

# Calling all Angels!



Take part in the annual  
**4:00 pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass**  
**Nativity Play**

*This special Mass is celebrated each year specifically for St. Patrick's Families with children 10 and under\*. During the Homily the children re-enact the Nativity story.*

*If your child would like to participate, your child and a caregiver **must** attend the first rehearsal on December 3rd. Please Do NOT sign up your child unless they are able to attend all four rehearsals.*

*There are many speaking and non-speaking roles to choose from. All children Pre-K and up are encouraged to participate in the play. Speaking parts will be given to older children. If there is more than one volunteer for a specific role, it will first be assigned by grade level. If there are multiple volunteers in a grade level, the name will be drawn randomly. We are also trying to include musicians this year - so if your child plays an instrument consider signing them up!*

To sign up email [Goodnews2@verizon.net](mailto:Goodnews2@verizon.net). Please email us your child's name, age, grade and if they are interested in a speaking part (for older children).

*All Rehearsals will take place at the Church.*

## Rehearsals

Tuesday December 3	rehearsal 5:30 - 6:45
Tuesday December 10	rehearsal 5:30-6:45
Tuesday December 17	rehearsal 5:30-6:45
Sunday December 22	dress rehearsal 1:30- 2:45

*\*Although the 4:00 Christmas Eve Mass is intended for families with children 10 and under, we encourage children over the age of 10 to participate in the play.*

Please contact Samantha Nardozzi with any questions (914) 760-9734  
Or [samantha@silvermanrealty.com](mailto:samantha@silvermanrealty.com)

## Keeping the End in Mind

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, the readings prepare us for the conclusion of our earthly pilgrimage. In this Sistine Chapel fresco, Moses is punishing the rebellious Israelites who were acting as priests without being authorized by him or called by God.

This chaotic scene seems similar to what Jesus describes of the end times in today’s Gospel. He warns us not to follow false prophets who will arise and claim to come in his name. He prophesies a time of war, natural disasters, famines, and plagues. Persecution will fall upon his followers, allowing them the chance to give testimony—*martyrion* in Greek. Jesus’ monitions for that time are simple: do not follow false prophets or prepare a defense, but persevere instead. In the section “I Believe in Life Everlasting,” the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* also speaks to us about the last times. We believe in heaven, hell, and a

personal, universal judgment. These last things await us all, and Jesus doesn’t keep us in the dark about these realities.

We don’t know when the end times may come. But regardless, our call is to live prepared by fulfilling God’s will and trusting in him. Jesus clearly wants us to be aware of the end of the world, but he doesn’t want us to be overly anxious about it. If we are in Christ, we are already a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold the new has come. Be not afraid!

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*Do I live soberly, knowing that I am heading toward an end that is both certain and wrapped in God’s mercy?*

*Is there anything I should adjust in my lifestyle to be better prepared for my definitive encounter with God?*



Piece: *Punishment of the Rebels*, 1480–1482

Artist: Sandro Botticelli

Location: Sistine Chapel

*[Jesus said,] “You will be hated by all because of my name, but...by your perseverance you will secure your lives.”*

*Luke 21:17–19*

## Calendar

### Monday

NOVEMBER 18

Weekday

1 Mc 1:10–15, 41–43,  
54–57, 62–63  
Lk 18:35–43

### Tuesday

NOVEMBER 19

Weekday

2 Mc 6:18–31  
Lk 19:1–10

### Wednesday

NOVEMBER 20

Weekday

2 Mc 7:1, 20–31  
Lk 19:11–28

### Thursday

NOVEMBER 21

*Presentation of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary*

1 Mc 2:15–29  
Lk 19:41–44

### Friday

NOVEMBER 22

*St. Cecilia,  
Virgin and Martyr*

1 Mc 4:36–37, 52–59  
Lk 19:45–48

### Saturday

NOVEMBER 23

Weekday

1 Mc 6:1–13  
Lk 20:27–40

### Sunday

NOVEMBER 24

*Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe*

2 Sm 5:1–3  
Col 1:12–20  
Lk 23:35–43

# Dear Padre,

**I have a hard time accepting that my money for the Sunday collection may be used to compensate victims of clerical sexual abuse. Do I have to keep giving to my local parish, only to see my money pay for a sex scandal?**

The money you give runs your parish and provides assistance to the poor, both locally and throughout your diocese. Scripture mentions the disciples offering money to meet the needs of the poor. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: “The faithful also have the duty of providing for the



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

Volunteers organize stock for a distribution hub that helps supply fresh produce and nutritious food to pantries and soup kitchens in underserved areas.

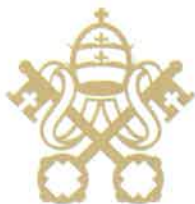
material needs of the Church, each according to his abilities” (CCC 2043). Similarly, canon law reminds us that we are “obliged to promote social justice...and to help the poor,” both signs of Christian charity (Canon 222).

While you give for the needs of your parish, it appears that these lawsuits create a real concern for you. For the most part, awards for lawsuits are paid from two main sources: insurance and the sale of

unused property, such as office space, bishops’ homes, and seminaries.

While we are pained by the revelations of clerical abuse, we must also understand the victims’ need for healing. Money won’t end their pain, but it may help a survivor who needs psychological counseling or someone who has difficulty working due to trauma. This is a devastating time in their lives, but the Church will continue to offer hope and claim its responsibility.

—Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



## *A Word from Pope Francis*

*We hear these children and their cries of pain...the sufferings, the experiences, and the pain of minors who were abused sexually by priests. It is a sin that shames us. Persons responsible for the protection of those children destroyed their dignity. We regret this deeply and we beg forgiveness.*

—Feast of the Holy Innocents, December 28, 2016