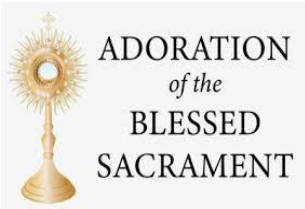


November 28, 2021 . . . First Sunday of Advent



**ADORATION
of the
BLESSED
SACRAMENT**

DECEMBER 10th / 3 to 4pm

All are welcome to gather with the Ladies Auxiliary to pray the Rosary @ 2:30pm in Church

HOLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY 27

5pm **Richard O'Neill**; Connolly family

SUNDAY 28

9am **Robert Benedict**; Mom & Dad
10:30 **Dec mem of Celio family**; Pia & Simone Celio
Noon **Ann & James Briscese**; son, James

MONDAY 29

8am **Frankie Kehoe**; sister, Maureen

TUESDAY 30

8am **Jose A. Pabon Jr.**; Maria Pabon

WEDNESDAY 1

8am **Maria Gabor**; family

THURSDAY 2

8am **Aldo Zani**; Carbonara family

FRIDAY 3

8am **Aldo Zani**; Carbonara family

SATURDAY 4

8am **Maria Gabor**; family
5pm **Walter & Josephine Szulwach**; daughter, Kathleen

SUNDAY 5

9am **Albert Fini**; De Paulis family
10:30 **Dec mem of Amoretti family**; Pia & Simone Celio
Noon **Ethel Migliorini**; Rose Mary Cella

“IN LOVING MEMORY CANDLES”

Thank you to all who purchased candles in memory of their loved ones. We will continue to have them available, in the parish office, if you would ever like to purchase another in the future. The cost is \$10 for the first candle purchase and \$8 for each additional candle. Payments will be accepted at the parish office via cash or check.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY FROM OUR
COMMUNITY IN THE MILITARY,
BOTH HERE AND ABROAD
SAINT MICHAEL . . . PLEASE KEEP THEM SAFE.**

Siobhan Higgins, Vincent Pungello, James Davis Jr., Rocco Church, Tyler Correa, Alex Davis, Mark Gonzalez, Michael Grasso, Erin Johnson, Alex Kaczor, Kayla Marion Katt, Mark Lawlor, Lauren Lucena, Matthew Mackay, Draven Mena, Ryan Michaels, Evan Pacer, Michael Polanski, Cory Seipp, Josh Truman

Dear St. Columba Family,

A few weeks ago, just before Halloween, I was in the car looking for something to listen to on the radio. As I scrolled through the channels I was very surprised when I heard Christmas music. I thought at first maybe it was an advertisement using the song but it became clear that this was what the station would be playing between now and midnight on December 25th. In some sense perhaps I should not have been surprised since earlier & earlier in department stores & malls we see Christmas decorations & sales. It is always a little bizarre right after Labor Day to walk into a store and see the appearance of artificial Christmas trees on sale. It also seems that once Halloween is over the attention of the culture turns immediately to Christmas with Thanksgiving as a mere afterthought. Unfortunately, this affects the Church's calendar as well since we seem to have completely forgotten the season of Advent.



The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new Church year. This is more than just a mere change of the liturgical calendar. The Church uses a three-year cycle of reading focusing on the Gospel of Matthew in Year A, Mark in Year B & Luke in Year C. We hear a lot from the Gospel of John during Lent and Easter. So, a new Church year affords us the opportunity to encounter a different perspective on the life and ministry of Jesus depending on which Gospel we are listening to. Yet sadly, for many Catholics, the season of Advent and all the beautiful elements of it are lost, consumed by the pre-Christmas rush & the frenetic pace of shopping and preparing for guests & parties. Now none of this is wrong by itself, but if we completely lose sight of the season of Advent we are not preparing to once again receive the graces that come when our minds turn to the Child in Bethlehem Christmas Day. The Church in her wisdom prepares the faithful for the two great seasons of Easter & Christmas by giving us a few weeks to get ready for the coming festivities in Lent & Advent respectively. When we lose sight of this, we are not taking advantage of what the Church offers to the faithful. So how can we respond in a more open manner to the graces of Advent? There are, I am sure, several ways that this can be done, but let me offer one example from my own family. As a child we would have an Advent wreath in our home and each night we would light the candles appropriate for that week, read a brief reflection from Scripture, and pray a decade of the Rosary. All of this would take maybe fifteen minutes, but it was a way that I was reminded of the importance of the season. It was my parents taking seriously their role as the head and heart of the domestic Church which the Second Vatican Council encourages the home to be. Even though they have been empty nesters now for many years I know that my parents still light the wreath every night during Advent and read a reflection to prepare themselves for the coming Christmas season.

As we begin our Advent journey this year let's try to do something a little different so that we can sing "O Come O Come Emmanuel" with hearts filled with expectation as we welcome the Lord once more into our homes and hearts this Christmas.

Fr. Chris

ADVENT DAY OF REFLECTION

DECEMBER 18, 2021 . . . 9am to 12noon
Mother Clare Matthiass CFR, General Superior
Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal

ADVENT

The word 'Advent' literally means 'coming' – it's derived from the Latin word 'Adventus.' In the season of Advent, Catholics prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ. The four Sundays preceding Christmas, are recognized for four virtues. The candles on the Advent wreath symbolize hope, love, joy and peace.

INSTALLATION MASS

of Father Christopher Argano
as Pastor of Saint Columba Church
Celebrant: Bishop Gerardo Colacicco
Sunday, December 19th 12Noon
All are welcome to attend
A reception will follow in Bishop Vaughan Hall.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Jim Swyrt, Pamela Rosen, Natacha Porchette, Michael Burke, Fr. Tom Lynch, Bennet Berry, JoAnn Traina, Anthony Pastore, Thelma Figueroa, Carmen Tumbaga, Tom Jimenez, Olivia Picnicky, Mary Luciana, Janet Begnoche, Moquete, Christianna Scrobe, Maritza Montes, John Mattera, Connie Yacenda, Carmen Almirol, Daria Bekersky, Katie Rogan, Teresa Patruno, Mila Werlitz, Andrew Upson, James Fox, Nancy Rhodes Mayo, Justin Holland, Patrick Finley, Marie Tobin, Jon Sezack, Ruth Rivera, Vilma Rosario, John Schiano Jr, Claire Scunziano, Sean Devlin, Robert Scunziano, Brenden Hedding, Lorraine Kalafut, Gabe Fritz, Laura Favorule, Susan Zikoyanis, Mary Ackerman, Valerie Moore, Sylvia Muccio, Joe Kennedy, Allison Florio, Charles Youngberg, Alice Verizzo, Cecilia Rivera, Vinnie Greco, Donna Fagan, Nikita Zanichowsky, Karlene Gray, Rosa Maria Ramos, Ricky Calderin, Bob Gatt, Emily Scrobe, Marian McDonald

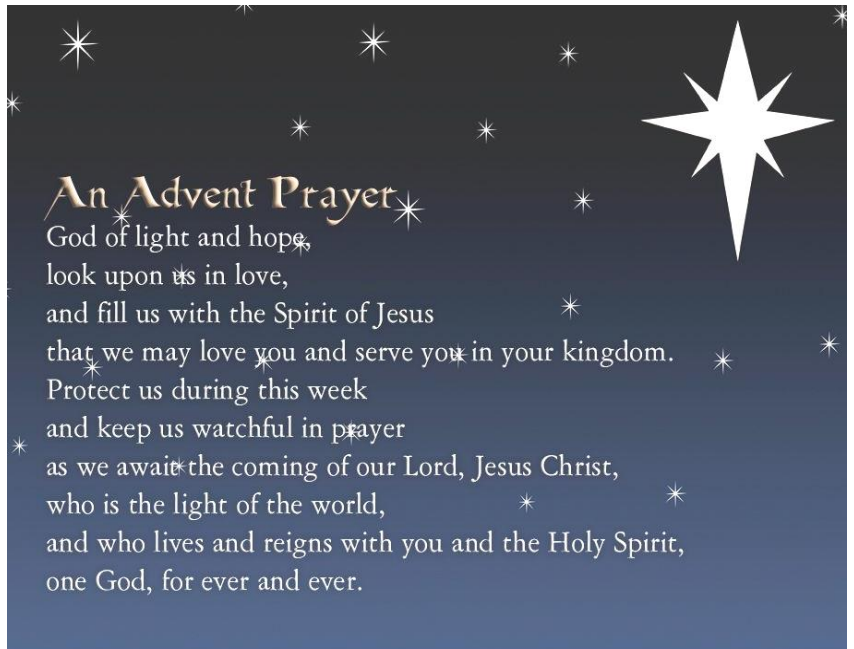
ST. COLUMBA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights are selling raffle tickets after Mass to benefit the Charitable & Benevolent Program.

For information on joining the Knights of Columbus contact local Membership Director **Larry Rosen 917-747-0558**
lrosen2016@aol.com

TWO GRAND CLUB

The winners for this week:
#189 Donna Schmittler and #140 Rosemary Tuzio



GIVING TREE

PLEASE BRING GIFTS BY: DECEMBER 12th

The Ladies Auxiliary have set up the "Giving Tree" in our Church. It will have gift tags from various organizations in our community. This is a long-standing event in our parish and we appreciate your generosity. Please return all gifts by December 12th. This will help us deliver gifts to the organizations.

IN DECEMBER, SANCTUARY LIGHTS ARE BURNING IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Red: **Lawrence Schall**; family
White: **Christopher Furey & grandparents**
Joe & Jerry Furey
Blessed Sacrament: **Margaret & Eugene Rayeur**
granddaughter, Jeannie

MEMORIALS & SPECIAL INTENTIONS:
ALTAR CANDLES are burning in loving memory:
Dec mem of Leva family
req: Salvatore & Concetta Fini

HOST & WINE are dedicated this week in loving memory:
Maureen Bonini; req: Rosemary & Jeannie

BLUE VIGIL LIGHT is burning in loving memory:
Francis Pastore; req: family

NEXT HORIZONS YOUTH GROUP MEETING: 12/5

All high school-aged students are welcome to the combined youth group meeting of St. Columba's & St. Mary's. There is no meeting this Sunday, November 28th. The next meeting is from 6:45 pm to 8 pm behind St. Mary's in Washingtonville by the sports fields on December 5th. Please contact Alessandro D'Anselmi by email: stmaryshorizons@gmail.com for more information.