**MASSES FOR THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, January 9**
9:30am - Papa Joe (Esposito) - Alexandria, McKenzie & Ryan Crane Burke
11:30am - (Spanish) Deceased of the Valente & Trapani Families

**Tuesday, January 11**
8:00am - Son of Mike Chasman - Family of East Coast Electric
7:00pm - (Spanish) (Chapel) Harold & Kathryn Brion - Estate

**Wednesday, January 12**
8:00am - Alfoncina Borrelli - Jean Santangelo

**Thursday, January 13**
8:00am - John Fawkes - George Gleason

**Friday, January 14**
8:00am - Dominic Gray - Tom Petrillo & Rita

**Saturday, January 15**
4:00pm - People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

**Sunday, January 16**
9:30am - Angelo Orlando - Barbara Scarpa & Family
11:30am - (Spanish) People of the Parish, Living & Deceased

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**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, January 9**
9:00am - Rosary for Peace
1:15pm - HART Club Christmas Luncheon (Old Country Buffet)

**Monday, January 10**
7:00pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (HA)
Tuesday, January 11
7:00pm - Narcotics Anonymous (HA)
7:30pm - Bingo (341 Ridge Rd. E.)

**Wednesday, January 12**
11:00am - Bible Study (Urban Ctr.)
7:00pm - Prayer Meeting, Spanish (Urban Ctr.)

**Thursday, January 13**
5:30pm - Evening Prayer - (HA)
6:00pm - Youth Group (Youth House)
6:30pm - Holy Hour, Spanish (Chapel)

**Friday, January 14**
5:30pm - Faith Formation Class (Urban Ctr.)
3:00pm - RCIA (Urban Ctr.)

**Saturday, January 15**
11:00am - Rosary for Peace

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It is with great excitement that Becky Colon, Alex Cintron, and Tiffney Taylor begin as Holy Apostles Missionary Coordinators today. The main purpose of this position is to reach out directly to people with the Good News of God and His Love. Anyone who holds this position I am calling a Missionary Coordinator because they will help us to coordinate our own missionary call to befriend others and to reach out to them with God’s Love.

The position of Missionary Coordinator will significantly influence what we do and what we will be about at Holy Apostles now and into the future. It is my deep hope that each and every one of us will recognize our call to live this out in our lives.

This will entail significant sacrifice for us in two ways. First of all, it is not always easy to find the courage to do this... I am reminded of a conversation I read between the Lord and someone reluctant to act out of this call (In Father William Bausch’s book *The Word, In and Out of Season*, pages 288-289). It goes like this:

“And the Lord said, “Go”.
And I said, “Who Me?”
And he said, “Yes, you.”
And I said, “But I’m not ready yet, and there is company coming, And I can’t leave my family. You know that there is no one to take my place.”
And He said, “You're stalling.”
And yet a third time, the Lord said, “Go.”
And I said, “I don’t want to.”
And He said, “I didn’t ask you if you wanted to.”
And I said, “Listen,” I’m not the kind of person to get involved in arguments. Besides, my family won’t like it. And what will the neighbors think?”
And He said, “Baloney.”
And yet a third time, the Lord said, “Go.”
And I said, “Do I have to?”
And He said, “Do you love Me?”
And I said, “Look, I’m scared. People are going to hate me and cut me into little pieces. And I can’t take it all by myself.”
And He said, “Where do you think I will be?”
And the Lord said, “GO.”
And I sighed, “Here I am send me.”
Con’t - If this is any indication of the reality, and I think it is, otherwise we would have done this by now – we need to pray for the grace to have a new courage to do this.

The second and other reason this will be difficult and a sacrifice for us is because as different people are invited and come to Church, their presence will demand something new from us. They may inadvertently take our accustomed seats and even more deeply they may require or need different ministries, messages, kinds of music, etc. than we currently have, in order to feel that this really could be their spiritual home...

We all have a missionary call from our Baptism to witness to others that we are all “beloved of God!” Those who hold the position of Missionary Coordinator at Holy Apostles not only will do this but they will help us as a faith community to do the same.

Try to imagine how challenging this position might be and welcome our Missionary Coordinators with open arms… Be helpful to them, pray for them and ask them how you can assist them… Be good to them, really intercede for them and be ready to help them. …And if we do I know that God will bless us all!

- Fr. Tony

A WORD OF THANKS AND HOPE – 2010 comes to a close and we begin a new year. It is a time to look back and reflect back on this past year and to look ahead at the new year with a vision of hope and anticipation.

I thank God for the many blessings and graces that he sent my way in 2010. I am blessed with a loving family and good health. I am blessed to be a deacon at Holy Apostles with so many loving and generous parishioners sharing the gifts and graces that come from Our Lord. God has touched me in a special way for the opportunity to serve alongside a staff with so many God-given talents and the desire to make a difference in the lives of others. While there is so much to be thankful for in the midst of the joys and blessings, last year was also one that reminded us that there is still sadness and concern for the problems that beset our community and our world.

Violence still grips our neighborhoods. Poverty remains to be a concern for so many. Children go without, many unwanted and unloved.

Con’t - Families become separated. People are out of work and the cost of almost everything seems to go higher and higher. Many struggle to make ends meet and simply try to live day by day. So the question for 2011 is “In what new ways can we better serve God by sharing our blessings and graces to make life a little easier for those who have less than we do”?

I was truly inspired by a story in the Sunday paper of December 26. It was about Josh Hamilton, an outfielder with the Texas Rangers baseball team recently named the MVP of his league. Josh, his wife and three daughters began a new tradition this Christmas. Each daughter would receive only one gift under the tree each Christmas. Later, they would go to a homeless shelter to visit those who were lucky to receive anything at all. Josh and his wife are teaching their daughters the true spirit of what Christmas is. Josh said, “God gave his Son for us, and we can never do anything to repay him for that. But it taught us to give to others and to love others, and that’s what the spirit is about.” What a beautiful message of giving back to God by helping others and it came from a ballplayer who at one time was down at the bottom of life once addicted to drugs and alcohol. Josh turned to scripture to turn his life around and committed himself to glorifying God.

I hope and pray that we too can help breathe a new spirit of life into our parish and to find new, creative ways to be there for others and one another, not only in our parish but in our neighborhoods. Let us do what we can to show how much we care and that we pray that others will receive what we offer and have the desire to come and be with us. You are all very generous and caring parishioners already sharing your gifts from God. I pray that you will share new ideas of how we can all reach out to help those in need, those who are not as fortunate, as we seek to glorify God. May God bless you in this new year and always.

-Deacon John

Weekend Collection Reports:

Christmas - 12/24 & 25
OFFERING ATTENDANCE
$ 2,874.89 499

Sunday - Dec. 26
OFFERING ATTENDANCE
$ 1,888.66 207