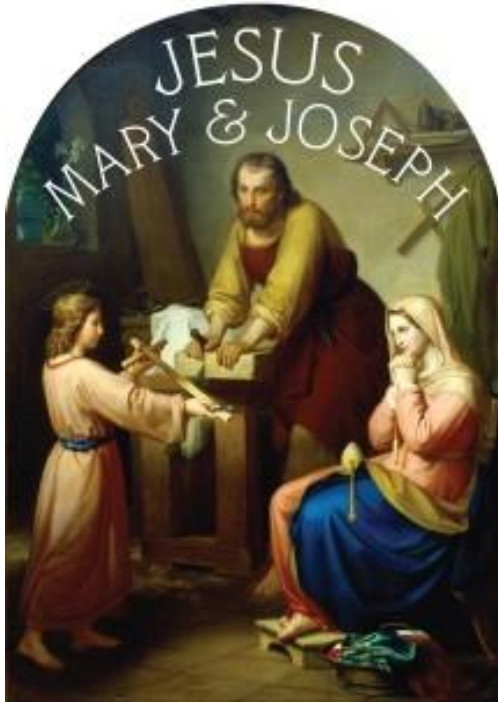

THE HOLY FAMILY

DECEMBER 26, 2021



MASS INTENTIONS

The Parishioners of St. Paul's, living and deceased, are remembered at all the Christmas Masses.

10 a.m., Sunday, December 26: Harold Crane, Betty J. McMahon and Fr. Pat McGuigan

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, is celebrated on January 1. However, because January 1 falls on a Saturday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

Therefore, the only Mass next Saturday is the regular vigil Mass at 5 p.m.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to Bill and Tricia Sullivan upon the death of his mother, Marjorie Sullivan. Please keep the family in your prayers.

TREASURER'S REPORT

December 12-19: Totaled \$ 6,262.20

Envelopes: \$ 2,732.63 f- Online: \$ 3,529.57

THANK YOU!

THE DIVINE WORD OF 'HOPE'



The small child of Bethlehem, the unknown young man of Nazareth, the rejected preacher, the naked man on the cross, He asks for my full attention.

The work of our salvation takes place in the midst of a world that continues to shout, scream and overwhelm us with its claims and promises. But the promise is hidden in the shoot that sprouts from the stump, a shoot that hardly anyone notices.

I remember seeing a film on the human misery and devastation brought by the bomb on Hiroshima. Among all the scenes of terror and despair emerged one image of a man quietly writing a word in calligraphy. All his attention was directed to writing that one word. That image made this gruesome film a hopeful film.

Isn't that what God is doing? Writing the divine word of hope in the midst of our dark world?

Henry J. Nouwen

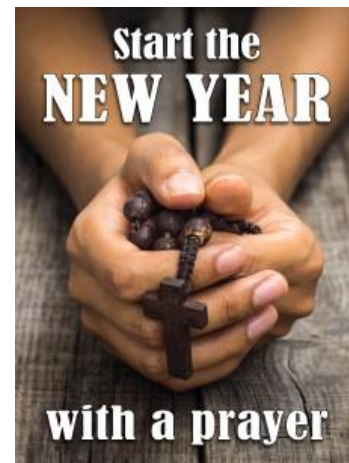
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COAT DRIVE UPDATE

Members of the Wallkill East Rotary send their warm thanks to those who participated in their recent coat drive. More than 600 coats were collected, with hundreds coming from St. Paul's! Yes, hundreds! And the plethora of children's outerwear, always in high demand, was most welcome.

Scores of families attended the Coat Giveaway at the YMCA in Middletown, expressing their gratitude for the program. Adult coats that didn't find a new home then were donated to veterans' groups, while children's styles went to schools for distribution.

That's a wrap. ... until next year.



BOOK CLUB'S NEXT CHAPTER

After a brief holiday hiatus, the Book Club will return virtually from 10-11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, January 4, to begin discussing "The Road to Character" by David Brooks, a New York Times

columnist and PBS commentator.

The book is a blend of psychology, politics, spirituality and the confessional. By examining the inner

struggles of some of world's great thinkers and leaders, it seeks to help readers focus on the deeper values that should define our lives.

The book is available at Amazon and other book sellers. Chapters one and two, along with the introduction, will be covered during the first Zoom meeting.

New members are very welcome and can contact the church office (845-361-3107) or Deacon Carl (carlloc@yahoo.com) for further details.

A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

Catholic sisters in the United States are among those working to assist displaced Afghans resettle and restart their lives. Some sisters are working directly with refugees. Others are readying places for them to stay. Some are packing toiletries and other needed goods.

Sr. Bette Ann Jaster, a member of the Dominican Sisters of Hope based in Ossining in Westchester County, is working with several groups with ties to local churches to welcome at least one refugee in the coming months.

Among the projects underway is a "welcome" quilt for the newcomer, who is expected to join another Afghan woman previously resettled in Ossining.

The churches will help her acclimate to her new life. Tasks such as grocery shopping or arranging medical appointments can be overwhelming. "Everybody can do a piece," Jaster said.

For easy access to the full story, as well as all the other articles that have been highlighted, visit our website, www.stpaulsbullville.org, click on "Read More" under "A Call to Social Justice" on the home page and double click on the article(s) you wish to read.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE



Christmas Cheer was the recurring theme for the Youth Ministry last week.


Thursday's virtual meeting was filled with laughter and a spirited trivia game based on Christmas songs.

Then deeming it wise not to go dashing through the rain on Saturday evening, the Christmas caroling was rescheduled for Sunday night, which was anything but silent. There were shouts of glee as passing motorists honked – thanks to eye-catching holiday decor that included Santa in a blow-up helicopter with a spinning propeller and a road sign. Several songs were sung, and the bunch braved the bitter winds for as long as they could. They did not want to miss this opportunity to bring some joy to the world and to themselves.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



Orange Pediatric Associates, LLP
Top quality care for infants, children, and adolescents
400 Midway Park Dr, Middletown, NY (845) 343-0728
Hartley S. Bancroft II, MD, FAAP
Joanna B. Bochenek, MD, FAAP

