**Parish Mass Intentions**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 2016**

9:00 PM No Mass Intentions

Midnight No Mass Intentions

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 2016**

7:45 AM UPPER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE

 Remerciement à Dieu-anniversaire de

 Doudoune Beaubrun - par Raymonde

 Vincent

9:00 AM UPPER CHURCH– ENGLISH MASS

 No Mass Intentions

10:30 AM LOWER CHURCH – MISA ESPANOL

 No Mass Intentions

11:00 AM UPPER CHURCH – ENGLISH MASS

 For the People of the Parish

1:00 PM UPPER CHURCH – MESSE CRÉOLE

 Remerciement à Dieu-anniversaire de

 Georgette Charles - par Georgette Charles

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 26th, 2016**

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM En l’honneur de l’Immaculée Conception

 de la Sainte Vierge Marie - par Mireille

 Hall

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27th, 2016**

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 2016**

7:30 AM In loving memory of Wilbert De Coteau -

 by his daughter, Sister Gail Trinity

9:00 AM Remerciement à Dieu et à St. Christophe -

 par Immacula Mimose Délicé

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 2016**

7:30 AM No Mass Intentions

9:00 AM No Mass Intentions

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30th, 2016**

7:30 AM In loving memory of Ruby Graham - by her

 daughter, Dennese Reddie-Fraser

9:00 AM Remerciement à Dieu-anniversaire de

 mariage - par M. G Francois

Remember to shop through WWW.SHOP.COM/STJEROMECHURCH.

St Jerome’s receives a donation every time you shop!

**Please Pray For The Sick, specially:**

Marie Guerda Andre, Carmen Avilés, Maria Avilés, Barbara Carrington, Patricia Cummings, Emory Emanus, Brother Buteau Estiègle, Marie Fenelus, Christina Frederic, Sœur Marcelle Fils-Aimé, Cecil Gilbert, Michelle Jadotte, Luisa Jimenez, Vilma Johnson, Josephine Jones, Ivianne Levine, Christopher Louis, Miraclea Pierre, Elizabeth Smith, Iciline Smith, Ashley St. Fort, Cassandra St. Fort, Edith St. Fort, Bianca St. Vil

***Please Pray for all who have recently departed especially:*** Ludner Jacques

the nativity of the lord

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas celebrates the light of God’s Word-made-flesh. Light comes in many forms. Some light is direct. Others are a mere reflection of another source. The glow of a candle, lights on a highway, motion detectors, and lamps in our homes lessen darkness, offer comfort, provide guidance, calm fears, and help us see. Lights in church tell us God is here.

Jesus, the Word, is the light that no darkness can overcome, but at times it seems as though darkness is overcoming the light. While these words on this page were being written, a series of terrorist attacks changed the lives of many and more senseless shootings took place in our cities. News reports often pay more attention to darkness than the lights of people who hold a dying stranger, welcome others into their homes, and protest the violence. These sisters and brothers testify to the power of light, like John the Baptist. They help us see glimpses of God-with-us. Their actions announce glad tidings and bear the good news that the light of Christ is stronger. Small deeds speak loudly. Our words and deeds give birth to Jesus each day. They testify that the seemingly impossible can happen, that is, God’s light grows stronger when our actions and presence reflect that God is here.

Celebrate Christmas as people of hope who give praise and thanks for Jesus Christ. Restore peace by offering comfort and hope in actions that make God’s glory known. Let the light of our lives match the lights that decorate our trees and homes to lessen darkness, offer comfort, give guidance, calm fears, and help all see that God is here. That’s how all the ends of the earth can see the saving power of God, even where darkness seems stronger on any given day.

Luminous God, you took on our flesh in the Word, Jesus Christ, so that we might know your nearness in concrete ways. Help us live in ways that testify to the power of your light so that others can see your face today and come to believe that no darkness can overcome it.

**Merry Christmas!**

**Joyeux Noël!**

**Feliz Navidad!**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today’s gospel is filled with dreams. An angel tells Joseph to flee to Egypt with Mary and Jesus; an angel tells Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to Israel, where it is now safe; an angel warns Joseph to go to Galilee because Israel wasn’t as safe as previously thought. Dreams are a window to the heart, revealing what we value or fear, or in what we believe.

Whatever our family looks like, we have dreams for those we love, especially for our children. The first reading describes God’s dream for family life: parents *honor* your children; children *revere* your parents and be *kind* to them, even if their minds fail. Sirach’s dream seeks basic respect. Paul’s dream includes compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love, peacefulness, and gratitude, tied with a bow that is the word of Christ. These values are needed for true obedience, from *ob audire*, to listen to. Listen to the voice of spouses, parents, children, and God. Speak your reality respectfully. Submit to these virtues by means of honest dialogue. Healthy relationships of give and take require this kind of respectful dialogue.

To be holy families we need to live the virtues. St. Francis de Sales wrote that we ought to love everyone with great love, but should have no friendships except for those that communicate the things of virtue (see the *Introduction to the Devout Life*, III, p. 19). Which of the virtues named in Sirach’s and Paul’s dreams invite your deep listening? What virtues do you need for you to hear God’s voice and live in ways that will make your relationships holy because they are grounded in the Lord Jesus Christ? Do you–like Joseph–listen for and listen to the angels?

God our father, you invite us to experience the holiness that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph shared. Heal dysfunction in my relationships with family and friends. Give me a grateful heart, a heart for relationships that are holy. Help me listen to your son Jesus and to your Holy Spirit, to become more whole this day.

**Happy Feast Day!**

**SUNDAY ENVELOPES & COLLECTIONS**

**T**he collection for **December 18th** will be reported in next week’s bulletin.

**Readings for the Week of December 26th, 2016**

Monday: ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59/MT 10:17-22

Tuesday: 1 JN 1:1-4/JN 20:1A AND 2-8

Wednesday: 1 JN 1:5–2:2/MT 2:13-18

Thursday: 1 JN 2:3-11/LK 2:22-35

Friday: SIR 3:2-6, 12-14/MT 2:13-15, 19-23

Saturday: 1 JN 2:18-21/JN 1:1-18

Sunday: NM 6:22-27/GAL 4:4-7/LK 2:16-21

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

A trilingual Mass in honor of **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph** will be heldon **Friday, December 30h** at **7:30pm** in the **Upper Church**. All are invited.

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Please be aware that the rectory office will be closed from **Monday, December 26th, 2016**.

**ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?**

In order to better serve you as our parishioners, we are asking you to register your family. Please do not assume because you attend Mass here you are registered in the Parish. Are you on our mailing list? Are you receiving envelopes? If not, it would be very embarrassing to us, to you and to your family when someone calls to make wedding plans, to have an infant baptized, or if you need a certificate of sponsor for baptism or confirmation. We will be unable to honor your request because we have no record of your registration as a parishioner. To register, stop by the rectory during business hours and fill out a registration form.

**St. Jerome Southern Caribbean Cruise**

Join your fellow parishioners in an unforgettable cruise aboard the Norwegian “GEM” from November 11-21, 2017. This cruise will leave from NYC and travel to San Juan, St. Thomas, St. Maarten, and Tortola. Rates include accommodations, meals, nightly entertainment, casion, Jacuzzi, swimming pool, gym and daily Mass with Fr. Yvon. Rates based on double occupancy per person: $1,302-inside, $1,482-ocean view and $1,948-balcony. Pick up a flyer in the church for more information. For reservations, call Ann Marie Millien at (917) 750-6413 or Therese E. Obas at (718) 909-2547.

**NEW YEARS SCHEDULE/PROGRAMME DE 1ER JANVIER/AÑO NUEVO HORARIO**

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| **New Year / 1er Jan. / 1 De Enero** |
| Sat., December 31**NO Morning Masses** | Adoration HaïtienneSat., December 31, 11 PM Upper Church |
| Adoration English & SpanishSat., December 31, 8 PM Upper Church | Messe de MinuitSun., December 31, 12 AMUpper Church |
| English & Spanish New Year’s Vigil MassSat., December 31, 9 PM Upper Church | New Year’s DaySun., January 1, Regular Sunday Mass Schedule |
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