

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

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent the Gospel recounts the visit of the Angel Gabriel to Mary to announce the good news that she was to “conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall name him Jesus.” There is perhaps no greater Advent figure than the Virgin Mary for by her response to Gabriel the Son of God took flesh in her womb. In humble faith and trust she accepted God’s will: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” And the word was made flesh.



The Gospel, however, mentions another person in the story of Christ’s birth. Did you notice who? Mentioned in only a few words this person also submitted his life to the will of God. Gabriel was sent to a virgin “Betrothed to a man names Joseph, of the house of David”.

Often overlooked in the Christmas story, Joseph is another Advent figure who opened his heart to God’s plan and in so doing was given the privilege of watching over Mary and her child Jesus. Little is known of Joseph, yet what we do know is of his great trust, active faith and gentle love of God. Joseph opened his heart and life to God and humbly fulfilled God’s plan for him.

For both Joseph and Mary this “yes” to God’s will was repeated many times throughout their lives often at great cost and suffering but always in joyful acceptance. Their yes was often at great personal sacrifice requiring change and an abandonment to God’s will and grace. And in so doing they cooperated with God’s plan of salvation giving the world our savior.

On this last Sunday of Advent as Christmas draws near, both Mary and Joseph challenge us to become Advent figures - humbly yielding to God’s will; welcoming the Lord as He comes to us; giving birth to Christ here and now by the Christian lives lived in faith, hope and love.

I take this opportunity to extend a sincere invitation to all our parishioners, their relatives, our neighbors and friends to join us for Christmas at Saint Luke. For your convenience a Mass Schedule for Christmas and New Year is included in this bulletin.

May the joy of this coming Christmas fill our hearts and motivate our lives to witness to the true light Jesus Christ.

God bless.

Let us pray for one another,

*Msgr. Tosi*

***A request for prayers ---***

is being made for Sister Catherine Reilly, O.P. who is not feeling well. We have offered Sr. Catherine our support in any way it is needed. Please keep Sister Catherine in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

***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.***

## 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.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### CHRISTMAS 2011

*Solemnity of the Nativity  
of the Lord*

Confessions will be heard on  
Saturday, December 17  
2:30pm to 4:30pm

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Saturday, December 24  
4:30pm  
6:00pm

### *The Mass at Midnight*

Carol singing beginning at 11:30pm  
Mass at Midnight

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25  
7:30am  
9:00am in Italian  
10:30am  
11:45am  
1:00pm

There is NO 5:00pm Mass on Christmas Day.

At all the Christmas Masses, the first collection before the readings is for the support of the parish. The second collection at the Offertory of the Mass is for Catholic Charities.

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

*Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God*

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday, December 31  
Mass at 5:00pm

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sunday, January 1  
7:30am  
9:00am in Italian  
10:30am  
11:45am  
1:00pm

There is NO 5:00pm Mass on  
New Year's Day.



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

*If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to your mountain, "MOVE!" and it WILL move...and NOTHING will be impossible for YOU!*

*- Matthew 17:20*

December 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> 2011

There is a story that has been told many times to express how we should look at life – but it is also very appropriate for us with regard to our campaign ....

*A professor of philosophy stood before his class with some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks about two inches in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full.*

*They agreed that it was full.*

*So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly and watched as the pebbles rolled into the open areas between the rocks. The professor then asked the students again if the jar was full.*

*They chuckled and agreed that it was indeed full this time.*

*The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. The sand filled the remaining open areas of the jar, and this time the jar indeed was full to the brim.*

Some parishioners feel that their individual contribution to the campaign would be small, so they are hesitant to contribute. But as the story shows us, it takes the rocks, the pebbles and the sand to complete the task of filling the jar to the brim, and it will take all of our gifts no matter how large or how small to complete our task.

Your individual pledge is extremely important and will mean a lot to your fellow parishioners today and those who will come after us.

If you have not yet responded to outreach from our volunteers, please return their call or arrange to meet with them as soon as possible. Your sacrifice will help us fill our jar to the brim.

Thank you to those who have made their pledge and please continue to pray for our success.

### *Campaign Statistics*

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

***Percent Reached: 81%***

***Current Amount Raised: \$2,413,901***



# Lessons and Carols

Celebrate the joy of the Lord's Birth



with the  
St Luke  
Adult Choir  
Folk Group  
Italian Choir  
Youth Choir

Jessica Tranzillo Smith  
Director of Music

December 18, 2011  
3:00 in the Afternoon

St. Luke Church  
16-34 Clintonville St.  
Whitestone, New York

(718) 746-3862 for more information

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

<b>December 11</b>	<b>\$12,561</b>
<b>Amount Needed</b>	<b>\$13,425</b>
<b>Envelopes Mailed</b>	<b>1883</b>
<b>Envelopes Received</b>	<b>707</b>



**YOUTH GROUP**

**YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER ---**

Our Youth Group had their 1st Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10th in the school hall. We had a DJ, pizza and sweets. The young people danced and collected 175 pairs of hats and gloves for under privileged kids in Brooklyn. There were over 100 young people in attendance. We will meet again in January for a movie night.

*Fr. Vincent*

A NOTE OF



To Eddie Weisenburger and the Knights of Columbus, Msgr. Francis J. Dillon Council for donating the music and pizza for our 1st Annual Youth Group Christmas Party! *Thank you, Eddie!*



**Welcome to Our Family**

**PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM ---**

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

**Baptism Sunday**

**Baptism Class**

**Jan. 8 & 22**

**Dec. 19**

**Feb. 12 & 26**

**Jan. 9**

**March 11 & 25**

**Feb. 13**

**March 19**

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



The Golden Age Club will have their first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 12 at 1pm in the school hall. Please remember there will be NO meetings for the month of December.



We look forward to seeing you on January 12th and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!



## ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION ---

Bishop DiMarzio invites all to join him in this year's Annual Catholic Charities Collection. The collection takes place at all Christmas Masses. Please return the special Catholic Charities envelope from your envelope packet with your gift. If you did not receive a printed envelope, we ask you to use your own blank envelope and mark it for "Catholic Charities". Bishop DiMarzio urges all to join in sharing God's love with families and children in need by giving generously to this year's Charities Christmas collection.



### *Catholic Charities Brooklyn & Queens Christmas Collection December 25, 2011*

During these uncertain times, so many of our neighbors rely on Catholic Charities for support with basic needs and the tools to achieve self-sufficiency. Catholic Charities needs you to continue providing invaluable opportunities and above all, hope to our children and families.

This year, nearly 91,250 individuals were served through Catholic Charities including:

**82,500** food packages distributed to the hungry.

**11,800** people given immediate and long term assistance at our Community Centers.

**3,700** individuals in prevention, refugee resettlement, and youth development programs.

**8,200** older adults through case management and at 16 senior centers.

**5,600** people with behavioral health services.

**2,400** children in 21 Head Start and day care centers.

With your help, Catholic Charities is changing lives and building communities.

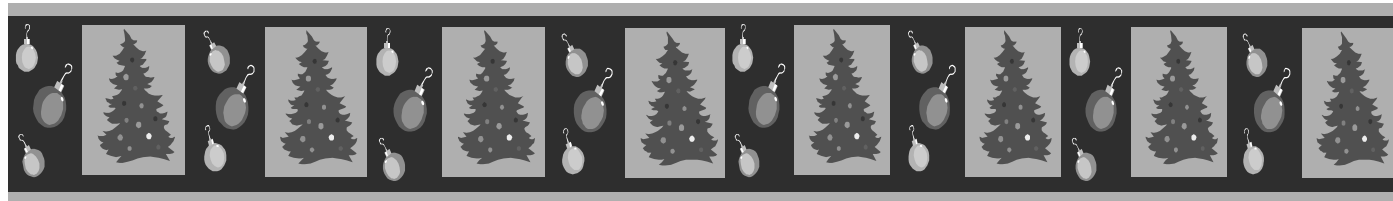
Thank you for giving generously to Catholic Charities.

**HOLY NIGHT BRIGHT STAR  
SPONSORED TREES 2011**

1. In memory of the DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GALLO & BALLERAS FAMILY  
Sponsored by Alfred, Maria & Lucia Gallo
2. In memory of MARY ANN DEMMET  
Sponsored by Ronald Demmett
3. In memory of EILEEN C. MURPHY  
Sponsored by Your Loving Family
4. In memory of THOMAS J. SNEE  
Sponsored by Midge Snee
5. In memory of JOHN PURICH  
Sponsored by Kay & David Purich
6. In memory of ROBERT & MARIE RAPERTO  
Sponsored by Bernice Raperto
7. In memory of THE PETRETTI FAMILY  
Sponsored by Lucy Petretti
8. In memory of JASON VECCHIONE  
Sponsored by The Vecchione Family
9. In memory of ANGELA D'AMBROSE  
Sponsored by Victoria, Alex & Elaine Mastronardi-Kurz
10. In memory of JOHN CARR  
Sponsored by Helen Livlanich
11. In memory of THE SANTORELLI FAMILY & THE TERI FAMILY  
Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Teri
12. In memory of PATRICK LYNCH  
Sponsored by The Lynch Family



13. In memory of ENRICO & LUCY TOSI  
Sponsored by Msgr. John C. Tosi
14. In memory of ROSE MARIE MUSCHITIELLO  
Sponsored by The Blascovic and The Lynch Families
15. In honor of ST. LUKE'S FACULTY  
Sponsored by Faculty
16. In memory of KATHY BATEMAN  
Sponsored by Al & Joan Bateman & Family
17. In honor of ALL VOLUNTEERS - PAST & PRESENT  
Sponsored by the St. Luke's Athletic Association
18. In memory of ANA SOFIA ARANGO  
Sponsored by The Arango-Gomez Family
19. In memory of NICOLO CEGLIAN  
Sponsored by Chiara Ceglian
20. In memory of LUCILLE REIMAN  
Sponsored by Robert Reiman
21. In memory of GEORGE & MARIE LEONARD  
Sponsored by D'Ambrosio Studios
22. In honor of KEVIN FREILE & FELLOW SEMINARIANS  
Sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Freile
23. In memory of JOSEPH TROTTA  
Sponsored by The Trotta & Balsamo Families
24. In memory of RICHARD ANTHONY COLLETTI  
Sponsored by The Colletti Family

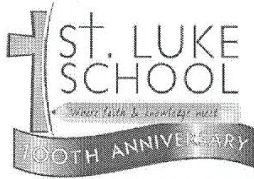




**HOLY NIGHT BRIGHT STAR  
SPONSORED TREES 2011  
(continued)**

25. In memory of PIETRO & MADDALENA ZUCCARELLO  
Sponsored by Giuseppe & Louis Zuccarello & Family
26. In memory of ROSA ROMANO & SON, JOSEPH ROMANO  
Sponsored by Giuseppe & Louis Zuccarello & Family
27. In memory of JOHN & ANNE CHIARELLI  
Sponsored by John Chiarelli
28. In memory of VITO BULLARO  
Sponsored by Peter Zuccarello
29. In memory of MARIE DANIELE  
Sponsored by Sabato Daniele
30. In memory of VINCENT KEEGAN, SR.  
Sponsored by The Keegan Family





**ST. LUKE SCHOOL**  
**WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET**  
718-746-3833      www.slswhitestone.org

***Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence in Catholic Education  
1910–2010***

***ST. LUKE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL'S LIST***

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Principal's List!  
These students have maintained an average of 97% or higher in all subjects in the  
first trimester marking period.

**Grade 4**

Samantha DeTurris  
Sabrina Hili  
Olivia Kegel  
Sabrina Nardiello  
Anthony Petruso  
Matthew Weinberger

**Grade 5**

Juliana Estevez  
Michael Loccisano  
Peter Paolo

**Grade 6**

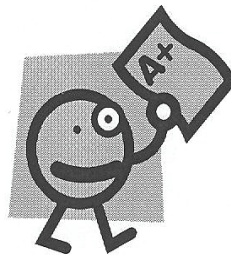
Josip Banovic  
William Chao  
Emily D'Urso  
Mary Le  
Michelle Runco  
Timothy Sommer  
Steven Spiezia  
Briana Stephenson

**Grade 7**

Sabrina Antonelli  
Megan Clifford  
Michelle Doherty  
Julia Greco  
Connor Hayes  
Massimo Indolini  
Emma Kegel  
Fiachra McDonagh  
Alina Ousman  
Neeraj Sakhrani  
Grace Spiezia  
Jenna Ventura  
Alexa Ware

**Grade 8**

Sabrina Blaskovic  
Aisling McDonagh  
Michael Rubin  
Julia Rukaj  
Lorraine Tuohy



### First Sacrament Program



On Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, the children in St. Luke School second grade classes, along with their teachers, Ms. Garafalo and Mrs. Vella, as well as the children from the School of Religion came together with their parents for a program on the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. This year the children participated along with their parents, in an evening which focused on the sacrament of Baptism. Fr. Vincent Chirichella discussed the symbols of Baptism and their meaning in the life of a baptized Catholic. Each of the children decorated a paper replica of the white garment worn at Baptism, and were asked to bring it to the 11:45 A.M. mass on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Both groups watched video segments introducing the sacrament of Holy Eucharist, and were given guidelines by Sr. Katherine Burke, the Director of Religious Education, and Mrs. Barbara Reiter, principal of our school, to help them prepare for the reception of the sacraments in the spring. At the celebration of mass that Sunday, Fr. Chirichella led the parents in blessing their children so they may follow in the footsteps of Jesus throughout their lives. Approximately 85 children and their families attended the mass and the reception which followed the liturgy.

### Kindergarten Murals

The Kindergarten Class in St. Luke School had a busy November. One of the things we did was to learn all about the first Thanksgiving. We did this through stories and film. After discussing, writing and drawing pictures, K-1 and K-2 got together and created a mural about the first Thanksgiving. Each child had a specific job. Some children were illustrators and some children wrote captions for the pictures. The children worked beautifully together and developed a real insight as to how the Pilgrims and Native Americans worked together to produce their bountiful harvest.





## Happy Birthday Jesus Breakfast

On Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, over 350 students and their families joined us for the annual Happy Birthday Jesus Breakfast event. There was something for everyone to enjoy. A complimentary photo with Santa, great raffle prizes, entertainment by Georgie Porgie the magician, and the fellowship & Christmas spirit of all our St. Luke School Families.

A great time was had by all. We would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge the following individuals & businesses that were gracious enough to donate goods and services to St. Luke School.

- Queens Garden Nursery- Italian Basket & Nativity decor
- Salvatore Gutierrez - Orange and Apple Juice
- Di Simone Bakery, Astoria - Bread and Rolls
- Brian Mc Donald- A special representative from the North Pole
- Alex and Stacey Katakaidis - Cereal
- Chef John Kurtz & Tommy Dermody
- The Kurtz Family
- Jennifer Tricarico- Baked Goods
- Susie Serra/ Russo's on the bay- table linen
- Jennifer Wasiak - All Baked Muffins, and the Beautiful Gingerbread House
- Raz Diary - Milk & Eggs
- Michael Ware - Baked Goods
- Whitestone Bagel Factory & Kristine D'Onofrio- Bagels
- Anthony Ventura - Nativity set up
- TFL Party Planners-Balloons & Décor
- Lauro Vazquez -Printing
- John & Vicky Palmeri - Italian Cookies
- Deirdre Zuccarello -Event & Nativity Decor



•We would like to thank everyone at St. Luke School •

Mrs. Angotti, Mrs. Bateman, Asst. Principal Lucy Lugones and our beloved Principal and Pastor, Mrs. Barbara Reiter & Monsignor Tosi, The students and teachers from Nursery through Grade 4 who provided their beautiful art work to serve as our decorations for this celebration and our custodians, Nino & Sam

Our 7th Grade Volunteers: Kyle Burnell, Cory Calamusso, Ashley Dougherty, Thomas Haufe, Massimo Indolini, Kyle MacDonald, Neeraj Sakhrani, Nicholas Spellacy, Robert Planz, Joey Taranto, Amanda Toral, Alexa Ware, Jenna Ventura

To the Parents, Friends, Grandparents, Committee members and Family;  
A special & heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated items to our raffle baskets,  
You know who you are, we know who you are, and most importantly Jesus knows who you are. We  
thank everyone for helping us celebrate our Lord's Birthday in such a special way.  
We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad and Buon Natale!

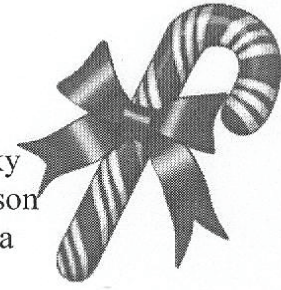
Cookie Kurtz & Jennifer Ware

**Our deepest appreciation & respect for your outstanding generosity,  
talent and dedication**





## Happy Birthday Jesus Committee 2011



Ginnie Amoscato  
Helen Banovic  
Jeanine Calamusso  
Jennifer Daniele  
Colleen Dermody  
Joseph Depass  
Kristine D'Onofrio  
Josphine Gaito  
Lillian Iemma  
Cookie Kurtz  
Adrianna Macciarulo  
Catherine Mauro  
Fran Molinari  
Carla Moraglia  
Fran Neo

Donna Pace  
Andrea Petrosky  
April Stephenson  
Heather Summa  
Karen Tito  
Ruby Toral  
Jen Tricarico  
Hannia Upton  
Lauro Vasquez  
Chris Ventura  
Nella Viola  
Jennifer Ware  
Jennifer Wasiak  
Deirdre Zuccarello

Monsignor Tosi and Mrs. Reiter had their picture taken with Santa!



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. - Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a; Lk 1:5-25*  
*Tues.- Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38*  
*Wed. - Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45*  
*Thurs. - 1Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56*  
*Fri. - Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Lk 1:57-66*  
*Sat. - 2Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Lk 1:67-79*

**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*

**AND FOR THE DECEASED:**

*LAURA LARAQUE*  
*BIAGIO CERIANO*  
*ANGELINA MICELI*

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**MEMORIALS**

The Altar Breads are given in memory of ***THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE LAURI & O'CONNOR FAMILIES*** requested by The O'Connor Family.

The Altar Wine is given in memory of ***AMERICO DeANGELIS*** requested by Marie DiTucci.

The Sanctuary Lamp is given in memory of ***MICHAEL & DIANA O'CONNOR*** requested by The O'Connor Family.

The Altar Candles are burning in memory of ***COACH ROSE MUSCHITIELLO*** requested by The Flukes Swim Team.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2011**

**Monday, December 19**  
**7:00 Louis Anthony Nicolosi & Antonio Caringella**  
**12:00 Joseph Peloso**

**Tuesday, December 20**  
**8:30 Latkowski Family**  
**12:00 John Bubolich, Sr. (Anniversary)**

**Wednesday, December 21**  
**7:00 Eugene Taheny**  
**12:00 Cosmo DiTucci**

**Thursday, December 22**  
**8:30 Elizabeth Stroetz**  
**12:00 Stacchini Family**

**Friday, December 23**  
**7:00 Edward Ahr**  
**12:00 Americo DeAngelis**

**Saturday, December**  
**8:30 Carlo Cataldo**

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***Collective Intentions Mass ---***

*The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, December 18th at the 11:45am Mass.*

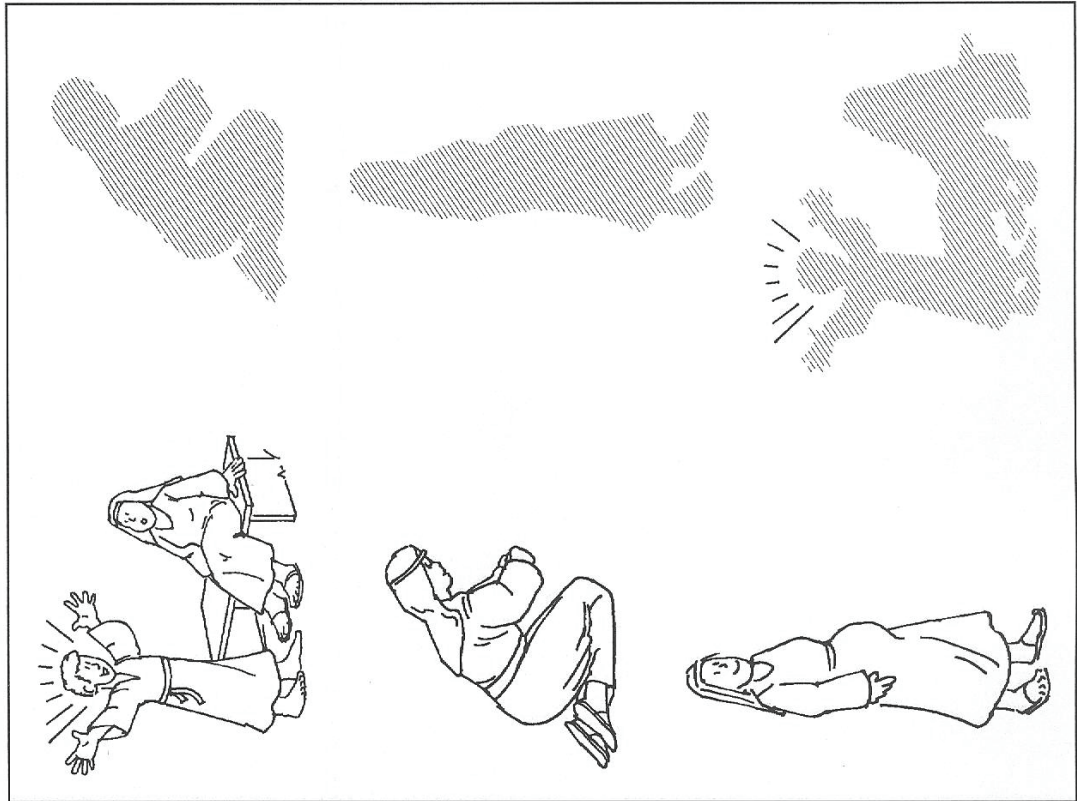
*At this Mass we pray for:*

**MSGR. EDWARD CONNORS**  
**GERALD T. RYAN**



Mary believed the angel's words.  
She said, "I am the Lord's servant."

Match the shadows.



# Children's Worship Bulletin






Ages 3-6

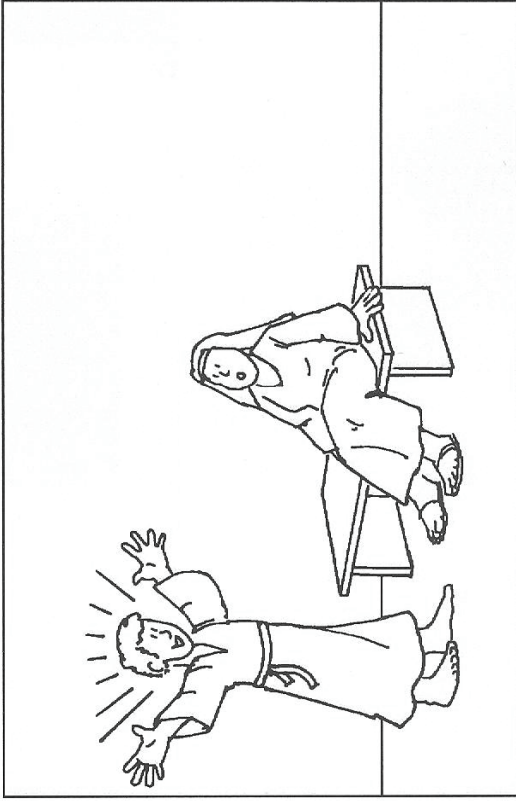
December 18, 2011 • Luke 1:26-38

## An Angel Visits Mary

God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary.

Add these items to the picture.

	a window		a vase
	a door		





Mary was afraid.

The angel said Mary would have a baby.  
Her baby would be the Son of God.  
She would name the baby Jesus.

**Circle** the 2 that are alike in each row.

angel      ANGEL      angel

---

MARY      Mary      Mary

---

Son      Son      SON  
of      of      OF  
God      God      GOD

---

Jesus      JESUS      Jesus

The angel told Mary that ...

Trace the words.

Count the word "forever". How many? 13 or 14 ?

Jesus'  
kingdom  
will last...

