

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes

(Formerly St. Mary's Parish, 1870-1910)

Newton/Needham, Massachusetts

Newton & Needham's Oldest Roman Catholic Parish

Syriac-Rite Catholic Community: Our Lady of Mesopotamia



December 14th, 2014 in the Year of Grace
Gaudete Sunday

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Parish Directory Information	Page 2
Parish Mass Schedule	Page 2
Pastor's Note	Page 3
Catholic Faith	Pages 4-5
Religious Education	Page 5
Parish Announcements	Pages 6
Latin Mass Propers in English	Page 7
Music Program for this Sunday	Page 8
Calendar of Masses for the Week ...	Page 9
Prayer List for the Sick	Page 10
Military Service Prayer List	Page 10
Requiescant in Pace	Page 10

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish

270 Elliot Street Newton, MA 02464

Parish Staff

PASTOR: FATHER CHARLES JEREMIAH HIGGINS

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: MR. DAVID ALLEN

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: JEAN JOHNSON (DIRECTOR)

PATTI STROM (LATIN MASS CHILDREN'S CATECHISM)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: MRS. BOBBIE HOFFMANN

PARISH & CEMETERY SECRETARY: MARGIE BIBBO

FIRST SACRISTAN: MANNY GOGUEN

SECOND SACRISTAN: ANGELUS DAVULIS

SACRISTANS: FRANCIS GALLAGHER, TOM GOGUEN,

PETER GOGUEN, JONATHAN PHILLIPS, EARL SMITH

SEXTON: SEAN WARD (RET. CEMETERY SUPERINTDT.)

PARISH/CEMETERY BUSINESS OFFICE: SHARON HOGAN

Telephones

Parish Office: 617-244-0558 / FAX 617-965-4815

Email: miol@parishmail.com

Website: www.maryimmaculatenewton.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MIoLnewton



Parish Cemetery of Saint Mary's, Needham GUARDIAN ESTATE MANAGEMENT INC.

Mr. Ron Goguen, Superintendent .

Guardian Staff on-site for service hours Mon.-Fri.,
9 AM—3 PM, April through November.

The Cemetery Office is located at the parish
rectory on 270 Elliot St, Newton Upper Falls and is
open Monday-Friday, 8 AM—5 PM.

Telephone: 781-235-1841

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 4:00 PM (Saturday Vigil), 7:30 AM
9:00 AM, 10:30 AM (Traditional Latin), 5:30 PM

Weekdays: Mon.-Tues., Thurs.-Fri. 7:30 AM

Traditional Latin Low Mass:

Mon., Wed. & Fri., 12:30 PM; Thurs., 5:30 PM,
Sat. 9:00 AM.

Holy Days: if Mon-Fri., 7:30 AM., 12:30, 5:30 &
7:30 PM.; if on Saturday, 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

Christmas Eve: 4:00 PM & 12 Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

January 1st: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Upon request. Please contact Father Higgins.

Penance (Confession):

Saturday 8:30-9:00 A.M. and 3:30-4:00 PM
Sunday, before and after the 10:30 a.m. AM Mass,
Weekdays, before and after the Latin daily Masses

Matrimony:

Engaged couples should make arrangements with the
parish church so as to allow for adequate sacramental
preparation (six months), including a Pre-Cana program.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick (for those who are gravely ill or
facing serious surgery); **Communion of the Sick for
the Homebound:** Please contact Father Higgins.

DECEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY INFANCY



FRONT COVER: *The Lourdes Grotto inside our parish church, restored by parishioner Jeanette Pappin who painted a new backdrop to the statues in 2011. The scene shows the River Gave with the nineteenth century basilica which was built over the Massabielle and the grotto wherein Bernadette saw the Blessed Virgin Mary. (PHOTO by Paul Eldridge.)*

Pastor's Note

IRAQI CHRISTIAN REFUGEES, SIX MONTHS LATER

The Infancy Narratives of Christ which we recall during this time of year show us the distress of the Holy Family in their displacement. Joseph and Mary are caught in the upheaval of a Roman census taking, and therefore away from their home village of Nazareth in an overcrowded city of Bethlehem at the time of

Mary's delivery. Because there was no room for them at the inn, Christ is born in a cave used for keeping animals and laid in a manger. Then, soon after, the Holy Family has to flee into Egypt to escape Herod's soldiers, and there they remain, in exile, for many years.

This summer the Iraqi Christian population of the Ninevah province was displaced *en masse* by the marauders of the so-called ISIS. We had a glimpse into the personal suffering of these people through our Iraqi community here at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. Many members of this community were originally from this part of Iraq and many had relatives and friends who were expelled.

In the Autumn edition of *One Magazine*, the Catholic Near East Welfare Association's official publication, the Cover Story is on the terrible conditions the Iraqi refugees from ISIS are living under. (*Exodus: Iraqi Christians Confront a Harsh Reality*, by Don Duncan; website—onemagazinehome.org)

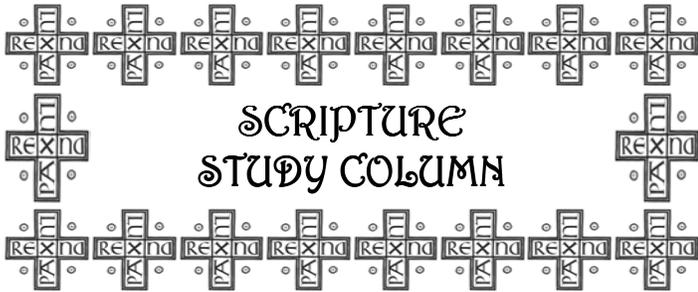
There was first the expulsion itself in the heat of August. The closest place of refuge was Iraqi Kurdistan. *"For the first week, many people were sleeping in churchyards without shelter, using each other's stomachs as pillows. They complained of the scourge of ants at night and of the strong beating sun during the day."*

The people have been rendered destitute: *"For now, most of the families are surviving on aid from the churches and a small number of NGOs and international aid organizations. The response, however, has been slow. Many of the Christians interviewed for this article spoke of a feeling of being forgotten or neglected by the world."*

"Emigration is not an option I am choosing," says a 21 year-old Christian man interviewed in the article. *"It is something we have to do...we can't remain living the way we are now. It is a choice that has been made for us."*

(Fr. Higgins)

KNOW YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH



GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE BIBLE STUDY (Luke 14:7-14) By David Allen

Jesus, having just healed the man with dropsy during dinner at a Pharisee's house, then comments on the behavior of His fellow guests, "noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table" (v. 7). Jesus instructs them in the following way in vv. 8-11:

"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Jesus does not present a strategy of self-promotion, but encourages the cultivation of humility. The message is essentially that of Our Lady's Magnificat: *"He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly"* (cf. Lk. 1:51-52).

Those who regard themselves as worthy of honor from God (such as the Pharisees) are mistaken. We deserve nothing from God, and the merits we attain are through His grace. Notice that the humble man who takes the low seat is addressed as "friend," while the one who chooses a high place for himself is not addressed in this way. Thus, the glory and esteem that the humble man enjoys is precisely his familiarity with the master, not the honor of a high place for its own sake. Intimacy with Jesus should be the only glory we seek, because it is the only glory that matters. We can attain it with Mary through humility.

Jesus speaks about no ordinary dinner in this scenario, but a wedding feast. In view of the following parable (vv. 15-24), one could safely interpret this passage in reference to the Last Things. The wedding banquet represents heaven, which St. John calls the *"wedding feast of the Lamb"* (cf. Rev. 19:7, 9; 21:1-2). Thus, the host in this scenario is Jesus, and the guests represent all who are *"called to the supper of the Lamb."* When God honors the saints in heaven, their esteem for each other has no trace of vanity or competition. Rather, it is like the esteem we have for beloved family members and friends when they are honored. It does not induce pride, but love. It edifies us and gives glory to God. This is one reason (among many) that it is a good and wholesome thing to venerate the saints. We share the joy of their triumph, and in so doing, are inspired to strive for heaven, hoping for the same triumph.

In vv. 12-14, Jesus then exhorts his host to invite poor and sick people to his banquets, because they cannot hold a banquet for him in return. The rules of hospitality in the ancient world stressed reciprocity as a matter of reputation and honor. Jesus challenges His host not to seek the reciprocal honor of guests in this life, but to strive for eternal rewards *"at the resurrection of the righteous"* (v. 14). In heaven, the poor will have the supernatural wherewithal to honor their patrons from their earthly lives. Even if we do not invite the poor over for dinner, we are still bound to observe the law of charity in some form or other, and to seek heavenly merits. During this season when the retailers demand that we stockpile for ourselves, let us heed the words of Our Lord as related to us by St. Paul: *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35).



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY: "ACTS OF THE APOSTLES"

David Allen, our Pastoral Associate, hosts a weekly Bible Study on the Acts of the Apostles every Friday morning at 8:20 AM (after the 7:30 Parish Mass). The Bible Study meets in the Lower Rectory Conference Room (in rectory basement). It is an open group and all are welcome to attend.

Refreshments provided. Please bring your Bible.

Mr. David Allen is the lay Pastoral Associate for our parish of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. He is currently working towards a Master's Degree in Theological Studies (MTS) at St. John's Seminary.



Religious Education

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR 2014-2015

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th:

**Kindergarten-Grade 5: Lower Church Hall
8:30-10:00 AM**

**Grade 6-10 (Pre-Confirmation)
4:15-6:30 PM**

Sacrament of Penance offered today

Director: Jean Johnson

*Latin Mass Children's
Catechism: Patti Strom*



STEWARDSHIP



SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH AND THE WIDER CHURCH MISSION

"What return can I make to the Lord for all His kindness to Me?"

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23rd, A.D. 2014:
SUNDAY OFFERTORY \$5,156.00 + \$1,585.00
(other offerings) = \$6,741.00**

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30th, A.D. 2014:
SUNDAY OFFERTORY \$4,960.00 + \$1,102.00
(other offerings) = \$6,008.00**

**SECOND COLLECTION FOR
RETIRED RELIGIOUS SISTERS WHO HAVE
WORKED IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
BOSTON: \$2,485.00**



**COLLECTION AT CHRISTMAS MASSES:
CLERGY FUNDS FOR THE SICK AND
RETIRED PRIESTS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE
OF BOSTON**

PARISH FELLOWSHIP



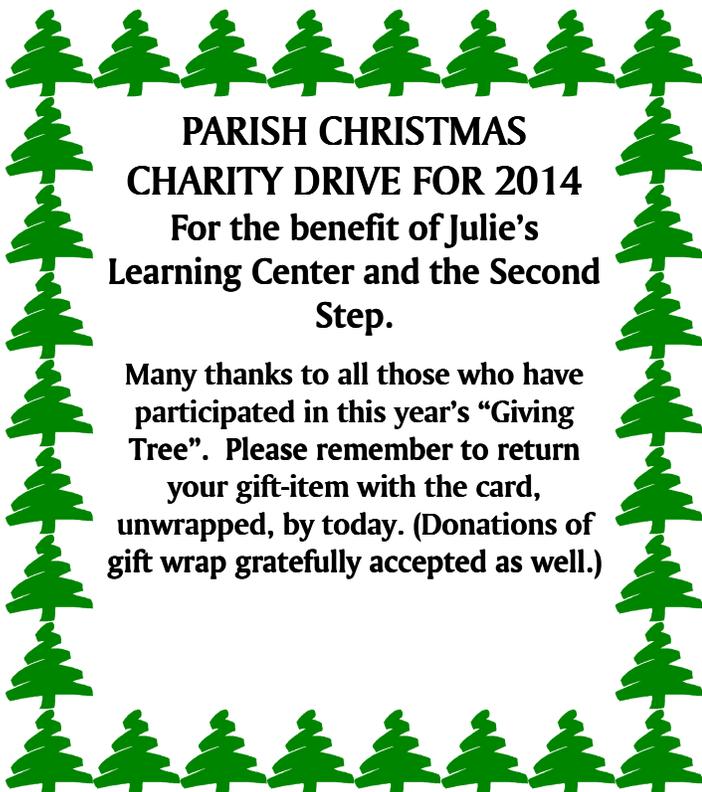
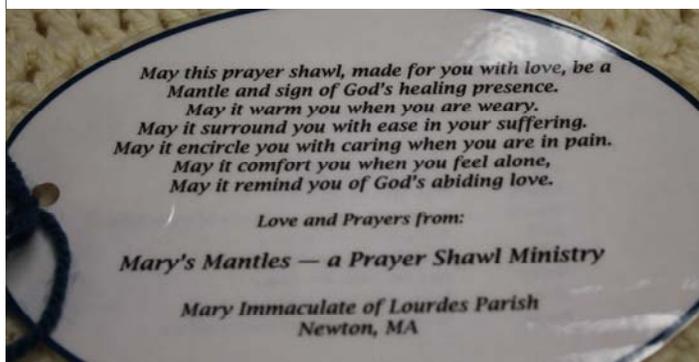
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DOWNSTAIRS EACH
SUNDAY AFTER THE 10:30
LATIN MASS.**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mary's Mantle Prayer Shawl Ministry: Lower Rectory Conference Room, 2nd Sunday of the Month after the 10:30 AM MASS

This is a group of wonderful members of our parish who knit and crochet prayer shawls, lap robes, etc. We present these items to the housebound and sick of our parish. Please join us TODAY, Sunday, December 14th.



PARISH CHRISTMAS CHARITY DRIVE FOR 2014
For the benefit of Julie's Learning Center and the Second Step.

Many thanks to all those who have participated in this year's "Giving Tree". Please remember to return your gift-item with the card, unwrapped, by today. (Donations of gift wrap gratefully accepted as well.)

December 14th, A.D. 2014

Gaudete Sunday/The Third Sunday of Advent

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes, Newton/Needham, Massachusetts

SYRIAC RITE



OUR LADY OF MESOPOTAMIA MISSION: IRAQI CATHOLICS

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes is the host parish for the Syriac-rite Mission of Our Lady of Mesopotamia.

The Syriac-rite Liturgy of St. James comes out of the ancient Christian city of Antioch, 4th century A.D. The Mass is in Arabic and Aramaic but a booklet with English translation is provided. All are welcome to attend the Mass.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st, parishioner SERMED ASHKOURI, one of the lay-leaders of the Mission, will offer a presentation on RAISING AWARENESS OF IRAQI CHRISTIANS in the Lower Rectory Conference Room after the 10:30 AM Mass. All are welcome to attend.

Christmas Mass time to be announced.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Christmas Flower envelopes are in your pews and also at the entrance tables of the church. Donations to help defray the extra costs of our Christmas Flower decorations are gratefully accepted. If you would like your donation to be a memorial gift, there are spaces for the names of loved ones on the envelopes. Christmas Flower envelopes may be placed in the basket at Offertory time or dropped off at the parish office in the rectory.

LATIN MASS PROPERS: GAUDETE SUNDAY

INTROIT: Philippians 4: 4-6 Rejoice in the Lord always: again I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men: for the Lord is nigh. Be nothing solicitous: but in every thing by prayer let your petitions be made known to God. *Psalm 84: 2* Lord, Thou hast blessed Thy land: Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob. V. Glory be to the Father.

COLLECT Incline Thine ear to our prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord; and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation: Who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

EPISTLE: Philippians 4: 4-7 Brethren, Rejoice in the Lord always: again, I say, rejoice. Let your modesty be known to all men. The Lord is nigh. Be nothing solicitous: but in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasseth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GRADUAL: Psalm 79: 2-3, 2 Thou, O Lord, That sittest upon the Cherubim, stir up Thy might and come. V. Give ear, O Thou that rulest Israel: that ledest Joseph like a sheep. **ALLELUIA** Alleluia, alleluia. V. Stir up, O Lord, Thy might, and come to save us. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 1: 19-28 **At** that time the Jews sent from Jerusalem priests and Levites to John, to ask him: Who art thou? And he confessed, and did not deny; and he confessed: I am not the Christ. And they asked him: What then? Art thou Elias? And he said: I am not. Art thou the Prophet? And he answered: No. They said therefore unto him: Who art thou, that we may give an answer to them that sent us? What sayest thou of thyself? He said: I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord, as said the Prophet Isaias. And they that were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said to him: Why then dost thou baptize, if thou be not Christ, nor Elias, nor the Prophet? John answered them, saying: I baptize with water: but there hath stood one in the midst of you, whom you know not. The same is He that shall come after me, who is preferred before me: the latchet of whose shoe I am not worthy to loose. These things were done in Bethania, beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

OFFERTORY: Psalm 84: 2-3 Lord, Thou hast blessed Thy land: Thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob: Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of Thy people.

SECRET May the sacrifice of our devotion, we beseech Thee, O Lord, be always offered unto Thee: that it may both fulfil the end for which Thou didst institute this sacred mystery, and wonderfully work in us Thy salvation. Through our Lord.

Preface of Advent

COMMUNION: Isaias 35: 4 Say to the fainthearted, take courage and fear not: behold our God will come, and will save us.

POSTCOMMUNION We implore Thy mercy, O Lord, that these divine mysteries, by atoning for our sins, may prepare us for the coming festival. Through our Lord.

Music Programs for this Sunday's Masses

Mass of Pope Paul VI (1970 Missal)

Saturday Vigil, 4:00p.m.

Sunday 7:30 and 9:00a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Gaudete Sunday

Introit: Psalm 85

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known unto God."

Kyrie

Mass XVII Adventus

(Parish Hymnal No.152)

Responsorial Psalm

Gospel Acclamation

Credo I: (extra sheet)

Offertory: Ps 85 (84): 2-3a

"O Lord, You have blessed Your land, you have put an end to Jacob's captivity; You have forgiven the guilt of Your people."

Mass Setting: Mass XVII Adventus

Sanctus

"Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine, et tuam resurrectionem confitemur, donec venias."

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

Communion: Isaias 35:4

"Say: Take courage, you who are fainthearted, and do not fear; behold, our God will come and He will save us."

Post Communion Hymn

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

(Chant)

Recessional Hymn:

Behold! Behold He Cometh

(Parish Hymnal No.11)

Mass of St. Gregory the Great (1962 Missal)

Sunday, 10:30a.m.

Gaudete Sunday

Processional Hymn

Gaudete -Christus est natus

(Anonymous)

Asperges: Chant

Introit: Phil. 4:4-6; Ps. 84:2

"Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico gaudete. Modestia vestra nota sit omnibus hominibus: Dominus enim prope est. Nihil solliciti sitis: sed in omni oratione petitiones vestrae innotescant apud Deum. Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: accertisti captivitatem Iacob."

Ordinary Prayers:

Mass In Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes

(W.Marsh)

(Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei)

Gradual Ps. 79:2,3,2

"Qui sedes, Domine, super Cherubim, excita potentiam tuam, et veni. Qui regis Israel, intende: qui deducis velut ovem, Ioseph."
Alleluia: *"Alleluia, alleluia. Excita, Domine, potentiam tuam, et veni ut salvos facias nos. Alleluia."*

Offertory Ps. 84:2,3

"Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam: avertisti captivitatem Iacob: remisisti iniquitatem plebis tuae."

Offertory Hymn: O Gloriosa Virginum

(Parish Hymnal No.88)

Communion Hymn: Panis Angelicus

(César Franck P.1860)

Communion Verse: Is. 35:4

"Dicite: Pusillanimes confortamini, et nolite timere: ecce Deus noster veniet, et salvabit nos."

Recessional Hymn:

Behold! Behold He Cometh

(Parish Hymnal No.11)

Noon Angelus (Chant)

Calendar of Masses

(Intention of the Mass—Special Remarks—Requested by)

SATURDAY December 13th	4:00 PM	Ted Dada	Birthday Memorial	Mullen Family
SUNDAY December 14th <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>	7:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Pro Populo Leopoldo & Elisa Lancheros Castro John & Maria Centofanti Christopher Norwood Rev. Robert D. Smith Angie Boissoneault Hannah Rita Hickey Robert Quagan Anne Marie Lupien John Healy Barbara & John Caulfield Sarah Palmer Helen Reid	Memorial 63rd Wed. Anniv. 9th Anniversary 13th Anniversary Memorial 6th Anniversary Health of the Sick Memorial Year's Mind Memorial Memorial Month's Mind	John & Emma Reilly Maria Centofanti Rusnack Family Jeanne & Rene Boissoneault Judy Spaulding Lita Uilaoghaire Paul & Betsy Eldridge Anthony & Victoria Angelucci Palmer Family
MONDAY December 15th <i>Advent Feria</i>	7:30 AM 12:30 PM	Purgatorial Society of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish Commemoration of the Faithful Departed	Memorial Memorial	
TUESDAY December 16th <i>Advent Feria</i>	7:30 AM	William & Dorothy Wilson	Memorial	
WEDNESDAY December 17th <i>Ember Wednesday</i>	12:30 PM	Rev. Robert D. Smith	Memorial	
THURSDAY December 18th <i>Advent Feria</i>	7:30 AM 5:30 PM	Msgr. Francis Scully Marie Balter	Memorial Birthday Memorial	Bob Quinan Reilly Family
FRIDAY December 19th <i>Ember Friday</i>	7:30 AM 12:30 PM	Wanda Lempitski Ferris Family	Memorial	Dick Lempitski
SATURDAY December 20th <i>Ember Saturday</i>	9:00 AM 4:00 PM	All Souls Marie Carroll Corcoran Family Michael & Blanca Kenny Susan Goeller Intention of Donor	7th Anniversary Living & Deceased Special Intention	Annie Procopio Reilly Family Maria Centofanti

“Each Mass has an infinite, immense value that we can never fully understand.”

—St. John Marie Baptiste Vianney,

HEALTH OF THE SICK

“In every man there is Jesus, but in the sick we see Jesus twice.”—Padre Pio

For all those on our parish prayer list, especially for... Mary Mazzala, Mari Ransvik, Zena Ashcroft, Princess Mayeed, Pauline Dow, Genevieve Schmidt, Gabreille LaFleur, Raymond Boynton, Philip Dres, Virginia Samargdis, Leandra Scappaticci, Fr. Jerome Weber, Toula Dres, Paul Barry, Connie Slaughter, Harry Gonzalez, Jean Hey, Gregory Jean-Pierre, Kay Mullen, Sarah Bailey, Rina Martelli, Marie Geraci, David DeSantis, Anna Marie Crocker, Carol Fay, Pearl Rosenthal, Dave Welch, Catherine Morceau, Margaret Cutler, Andrew Mahowald, Emily Kwash, John DiMartinos, Lily Langway, Linden Yee, Gerry Mazzarella, Rocco Sozio, Sr. Giuseppina, Cecilia Sozio, Iolanda Imperiale, Pat Madden, Evelyn Rice, Jane Dippo, Tom Fell, Cynthia Adkins, Norman Sabbey, James McCloskey, Wendy Watts, Joseph F. Fresolo Sr., George Jay, Barbara Nyhen, Rev. Walter Cuenin, Ronald Orlando, Dominic Gundrum, Louis Komuves, Sr. , Catherine Granfield, Mary Adams, Hugh Doyle, Lorraine Orlando, Rob Quagan, Paul Wenger, Nathan Johnston, Janet Pino, Irene Campana, Maureen Nyhen, Francis McNary, Warren Yee, Betty Chrichi, Marie Rappazzini, Mary Trombetta, Helen Reid, Lois Ludwig, Paula Apothacary, Sam Adams III, Altair da Silva, Christina Kwash, Spagnuolo Family, Katie O’Connell, Janet Bourgeois, Lana Tomchik, Matthew Banks, Patrick Rainey, Judy Pederson, Ed Donovan, Danny O’Brien, Helen Donnelly, Priscilla Brossard, Mary Sims, Billy Hickey, Lee-Anne Ketchum, Arthur Nauss, Rod MacLeod, Monica Wellenstein, Teresa Tambunan, Mary Platt, Sean Monaghan, Sheila Whittle, Michelle Fay, Bobbie Hoffmann, Beverly Balconi, Martial Rainey, Dennis McCarthy, Edward Crestitelli, Erin Marie Fell, Dominic Cantillo, Theresa Higgins, Lita Uilaoghaire, Norman Alibrandi, Karen Starbird, Jack Buckley, Edward Fahey, Nancy Daly, Marie Schroter, Dorothy Alibrandi, Annie Procopio, Marie Danca, David Kase, Thaddeus Davulis, Andrew McCloskey, Barbara Sullivan, Lucia LoPresti, Polly Sullivan.



“I do not promise to make you happy in this life, but in the next”—Our Lady of Lourdes to St. Bernadette, February 18th, 1858

MILITARY SERVICE PRAYER LIST:

We remember all of our military servicemen and women, especially ...
Joseph Fresolo, U.S. Army (Afghanistan), Sgt. Troy Stemen, U.S. Army (Afghanistan), Mark Gaudet, Army Special Forces, Pierre K. Ripert, USN, Matthew Simard, 1st Lt., USMC (Afghanistan), Michael Simard, PFC, USMC, Brian Rainey, US Army (Afghanistan), Joseph Rainey, US Army, Sgt. Kevin James Howard, USMC (Afghanistan), Sgt. Brian Joseph Howard, USMC Afghanistan), Sgt. William J. Duggan, U.S. Army, 342nd Military Police Detachment, deployed to Afghanistan March, 2010; ; Sgt. 1st Class David Garduque; ;Sgt. Jeffrey R. Quinn, USMC; (Please let us know if you would like someone on active duty prayed for by name.)



Requiescant in Pace

Pray for the resurrection of:

**Helen Reid,
Month’s Mind**



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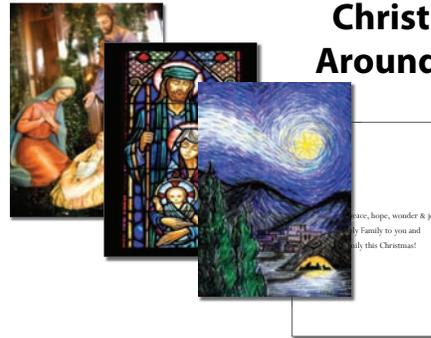
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 For information, call the cemetery staff at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church at 781-235-1841.
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