

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00PM Joseph Ferrara & Adrienne Pellegrino Webster
 8:00AM Carmela & Attilio Dente
 10:00AM Ellen Kiehl
 12:00PM Ivan Tarabokia

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:00AM Antonio Bussanich
 11:30AM Ottavio & Maria Martire
 7:00PM Louise & George Douros & Fam.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00AM Donato Balon
 11:30AM Maria Morin

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11
ST. DAMASUS I

8:00AM Dinko & Maria Morin
 11:30AM Tony Mircovich

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

8:00AM Anthony Paretto
 11:30AM Ints. of Lydia Busanic

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

ST. LUCY

8:00AM Nick Tarabocchia
 11:30AM Mark Piccirillo

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

11:30AM Family of Attilio Capezzuta
 Katita (Rina) Morin
 Vienko Svorinic
 Lorena Molineux
 Martin Picinic

5:00PM Mary & John Dooley & Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00AM Maria & Martin Morin
 10:00AM Dinko Busanic
 12:00PM Clement Petrocelli

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of
 Mark Piccirillo

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of
 Marlene Villegas

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of
 Giovanna Calabrese

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of
 Mark Piccirillo

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for next Sunday are:

Is 35:1-6a, 10

When Christ comes, sorrow and mourning will flee.

Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

Lord, come and save us.

Ja 5:7-10

We must wait patiently for the Messiah.

Matt 11:2-11

Are you He who is to come or do we look for another?



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK – DECEMBER 1, 2019

My dear parishioners and friends,

In our gospel passage this weekend St. John the Baptist calls us all to repentance. He tells us that "...the kingdom of heaven is at hand", and so we need to be reconciled with God. John was the herald of Christ's coming into human history and now his voice calls us to prepare for Jesus' return in glory.

As an essential part of our Advent preparations we want to encourage all of you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. 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: Wednesday Dec. 18 (3:00-4:00 PM), Thursday Dec. 19 (7:00-8:00 PM) and Friday Dec. 20 (3:00-4:00 PM). All confessions will be heard in the Church during those hours.

Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce

PARISH SUPPORT

<i>Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here</i>	
	<i>November 24, 2019</i>
<i>Sunday Collection</i>	<i>\$5,346.00</i>
	<i>December 1, 2019</i>
<i>Sunday Collection</i>	<i>\$5,339.00</i>
<i>Assessment Collection.....</i>	<i>\$2,161.00</i>
<i>"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." – Matthew 3:10</i>	
<i>Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk. Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?</i>	



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.

BAPTISMS

The Catholic Community of Epiphany Parish welcomes with great joy the following newcomers baptized during the month of November:

Samantha Evelyn Cerreto, Nathaniel Lewis, Valentina Juliana Montesinos

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our parishioners who attained honors at Paramus Catholic High School: Principal's List – Julieta Caroppo and Kelsey Contreras; First Honors – Leonardo Caroppo. We wish them well in their future endeavors.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS

The financial needs of the Religious Congregations especially during these days of economic stress continue to call upon the generosity of our people. The number of retired men and women in Religious Life increases every year and with that their need for their living and health care. With the costs of health care increasing and the income of religious communities decreasing, today many communities struggle to care for their elderly members. The aging men and women count on the generosity of those who were beneficiaries of their tireless ministry and they pray for their donors. We ask for your kind generosity to the servants of the church who find themselves in need. This will be the second collection next weekend.

GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

ONLY FOUR WEEKS LEFT for our 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. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!**

BIBLE DIARIES

Bible Diaries are now available for sale at the rectory. Each book will cost \$12.00. Each Diary contains daily readings, thought provoking reflections, an examination of conscience, a biography of the Saint of the Day, and numerous prayers and more. It's a wonderful Christmas gift for family and friends. A limited number is available.

BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study will be held on Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00PM in the Church Hall. Please bring your bible. Fr. Boniface will conduct the Bible Study.

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

Please bring all donations to the front of the church (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 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.

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.**

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 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.

SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

CONFESSONAL 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

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses will be at 8:00 & 11:30AM and 7:00PM.

YOUTH MASS

There will be a Youth Mass this Sunday at 12 Noon. All youth and their parents are invited to attend.

SPECIAL MASS

All are welcome to the Church of St. Mary, 20 Legion Place, Closter for the Third Saturday Mass, December 21st at 12 Noon. Mass is offered for the support, healing and recovery of not only those individuals directly affected with the abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, but also for anyone involved in the life of the alcoholic or drug addict. A support group, Meeting of Hope, will follow the mass. For information, please call 201-768-7565.

CLIFFSIDE PARK SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The Cliffside Park Senior Center will hold its Annual Holiday Party on Friday, December 13th from 5:00-9:00PM.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, 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 Magdaluyo, Conrado Trinidad, Arnold Wall, John Mitchell, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Angie Vigna, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Bob Sirianni.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Marie Macaluso, Paz Vauro, Jeanie Neary.

**“GOD PROMISES A SAFE
LANDING, NOT A CALM
PASSAGE!”**

