

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00PM Anthony & Vera Dragas
8:00AM Antonia & Dinko Busanic
10:00AM Tony Mezzich
12:00PM Filomena Pallotta
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2
8:00AM Giacomo Dominici
11:30AM Barbara Picinic

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
8:00AM Joseph Baumann
11:30AM Bobby Hroncich

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

ST. JOHN DAMASCENE
8:00AM Branko Sango
11:30AM Bruno Matesic

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00AM Stella & Joseph Oliveri
11:30AM Albert, Robert & Norman Knebel

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

ST. NICHOLAS
8:00AM Pietra & Domenica Picinic
11:30AM Elvira Capriccio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

ST. AMBROSE
11:30AM Betty, Elizabeth & Otto Bamert
Katica Morin
Emmanuel Boy Pangan
Ints. of Victoria Fatovic
Stephanie Picinic
5:00PM Joseph Ferrara & Adrienne
Pellegrino Webster

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00AM Carmela & Attilio Dente
10:00AM Ellen Kiehl
12:00PM Ivan Tarabokia

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
Mark Piccirillo

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of
Marlene Villegas

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of
Julie Fisher

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of
Ryan Shoop

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

Is 11:1-10

Isaiah exults in the coming of the Lord, who will bring justice and peace for all.

Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

Justice shall flourish in his time.

Rom 15:4-9

Accept one another as Christ accepted you, for the glory of God.

Matt 3:1-12

John the Baptizer prepares the way for Jesus.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK – DECEMBER 1, 2019

My dear parishioners and friends,

“HERITAGE FUND UPDATE”

One of the legacies I inherited from our previous pastor is the “Heritage Fund”. For those of you who don’t know about it I will briefly explain what the “Heritage Fund” is and what it does. The “Heritage Fund” is a special account consisting of donations set aside for specific purposes here in the parish. Because that money is given to us for a specific reason it is exempt from any assessment by the Archdiocese.

This year we completed several of the projects that were funded by the “Heritage Fund” including: the new front doors of the church; the renovation of the rectory conference room; renovation of the rectory kitchen pantry area; updated sound system in the church; renovation of the daily mass chapel, sacristy and the Eucharistic chapel. Many other projects which have been completed or which are still underway include: replacement of the rectory flat roofs, installation of windows and repairs to the exterior walls of the rectory third floor extension; installation of new media system in the church; renovation of the church hall bathrooms.

One of our parishioners recently suggested that it may be time for us to publicize what other projects we have in mind so that people can make donations to fund those projects. In no particular order of priority, here are a few of the ideas for projects that we would like to take up: renovation of the Rectory office including new office furniture; update security alarm system in the rectory and church; additional video cameras, cabling and conduit; purchase and installation of an LED sign in front of the church; renovation of the front entry of the rectory and the entry to the food pantry/conference room; renovation of the rectory 2nd floor community room; repairs and renovation of the 2nd floor priest’s suite; purchase and installation of ductless heating/cooling systems in rectory.

In addition to these projects that can be funded through the “Heritage Fund” there are many other initiatives that we need to think about as a parish community. I believe that we need to increase the amount that we are presently spending on Religious Education. And we need to develop a budget for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. We may also need to put money in our budget for at least a part-time maintenance person beginning next year.

A couple of weeks ago I was pleased to present the annual financial report for July 2018-June 2019 in which we showed a significant surplus. Because of that, and because of the increase in donations made to our “Heritage Fund”, we have undertaken many projects that we might otherwise have had to defer. I want to encourage you to continue to be generous in your support so that the momentum we are building toward positive growth in our parish can continue. I also ask for your prayers, because everything that we are doing here is God’s work and we cannot do His work without His help and His blessing.

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
November 24, 2019

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the bulletin had to be sent a week ahead of time. We will
publish the collections in the next bulletin.

“Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.” – Matthew
24:42

People who had had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and grow in gratitude for all that we have been given. You begin to see God’s active presence in your life.



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.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Knights of Columbus, Benedict XV Council, will sponsor Breakfast With Santa on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00AM-12:00PM in our Church Hall. There is no charge but a free-will donation will be taken. Parents must bring a wrapped gift for their child with name tag for Santa to give them. Also, bring an unwrapped toy for our Toys for Tots. All proceeds will benefit the Epiphany Food Pantry. Please RSVP to Epiphany Rectory at 201-943-7320.

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

We will be having a Gala New Year's Party on Tuesday, December 31st from 7:30PM-12:30AM. Dinner will be catered by Roman's Restaurant, New Milford. Menu includes the following: baked ziti with ricotta, chicken francese, roast beef, tossed salad, vegetables, potatoes, dessert beer, wine, soda, champagne toast at midnight, hats and noisemakers. Music will be by DJ Gazo. Tickets are \$35 per person and will be available at the Rectory shortly. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!**

WORKERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

LAST CALL TO PURCHASE TICKETS FOR OUR Christmas Party for Bingo Workers, Food Pantry Workers, Confraternity of Christian Women, Legion of Mary and Knights of Columbus. It will be held on Friday, December 6th at 6:30PM at Café Tivoli. Cost is \$35.00 per person. Please pay for your tickets at the rectory and pick out a name for your Secret Santa Gift. The gift should have a value of at least \$20.00. Reservations must be made and paid for by December 2nd.

BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study will be held on Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00PM in the Church Hall. Please bring your bible. Fr. Boniface will conduct the Bible Study.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

LAST CALL TO ORDER Christmas Wreaths. Each wreath is stunningly decorated with pinecones, ornaments and a large red bow. Wreaths are \$17.00 each. Wreaths will be ready for pick-up on December 7th and 8th after all the Masses. Proceeds will benefit the renovation of the Rectory. Wreaths must be paid in full when ordering.

ADVENT OF GIVING

Through 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 residents and families who are in need this Christmas Season. We need 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

Starting the weekend of December 1st, 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 12th at the latest!** Contact the Rectory with any questions. As always, thank you for your generosity!

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 participate, please use a blank envelope and put Christmas Flower Offering on the envelope as well as your intentions or use of the Christmas Flower envelopes at the Church doors. You may place the envelope in the collection basket or bring it to the rectory.

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all those who have helped our parish with the 2019 Sharing God's Blessings Annual Appeal. Thus far we have received \$35,116 from 135 families. **We are only \$1,215.90 short of our goal to receive a rebate.** Last year more families participated in this Appeal. If we go over our goal, we will receive 62% of all funds collected. **We are only a little short of our goal to get a rebate. If you have not made a pledge yet, there is still time to do so.**

SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

CONFESSIONAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 18.....3:00-4:00PM
Thursday, December 19.....7:00-8:00PM
Friday, December 20.....3:00-4:00PM
Saturday, December 21.....12:00-1:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES - TUESDAY

Vigil Mass (Children's Choir).....4:45PM
Christmas Eve Mass (Chamber Music).....9:45PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES-WEDNESDAY

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

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS - TUESDAY

Vigil Mass.....5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY WEDNESDAY

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

PATRONAL FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday, January 4.....5:00PM
Sunday, January 5.....8:00AM, 10:00AM & 12 Noon

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW

A Christmas Craft Show will be held at Saint Joseph Regional High School on Sunday, December 8th from 10:00AM-4:00PM, showcasing the talents of over 110 juried crafts people and fine artists. Admission is \$3.00. **NO STROLLERS WILL BE PERMITTED.** www.sjrnj.org

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Greater Bergen Community Action will hold ESL Classes (English as a Second Language Classes) from January-March 2020. Morning Classes will be on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30AM-12:30PM. Registration dates are December 3, 10 and 17 at 1:30PM. Potential students must register and take a placement test. Bring a photo ID, proof of address and social security card. For registration information call 201-366-1020 Ext. 7236.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Peter Bertinato, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Kathleen Warren Meserole, Baby Michael, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate, Geraldine Fox, Tatiana Flores, Rosalie Connors, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Timmy Cappola, Sean O'Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Vinka Uselj, Louanne Mitchell, Kathy Lennon, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O'Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Richard & Patricia Citro, Brother Peter Lyne, Frank Gaetani, Frank Magdaluyo, Conrado Trinidad, Arnold Wall, John Mitchell, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Angie Vigna, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Betty Foer, Georgine Ferrie, Nicholas DeNoia.

**“GOD IS ALWAYS ON
TIME – NEVER BEHIND
AND NEVER AHEAD!”**