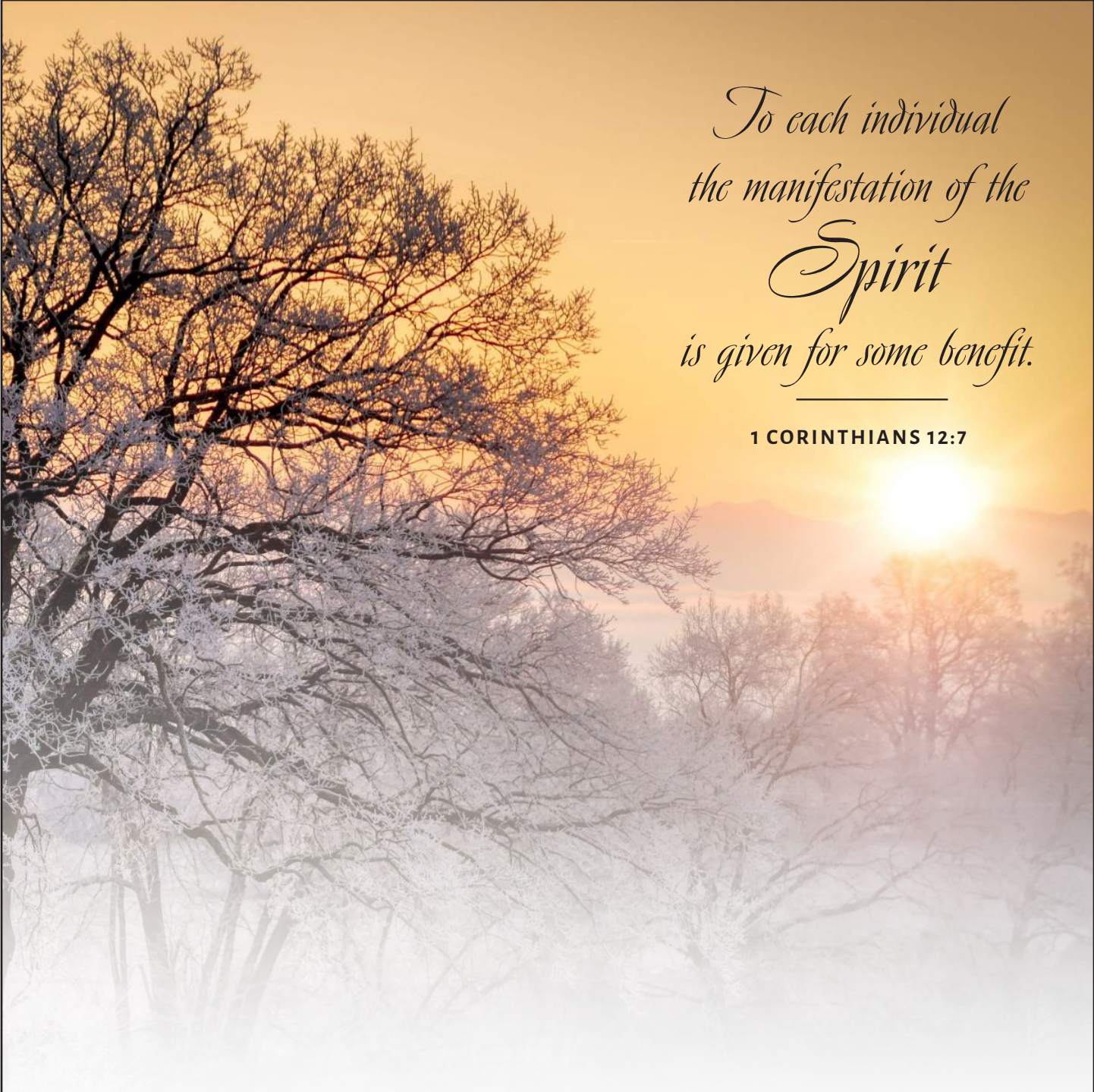


IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH

JANUARY 19, 2025 | THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*To each individual
the manifestation of the
Spirit
is given for some benefit.*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God's plan? How are you helping to build God's kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don't do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.

Parish Info

PARISH CENTER CONTACT:

1 Munn Street, Montclair, NJ
PHONE: 973.744.5650 FAX: 973.744.7936
EMAIL: info@montclaircatholics.org

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY- THURSDAY 9:00 am-4:00 pm
OFFICE CLOSED Friday, Saturday and Sunday



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Faith Formation Coordinator, MARY PETERS
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PHONE: (973) - 744-5939
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712 Grove Street
Montclair NJ 07042

MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

30 North Fullerton Avenue
Montclair NJ 07042

📶 Indicates the Mass is livestreamed.

CONFESSION: Saturday 4:30 pm (or by appointment)

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am | 10:30 am 📶 | 6:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Friday at 8:00 am 📶



Women's Spiritual
Spa Day
2025

SAT | JAN 25

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of spiritual renewal
and fellowship!

SPACE IS LIMITED - CONFIRM YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Don't miss this unique
opportunity to nourish
your soul and build
lasting connections!

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Inspiring speakers | Fun activities

Fellowship with a supportive
community of women

LEAVE FEELING:

Spiritually inspired
Re-energized | Connected in faith

We look forward to sharing
this special day with you!

The \$25 donation required
at registration includes
breakfast, lunch, afternoon
refreshments, materials,
and all activities.



MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

5:00 pm † Joseph Attamante Sr.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

8:00am People of the Parish

10:30am † Peter Bambrick

6:00 pm † Don Howard

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

8:00am † Clark Atwood

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

8:00am † Rich Delilo

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

8:00am † Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

8:00am † Joseph Ortiz & Gretta Cotto

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

8:00am † Santa Miranda-Harris

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

5:00 pm † Maria Fong

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

8:00am People of the Parish

10:30am † Peter Bambrick

6:00 pm † Barbara Paganelli

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." - Ecclesiastes 3:11

"... A TIME TO BE HEALED..."

Michael Bruder III, Anthony Pacifico Jr, Joel Rivera,

Carmen Kessler, Ieda Giles, Doreen Carson,

Lauren Ojido, Connie Romano,

Maria Metzel, Eileen Burriss, Kevin Haber,

Karen Potucek, Frank Gallo, Barbara Regan,

Jose Fidalgo Sr, Bridget Connell, Jaxson Rivera,

Carole DeCepoli, Oneida Fernandez,

Michelina Giuliano, Chester Karnas Jr.,

Laura McGannon, Joseph Carrier, Fabiola Fong,

Kenneth Busku, Rose Bruner, Edward T. Crowe,

William Crowe, Terry Henson, Robert Henson,

John Rahilly, Kent Riggs, Harriet Riggs,

Jim Norris, Gary Davila, Melba Espinoza,

Kevin Cole, Carlos Mario Moreno, Anne Granja,

Shannon Finnegan, Jacob Rivera, Clara Rojas,

Cliff Schaffer, Lindsay Trembulak, Don Peters,

Stefano Rum, Ayan Kapoor, John Nicastro,

Paolo Rum, Massimo Macarelli,

Michael Munoz, Janice Rusnak

Please contact the Parish office if you
would like to add someone to the sick list.

"... A TIME TO DIE..." Recently Deceased

May all the souls of the
faithful departed rest in peace.

THE THIRD ANNUAL THREE KINGS PARADE

Thank you to everyone who took part in, celebrated, and supported our Third Annual Three Kings Parade! This has become a favorite parish tradition and we are pleased to bring it to the community!



POPES AND JUBILEES:

The opening of the Holy Door in history

By Amedeo Lomonaco | Via Vatican News

One of the symbolic images of every Jubilee is that of the Pontiff crossing the threshold of the Holy Door. This is a moment deeply rooted in the Middle Ages. The first pilgrim to cross the threshold is always the Bishop of Rome. According to a description from 1450 by Giovanni Rucellai of Viterbo, it was Pope Martin V in 1423 who first opened the Holy Door during a Jubilee year, at the Basilica of St. John Lateran. At the Vatican Basilica, the opening of the Holy Door was first documented on Christmas of 1499, when Pope Alexander VI ordered the Holy Door to be opened not only at St. John Lateran but also at other Roman basilicas.

The opening of the Holy Door

The opening of the Holy Door by the Pope marks the beginning of the Jubilee. The Holy Year of 2025 includes this ritual, followed by the celebration of Holy Mass on Christmas Eve inside St. Peter's Basilica. The inner wall sealing the Holy Door was recently dismantled, and the metal box containing the key to open the door was retrieved. The Pope symbolically pushes the door open, while the traditional use of a hammer to strike the brick seal on the outside has been discontinued for safety reasons. After the ceremony, the door remains open for the entire year to allow pilgrims to pass through. This gesture signifies a complete experience of the indulgence associated with the Holy Year.

Crossing this threshold also symbolizes the journey of conversion, sealed by the encounter with Christ, the "door", uniting us with the Father. The Jubilees are part of a profound history of faith that opens its doors to the world—a journey in which the steps of the Pontiff join those of the people of God, along the paths of forgiveness.

The Jubilee of 1900

One of the main objectives of the Jubilee of 1900 consisted in taking on the challenges of modernization. On December 24, 1899, the Holy Door was opened. From the early morning hours, as reported in the Christmas edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*, "an unusual bustle" could be seen throughout the city. Carriages belonging to cardinals, bishops, diplomats, and nobility, as well as many pilgrims on foot or using public transportation, headed toward "the largest temple of Christianity." In St. Peter's Square, the sight of carriages flowing from nearby streets became "imposing." Pope Leo XIII, "first and alone," crossed the Holy Door and entered the Basilica. Once the ceremony ended, the doors were opened to allow the faithful to enter.

The Holy Year of 1925

On December 24, 1924, Christmas Eve, Pope Pius XI opened the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. The solemn ceremony, according to the Vatican's newspaper, marked the beginning of the Holy Year.



The rite took place in the portico of St. Peter's, with the papal throne on one side of the Holy Door and the choir of the Pontifical Musical Chapel in the background. Before entering the portico, the Pope ascended seated on the *sedia gestatoria* (portable throne) under a canopy. After the singing of "Veni Creator," Pius XI approached the Holy Door, received a hammer gifted by the Catholic bishops from across the world, and struck the Holy Door three times while pronouncing the ritual words before crossing the threshold and inaugurating the Jubilee.

The Jubilee of 1933

Marking the 1900th anniversary of Christ's death, an extraordinary Jubilee was proclaimed in 1933. Over two million pilgrims arrived in Rome for that Holy Year. On April 3, the opening of the Holy Door marked the beginning of the Jubilee of Redemption. *L'Osservatore Romano* noted that "the attendance at St. Peter's, St. John's, St. Paul's, and St. Mary Major was enormous" on that day. Hours after the inaugural ceremony, Pius XI received 500 pilgrims from Milan in a special audience.

The Holy Year of 1950

On December 24, 1949, the Christian world rejoiced before the "exceptional gift of grace," as Pope Pius XII opened the Holy Door with three symbolic strikes of a hammer. After performing the initial rites in the Sistine Chapel, the Pope processed to the Holy Door, striking it while singing verses like "Open to me the gates of righteousness." At the third strike, the brick wall sealing the door crumbled, and the Pontiff, holding a candle symbolizing faith and charity, crossed the threshold, inaugurating the Jubilee.

The Jubilee of 1975

Dedicated to reconciliation, the Holy Year of 1975 began on Christmas Eve 1974 with Pope Paul VI opening the Holy Door. The rite included the singing of invocations to the Holy Spirit and the blessing of the doorposts with holy water before the Pope crossed the threshold.

The Holy Year of 1983

In 1983, an extraordinary Jubilee commemorated the passion and resurrection of Christ. On March 25, Pope John Paul II opened the Holy Door, emphasizing its symbolic nature as an entry into a state of grace and salvation.

The Jubilee of 2000

On Christmas Eve 1999, Pope John Paul II opened the Holy Door for the Great Jubilee of 2000. The act symbolized two millennia of history condensed into a solemn moment. The Pope's prayerful crossing of the threshold was met with worldwide applause, signifying hope for the new millennium.

The Holy Year of 2015

The extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy began on November 29, 2015, with Pope Francis opening the Holy Door of Notre-Dame Cathedral in Bangui, Central African Republic. On December 8, he opened the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica, joined by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI in a symbolic gesture of continuity.

The upcoming Holy Year of 2025 seeks to continue this tradition, emphasizing God's love and the hope of salvation in Christ.

Fr. Tom's Thoughts on MLK, DJT, JC, and Influencers

January 19, 2025

WE NEED A MIRACLE! As I'm beginning this reflection on a civil rights giant whom we remember on Monday's holiday, an about-to-be-sworn-in on Monday former President, and the first miracle by Jesus in this Sunday's gospel, the Surgeon General just announced that "cancer risk warning labels be included on alcoholic beverages." I want to ask how that balances with the reports that moderate amounts of red wine may be beneficial for heart health—even though I read that that conclusion is merely observational. I wonder if Jesus knew the controversy that would arise from his first public action. And remember, it was at his mother, Mary's, suggestion that Jesus turn water into wine. Early "influencer" Mary!

In the book I just finished reading, "Death in the Air" by Ram Murali (a recent contestant on "Jeopardy"), which takes place in India, the main character, Ro, is led through a mediation in which he is led to feel the generational love of his family through the ages. He is encouraged to accept that love and say thank you to them. I can picture Mahatma Gandhi doing the same exercise, as I can see deeper meaning in the often-testy, tongue-twisty gospel passage of Jesus' ancestry in the genealogy in Mt 1:1-17. All those begats! More early influencers!

So, let me beg the question, "Who influenced Martin Luther King, Jr. and Donald John Trump to be the people they have become? Howard Thurman, considered one of the most influential African American theologians of the 20th Century, met Gandhi while leading a "Negro Delegation of Friendship" to India. It was Howard Thurman who first introduced the concept of nonviolence and civil disobedience to the young pastor. Benjamin Mays was president of Moorehouse College. A prominent educator and Christian minister, he gave sermons that King found to be unforgettable as he learned how to integrate the importance of history in his speeches. After these sermons, King would often discuss issues such as racism and integration with Mays. King characterized Mays as his "spiritual mentor" and "intellectual father."

King succeeded Vernon Johnson as pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in 1954. Johnson's community activism included refusing to adhere to segregated public bus transportation, discrimination in the workplace, and ordering food from a white restaurant. Most notably, Johnson helped Black girls who had been sexually assaulted by white men hold their attackers accountable.

Let's segway to the inimitable character of the almost 47th US president. According to an October 1, 2016 City News Everywhere article, "it wasn't forged in isolation. His business practices. Showmanship. Wanton exaggeration. Hard-edged competitiveness. Flamboyance. These pieces of the Trump jigsaw puzzle were formed in part by his parents, his family pastor, his military-school experience, and the limousine-riding lounge lizards of Manhattan." According to one of Donald Trump's biographers, Gwenda Blair, "On weekends, Fred Trump would wear a suit as he toured his real estate properties. Young Donald would tag along, collecting rent from tenants and business lessons from his dad." His dad also used schemes to avoid taxes, according to Michael D'Antonio's book "Never Enough." Dad's ties to politicians helped him score early successes. In his 20s, Donald could get a city-hall meeting on short notice. He obtained a 40-year tax write off that helped him win his first big Manhattan contract. Fred Trump told the New York Times in 1976: "Donald is the smartest person I know." Donald became the heir apparent, leapfrogging past his siblings, including one

brother who spiraled into alcohol abuse that killed him. Donald vowed never to allow a sip of liquor to touch his lips. In his quest for the limelight, he was more like Mom, Mary Ann MacLeod. Trump's first book describes how she was the family extrovert. "I got some of my sense of showmanship from my mother," he wrote in the book, "The Art Of The Deal." Early modern influencers!

From a young age, Trump was assured of his limitless potential. The minister in his family's church was the bestselling author of "The Power of Positive Thinking," the Reverend Norman Vincent Peale. He encouraged exaggerating one's greatness: "Make a true estimate of your own ability, then raise it 10 per cent. Do not become egotistical but develop a wholesome self-respect." The message stuck. Whether it's crowd sizes, his net worth, or poll numbers, it seems, statistical claims pass through some inflationary filter that resides on the tip of Trump's tongue. Trump has referred to his habit as "truthful hyperbole." Trump has cited Peale as an important influence. The minister's family, however, now suggests Trump misapplied the lessons.

Trump was sent to military school for disciplinary reasons, but some friends saw potential in him. Discipline was followed and Donald could have made the major leagues, he was thought to be that good a pitcher. But the pay was too low.

When early profiles of Trump ran in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal, they compared him to the real estate legend, William Zeckendorf. Zeckendorf, the grandson of German immigrants, got married four times, craved media attention and lived for monumental projects — he assembled dozens of land parcels that became the UN plaza. But perhaps the most influential person in Donald Trump's life was the lawyer, Roy Cohn. Trump wrote that his father was thinking of settling with the government in a lawsuit concerning housing discrimination, citing evidence Fred Trump avoided renting apartments to black people, and he sought Cohn's advice. Cohn told him: Swing back twice as hard. "(Cohn) said, 'My view is tell them to go to hell and fight the thing in court,'" according to "The Art of the Deal." "That's when I decided Roy Cohn was the right person to handle the case," Donald said. Cohn later went on to introduce Trump to national political operatives. That's how he met former Richard Nixon aide Roger Stone, a friend and adviser. In that circle, he met his later campaign manager Paul Manafort, a lobbyist with pro-Vladimir Putin connections.

Influential educator, Mordecai Johnson impressed MLK with his words about Gandhi. Bayard Rustin, a courageous organizer, did the same and was advising and assisting King as they spearheaded the Montgomery Bus Boycott. 1963 was possibly the highlight of Rustin's career: he served as deputy director and chief organizer of the March on Washington. Social influencers!

Jesus had his mother, Mary, his friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and twelve men called apostles. True influencers and devoted followers.

May the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. inspire us to work for social justice, equality, and mutual respect. May the determination of Donald John Trump be girded and guided by his oath of office "to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." And may the miracle at Cana remind us of the generous love, care and sacrifice of a young man just starting out in the world to change the world. All three influencers!

-Retired Fr Tom

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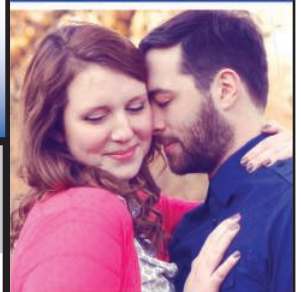
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