



Church of St. Joseph

149 Cottage Street, Middletown, N.Y. 10940 ☎ (845) 343-6013 ☎ www.SJChurch.com

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Very Rev. Dennis A. Nikolić, V.F., Pastor
Rev. Seán Michael Connolly, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Simon Nwachukwu, Hospital Chaplain
Deacon Richard Trapani
Deacon Albert Loeffler
Deacon Alexander Gapay

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY

Parish Office: 845-343-6013

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator: Ms. Linda Byrons: 845-343-4415

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday evening: 5:30
Sunday morning: 7:00, 9:00, 9:00 (Latin), 11:30
Sunday afternoon: 1:00 -- en Español

DAILY MASS

Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. -- en Español
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS

Mass and Confession schedule announced ahead of time.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 4:15-5:00 p.m. and 7:30-8:00 p.m.
Other occasions as announced
Also by appointment

BAPTISMS

For registered parishioners, by appointment, after instruction. Sundays at 2:30 p.m.; second through last Sunday in English, first Sunday in Spanish.

PARENT BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTION

Meetings in the Parish Center
English: Third Saturday, 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Spanish: Fourth Saturday, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

MARRIAGES

For registered parishioners. arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance.

PASTORAL VISITS

Communion for the home-bound and anointing of the sick: please call the Rectory: 845-343-6013.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

For adults interested in becoming Catholics and for Catholics who need to receive Communion and/or Confirmation: please call the Rectory: 845-343-6013.

LITURGY

Eucharistic Ministers: Coordinator, Deacon Trapani
Lector Coordinator: Mr. Martin Suchy
Organist: Mr. Joseph Bertolozzi

DEVOTIONS

Adoration in Church: Wednesdays 1:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.

PARISH SERVICES

Food Pantry: Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. -12:00 noon
Parish Website: www.SJChurch.com
Parish E-Mail: Parish@SJChurch.com
Youth Group: Schedule published in the bulletin



*Welcome to
Our Parish*

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 13, 2020**



MASS INTENTIONS

for the Week of December 13 – December 20

SAT:	5:30pm	Gerald Zazzero
SUN:	7:00am	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
	9:00am	Deceased Members, Citriniti Family
LATIN:	9:00am	President Elect Joe Biden (living)
	11:30am	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
	1:00pm	Our Lady of Guadalupe
MON:	8:00am	Michael J. Mingolla; Filomena & Antonio Levata
TUE:	8:00am	Deceased Members, Zoschik & Nemeth Families
WED:	8:00am	Maria Panaro; Maria, Concetta, Pietro Scumaci; Pasquale Cortese
THU:	8:00am	Giovanni Luciano Amelio
FRI:	8:00am	St. Joseph Purgatorial Society; Agnes Foley
SAT:	8:00am	Deacon Albert Loeffler
SUN:	5:30pm	John Deyo
	7:00am	All Parishioners Living & Deceased
	9:00am	Michael & Jennie Amodio; Antonio Boffa Sr.
LATIN:	9:00am	President Elect Joe Biden (living)
	11:30am	Rita & Felice Sorice
	1:00pm	Daniel Lopez Sedeño

Note: All above Masses are being prayed in public with the added intentions remembered by our priests in private Masses that continue.

**+ PRAY FOR +
Deacon Albert Loeffler**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2020:
4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2020:
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Latin in gymnasium),
11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Although some parishes are taking reservations for Christmas Masses, because of the large capacity of our church building, we do not anticipate overcrowding.

PRECAUTIONS FOR PUBLIC MASS

Weekday Mass will be offered at 8:00 a.m. in the Main Church. Sunday Mass continues with the traditional Mass schedule: Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Masses in English at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:30 a.m.; in Spanish at 1 p.m., all in the Main Church. The 9 a.m. Latin Mass has been moved to the gymnasium to allow for proper social distancing.

The **2021 MASS BOOK** now is open. The secure your desired dates and intentions, please call the Parish Office (845-343-6013) and someone will return your call in short order.

WEDDINGS for December will be considered on a case-by-case basis. *(Please contact the priest or deacon who is working with you on the marriage for details.)*

FUNERAL MASSES will be offered with restrictions. Families who wish to schedule a Memorial Mass should call the Parish Office (845-343-6013).

CONFESSION is available Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. and by request. Call the Parish Office (845-343-6013) to schedule an appointed time. Confession is behind the screened grill only.

The **PARISH OFFICE** is operating on limited hours. You may leave a message by calling (845-343-6013).

DEACON ALBERT LOEFFLER

With great sadness we report that **Deacon Al** entered into eternal life. After having suffered a stroke, Deacon received the Sacraments of the Church and passed away a week later, on Saturday, **December 5**.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family and to his parish family. Having served faithfully as a Deacon for 20 years, he will certainly be missed by all. We continue to pray for his eternal rest.

PERPETUAL ADORATION



After a snowstorm it is easy to see the footprints of the deer marking their travels in and out of the backyard. A path to the various bird feeders, to the pear tree and all the various shrubs. That which happens regularly is only seen clearly in the light of the snow.

Often, we walk our lives and wonder if God is present to us. We have problems and loved ones who are ill and yet God doesn't seem to notice. BUT step into the warmth and light of the Blessed Sacrament and kneel or sit before Jesus, Who is exposed for our Adoration. As you pause from the daily business and pour out your complaint before God something will happen. Jesus' peace will come upon you and you will see how He has been working in your life and the lives of those you love. His Light will open your eyes to know He sees and cares for you in ways you had never noticed.

Jesus is calling you to Himself. He waits for you. We are blessed to have Adoration on Wednesdays, 1-8 p.m. in the Main Church. Come feel His caring love for you.

If you have any questions about Adoration, call **Marty** or **Clarice Suchy** at 845-692-4510.

FOR UPDATES ON WHEN THE CHAPEL WILL OPEN, YOU MAY CALL THE CHAPEL RECORDING, 845-956-1455 (this number might not work from a Spectrum house phone). YOU MAY ALSO CALL: 845-343-6013, ext. 105

EARLY BULLETIN DUE DATES

Christmas and New Year require early submission of our bulletin to the publishers. The **December 20** bulletin is closed and already to print. The **December 27** bulletin is due Monday, **December 14**. **January 3** bulletin is due by Monday, **December 21**. All submissions are due by 12:00 noon. We have no control over these due dates.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

FIRST READING

From the Book of Isaiah (Is 61:1-2A, 10-11)

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,
to heal the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to announce a year of favor from the LORD
and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul;
for He has clothed me with a robe of salvation
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,
like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,
like a bride bedecked with her jewels.
As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54)

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for He has looked upon His lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

The Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is His Name.
He has mercy on those who fear Him
in every generation.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich He has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of His servant Israel
for He has remembered His promise of mercy,

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

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SJChurch**



SECOND READING

From the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians (1 Thes 5:16-24)

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
In all circumstances give thanks,
for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.
Do not quench the Spirit.
Do not despise prophetic utterances.
Test everything; retain what is good.
Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord
Jesus Christ.
The One who calls you is faithful,
and He will also accomplish it.

ALLELUIA

- R. Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
- R. Alleluia, alleluia.



GOSPEL

From the Gospel of John (Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)

A man named John was sent from God.
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him.
He was not the light,
but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John.
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests
and Levites to him
to ask him, "Who are you?"
He admitted and did not deny it,
but admitted, "I am not the Christ."
So they asked him,
"What are you then? Are you Elijah?"
And he said, "I am not."
"Are you the Prophet?"
He answered, "No."
So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can
give an answer to those who sent us?
What do you have to say for yourself?"
He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'make straight the way of the Lord,'
as Isaiah the prophet said."
Some Pharisees were also sent.
They asked him,
"Why then do you baptize
if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"
John answered them,
"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you whom you do not recognize,
the one who is coming after me,
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,
where John was baptizing.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

Envelopes for the annual Christmas flower collection
are in your regular collection packets. Additional
envelopes can be picked up at the
doors of the Church. Envelopes can
be put in the collection basket or in
the box at Our Lady's Altar. On the
envelope you can put the names of
the deceased relatives and friends
whom you wish to have remembered
at the Christmas Masses this year. The Altar Rosary
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