Monday, January 2 St. Basil the Great &
St. Gregory Nazianzen
6:30 AM Marily Veritzen
9:00 AM Ricky Laun
Arlene Maresco

Tuesday, January 3
6:30 AM John Doherty
9:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of the
Robinson & Wupper Families

Wednesday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
6:30 AM Mildred Croker
9:00 AM Sisters of Charity at St. Barnabas

Thursday, January 5 St. John Neumann
6:30 AM Guiseppe Cipriano
9:00 AM Intentions of Ms Graziose & Her Family &
Daniel Campanelli (School Mass)

Friday, January 6
6:30 AM Myrna Donodeo
9:00 AM Patricia Reilly

Saturday, January 7
8:00 AM Thanksgiving to St. Ramon
Fr. Adrian 4:30 PM The People of Our Parish
Colleen Brosnan
Victor R. Caligiuri
Frances Maffetone
Maria Petlikar
Lawrence Rooney
Fr. Kevin 7:00 PM Charles Merritt Thomas

Sunday, January 8
The Epiphany of the Lord
Fr. Kevin 7:00 AM Ernestine D’Amato Mammone
Fr. Kevin 9:00 AM Lillian Rocco
Fr. Adrian 10:15 AM William Scott
Fr. Gus 10:30 AM Adeline & Peter Villella Jr.
Fr. Gus 12:00 PM Eugene, Lynda & Mary Sternkopf
Fr. Adrian 5:00 PM Anthony Cannone
Dear Parishioners,

At the threshold of a New Year in St. Barnabas we give thanks to all those who made our Christmas so beautiful and prayerful. Let’s give thanks and praise to our rectory office staff who assisted people with enquiries and helped schedule our liturgies and events. Thanks to our maintenance staff under the direction of Mr. John Nappi who did a tremendous job of decorating the Church and grounds. A special work of gratitude to Mr. Ken Yager for making the outdoor stable and to a local family who donated the Nativity pieces.

Thanks to Mr. Bill Dione along with our cantors Vickie & Al, the adult choir, the musicians, Ms. Sabina Lamb and the children’s choir who gave us the great gift of wonderful music. Thanks to our family liturgy group who helped coordinate the children’s liturgies and to our sacristans, altar servers, ushers and all who work behind the scenes. Our lectors proclaimed the readings with great joy and faith and our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion helped many people receive the Body of Christ with reverence and respect.

We are blessed to have St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School as our neighbor and we thank them for their joyful Advent and Christmas Services. We also thank the Bartholomew Funeral Home for donating the 2017 Calendars to our parish. These calendars are a gift to each of you so please take one as you leave Church.

With Fr. Charles and Fr. Kevin, I wish to thank the many parishioners who were so kind to us at Christmas. The cards, best wishes and personal gifts are appreciated and we are grateful for your thoughtfulness. Your support and encouragement of our priestly ministry is truly appreciated. We wish you and your families a continued Merry Christmas and many blessings for the New Year.

God Bless You and May God Bless Our Parish

Fr. Adrian
What’s Pastor Thinking?

A week has passed since we’ve celebrated Christmas and soon many people will be putting away the decorations, bringing down the Christmas tree, and returning …to a more routine way of life. Many people will soon be paying off those swollen credit cards, returning unwanted or ill-fitting gifts, and returning …to a more routine way of life. Many people will soon, once again, be setting aside thoughts of a God who humbled Himself and became man, setting aside reflections of who this God-man was and returning …to a more routine way of life.

Yes, the routine of life calls. It calls us back to busyness or idleness, to worries and concerns, to work and play, to joys and to sadness. However for us at St. Barnabas the Season of Christmas continues until Tuesday January 10th when we return to Ordinary Time. That’s what is great about being Catholic — Christmas is not over yet! For many it was just a one day secular holiday, an occasion for clear greed & shallow devotion. An excuse for round after round of parties & stolen kisses under the office mistletoe. Such people lose out on the true meaning and spirit of Christmas. They allow themselves to be distracted by what has become routine.

The story is told about a mother who was bargain shopping after Christmas with her young daughter. The malls were crowded and the mother was preoccupied with work at the office. She was also tired, hungry, her feet were hurting, and she was more than a little cranky. As they left the last store, she asked her daughter, ‘Did you see the nasty look that salesman gave me?’ Her daughter answered, ‘He didn’t give it to you, Mom. You had it when you went in!’

Catholics believe that by lingering a little longer at the Nativity we will deepen the peace and joy that is the true gift of Christmas. We want the meaning of Christmas to last more than just a day.

And what is that true meaning of Christmas? Here is a story to illustrate:

There once was a man who was reflecting on the meaning of Christmas one cold Christmas Eve in front of the fire. He could not understand why God would give up even one minute of bliss, one minute of glory, to come and be one like us. Why would God, who was almighty, omnipotent and sovereign, humble himself and become man? Suddenly, through the window of his lakeside cabin, he saw a gaggle of snow geese frantically honking and wildly flapping their wings amid the deep snow and frigid cold. They seemed dazed, confused and bewildered. Apparently, due to exhaustion, they had dropped out of a much larger flock migrating southward to a warmer climate. Moved with compassion, the man bundled himself up and went outside. He tried to "shoo" the shivering geese into the warm garage, but the more he shooed, the more distressed the geese became. "If they only realized that I’m trying to save them," he thought to himself. "How can I make them understand my concern for their well-being? How can I convince them that I’m trying to help them?" Then a thought came to him: "If for just a moment, I could become one of them, if I could become a snow goose and communicate with them in their own language, then I could tell them what it is I’m trying to do."

In an instant, the realization of what he had just said made the meaning of Christmas become a bit easier to understand: God became one like us to tell us - in simple terms that we could understand, as a human being - that He loves us now, and forever. That’s something worth celebrating all year round.
We Pray For Our Deceased
John J. Scalia
Benjamin C. Klinkowski
Ann D. Kurklen
Danielle M. Caputo
Adeline DeLuca
Joan A. Yodice

Bread & Wine
The Eucharistic Bread & Wine will be offered this week in loving memory of Patricia Reilly from the Sisters of Charity at St. Barnabas.

Sanctuary Lamp Candle
The Sanctuary Lamp will be lit this week in loving memory of Patty Brennan from Eadie Hellerman & Terry Adams.

Rectory Office
The office is closed on Sunday, January 1st and Monday, January 2nd in observance of New Year’s.

Second Collection This Week
Solemnity of Mary

Second Collection Next Week
Maintenance & Repair

We Pray for the Sick

The Week at a Glance

Sunday: Rectory Office Closed
Monday: Rectory Office Closed
7:30 PM Charismatic Group, HFC
Tuesday:
10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting, Rectory Meeting Room
1:00 PM Friendly Seniors, HFC
7:00 PM Baptism Class, Church
7:00 PM Catholic Daughters Mtg., School Cafeteria
7:30 PM Family Music, HFC
Wednesday:
7:00 PM Chosen, HFC
7:00 PM Rosary Making Group, School Cafeteria
7:30 PM Al-Anon, Rectory
7:30 PM RCIA, Convent
Thursday:
7:00 PM Chosen, HFC
1:30 PM Contemplative Prayer, Convent Meeting Room
7:00 PM Bible Study, Rectory
7:30 PM Contemplative Prayer, Convent Meeting Room
Friday:
1:30 PM Lectio Divina, Convent Meeting Room
7:30 PM Lectio Divina, Convent Meeting Room
8:00 PM Nocturnal Adoration, Church
Saturday:
12:30 PM Confessions, Church

Joseph Antonino Schramm
Markella Noelle Andrianas
Jack Thomas Priest

BAPTISM

Madison Elle Rezek
Finnian Walter McBride
Cassie Adelyn Jackson
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

The use of the word “Solemnity” here is not a statement about Mary’s personality. It is a designation used for certain days within the liturgical (church-based) calendar. Solemnities are the highest rank of liturgical celebration, higher than feast days or memorials. By celebrating a solemnity dedicated to Mary’s motherhood, the Church highlights the significance of her part in the life of Jesus.

Christ’s birth was made possible by Mary’s fiat, or sanctioning of God’s plan with her words, “Be it done to me according to thy word”. Calling Mary “Mother of God” is the highest honor we can give to her. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the “Prince of Peace”, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honors Mary as the “Queen of Peace”. Today, New Year’s Day, is designated as the “World Day of Peace.” Though New Year’s Day may seem more like a day for football and hangovers than for Mary, there’s a beautiful spiritual significance in celebrating her during the heart of the Christmas season.

Pope Paul VI, in his apostolic exhortation Marialis Cultus (1974), called the Solemnity of Mary “a fitting occasion for renewing adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels (cf. Lk 2:14), and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace.” Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for Us.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God –
January 1, New Year’s Day

New Year’s Day

New Year's Day which commonly celebrated in the modern West on at the beginning of the Roman calendar has not universally been celebrated on January 1st. The Jewish, Chinese, and other calendars still in use today identify different days as the beginning of the year. In history (ca. 2000 BC), Babylonians for instance celebrated the beginning of a new year on what is now March 23--the beginning of a new year coincided with the beginning of spring.

In fact, January 1 has no real astronomical nor agricultural significance. It can be argued to represent a purely arbitrary date. The Romans at first also observed New Year's Day on March 25, but the calendar changed so much at the hands of various emperors that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun. In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what was come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the new year. It's intriguing to realize that New Year's Day was celebrated on January 1 during Jesus's lifetime.

The early Church condemned the festivities around the Roman New Year's celebration as pagan. However, later the church began to offer alternative, religious observances on and around New Year's Day. The tradition of using a baby to signify the new year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. Although the early Christians denounced the practice as pagan, the popularity of the baby as a symbol of rebirth forced the Church to reevaluate its position. The Church finally allowed its members to celebrate the new year with a baby, which was to symbolize the birth of the baby Jesus.
Leader: Our lives are made of days and nights, of seasons and years, for we are part of a universe of suns and moons and planets. We mark ends and we make beginnings and, in all, we praise God for the grace and mercy that fill our days.

Then the Scripture is read

Listen to the words of the Book of Genesis:

God said: “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth.” And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

After a short silence, parents may place their hands on their children in blessing:

Remember us, O God; from age to age be our comforter. You have given us the wonder of time, blessings in days and nights, seasons and years. Bless your children at the turning of the year and fill the months ahead with the bright hope that is ours in the coming of Christ. You are our God, living and reigning, forever and ever. R/. Amen.

A prayer for peace:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

The leader says: Let us bless the Lord.

All respond, making the sign of the cross: Thanks be to God.

The prayer may conclude with the singing of a Christmas carol.

—from Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers
Nocturnal Adoration
First Friday, January 6th at 8:00 PM in the Church.

Many Thanks from Social Ministry
Many, many thanks to all who contributed to our Parish Social Ministry for Christmas. With your help, we were able to provide 70 families with food, gifts and gift cards. Your response to our neighbors' needs was tremendous. God bless you for your kindness and generosity.

A special thank you to the many organizations that made Christmas donations; Boy Scout Troop 580, Girl Scout Troop 957, New Vision Pioneers, Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary, Catholic Daughters of the Americas Seton # 2413, our Regional School, SEAS, the North Bellmore Library, Kiwanis and our St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Last, but certainly not least, a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers who worked so hard to make Christmas special for the many people we serve. Thank you so much!

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Today is the feast of Mary, Mother of God. Like Mary may we always treasure the event in our life and reflect on them in our heart. Please remember to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 2017 so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering. May the peace and joy of the New Year be yours! May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us forever.

Friendly Seniors
The St. Barnabas Friendly Seniors meets on Tuesday, January 3rd at 1:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
The next meeting of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Mother Seton #2413 will be held on Tuesday, January 3rd at 7:00 PM in the school cafeteria. For further information call Jackie at 781 – 7846 after 7:00 PM.

Rosary Making Group
The Rosary Making Group welcomes new members. We meet every Wednesday, from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in the school cafeteria. Please call Melissa at 221-9821 if you are interested in joining.

Cub Scout Fun & Faith Day
A special morning of prayer, handicrafts, games and a patch, Saturday, January 21st at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Brookville, 8:30 AM - 12 Noon. For information contact the Catholic Scouting Office at 678-5800 ext. 245.

Girl Scout Religious Award
The next meeting for Brownies, Juniors and 6th grade Cadettes working on their Girl Scout religious awards will be Saturday, January 7th in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School cafeteria. Brownies working on the Ave Maria and Family of God will meet at 3:00 PM Those working on the Regina Coeli award will meet at 2:30 PM and those working on I Live My Faith will meet at 3:00 PM.

Blue Mass
All police officers, firefighters and EMS personnel are invited to attend Blue Mass on Sunday, January 15th at 9:30 AM at St. Rose of Lima Church, Massapequa. Those who attend in uniform are invited to participate in the opening procession, (please come 10 minutes early). There will be a blessing of emergency vehicles. A reception with light refreshments will follow Mass in the auditorium.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia Assistance
Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s disease or another dementia can be very challenging and stressful. You don’t have to do it alone. Willing Hearts, Helpful Hands provides free in-home consultations, support groups, education and training programs, respite scholarships for in-home assistance, adult day services or overnight stays, access to volunteer caregiver companions and memory cafes. This initiative is supported by a grant from the New York State Department of Health and by Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation. Services are free and available to anyone caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias living in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. For information call 586-1507.
Help Wanted
A Sacrament Program Administrator is needed at St. Raphael’s Parish in East Meadow. This is a full-time position, applicants should be pleasant and welcoming, a team player, and possess the ability to be self-motivated and flexible. Knowledge of the Catholic faith and its tenets is a plus. Computer skills are required - Microsoft Programs, and Internet. Send resume to KAL714@aol.com.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Attention married couples, looking for the perfect Christmas present? Give the gift of a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Give your spouse a gift like no other - time for each other, rediscover your love and enhance your hopes and dreams. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter is right in time for Valentine’s Day, February 10th - 12th at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington. Call 1-877-697-9963 for information.

St. Barnabas Choir
The St. Barnabas Choir is seeking new members. Altos especially needed, but all voices are welcome. No audition required, just the desire to share your talents with our congregation. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM in the Church, and we sing at the 10:30 AM Sunday Masses in addition to some special events during the year. Call the rectory and ask for Bill Dione.

The Impact of Addiction
Join us for an evening of Help Hope & Compassion on Thursday, January 26th at 6:30 PM, at the Brookside School Auditorium located at 1260 Meadowbrook Rd, N. Merrick. The event includes Guest Speakers, Resource Fair, Prevention, Sign & Symptoms, Treatment Options, Personal Stories, Advocacy and a Q&A Panel. For more information call Susan Ellinghaus at 992-1082.

Bereavement Support Groups
Good Shepherd Hospice Bereavement Services are opened, at no charge, to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death. Upcoming Bereavement Support Groups, led by a Bereavement Specialist include: Spousal/ Partner Loss Support Group - January 18th - March 8th, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Adult Loss of Parent or Sibling Support Group - January 18th - March 8th 6:45 PM - 8:15 PM. Both groups will meet at Mercy Medical Center at 100 North Village Ave. in Rockville Centre. Registration is required, please call 828-7629.

Respect Life
Please join us on our bus trip to Washington, DC on Friday, January 27th to participate in this powerful, life-changing event. For details contact Vin Murray at 781-7846. March for Life Mission Statement - “The mission of the March for Life is to provide all Americans with a place to testify to the beauty of life and the dignity of each human person.”

Something to think about - “I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to innocent life. In the same way, however, I can and must state that there is no sin that God’s mercy cannot reach and wipe away when it finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with the Father.” ~Pope Francis, “Mercy and Misery”, Apostolic Letter, November 20, 2016.
Seven Catholic Resolutions for the New Year

1. Go to Daily Mass one extra day per week. The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." If you are not already a Daily Mass attendee, resolve to attend just one more Mass each week.

2. Add a new prayer to your prayer routine. There are so many ways of incorporating more prayer in your life: Daily Mass, the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Noon-time Angelus- the list is endless. Make a commitment today that will be achievable - even if the only commitment is to pray one single Our Father each day.

3. Read the scriptures. If you are new to reading the Bible - begin with the Gospel of John and commit to reading for 10 minutes.

4. Begin a spiritual journal. Journal your prayers, struggles, quotes, petitions, blessings and more. Reflecting upon a completed journal allows us to see how the Lord has moved in our life over a period of time.

5. Forgive. Holding a grudge? Angry and upset about the way your parents/husband/children/friends/boss/etc. treat you? Holding on to unforgiveness is hurting only one person - you. This New Year resolve to forgive those who have hurt you. It is difficult to withhold forgiveness when you meditate on the life and death of Jesus. A great way to start is to write a letter to the person who has hurt you (you don't have to actually send it). In the letter, be specific about what you are forgiving that person for. When you have completed the letter, place the person in the Lord's hands and let them go.

6. Go to confession. It's not easy to sit before another person and state, without excuses, all your failings, weaknesses and shortcomings. But the grace that is available brings healing, freedom and wholeness. Do not be afraid to go to confession - even the Pope does it. If you have been away from the Sacrament for awhile, ask a friend to go with you. Find a priest that you think you would be comfortable with and explain that you are unfamiliar/uncomfortable/uneasy or just plain afraid - he can help with the mechanics of the Sacrament. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind your sins and then jump in with both feet. You will be relieved, elated, and joyful afterwards. Don't wait - the Lord's mercy is the most amazing gift!

7. Make friends with a saint. The saints are role models for living lives according to God's plan and powerful intercessors before the throne of the Lord in heaven. This year, resolve to learn about one new saint in a deep way - read their writings, watch videos about their lives, strive to identify and imitate their heroic virtue, and pray to them for their intercession.

We ask God’s grace and blessing on all our resolutions for the New Year, 2017.

St. Barnabas Parents Night
For Parents of Children Attending Religious Education & Catholic School

Tuesday, January 10th
7 to 8PM Holy Family Chapel

God is the Answer

Presenter: Nolan Reynolds
Campus Ministry at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School
Parent & Child Program

For children ages 2-3 years old. Our Time is a class where a child with a parent can become familiar with the classroom environment while singing songs, doing crafts, reading books, and celebrating God’s love together.

- Class sessions are offered on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM from September through June at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School.
- Our Time is an affordable way to introduce your child to the classroom environment without the worry of being separated.
- It allows for the child to be comforted with a parent’s presence and prepare for entering Pre-K.
- Our Time is taught by Mrs. Sabina Lamb. Mrs. Lamb is also the leader of the Family Liturgy Music Ministry. Contact Sabina Lamb 781-9834

Next Chosen for Level 7 Wednesday January 4
Level 7 Thursday January 12
Level 8 Thursday January 5
Level 8 Wednesday January 11

Some Important Dates
January 10, 2017 Parent’s Night
January 13, 2017 Confirmation Packet Due
Saturday, January 21, 2017 Confirmation Retreat
February 11 and 12 Rite of Enrollment
Monday, May 22, Sacrament of Confirmation

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School
2341 Washington Ave,
Bellmore, NY 11710
www.steas.com
Call us at 785-5709

Faith Formation

- Monday, December 26 – Monday, January 2, 2017 – NO CLASSES
- Tuesday, January 3 – Classes Resume
- Tuesday, January 10 – Parent Meeting – 7 – 8 pm in the Holy Family Chapel with Nolan Reynolds, Campus Ministry at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School.
- Monday, January 16 – NO CLASSES – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

With the winter weather approaching we are looking for volunteers to help with the Religious Education Program. We need Hall Monitors and Substitute Catechists to cover when someone calls in sick. Please contact the Office of Christian Formation 785-0130 for more information.

Please remember to check the Religious Education website regularly to keep up to date on what’s happening in Religious Education.
Dear Parishioners.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School is proud to honor the following exceptional people at the 2017 SEASON to Believe Gala.

Father Gregory Cappuccino – Pastor of St. Frances de Chantal
Laurie & Jim Graham – Faith Formation Committee
Laurie & John Murray Jr. – Faith Formation Committee
Lyn Ryan – Administrative Assistant to Ms. Graziose

As a permanent remembrance of each Gala, a 16 x 20 Scroll of Honor is professionally printed, framed and prominently displayed in the School’s lobby. The success of the Gala depends upon the generosity of our donors. Please consider purchasing a donation for the Scroll of Honor. The donation levels for the Scroll of Honor are:

**Grand Marquis** - $1,500

**Marquis** - $1,000 * **Diamond** - $500 * **Platinum** - $300

**Gold** - $200 * **Silver** - $125 * **Bronze** - $75

Please return the bottom half of this form with your level of donation.
If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Romanelli at 457-0558 or seasgalafeb@gmail.com. All Scroll donations need to be in by January 20, 2017.
What is National Catholic Schools Week?
The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2017 is “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.” Here at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton we observe the annual celebration week with Masses, an open house and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, we focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

Come see how a Catholic education will change your child’s life...

OPEN HOUSE
January 29th
11AM - 1PM
2341 Washington Ave,
Bellmore NY

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Regional School is a Middle States Accredited Parochial School for Nursery through 8th Grade Children providing a top quality education for thousands since 1992. We offer an Early Childhood Program that consists of Half-Day Nursery, Half and Full Day Pre-K and Kindergarten, as well as ‘Our Time’ a Two-Year Old Child and Parent Transitional Program. ‘SEAS’ provides a comprehensive curriculum that includes: Language, Music, Art, Computer Technology, Academic Intervention Services, Sports, Clubs & After School Enrichments, and After School Care. SEAS strives to create a nurturing educational environment of Academics, Faith, and Service. We are conveniently located in Bellmore. At SEAS we learn and grow in Respect, Responsibility, and Reverence.
Pope Francis’ Message of Peace

“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!” (Lk 2:14).

Today this message goes out to the ends of the earth to reach all peoples, especially those scarred by war and harsh conflicts that seem stronger than the yearning for peace.

Peace to men and women in the war-torn land of Syria, where far too much blood has been spilled. Above all in the city of Aleppo, site of the most awful battles in recent weeks, it is most urgent that assistance and support be guaranteed to the exhausted civil populace, with respect for humanitarian law. It is time for weapons to be still forever, and the international community to actively seek a negotiated solution, so that civil coexistence can be restored in the country.

Peace to women and men of the beloved Holy Land, the land chosen and favoured by God. May Israelis and Palestinians have the courage and the determination to write a new page of history, where hate and revenge give way to the will to build together a future of mutual understanding and harmony. May Iraq, Libya and Yemen – where their peoples suffer war and the brutality of terrorism – be able once again to find unity and concord.

Peace to the men and women in various parts of Africa, especially in Nigeria, where fundamentalist terrorism exploits even children in order to perpetrate horror and death. Peace in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, so that divisions may be healed and all people of good will may strive to undertake the path of development and sharing, preferring the culture of dialogue to the mindset of conflict.

Peace to women and men who to this day suffer the consequences of the conflict in Eastern...
Ukraine, where there is urgent need for a common desire to bring relief to the civil population and to put into practice the commitments which have been assumed.

We implore harmony for the dear people of Colombia, which seeks to embark on a new and courageous path of dialogue and reconciliation. May such courage also motivate the beloved country of Venezuela to undertake the necessary steps to put an end to current tensions, and build together a future of hope for the whole population.

Peace to all who, in different areas, are enduring sufferings due to constant dangers and persistent injustice. May Myanmar consolidate its efforts to promote peaceful coexistence and, with the assistance of the international community, provide necessary protection and humanitarian assistance to all those who gravely and urgently need it. May the Korean peninsula see the tensions it is experiencing overcome in a renewed spirit of cooperation.

Peace to those who have lost a person dear to them as a result of brutal acts of terrorism, and to those who have sown fear and death into the hearts of so many countries and cities.

Peace – not merely the word, but a real and concrete peace – to our abandoned and excluded brothers and sisters, to those who suffer hunger and to all the victims of violence. Peace to exiles, migrants and refugees, to all those who in our day are subject to human trafficking. Peace to the peoples who suffer because of the economic ambitions of the few, because of the sheer greed and the idolatry of money, which leads to slavery. Peace to those affected by social and economic unrest, and to those who endure the consequences of earthquakes or other natural catastrophes.

Peace to the children, on this special day on which God became a child, above all those deprived of the joys of childhood because of hunger, wars or the selfishness of adults.

Peace on earth to men and women of goodwill, who work quietly and patiently each day, in their families and in society, to build a more humane and just world, sustained by the conviction that only with peace is there the possibility of a more prosperous future for all.
St. Barnabas Church Door

BOOKS   CDs   DVDs

The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence

Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales

Life Lessons by Patrick Mahoney

The Prayer That Heals by Francis Macnutt

Prayerfulness by Robert J. Wicks

A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23 by W. Phillip Keller

Bible Verses & Promises: Coloring Art by Stormie Omartian

The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children by Stormie Omartian

Finding True Happiness by Fulton Sheen

365 Read-Aloud Bedtime Bible Stories

What on Earth Am I Here For? by Rick Warren

The Circle Maker by Mark Batterson
What town did Jesus grow up in?
Trace the letters below.

Help the family get to Egypt.

Nazareth

King Herod was looking for
the Baby who would be king.

Find the hidden objects in the picture.

Connect the dots.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
Joseph took Mary and Jesus back home, to the district of Galilee. What town did they settle in?

Write these words in alphabetical order in the shapes below. Write the letters from the circles in order on the lines at the bottom.

place  crown  angel  south  apple  where  beach  azure

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. What was his message?

The words below are written backward, right to left. Rewrite them correctly on the lines.

ekat ,pu teG”
dna dlihC eht
rehtom siH
ot epacse dna
doreH rof ,uoy llet I litnu ereht yatS .tpygE
“miH llk ot dlihC eht rof hcares ot gniog si
“If you take Jesus and go to Egypt, you will be safe, and you will return and bring me word of his safe return.”

Joseph took Mary and Jesus by night to Egypt.

Find the path of shapes that reaches Egypt. You may make only straight moves, no diagonal ones.

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord again appeared to Joseph in a dream. What did the angel say this time?

Use this list to add the missing parts to the words below.

wh  we  et  nd
de  mo  Is  th
try  ke  ta  Chi
Id  u  fe  g

“Go  ke the Chi  and His  ther an  o to the la  of
rael, for ose  re  ing
to the Id’s li are ad.”