

JANUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3 Epiphany Sunday No Sunday School RCIA 9:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Social Action 12N</p>	<p>4 Church Office <i>Re-Opens at 9A</i> Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>5 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Class 7P</p>	<p>6 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>ACT/D Retirees</i> 7P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>7 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>2 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>10 RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 10A Women's Council 9:30A Teen Ministry 10:00A KPC/KPCA Meeting 1:30P Jr. Knights Meeting 1:30P</p>	<p>11 Finance Council Meeting 6:30P Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>12 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>13 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>ACT/D Retirees</i> 7P Pastoral Council Meeting 6:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>14 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Just Faith 7P Zumba Class 7:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>15 <i>Men's Ministry</i> Movie Night for Ridgewood 7:30P</p>	<p>16 AG Youth Dance Class 10A ASBS Meeting 3:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>17 NO Sunday School KPC Sunday Breakfast RCIA 9:30A Health Ministry 11:30A</p>	<p>18 M.L. King, Jr. Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>19 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Liturgy Meeting 7P</p>	<p>20 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>ACT/D Retirees</i> 7P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>21 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 7:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Eracism 11A SVDP Retreat 1P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Bookstore 6:00P</p>
<p>24 Bookstore Open RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 10:00A Teen Ministry 10:00A Life Issues 12:00N Lay Dominicans 2P</p>	<p>25 Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Steering Committee 7P Zumba Class 7:15P <i>Taize Prayer Group</i> 8:00PM</p>	<p>26 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>27 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>ACT/D Retirees</i> 7P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>28 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Just Faith 7P Zumba Class 6:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Lourdes Book Club 6:00P</p>
<p>31 Health Ministry Women's Health Screening RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 10:00A Teen Ministry 10:00A</p>						

Save the Dates

Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service ~ Wednesday, February 10, 2016
 Lourdes Lenten Revival ~ Monday & Tuesday, February 15 & 16 ~ 7P



AN EMPTY MANGER

At the aptly-named Holy Child Jesus Catholic Church in Queens, New York, the pastor had not planned to decorate for Christmas even before Advent got underway. But the janitor surprised him by unpacking the Christmas nativity scene well before Thanksgiving. The empty crèche looked appealing to a desperate young mother who slipped into the church with a newborn baby boy wrapped in towels from a nearby Dollar Store. Confident that her child would be safe, she left him in the place where the baby Jesus would soon rest; there the janitor found him and called for a nurse.

Though she had not fully complied with New York's "Safe Haven" law for the protection of abandoned infants, the baby's mother was offered counseling rather than prosecution. Clearly, she wanted the best for her child – and many people, starting in the parish, were eager to provide it. Offers of adoption came quickly from near and far. "The story went most certainly viral, because it's a beautiful story," said Holy Child's pastor. "I pray that it's a story that will make people appreciate the gifts of life."

A HOPEFUL TREND

Do Americans today appreciate the gifts of life? On January 22nd, we will mark the 43rd anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. According to a December report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the abortion rate in the United States has been falling steadily, and in the most recent year analyzed (2012), it was lower than at any time since 1973. Analysts disagree on the reasons for the decline – some cite greater access to contraception, others more restrictions on the procedure itself – but nearly everyone hopes the trend will continue.

A WELCOMING PLACE IN TIME OF NEED

Catholics in North Georgia try to make that happen by providing an "empty manger" of our own, a welcoming place where women facing crisis pregnancies can meet with caring counselors to explore the best options for themselves and their babies. In recent years, the original Pregnancy Aid Clinic in Hapeville has added both a mobile unit and a satellite location on the north side. The Hapeville clinic continues to offer free pregnancy tests, sonograms, classes and baby supplies to prospective parents.

At the bottom of each Sunday's bulletin at Lourdes is the contact number for the clinic. Please share it with anyone who might need help welcoming the gift of new life.

Find more information about the Hapeville clinic at <http://www.pregnancyaidclinic.com/> or call 404.763.4357 for confidential free assistance.