

Our Lady  
of



Fatima

Vol. 4 No. 12

PARISH NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER,

## DAUGHTERS OF SAINT PAUL CONCERT PLACES GUESTS INTO CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Our Lady of Fatima Parish was blessed with “A Merry Little Christmas Concert” with the **Daughters of Saint Paul Choir** on November 29. The auditorium was filled with guests as Father Paul welcomed everyone and invited them to sit back and enjoy the concert as they entered into the Advent season.

The audience joined in when requested by the choir for numerous selections such as *Silver Bells*, *Jingle Bells*, and *The Christmas Star*, *Happy* and the *Christmas Medley* at the close of the concert. **Sister Fay Pele, FSP** sang *The Christmas Star* as gold stars were raised up high by audience members. Sister explained before her solo that this song was a “prayer of gratitude.” *Peace on Earth* and *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* was led by **Sister Maria Kim Bui** with a calypso beat, she explained that these songs were songs of peace. During these songs images were projected on the monitor of people of different world cultures. The Choir members had a great sense of humor and brought much joy to the audience. There were few dry eyes in the room for the song *Angels Among Us*. The sisters walked throughout the auditorium as they sang, greeting the guests, and reminding them through the lyrics to always minister to one another, and to bear one another’s burdens. The audience was asked to remember that Our Father in Heaven loves us and that we should continue to ask for His grace and mercy. *Joy to the World*, was sung with another solo by Sister Fay Pele, retro style, first like Mahalia Jackson and then as the rest of the choir joined in they put on sunglasses and peace sign necklaces and sounded like the Three Dog Night version of the seventies. There were plenty of smiles and a great deal of laughter, especially when they sang *Happy*. The children were invited to join the choir on stage for the Christmas Medley.

The Sisters of Saint Paul had a selection of CD’s DVD’s and books for sale and were happy to converse with the guests after the concert.

The parish family would like to thank **Cora Verdadero**, coordinator of the concert for her stewardship, as well as all of the underwriters and volunteers who helped make the concert a success. God bless you.

Mary and Joseph both answered God’s call in their life. They said yes to God despite any anxiety they felt and despite knowing that their life would be filled with many challenges. Will you say YES to God by serving as a priest or religious? Will you do this despite your own anxiety and fears? Will you do this knowing that the life will be challenging? If so, call the Vocations Office @ (732) 562-2453 or e-mail us at [vocations@diometuchen.org](mailto:vocations@diometuchen.org). Or you can visit our website at [www.diometuchen.org/vocations](http://www.diometuchen.org/vocations)

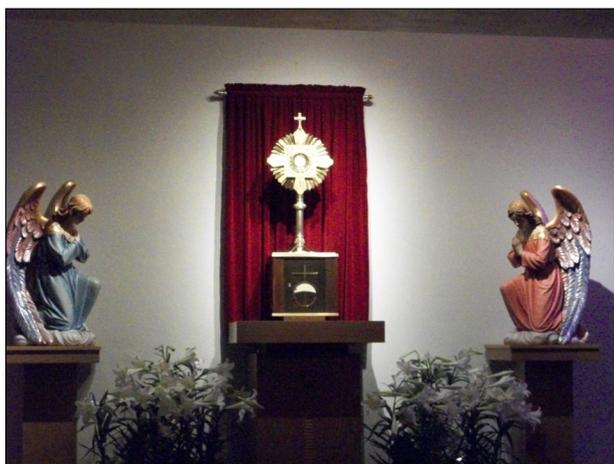
December 8, 2016

The **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** was also the **15th Anniversary of the Adoration Chapel**

### WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?

Thanks to over 260 guardians who stay with Jesus all through the day and night and their coordinators. Their presence allow visitors to come and go, to stay as long as they would like. They come in times of need, and also to give thanks for the blessings they have received.

Eucharistic Adoration is the respect and worship we give to Jesus, who is truly present to us under the appearance of bread and wine. The Eucharist is our priceless treasure. By praying before the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass we are enabled to make contact with the very well-spring of grace. As St. Alphonsus Ligouri noted, "of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." Jesus, the God-Man, is alive and truly present in the Eucharist - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. By spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist, we are able to establish a truly personal relationship with Him. We feel His presence with us in every moment of every day. We become much better witnesses to Christ's teachings because He strengthens our relationship with Him through our adoration. Jesus truly becomes the center of our lives.



## Thanksgiving Day



Jessica, Sanjay, Gail, Angelica and Joel

**There is a public Holy Hour for Vocations every 1st Friday in the Adoration Chapel 7-8 PM.**

For those of you who do not know where the chapel is, it is located around the corner from Our Lady of Fatima Church, 50 Van Winkle Place.

**Is Jesus important enough to you to set aside one special hour each week to be with Him?**

Just one hour once a week is all that He is asking. Your willingness to choose an assigned hour is a precious expression of your faith that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is welcomed, loved, and adored by you. Don't be afraid to take a fixed hour for fear that there may be times that you can't make it. Substitutes are available and coordinators to help you.

**Come! Spend One Hour Each Week With JESUS!**

Just think of the words from Scripture: "You have nothing whatsoever to fear from Him. Get up. He is calling you!" Mk 10:50). So pick up the phone and call **Gerry 732-266-4145 or Pat 732-752-4479**

#### **Publisher**

Rev. Arlindo Paul Da Silva  
Pastor

#### **Editor**

Pat Lorenc

#### **Staff**

Jeanette Horai  
Sue Ellen Bibby  
Roberta Maurer

#### **Contributors**

David Sprayberry  
Monica Fernandes  
Keith Venturella

**Editor email** [babc4@verizon.net](mailto:babc4@verizon.net)

The Newsletter will be published  
**MONTHLY**

Heritage Day 2016



**Heritage Day was celebrated on Sunday, November 20,  
The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe at the 11:30 Mass.**

*Members of the Knights of Columbus led the procession from the cafeteria to the church, which included the procession of flags representing the USA, the Vatican and 31 different countries. The guest celebrant and homilist this year was His Excellency, The Most Reverend Bernardito C. Auza Titular Archbishop of Suacia, Apostolic Nuncio, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the Organization of American States.*



He spoke of the solemnity as being the end of the Church year as well as the end of the Jubilee year of Mercy. His homily focused on the readings of the day, especially the Gospel of Luke 23:35-43, referring to the beautiful statue of Jesus in the sanctuary as “Christ enthroned as King of Kings,” judging each of us. He asked the parishioners to think of all the persecuted Christians in the world; and asked,” that Our Holy Father Pope Francis calls on us to out to the battlefield. The what would the Lord tell us to do?” He stated Pope warns us not to fall into the “globalization of indifference.”

He explained that when we are healthy, and comfortable, we forget about others, something the Father never does, we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure, our hearts grow cold.

The Archbishop was delighted to see all of the flags representing our parish family. He called on our parish to be good witnesses to our Catholic faith as we share our different cultures and traditions with one another. He stated “Heritage Day is a day of gratitude for the parish of Our Lady of Fatima.”

A luncheon prepared and hosted by our parishioners followed the Mass. The Filipino-American Association donated special trays of Filipino food for the Archbishop which he appreciated and enjoyed.

The parish family is grateful to the Heritage Day Committee, and all who volunteered their time, talents and resources to make Heritage Day a great success. God bless you.



SISTER JOSEPH MARIA OF  
THE HOLY FAMILY, O.P.

*Monastery of  
Our Lady of the Rosary*

## KEEP THE FAITH ALIVE

### ‘THE LORD WAS CALLING ME TO A LIFE HIDDEN IN HIM.’

My vocation started with an out-of-the-blue question. Our parish youth director asked me, “When are you going to enter the convent?”

Me, a sister? It had never even crossed my mind! I had plans: go to college, get a good job, get married and have lots of kids.

But the thought soon came back: “Why not? What if the Lord is calling me?” I had to do something, because ignoring this idea was not working! I then deepened my prayer life through daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and more frequent confession.

Once, while I was alone in church, I looked around and thought of the many churches in the world where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament was left alone, longing for people to come visit him. I told Jesus I wanted to spend my life loving him and keeping him company.

After this, I searched for communities with perpetual adoration. As I learned about the cloistered life, I realized that the Lord was calling me to a life hidden in him.



Grand Knight **Keith Venturella** presenting a check to Christopher Bell of Good Council Homes from the Knights of Columbus Council #2544



**Rachel Eldridge, Melissa Martinez, Emily Satnowski, Ashley DeLair and Catherine Garcia** received their Bibles with their seventh grade classmates at the Presentation of the Bibles Service held on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The Bibles were presented by Fr. Paul to the students preparing for Confirmation and were a gift from the parish.