

***FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. TOSI ---***

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

*Luke 2:16-21*



At the beginning of the New Year the church once again honors Mary under her title of “The Mother of God”. Mary enjoys many titles which reflect the devotion of Catholics to the Mother of Jesus. However, it is this title, “Mother of God” that is perhaps the most important title of all - in fact the title that gives reason for all other honors and titles given Mary throughout the history of the church.

We honor Mary because of her *Yes* to the angel Gabriel’s message that she had been chosen to be Mother of God. And Mary said: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Mary’s *Yes* to God’s will was a yes repeated often throughout her life. It was never *NO* for Mary - but always a humble *Yes*. She gave birth to our savior!! And so we honor Mary. What son would be offended by the love and devotion shown by people to his mother. So it is with Jesus.

As we honor Mary we also pray to imitate Mary’s *Yes* to God’s will in each of our lives. Unlike Mary we often say *NO* to God’s will. It seems too difficult; we have not the faith; we want to do our own will. In this New Year the path to peace; to meaning, to joy and to fulfillment is found in doing God’s will! As we begin 2012 let us take to heart Gabriel’s words to Mary: “*Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.*” We live this New Year not alone or in fear for the Lord is with us. It is the Christmas Message - God loves us so much that He dwells with us. He is God with us! May this New Year be one of rich blessing for us especially the blessing of doing God’s will.

I wish to take this opportunity to offer thanks to all who shared their time, talent and treasure in making Christmas such a grace filled celebration here at the parish. What a joy to celebrate this Christmas with all of you! It was such a blessing to have so many join us for Mass. What a beautiful sight to behold. Please accept my gratitude and prayers.

God bless!

Let us pray for one another,

*Msgr. Tosi*

***THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU***

Father David and Father Vincent join me in giving thanks for the many Christmas gifts and delicious treats that were given to us for Christmas. Each gift is truly appreciated adding to the joy of the Season and showing your love and encouragement of us. We are most grateful and want to assure you of our prayers. Again, thank you - and may God reward your kindness.

*Msgr. Tosi*

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**As a community of believers in Jesus Christ and in Communion with the universal church, we strive to follow the Lord's command to love God and one another. Rooted in word and sacrament, we grow together as a Eucharistic community inviting all to the Good News of Jesus.**

## ***A NEW YEAR BLESSING***

**May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace,  
pour out his blessing in abundance,  
and keep you safe from harm throughout the year.**

**Amen.**

**May he give you integrity in the faith, endurance in hope,  
and perseverance in charity with holy patience to the end.**

**Amen.**

**May he order your days and your deeds in his peace,  
grant your prayers in this and in every place,  
and lead you happily to eternal life.**

**Amen.**

**And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.**

**Amen.**

**(Roman Missal Third Typical Edition)**

**Merry Christmas  
Sincerely yours in Christ,**

**Rev. Msgr. John C. Tosi  
& the Pastoral Staff  
Rev. David J. Dettmer  
Rev. Vincent G. Chirichella  
Deacon Harry Svebel (Retired)  
Sister Catherine T. Reilly, O.P.  
Sister Katherine Burke, C.S.J.  
Barbara Reiter  
Jessica Tranzillo-Smith**

***SERVING THE PRESENT; BUILDING THE FUTURE***  
***THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. LUKE CHURCH***

*The Lord is good. His love endures forever, his faithfulness  
continues through all generations.*

*- Psalms 100:5*

January 1, 2012

The New Year is here and our campaign work continues and takes on new phases with the New Year!

The campaign continues to grow on a daily basis. You might not be aware that it grows not only from the individual parish faithful but from several of our parish organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, the St. Luke Athletic Association, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and the Boy Scouts. Their members have come together and have pledged as a united community to help restore St. Luke. They understand what this church means to all of us, their family and their organization; and they want to insure that these building safely stand for many generations to come.

Campaign Statistics

**Goal:** \$3,000,000

**Percent Reached:** 83%

**Current Amount Raised:** \$2,479,002

We have been blessed by having wonderful priests in our parish. Msgr. Tosi, Father David, and Father Vincent are here for all of us, day in and day out. They give of their time, love and guidance. They have each done something that you are probably not aware of – they have each made their own personal pledge to our campaign. I'm sure you can imagine what a sacrifice this is for them, and we thank them from our hearts for doing this for all of us. We thank them for this sacrifice.

To our fellow St. Luke family members - thank you for your support of our efforts and of the capital campaign; please continue to pray for our success, and have a healthy, happy and joyous New Year.

*God is with you in all that you do.*

*- Genesis 21:22*

*The Campaign Prayer*

*Memorare*

*Remember, O most compassionate Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your assistance, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we fly unto you, O Virgin of Virgins, our Mother; to you we come; before you we kneel sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your clemency hear and answer them. Amen.*

***SERVING THE PRESENT ---BUILDING THE FUTURE  
CAMPAIGN UPDATE***

As I sit down to write this Campaign Update I am pleased to announce that a total of \$2,479,002 has been pledged. What a tremendous witness to your love for God and the parish that holds such a special place for so many of our parishioners.

The momentum of the Campaign slowed down as we all took time to focus on the celebration of Christmas. Many parishioners mentioned that they would make their pledge after Christmas. Therefore, now that Christmas is over and things begin to return to normal, I would encourage all our parishioners to make a pledge to the Campaign NOW!

We need your help!! Together we can reach our needed goal of \$3,000,000 and our hoped for goal of \$4,000,000 to build a parish center for the use of the entire parish. The generosity of many encourages I hope all of us to make our pledge to the Campaign.

In the month of January two Commitment weekends will be held to assist you in making your pledge. On the weekends of January 14th and 15th and January 21st and 22nd you will be able to make your pledge at all the Masses.

However, you need not wait until then. You can always reach out to the parish volunteers who may have called or visited you or be in touch with me at the rectory.

Plans are moving forward to begin work in the Spring. This involves drawing up a scope of work; getting bids and choosing contractors so that work can begin after the winter. Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council members are actively involved in this process as well as a small group of parish people with construction experience to be called the Construction Council to assist the pastor in this complex project.

Allow me to encourage you to think about your pledge and be ready to make your commitment to the parish's Capital Campaign.

God bless.

Msgr. Tosi

**THANK YOU ---**

Bishop DiMarzio and the staff of Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens send their sincerest thanks to the parishioners of St. Luke parish for their generous contributions to the Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities. Your gifts enable Catholic Charities to continue to work with the children and families of our diocese who are in need. Through your generosity and goodness a total of \$3,273 was collected for Catholic Charities.

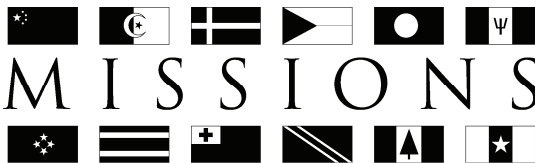
If you missed the special collection last week, your donation is still urgently needed to help Catholic Charities continue our critical work. Donations may be mailed to:

**Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens  
Attn: Development & Communications  
191 Joralemon Street, 12th Floor  
Brooklyn, New York 11201**

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**SECOND COLLECTION ---**

Next weekend, January 7 & 8 there will be two collections. The first collection will be taken for the support of the parish. The second collection will be taken for the Diocesan Mission.

Your generosity to both of these collections is greatly appreciated.



**PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM ---**

If you are planning a Baptism, please note the following dates:

**Baptism Sunday**

**Baptism Class**

**Jan. 8 & 22**

**Jan. 9**

**Feb. 12 & 26**

**Feb. 13**

**March 11 & 25**

**March 19**

For more information, please call the rectory at 718-746-8102.



***A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ---***

Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

We wish you all a Happy New Year!

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In observance of New Year's Day which is celebrated on Sunday, January 1st, the Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, January 2nd. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd at 9:00am.

For any pastoral emergencies, please call (718) 746-8103.



**ATTENTION --- ALL MEMBERS OF THE GOLDEN AGE CLUB**

The Golden Age Club will hold their first meeting of the New Year on Thursday, January 12 at 1pm in the school hall.

We look forward to starting off a new year together and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!



*Our next Hospitality Sunday will take place on Sunday, January 8 in the school hall. Join your fellow parishioners, neighbors and friends for light refreshments after any of the morning Masses.*

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**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ---**

All are invited to spend some time in prayer with the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament on the First Friday of each month.

The Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament follows the 8:30am Mass until 9:00pm when it will close with Benediction.

**The next Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament will be on Friday, January 5th.**

Why not take some time to be with the Lord in thanksgiving and praise for His goodness to each of us?



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**BEREAVEMENT GROUP ---**

The Bereavement Group meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3rd at 7:30pm in the Rectory basement. The bereavement ministry is an outreach to those who have experienced the death of a loved one. Through prayer, scripture and faith filled sharing this ministry seeks to bring healing to those left behind. If you are interested in joining us once a month, please call Father Vincent at (718) 746-8102.





# Community News

## **FLUSHING FIRST FRIDAY CLUB ---**

The Club will meet on Friday, January 6th at 12 Noon at Verdi’s Restaurant, White-stone. The Celebrant and Speaker will be Father Gerard Sauer, Pastor of St. Mel’s Parish, Flushing.

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## **ST. FIDELIS FOOD PANTRY ---**

Please help with donations of food. The Food Pantry is in need of coffee, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, sauce, soup, cereal and canned fruit. If you are able to help, please bring all donations of the canned food to the vestibule of the church and place them in the food pantry basket.

Thank you for your generosity in a time of need.



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## **ART SHOW FUNDRAISER ---**

From Here to Haiti will hold its Art Show Fundraiser featuring the works of over 30 Haitian and international art on Saturday, January 14 from 9am to 9pm. The location is 14-46 Utopia Parkway, Whitestone. For more information, call 718-746-3012 or 646-209-3891.



*Society of St. Vincent de Paul*



My Car Went  
To Heaven

**DONATE  
YOUR AUTO**

**Charity Established 1855 • IRS Tax Deduction  
Free Towing • Any Condition • Any Model**

**718-491-2525**

***THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL GIVES BACK!***

For each car, truck or van, running or not, the Society of St. Vincent De Paul will give back to St. Luke Church \$50/\$100 per vehicle. Maybe you don't have a vehicle, but a family member, friend or neighbor has an old or neglected vehicle in their driveway that they would like to dispose of. If so, call the St. Vincent De Paul Society at 718-491-2525.

Thank you for your participation.



## THE GIVING TREE --- A THANK YOU



Resource Development  
525 Convent Road  
Syosset, NY 11791  
516.921.0808  
516.677.9064 fax  
www.mercyfirst.org

December 19, 2011

Ms. Judy DeAngelis  
St. Luke's  
16-34 Clintonville Street  
Whitestone, NY 11357

Dear Ms. DeAngelis:

On behalf of the children and families served at MercyFirst, thank you for hosting a holiday gift drive for our teenagers.

Last year at MercyFirst:

- 2,290 children remained safely with their families because of the help they received from our Preventive Services Program.
- 807 foster children were cared for by safe and loving foster families because of our Foster Boarding Home Program.
- 212 foster children were reunited with their families.
- 57 foster children got a permanent family through our Adoption Program.
- 36 teen moms in our Mother-Baby residences learned to take care of themselves and be better parents to their babies.
- 64% of the boys in our Campus Program who were eligible to take Regents Exams passed them.

We couldn't do it without the help of generous community members like you. Your support helps us provide over 4,000 abused, traumatized and neglected children with gifts that last a lifetime and open the door to a brighter tomorrow. Thank you for helping us make a difference.

Member  
Child Welfare  
League of America  
Council of Family and  
Child Caring Agencies

Accredited



Sincerely,

Kerri Sneden  
VP of Resource Development

Thank you for your  
continued support and  
dedication.

Happy New Year!

*Acknowledgment of this contribution is hereby provided to the above pursuant to Internal Revenue Service Code Section 170 (f) (8). MercyFirst did not provide any goods or services in whole or partial consideration for this contribution*

a Sisters of Mercy minis

SAVE THE DATE!!

St. Luke School

6th Annual Ladies Fashion Show

"Fashion in Bloom"



Friday, April 20th, 2012

Terrace on the Park

Grand Ballroom

Tickets will go on sale  
in February.

More info to follow...

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Mon. - 1Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28*

*Tues.- 1Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34*

*Wed. - 1Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42*

*Thurs. - 1Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51*

*Fri. - 1Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11*

*Sat. - 1Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11*

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:**

*JOSETTE TANZOLA*

*JENNIE ROMANO*

*MARYANN (IZZO) GERMINO*

*SUSANNA WINSHIP*

*LENNY KALLU*

*BARBARA SATALINO*

*ARTOURAS JAOUTAKAS*

*FRANCES MANGIARACINA*

*ANTHONY TROTTA*

**AND FOR THE DECEASED:**

*EUGENE BRENNAN*

*CARMINE RIZZO*

*PAMELA JONES*

*ROSA VENTURA*

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**MEMORIALS**

The Altar Breads are given in memory of **BENEDETTA GUZZO** at the request of Mr. & Mrs. Antonino Mazzara & family.

The Altar Wine is given in memory of **VITO BULLARO (10th Anniversary)** at the request of his family.

The Sanctuary Lamp is given in memory of **SABATINO MARTELLI & DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS** at the request of Christine & Patricia.

The Altar Candles are burning in memory of **BENEDETTA GUZZO** at the request of Mr. & Mrs. Antonino Mazzara & family.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2, 2012**

**Monday, January 2**

**7:00 Valentino Forgione**

**12:00 John Vosilla (Birthday)**

**Tuesday, January 3**

**8:30 Rosemarie & Frank Molfetta**

**12:00 Jose Santos**

**Wednesday, January 4**

**7:00 Peter Spagnoli**

**12:00 Virginia Delle Donna**

**Thursday, January 5**

**8:30 Joseph A. Tomasso**

**12:00 Anna Cristiano**

**Friday, January 6**

**7:00 Maureen Mooney**

**8:30 Jack Curran**

**12:00 Martin Radames Aviles**

**Saturday, January 7**

**8:30 Patrick Lynch**

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*Collective Intentions Mass ---*

*The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, January 22nd at 11:45am.*

*At this Mass we pray for*

**ALFONSO GELO**



# Children's Worship Bulletin

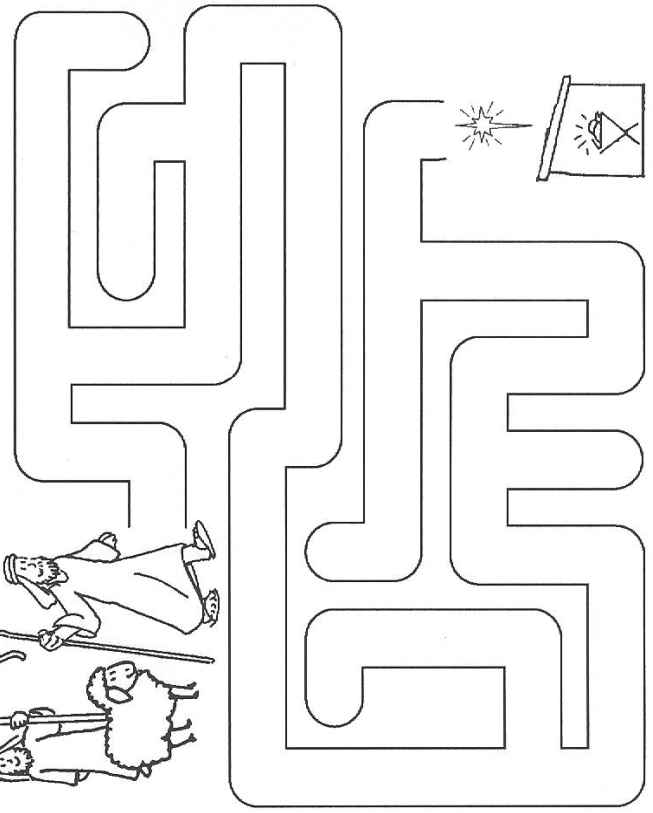
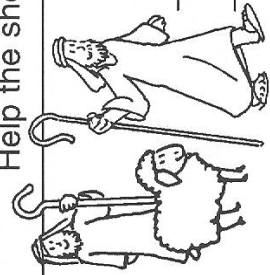
January 1, 2012 • Luke 2:15-21

Ages 3-6

## Shepherds Visit Baby Jesus

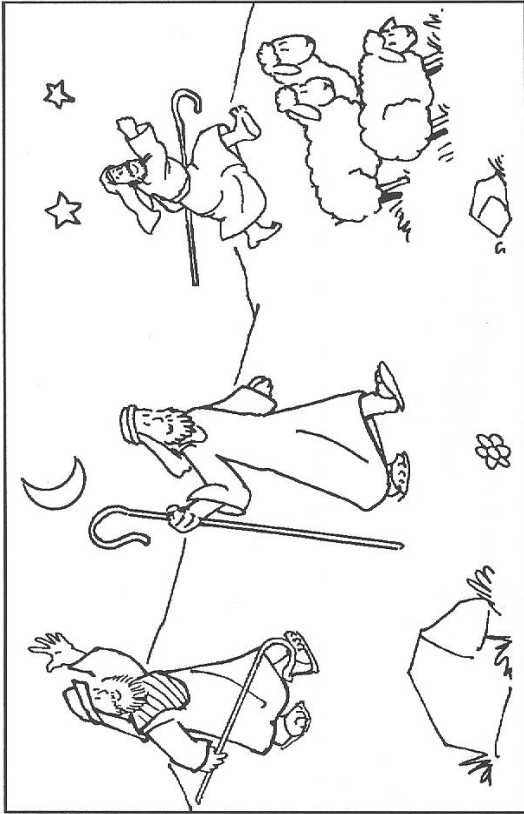
The shepherds said, "Let's go to Bethlehem to see the baby that the Lord has told us about."

Help the shepherds get to baby Jesus.



The shepherds went home, praising God!

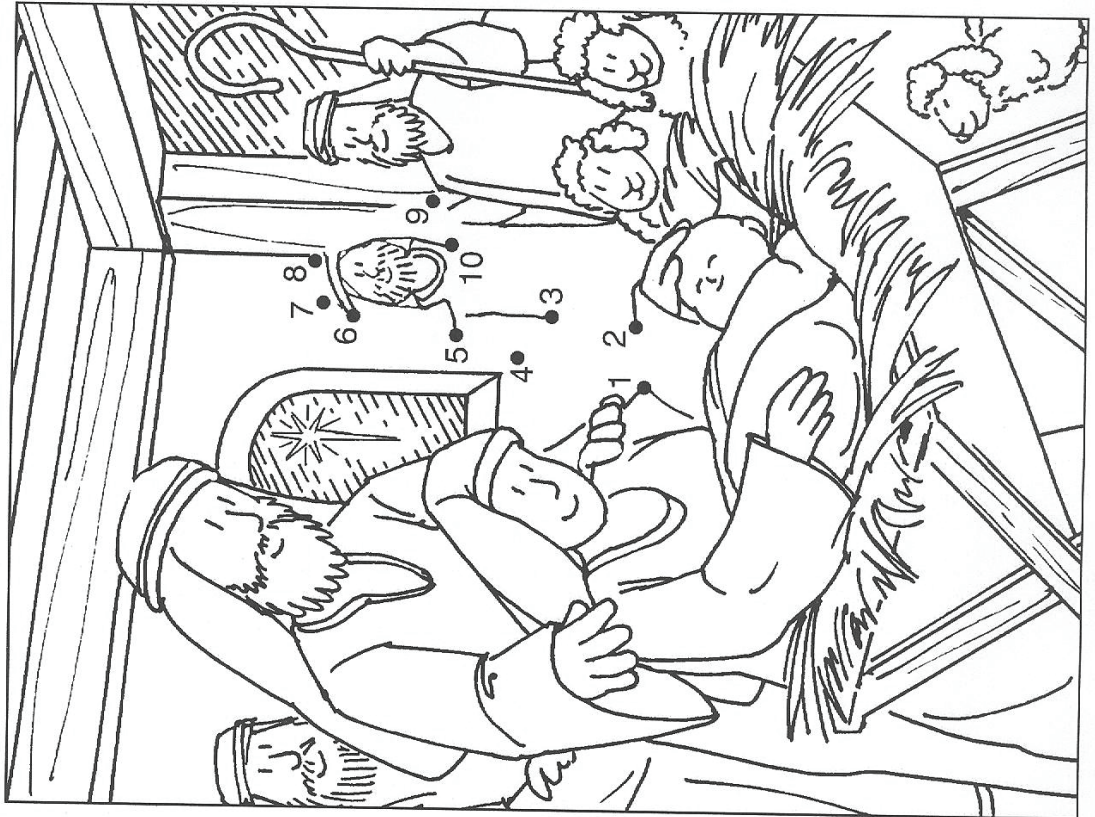
Circle 7 differences in the 2nd picture.



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They found the baby Jesus lying in a manger.

Connect the dots.  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



The shepherds told everyone what they had seen. Everyone was amazed!

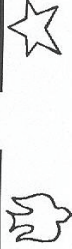
Use the code below to fill in the missing letters.



A \_ AVIO \_



A \_



EE \_



O \_ I \_



ET LE EM.

