in the Mini- Kitchen December 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 10:30am. Please call Cathy Brown at the Church Office for more information 323 734-8888 ext 2.

**Stewardship Report**

**Stewardship: A Definition from Scripture**

*Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.*

*-Matthew 10:8*

**Weekly Collections**

**Current Year:**

December 13, 2009 = \$ 7,223.00

**Two Previous Years:**

December 14, 2008 = \$ 6,522.00

December 9, 2007 = \$ 7,748.00

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Together In Mission**

As we come to the end of the year, it is time to make the final payments on our **Together In Mission** pledges that we made last spring. Together In Mission is the Bishop's Annual Appeal where by low income schools and parishes receive financial assistance from the 297 parishes throughout the Archdiocese. **We are currently about \$12,000 short of our goal, and the deficit must be made up from parish funds.** If you have made a pledge to Together In Mission and have not paid your balance in full, please send your check to the parish office or directly to Together In Mission in the envelope that they have provided. If you have not made a pledge, we invite you to do so. Please make your check payable to **Together In Mission** and send it to us in the parish office, or simply drop it in the weekly collection with a note stipulating that it is for Together In Mission.

Remember, **our school receives over \$35,000 each year** through the generosity of families who contribute to Together In Mission. And, last year, our parish received an additional **\$58,000** in funds from Together In Mission for the remodel of the exterior of the Rectory. Please be as generous as your means will allow.

**25 Ways to Live Advent**

Talk with your dad for 10 minutes, read more, imagine Christmas without things, laugh with your family, pop popcorn, Lead daily prayers, consider another person's good points, contribute to toys for tots, encourage somebody, compliment a classmate, clean your room, ask an older person what he or she thinks, make an advent wreath, reconcile with a friend, attend a Christmas play, listen to what your hear, volunteer to help someone in need, collect food or presents for families in need, talk with your mom for 10 minutes, turn off the TV and talk, serve a meal at a shelter and share your lunch. Let us Pray... Loving God, help us to make room for our Son Jesus, in our lives. Help us live his gospel that calls us to share our coats when we have two, to treat one another fairly, and make room for one another. Amen.

**Religious Formation Schedule for December 2009**

**CCD**

- Saturday, December 5, 2009 9:30-11:00
- Sunday, December 6, 2009 9:00-10:00
- Saturday, December 12, 2009 9:30-11:00
- Sunday, December 13, 2009 9:00-10:00
- Saturday, December 19, 2009 9:30-11:00 Christmas Party
- Sunday, December 20, 2009 9:00-10:00

**Christmas break December 26- January 2, 2010**

**Class resumes:**

- Saturday, January 9, 2010 9:30-11:00
- Sunday, January 10, 2010 9:00-10:00

**Confirmation**

First year -Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm-8:30pm in the Acacia Center. Classes resume on January 7, 2010.

Second year - Thursday, December 10, 2010 7:00pm-8:30pm in the Acacia Center. Classes Resume on January 14, 2010

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**Holy Name of Jesus School Students putting the Gospel into Action**

We are proud to announce that the students of Holy Name of Jesus School and the Religious Formation Program (CCD) are actively engaging in the Corporal Works of Mercy (Matthew 25:40).

The fifth through eighth grades will be visiting the residents of St John of God and the Western Ave. Convalescent homes during the Advent Season.

The sixth through eighth grade will be visiting preschools in our neighborhood on December 16th and 17th.