

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PASTOR'S MESSAGE DECEMBER 9, 2018

5:00PM Mary Yun Lee
8:00AM Dinko Busanic
10:00AM Carmela & Attilio Dente
12:00PM Antonio Bussanich

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00AM Donato Balon
11:30AM Victoria Morales

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

ST. DAMASUS I
8:00AM Maria Morin
11:30AM Antonio Mircovich – Anniv.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
8:00AM Anthony Paretto
11:30AM Kamal Faris

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

ST. LUCY
8:00AM Joseph Lally
11:30AM Mark Piccirillo

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
8:00AM Faye & Joe Brignola
11:30AM Joseph Lally

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

11:30AM Maria & Martin Morin
Drazen Miskulin
Morin Morin
Ana Skrivanic
John Cunniffe
Zdenko Matesic

5:00PM Maria & Nicholas Dragas


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00AM Stephen Petruzzello
10:00AM Milagros Sanchez
12:00PM John Bucco

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

 Garitano, Martire, Abate & Stancato –
Grandparents

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

Ernie Sdrigotti

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of

Sister Rosemary McGavin – Birth.

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

Maria & Martin Morin

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

Zep 3:14-18a

Repentant, exiled Israel is called to hope and
joy

Is 12

Cry out with joy and gladness, among you is
the Holy One of Israel

Phil 4:4-7

Rejoice; be kind and thankful!

Lk 3:10-18

John teaches repentance and proclaims
Christ's coming

My dear parishioners and friends:

Christmas and Thanksgiving and New Year's Day are wonderful celebrations! And one of the greatest things about these celebrations is that they really are a blessed time for us to gather with our family and our friends to enjoy these times. But for some of us, the joy of these celebrations has been dulled by the sad reality that we live far away from our family. Or, perhaps, we may have lost someone dear to us in the past year and we find it harder to get into the spirit of the season without them.

Our readings this Sunday are especially meant for those of us who are finding it difficult to get into the joyful spirit of this season. They speak to us of hope for the restoration of a life that we thought was lost.

In our first reading, the prophet Baruch tells us that there will be a time for us to take off the robe of mourning and misery and put on the splendor of glory from God. The splendor of God is what we need to focus on. As the saying goes, "Jesus is the reason for the season," and if we can just focus on that we will have plenty of reason to celebrate.

I would like to make a special invitation to all of you to attend our parish communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Monday evening (December 10) at 7:00 PM in the Church. We are offering several opportunities for you to go to confession between now and Christmas. In addition to our regular Saturday confessions (12:00-1:00 PM), we will be offering the following days and times: Monday Dec. 17 (3:00-4:00 PM), Wednesday Dec. 19 (7:00-8:00 PM) and Friday Dec. 21 (3:00-4:00 PM). All confessions will be heard in the Church during those hours.

*Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce*

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here

December 2nd

Sunday Collection

\$5,428.50

Retirement Fund for the Religious

\$1,642.00

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." – Philippians 1:9-10

Glittery holiday ads can blind us to our stewardship values and distort our needs and wants. It is important that during this season of endless buying we remember that each of us also has the need to give back to God and to those that are in need.



BINGO

THURSDAY BINGO GAMES BEGIN AT 12:15PM. WE NOW OFFER BIGGER JACKPOTS, PROGRESSIVE AND 50/50 GAMES. COME OUT AND ENJOY YOURSELF AND WIN SOME MONEY AND HAVE FUN.

MASS BOOK FOR 2019

The Mass Book for 2019 has opened. **Three additional Masses may be reserved by parishioners and non-parishioners at this time.** Sanctuary Lamps, Altar Candles, Bread and Wine and Altar Flowers may also be reserved.

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

ONLY ABOUT THREE WEEKS LEFT TO get tickets to welcome in the New Year with your Epiphany family. We will be having a Gala New Year's Eve Party, Monday, December 31st. Party will be held from 7:30PM-12:30AM. Dinner will be catered by Roman Italian Restaurant, New Milford. Menu includes: Baked Ziti with Ricotta, Chicken Francaise, Roast Beef, Tossed Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Potatoes, dessert, beer, wine, soda, champagne toast at midnight, hats and noisemakers. Music will be by DJ Nick. Tickets are \$35.00 per person and are available for sale at the Rectory. **NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR!**

103RD ANNIVERSARY PARISH HOMECOMING POT LUCK

In celebration of our parish feast, the Epiphany of the Lord, we invite you to our 103rd Anniversary - Parish Homecoming Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, January 6th beginning at 1:30PM following the 12 Noon Mass. Please bring in enough food for your table and one extra dish for the main buffet. Cost is \$5.00 per person to cover dessert and soda. You must RSVP by purchasing tickets at the rectory by January 3rd. Also, please let us know what dish you will be bringing to share at this affair.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor Breakfast With Santa on Saturday, December 15th from 9:00AM-12 Noon in the Church Hall. Please RSVP to the Rectory at 201-943-7320 with the number of children and adults who will be attending. We ask each parent to bring a small gift for your child with their name on it so that Santa can present it to him or her. There is no charge for the breakfast but a good-will donation will be accepted.

BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS

This weekend, December 8th and 9th, representatives of Bethlehem Handicrafts will be in our Church Hall after all the Masses to sell the articles that they make. It is a good place to do your Christmas Shopping.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

If you receive weekly envelopes, there is an envelope for Christmas Flower Offerings. You may give your donation in memory of a loved one or simply just as a gift from your family. If you do not receive envelopes but wish to make a donation, please use a blank envelope and put Christmas Flower Offering on the envelope as well as your intentions or use one of the Christmas Flower envelopes at the Church doors. You may place the envelope in the collection basket or bring it to the rectory.

SPECIAL NOON MASS

A special mass and a support group meeting for all who are affected by the disease of alcoholism will take place at Church of St. Mary, 20 Legion Place, Closter, on Saturday, December 15th at 12 Noon. Our celebrant will be Cardinal Tobin. Mass is offered for the support, healing and recovery of not only the man/woman directly affected with the abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, but also for anyone involved in the life of the alcoholic or drug addict. For information please call 201-768-7565.

CLIFFSIDE PARK SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

The following is the activity which will be held by the Cliffside Park Senior Center: Florida and Bahamas Cruise on Norwegian Escape from April 7th-14th. For reservations and more information please call 201-943-3768 ext. 112.

**“BEFORE YOU GO TO BED, GIVE
YOUR TROUBLES TO GOD. HE
WILL BE UP ALL NIGHT
ANYWAY!”**

SPECIAL SCHEDULE – 2018

CONFESSONAL SCHEDULE

Monday, December 10 – Advent Penance Service.....7:00PM
(With Individual Confessions)
Monday, December 17 (Confession Only).....3:00-4:00PM
Wednesday, December 19 (Confession Only).....7:00-8:00PM
Friday, December 21 (Confession Only).....3:00-4:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Monday, December 24

Vigil Mass – 5:00PM (Children’s Choir).....4:45PM
Christmas Eve Mass.....10:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Tuesday, December 25

Masses..... 9:00AM, 10:30AM (Adult Choir) & 12 Noon

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

Monday, December 31

Vigil Mass.....5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Tuesday, January 1

Masses.....9:00AM & 11:30AM

PATRONAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 5, 20195:00PM
Sunday, January 6.....8:00AM, 10:00AM & 12 Noon

FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE

If you have not donated an ornament to our Family Christmas Tree in the past, which is located in the elevator lobby, please bring one in and you may put your family name on it. Please hang it on the tree. We want all our families represented on this tree.

ADVENT OF GIVING

Throughout Advent our parish will be collecting brand-new toys, clothes and Christmas gifts for our annual Advent Giving Tree Program. These donations are then distributed by the Epiphany Community Food Pantry to hundreds of local residents and families who are in need this Christmas Season. We are in need of an assortment of donations: Men’s Clothing, Women’s Clothing, Children’s Clothing, Hats, Scarves, Gloves, Household Items and Toys.

Donations must be brand-new and in original packaging.

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR DONATIONS!

Please bring all donations to the Advent Giving Tree (located on the left side of the altar area) or directly to the Rectory Office. **All donations must be received by December 13th at the latest!** Contact the Rectory with any questions. As always, thank you for your generosity!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Anna Tarabokija, Eric Grigsby, Carrie Craven, Felicia Martello, Oscar Benitez, Elva Lopes, Marilyn Brenes, Frank Mendez, Maria Azucena Mercado, John Reynolds, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Tammy Ledden, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Laura Palmieri, Margarita Lopez-Amaro, Helen Gallina DeLuca, Renee Pascarella, Brother Peter Lyne, Cora Shaffer, Ivan Tarabokia, Paul Barbara, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Matt Allen, Richie Allen, Jazmin Cruz, Jaime Van Dam, Meaghan Kilner, Baby Michael, Joe Villani, Michael Duddy, Peter Foglio, Jr., Paul Kiczek, Kenneth Crawford, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Tony Martello, Ruth Behsman, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Norma Brown, Doris Portillo, Cabrini Lepis, Elizabeth Magliato Loughlin, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Geraldine Fox, Tatiana Flores, Clement Petrocelli.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Rev. Michael Moran, Rev. Tom Ertle, O.P., Joseph Schmelz, Timothy Carden, William Naddeo, Mattea Morin.

