

**Christmas Mass @ 10:00 AM
and
New Year's Day Mass @ 10:00AM**



**Saturday, December 1st
9:30 am - 2:00 pm**

Day will include:

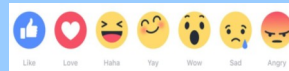
- Talk
- Mass at 11:30 am
- Lunch will be provided
- Priests available for Confession
- Adoration

Pious Union of St. Joseph Gift Shop

Statues, postcards, pictures, prayer cards, books, metals, rosaries, shrine holy water bottles, candles and more . . .

Proceeds help to support the growth of the Pious Union and spread devotion to St. Joseph.

Pay for items on the "honor system" - donations boxes available throughout the shrine.



Like us on Facebook!

Saturday, December 8, 2018



**Boy's Retreat @ St. Louis Center
8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**

**Girls Prayer and Pizza @ Pastoral Center
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Apostleship of Prayer Intentions
December 2018**

Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith:

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

**The Nativity of the Lord
December 2018**



- 1 First Saturday, Anointing of the Sick**
Women's Advent Retreat 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass
- 2 1st Sunday of Advent**
10:00 AM Mass
- 3 St. Francis Xavier**
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass
- 5 8:30 AM Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,**
4:30 PM Benediction
- 6 St. Nicholas**
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass
- 7 First Friday, St. Ambrose, Pearl Harbor Remembrance**
11:10 AM Stations of the Cross, 11:30 AM Mass
- 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass
Girls Prayer & Pizza, Boy's Retreat @ St. Louis Center
- 9 2nd Sunday of Advent**
10:00 AM Mass
- 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe**
8:30 AM Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
4:30 PM Benediction
- 13 St. Lucy**
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass
- 16 3rd Sunday of Advent**
10:00 AM Mass
- 19 St. Louis Guanella's Birthday**
8:30 AM Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
4:30 PM Benediction
- 21 St. Peter Canisius**
Retreat for Priest. No Mass & No Service
- 23 4th Sunday of Advent**
10:00 AM Mass
- 25 The Nativity of the Lord, Holy Day of Obligation, Holiday**
10:00 AM Mass
- 26 St. Stephen**
8:30 AM Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
4:30 PM Benediction
- 28 The Feast of the Holy Innocents**
11:10 AM Stations of the Cross, 11:30 AM Mass
- 30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
10:00 AM Mass
- 31 New Year's Eve**
11:10 AM Rosary, 11:30 AM Mass



Phone 517-522-8017

**A Guanellian Family Ministry
PIOUS UNION OF ST. JOSEPH FOR THE SUFFERING AND DYING
SHRINE OF ST. JOSEPH**

953 East Michigan Avenue Grass Lake Michigan 49240

Pastoral Bulletin of December 2018

FAX 517-522-8387 Email— piouunion@pusj.org Website—www.pusj.org
FACEBOOK— Facebook.com/Pious Union Shrine of St. Joseph

Volume 18 Num 12

Fr. Leo Joseph, SdC
Director of PUSJ

Staff:
Patrice Casto
Josephine Doyle
Annabella Venditti



**Shrine of St. Joseph
Mass Times**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs,
Fri, Sat 11:30 am**

Wed 8:30 am
Adoration follows
Benediction 4:30 pm

Sunday 10:00 am

**Sacrament of
Reconciliation**

Before upon request
and after Mass

Anointing of the Sick

First Saturday
and upon request

"We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, in a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another". – St. Teresa of Calcutta

Dear Friends of St. Joseph,

The month of December is always a month of contradictory experiences; on one hand, we are blitzed by offers from many branded lifestyle necessities. On the other, God grants an offer to everyone - a free salvation - by sending His only begotten Son in the form of human flesh in this snowy winter, a time when Santa Claus is singing "Jingle Bells" and children are waiting for their Christmas gifts.

We also celebrate another important event in this month - the feast of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception. It was on December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX declared that at no moment in Mary's life, contrary to us who have a human nature tainted by original sin because of the fall of Adam and Eve, was she under the dominion of sin. She was conceived without original sin and freed from its influence even in the womb of her mother, St. Anne. From the very first moment of her life, the Blessed Virgin Mary and our Mother too, was in the original state of the fullness of grace. She was in the state of the original blessing. In other words, she was conceived immaculately in the womb of her mother without the stain of sin.

We also celebrate in this month the birth of our Founder, St. Louis Guanella, on December 19th. He was a holy soul, one who had a special love for those who were physically and mentally disabled.

In addition, on December 28th, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Innocents, the first martyrs for our Lord Jesus. It's the time we need to pray especially for the unborn in our country. As we begin the new liturgical season of Advent, a preparation to welcome for the coming of the newborn child Jesus, let's prepare ourselves more generously to receive the child Jesus - to allow Him to be born in our hearts.

St. Augustine says, "Where your pleasure is, there is your treasure; where your treasure is, there is your heart; where your heart is, there is your happiness." So let us always try to find Jesus as the true treasure, the one who is the ultimate source of happiness for our lives. May this holy Christmas bring love, peace, and joy to dwell in our hearts, our families, and the community in which we live.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
&

A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2019

With Love and Prayers,
Fr. Leo Joseph SdC

Shrines are places of God's mercy, Pope Francis says

Vatican City, Nov 29, 2018: Shrines and sanctuaries should be places of welcoming and mercy where the sacraments can be received, Pope Francis said Thursday to an international gathering of shrine rectors and pastoral workers.



“The shrine,” the pope said Nov. 29 in the Vatican's Sala Regia, “is a privileged place to experience mercy that knows no boundaries.” “In fact, when mercy is lived, it becomes a form of real evangelization, because it transforms those who receive mercy into witnesses of mercy,” he said. Pope Francis also told the group he hopes each shrine has the presence of one or more “missionaries of mercy” to help with this evangelical work, and if they do not, to ask the Pontifical Council for the Promoting the New Evangelization to help.

Missionaries of mercy are the approximately 1,000 priests from around the world Francis authorized during and after the 2016 Jubilee Year of Mercy to spread the message of God's mercy and forgiveness, particularly through the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Pope Francis spoke to priests and lay people participating in an international convention on the daily work and operation of shrines. Held Nov. 27-29 at the Vatican, it brought together 586 participants from five continents. The group plans to hold similar conventions once every three years.

The theme of the gathering was “The shrine: an open door to the new evangelization”; it took place following Pope Francis' February 2017 decision to move the competency for shrines and sanctuaries under the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization. Speaking to participants, Francis said shrines are irreplaceable because through catechesis and the “testimony of charity” they help sustain popular piety.

He noted two important aspects of a Catholic shrine: prayer and hospitality. He said hospitality is important because when pilgrims come to a shrine, often after having made a long journey, “it is sad when it happens that, on their arrival, there is no one to give them a word of welcome.” He also warned against paying more attention to the material needs of the shrine than to visitors. Pilgrims, he said, should be made to feel “‘at home,’ like a long-awaited family member who has finally arrived.”

Keep in mind, he said, that some people visit religious shrines for reasons beside piety or devotion. For example, because of local tradition, the art present, or the beautiful natural setting. When people are welcomed, their hearts become more open to being “shaped by grace,” he stated. “A climate of friendship is a fertile seed that our Shrines can throw into the soil of the pilgrims, allowing them to rediscover that trust in the Church.”

Above all, a shrine is a place of prayer, he emphasized, adding that with many of the world's shrines being devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, there she “opens the arms of her maternal love to listen to everyone's prayer and to fulfill it.”

He urged sanctuaries to celebrate the sacraments frequently, since they are the universal prayers of the Church and to “nourish the prayer of the individual pilgrim in the silence of his heart,” since many people visit a shrine wishing to receive a specific grace or the answer to a particular prayer.

“With the words of the heart, with silence, with his formulas learned by heart as a child, with his gestures of piety...everyone must be able to be helped to express his personal prayer,” he said.

By Hannah Brockhaus - CNA/EWTN News



St. Lucy

Little is known of St. Lucy's history but what is known is that she was a very courageous woman who lived in the 3rd century and became a martyr for the Faith in the year of 304. Apocryphal texts state that she was raised by a wealthy Sicilian family and lived in Syracuse, Italy. St. Lucy wanted to commit her life to Christ and took vows of virginity. But she had to convince her mother that this was her true vocation as her mother tried to prearrange her marriage to a pagan. St. Lucy prayed at the tomb of St. Agatha who then appeared to her in a dream and told her that her mother's illness would be healed through faith. Then when this came about, her mother allowed her

to dedicate her life to God. The rejected bridegroom became hostile and enraged over her decision to refuse the marriage so he reported her to the Roman Governor, Paschasius, who sentenced her to a brothel to force her into prostitution. But, according to legend, because of divine intervention, when the guards tried to take her away; her body became unmovable, and they could not carry her away. So the Governor ordered her death by fire; but she would not burn. They then killed her by piercing her neck with a sword. Her feast day is December 13th. She is the patron saint of virgins and because her name means light she is also thought of as the patron saint of eyes.

Pray to St. Lucy

Saint Lucy, you did not hide your light under a basket, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation— every corner of our day. Amen.



St. Peter Canisius

St. Peter Canisius was born on May 8, 1521 in Nijmegen, Netherlands. His father was an affluent public official. His mother, Aegidia, died soon after his birth. He was only 15 years old when he went to the University of Cologne; and he received his master's degree at age 19. At Cologne, he joined the Jesuits; and in 1546, he was ordained a priest. After his ordination, he became popular for his editions of the writings of St. Cyril of Alexandria and St. Leo the Great. He was also widely known for his frequent visits to the sick and imprisoned. In 1547, he accompanied the Bishop of Augsburg to

the Council of Trent as a theological aide. After these sessions, he promoted the Catholic revival in which he helped strengthen and renew the Catholic faith in response to the Protestant Reformation. Peter spent much of his life in Germany. He taught theology at the University of Ingolstadt and soon after became rector and vice-chancellor. He was best known for his writings of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1555–58) that explained the faith in a way that ordinary people could understand. He established colleges at Munich (1559), Innsbruck (1562), Dillingen (1563), Würzburg (1567), Augsburg, and Vienna. St. Peter also attracted large crowds who were eager to hear his extraordinary sermons on the gospel. He spent the last years of his life in Switzerland. In 1591, he had a stroke; but he continued to write with the aid of his secretary until his death became near. He died with his community surrounding him on December 21, 1597. St. Peter Canisius was canonized and professed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI in 1925.

Prayer to St. Peter Canisius

Dear Doctor and Defender of the Catholic Church, to you the Master must have said: "Well done, composer of books which have taught and inspired countless persons in many lands." Help those who compose catechisms to communicate the true teachings of Christ in ways that can be understood by our contemporaries so that they will be moved to follow Jesus. Amen.