



### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

5:00PM Linda Morella req. by Nancy Porcelli

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

8:00AM People of the Parish

9:30AM Vito Truncalli req. by Bonnie Sweetman

11:00AM Mary & Charles Carofano req. by Grandchildren

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

9:00AM Jennie McClain req. by Blake & Virginia McDermott

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

9:00AM Dominick Evangelisto req. by Bonnie Sweetman

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH

9:00AM Maria Ronk req. by Grandma

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

9:00AM Jennie McClain req. by Terry Griener

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

9:00AM No Mass

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

5:00PM Thomas Amodeo req. by his wife, Anne

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

8:00AM People of the Parish

9:30AM Sarah Malone Smith req. by Joe & Angie

11:00AM Antonino Incorvaia req. by Barbara Roser

We warmly welcome all our visitors to St. Mary's and Our Lady of Mercy Churches and invite you to participate and enjoy our liturgies. If you are new to our parish and would like to register as a parishioner, please call the rectory office at 236-4340 during the week.

#### DIVINE MERCY MEETING

On the first Sunday of each month, the Divine Mercy Group will meet in the side room of St. Mary's Church. The Chaplet will be sung at 7:40.



The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung every first Saturday before the 5:00 Mass.

The second Sunday of the month, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited in Our Lady of Mercy.

For more information on the organization's Mission Statement please contact, Jovita Kanz at [friends06@icloud.com](mailto:friends06@icloud.com)

#### THE GIVING TREE



A tree is set up in the sanctuary of St. Mary's church with a card that has the age and gender of a child marked on it. Please take a card, if you would like to do so and return with a gift for that child and leave it under the tree. The only stipulation is that the gift(s) stay unwrapped.

We will bring them to the police station for sorting. Parents to whom the gifts will be given will then be able to choose appropriate items for their children and will be able to personally wrap them. (You may also donate gift wrappings if you have some extras.)

#### RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Let us prepare our hearts for Christmas.

On Monday, December 16, 2019, Confessions will be heard in the Rectory from 4:00pm to 8:00pm. Just stop by and you will be warmly welcomed. For more information, call 845-236-4340.



Advent calls us to a deeper relationship with the underserved but deserving in every way. "Be not afraid, I go before you always", says the Lord. This will be a first for us in January. Baseball in the dumps of Mexico City! New gloves and equipment for the children; hot dogs and fun wow! We ask y'all to visit this site once again [baseballmiracles.org](http://baseballmiracles.org) and we ask for your powerful steady prayers for our entire team

#### WE ASK YOUR HEALING PRAYERS FOR...



healing prayers for all in our parish who are ill or recuperating from an illness. We also ask your prayers for family members who may be caring for spouses or parents who are elderly and unable to live alone.



#### TITHING REPORT

Weekend of **December 7/8** - total was \$5808. 123 envelope users contributed \$4343; non envelope users - \$1465. The collection total for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was \$1184. As always, we thank you for your continued support of our parish.

The tithing report for the weekend of 11/30-12/1 - total was \$3642. 93 envelope users contributed \$2332; non envelope users - \$1310.

#### RELIGIOUS ED NEWS

**A reminder from the Religious Ed Office: The last day for classes before Christmas will be on Wednesday, Dec. 18th. After the New Year, classes will resume on Monday, January 6, 2020.** Any questions? Please call the Religious Ed Office at 236-7791

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly



Third Sunday of Advent  
December 15, 2019

“Be patient my brothers until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer awaits the precious yield of the soil. He looks forward to it patiently while the soil receives the winter and spring rains. You too must be patient. Ready your hearts because the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

We have met the prophet Isaiah, listened to the announcement of John the Baptist and joined with Mary as the third figure of advent. All have reminded us to prepare, ready our hearts, and reflect on what the coming of the Savior means for us today.

A restless world pays little attention to the need for and presence of a Savior. Many good people pay only lip service to the Bethlehem birth as a fond memory. Hurting people are looking for the presence and mercy of Jesus, which we are able to bring, but somehow, we forget our role.

We do not seek a blown reed, someone luxuriously dressed, but a prophet calling us to make the Lord’s presence known and felt.

Let’s use the example given to us by James. The stores and florists are filled with poinsettias, bright reds, whites and some hybrids. The farmer must prune, water, and then cover them for specific hours to have them bloom at the proper moment. When you see a plant, remember the patient care of the farmer preparing, and then prepare yourself.

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Ahaz receives from Isaiah a prophecy that he will be successful in war and is urged to ask for a sign that the prophecy is true. The sign is “The virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul greets the Romans by pointing out that Jesus is the Christ who was promised to them in Scripture. He, Paul, is the apostle favored with the task of spreading the name of Christ to all.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

In a brief, straightforward, simple narrative, Matthew recounts the events leading to Jesus’ birth. He details the appearance of the angel in a dream to Joseph and stresses that “All this happened to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophets.”

IT’S NEVER TOO LATE – COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Have you felt that something is missing your life – maybe a little emptiness at this time of the year? With everyone’s busy schedules – working, running the children to all their afterschool activities, shopping, caring for your home, etc. – perhaps you have strayed a bit and have not been as faithful as you once were in attending weekly mass?

Why not take the time this year to bring your children to the Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00PM and also start to come to Mass weekly to give thanks for the many gifts we have been given - especially for the Birth of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Come Home For Christmas – It Is NEVER Too Late!**

OUR CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE (Tuesday)

9am - No Mass  
4:00pm – Family Mass at St. Mary’s  
9:00pm – Mass – St. Mary’s

CHRISTMAS DAY (Wednesday)

8:00am – No Mass  
9:30am – Mass - Our Lady of Mercy  
11:00am – Mass at St. Mary’s



NEW YEAR’S EVE (Tuesday)

9:00 AM - Rectory  
5:00 pm Vigil – St. Mary’s

NEW YEAR’S DAY (Wednesday)

Solemnity of Mary

8:00am – No Mass  
9:30am – Mass at Our Lady of Mercy  
11:00am – Mass at St. Mary’s



**Did you know that the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Blood Drive today, Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM in St. Mary’s Parish Hall?**

A person who donates blood is giving a great Christmas gift to a person in need. In a medical emergency, often the most important element is the availability of blood. As Raymond Bianco, Jr., the Blood Drive coordinator for the past sixteen (16) years has often said “You give us a pint and we feed everybody you bring with ya! to a home cook breakfast.”

**END BULLETIN**