

Walk With Us In The Christmas Spirit

Who

St. Mary Basilica parish welcomes our neighbors, family members, friends, and present and former members to **Walk With Us In The Christmas Spirit**. Christmas Spirit means sharing kindness, peace, joy, encouragement, faith, forgiveness, and hospitality. Please share these qualities among yourselves and with everyone you meet during the weeks before and after Christmas. Members of St. Mary parish and Cathedral School are asked to actively help with this. We invite former members to join us in this Spirit.

What

We ask that you do this by selecting a personal way of extending kindness, love and joy to everyone you meet. We would like each present parishioner, former parishioner, and persons in every age group to be personally contacted. We need everyone to do their part to ensure that no one is omitted.

How

You can extend the Christmas spirit through a variety of parish activities.

- Wednesday Evening Supper
- Lessons & Carols
- Christmas Liturgies
- Parish Social Activities
- Breakfast with Santa
- Personal written greeting
- Send prayer card
- Email spiritual message
- Introduce oneself to others at Mass
- Give home baked items
- Brief home visit
- Neighborhood gathering
- Phone call to church member
- Facebook greetings
- Prayer visits to church
- Pray the *Angelus* daily
- Pray the rosary daily
- Use an advent wreath at home
- Use the advent Blue Book
- Receive reconciliation
- Forgive someone
- Forgive the church or clergy
- Donation to a charity

PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Almighty and Eternal God, you became one of us that we might have the life of Christ forever. Through this season of Advent, rekindle in us a desire for the coming of your Kingdom. Knowing how much our world needs your grace and truth, we ask you to guide us in the way of compassion that we might help your suffering ones. Fill us with every grace and blessing as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

Mighty and Eternal God, Power of the Universe, you came among us as an infant to set us free from fear. Sharing our life, you shared also our destiny, accepting death on our behalf. As we celebrate the wonderful mystery of God-With-Us, help us to see the value of our lives from your point of view. May we cherish all human life and support one another as we journey together toward our final destiny in you. Grant us a share of your love that we might more fully love one another. Amen.

May each of us walk in the Christmas Spirit.

**WALK WITH US IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES
2017**

Wednesday, November 29	Advent Wreath Workshop 6 PM immediately following the Wednesday Night Dinner, Family Life Center
Saturday, December 2	Breakfast With Santa, Family Life Center, 8:30 AM-12:30PM
Sunday, December 3	Alcorn State University Choir Christmas program, St. Mary Basilica, 7 PM
Wednesday, December 6	St. Nicholas' Day Drama, 5:30 PM, Family Life Center
Wednesday, December 6	Reconciliation Service, 6:15 PM, St. Mary Basilica
Thursday, December 7	Cathedral School Reconciliation Service, 9:25-11:25AM
Thursday, December 7	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass, 5:30PM, St. Mary Basilica
Friday, December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception: 8:00AM, School Mass, St. Mary Basilica 12:05PM Mass, St. Mary Basilica 6:00PM Mass, Assumption Catholic Church
Sunday, December 10	<i>Lessons and Carols</i> , 3PM, St. Mary Basilica
Wednesday, December 13	Our Lady of Guadalupe display during Wednesday Night Dinner, Family Life Center
Wednesday, December 20	St. Lucy program presented by Catechesis of the Good Shepherd group during Wednesday Night Dinner, Family Life Center
Saturday, December 23	"Welcome Home For Christmas" Open House, 10AM-12PM, Family Life Center

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Sunday, December 24	4PM Family Vigil Mass, St. Mary Basilica 6PM Vigil Mass, Assumption Catholic Church 8:30-9PM Festival of Carols, St. Mary Basilica 9PM Vigil Mass, St. Mary Basilica
Sunday, December 25	8:30AM, Christmas Mass, Assumption Catholic Church 10AM, Christmas Mass, St. Mary Basilica (New Year's Day is not a holy day of obligation)

ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.