



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2015

Holy Mass  Intentions

Saturday 5:00 pm	December 19 Mary Cangemi and Carmen Armas
Sunday 7:30 am 9:00 am	December 20 Thomas Fitzpatrick and Jimmy Coogan Gene Mehalik and Deceased Members of the Leonett Family
11:00 am 5:00 pm	Bruce Scullion and Pam Duddy Amelia & Sabino Gaita & Sabino, Jr. and Virginia and Carlo Miele
Monday 8:00 am	December 21 Deceased Members of the Belo Family and Michael Wisneski
Tuesday 8:00 am	December 22 Jimmy Avallone and Frank Stolfi
Wednesday 8:00 am	December 23 Paul J. Burke and Kathleen Krajci
Thursday 8:00 am 4:00 pm 4:00 pm 6:00 pm 11:00 pm	December 24 For the People of the Parish For the People of the Parish-Church For the People of the Parish-Parish Center For the People of the Parish For the People of the Parish
Friday 9:00 am 11:00 am	December 25 For the People of the Parish For the People of the Parish
Saturday 8:00 am 5:00 pm	December 26 Patricia Flynn and Teresa Hough Robert and Thomas Chiarello and Rosemarie Taylor
Sunday 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	December 27 Margaret Meade and Rev. Robert Navins Ted Eldracher and William Branagan Lois Ludewig, Patricia Flynn and Carol Miller Karen Detjen and Claire Goggins

Mass Schedule December 26th & 27th

Fr. Bob	Saturday 5 pm, Deacon Joe Homily Sunday 5 pm, Deacon Mark Homily
Fr. Chris	Sunday 7:30 am, Deacon Joe Homily Sunday 11 am, Deacon Mark Homily
Fr. Dominic	Sunday 9 am

Reconciliation (Confession) December 26th

Fr. Bob Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 27, 2015

First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Sirach emphasizes the importance of honoring one's parents. He explains that spiritual riches will come to those who are kind to their mother and father.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Paul advises us to treat each other with kindness and mercy and to forgive as God forgives us. His words remind families to always love and respect one another and let Christ's peace reign in their hearts and in their homes.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

When Jesus was twelve years old, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Jesus did not return with the company. Instead, he stayed in Jerusalem, sitting among the teachers while amazing them with his understanding and questions. When found by his concerned parents, Jesus reminded them that he must be in the house of his Father. Returning together, Mary kept these things in her heart.



Weekly Memorials

The Lamp burning before the Blessed Sacrament the week of December 20th is in memory of Msgr. Ron Amandolare.

The Candles on the altar the week of December 20th are in memory of Fr. Ed Hinds.

The Flowers on the altar the week of December 20th are in memory of Robert Chiarello given by Robin Chiarello.

Hear our Prayers for those who are ill especially Kevin Hamilton, Robert Hartle, Phyllis Monks, Robert Astorino, Anthony LaFerrara, Emily Monks, Neiko Pagaling, Denise Phalon Cascio, Frances Smith, Tom Warren, Judy Latalladi, Gregory Bozzo, Dorothy Sullivan, Bill Lanahan, Cathy Bedford, Hope Tinn Clark, Irene Buss, Roger Goodman, Maria Selca-Haher, Robert Olpp, Patrizia Astorino, Terry Gardner, Nora Ray, Carol Meyers, Pat Marciano, Maryanne Duffy McDermott, Kyle Noonan, Thomas Unger, Sandy Safier, Tony Caljean, Warren Gramm, William Virgilio, Mary Cecere, Kristin Curcio, Tony Capone, Michael Marino, David Johnson, Luke Klisart and **for all our deceased especially Eileen Horan.**



Parish Support-December 13th

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING.....\$15,643
LAST YEAR'S OFFERING.....\$16,870



The Rosary is prayed every weekday morning before the 8 am mass at 7:40 am and the Novena is prayed after mass on Tuesdays. Please join us. All are welcome.



From the desk of our Pastor

Five Days till Christmas

This week we light the 4th candle on the Advent Wreath which stirs the thought that Advent is soon to end and Christmas is near. The scripture readings for today bring to light the ancient Jewish prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. The prophet Micah imparts good news as he restores hope to Israel with words of encouragement; while Luke's Gospel highlights Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth. Luke's passage captures Mary as a model of faith in God's plan of salvation as she becomes God's instrument to bring Jesus into the world. Like Mary, each of us journeys through experiences that call forth acceptance within some of the confusing circumstances in life that often come through relationships, values, ideas, books, illnesses, or even a fresh perspective on an old tradition. As Luke's Gospel thrusts forth the excitement of Mary who sets out to see her cousin, this week calls us to ponder two fundamental questions that navigate us to the celebration of Christmas: Who is Jesus? And how does Jesus relate to God?

The Fourth Sunday in Advent acknowledges that Christmas is upon us, which is the day that many have anticipated with patient waiting from the beginning of Advent as biblical readings from prophets have been proclaimed at liturgies that pertain to the coming of a Messiah. These proclamations have been read at liturgy each day throughout this Season. Today we reflect on the meaning of those proclamations, which leads to spiritual growth that is in contrast to the way many in our culture highlight the Christmas Season. Christmas comes from the words "Christ" and "mass" and was introduced into the world during the fourth century when Pope Julius set the date for Jesus' birth as December 25. Although there is no place in the scriptures where we find that Jesus was born on December 25, it is fitting to celebrate Jesus' birth around the greatest time of darkness on our calendar. The power of Christmas is that God took on human life in the presence of a man named Jesus who invites us into a relationship that bonds us to him through experiences of peace, forgiveness, mercy, sacrifice, and love. These virtues became the hallmark of Jesus' humanity.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, like Mary who knew that nothing is impossible with God, each of us is called to take steps that extend mercy to those who have distanced themselves from us, or to seek God's mercy from those we have offended. In answering the question: Who is Jesus? Or, how does Jesus relate to God? We come to see Jesus as a messenger of mercy to all who entered into his human life; therefore, we are to follow Jesus in that same manner. There are situations in all of our lives that require encounters of mercy. As Jesus' birth was preceded by years of anticipation, we encounter the way that Mary began to anticipate the birth of her son, which drenched her with tremendous joy. Although these last days prior to Christmas bring a bombardment of advertisements from the media that sometimes we believe are to make us happy, or make our loved ones happy, the peace of Jesus' birth does not come through expensive gifts and lavish decorations; therefore, if we make them the heart of our Christmas celebration, Christmas becomes a one day season that fades away quickly rather than an opportunity to enter into a style of life that draws us into a greater relationship with Christ in the New Year. We all sometimes forget that gifts and decorations are not the most important part of a Christmas celebration.

As highlighted in Luke's Gospel through Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth, Mary never hesitates with doubts or questions; instead she sets out in haste to spread her joyful news. Mary reminds us that Christmas is not about her, but about her son. As Mary carries God's word to Elizabeth, her experience opens her to God's spirit since she commits herself to do God's will. This week open your heart for the Christ Child to be born once again within you. Let go of any hurts or hard feelings that may be weighing in on you. Holding onto resentments or grudges only adds unnecessary tension into life. May the conclusion of Advent lead you to the crib to welcome a Savior.

*In Christ's Love,
Fr. Bob*

BAPTISM: Arrangements should be made one month in advance by calling Deacon Joe Wisneski at 973-635-4976. Parents are expected to attend an instructional session with a Baptism Team. Baptisms are celebrated at 12:30 pm Sundays or at a Sunday Mass.

RCIA-RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: The R.C.I.A. invites non-baptized persons and those baptized into another faith to participate in a faith journey in preparation for becoming a Catholic. If you are interested in any aspect of R.C.I.A., please email Deb at Dkuzma@st-pats.org or call her at the parish office at ext. 23.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: Congratulations! In order that we can together plan for your big day, couples should notify the Church and begin to prepare at least one year in advance of the date. Please email Fr. Bob at Fr.Bob@st-pats.org or call Fr. Bob at the parish office ext. 22.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOME BOUND: If a family member or someone you know is recuperating from a hospital stay or is homebound for any length of time and would like to receive Holy Communion, please let us know. It is a priority for the parish community to support and be present to those who cannot be with us for the celebration of the Eucharist. If you would like a priest or deacon to visit a family member who is hospitalized, contact Peggy at Pgentile@st-pats.org or call her at the parish office ext. 25.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the parish office at 973-635-0625 to arrange for a priest.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST: Children preparing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist begin preparation in first grade. To register, visit our website at www.st-pats.org or contact Ginny, vsalvatore@st-pats.org.



AROUND THE PARISH

Baptisms

Declan Sean Cross

Son of Raymond and Lauren

Caroline Rose Veltri

Daughter of John and Ellen



Congratulations to **Christine Louise Dunning** who was received into the Catholic Church, confirmed and celebrated her First Eucharist on Sunday, December 13.

Welcome New Parishioners

A warm St. Patrick welcome to those new to our parish especially **Eric, Kelly, Ella, Alexander, and Jack Tiedeken**. We look forward to getting to know you!

Welcome New Parishioners! Are you seeking a parish community in which to pray, to learn and to be of service to others? Our doors and hearts are open to you-Welcome! Contact Peggy Gentile at the parish offices for additional information at 973-635-0625 ext. 25.

EVA'S VILLAGE-CHILI DROP OFF THIS WEEKEND



Those who signed up to make chili last weekend, please bring your **frozen** chili to the priests' garage this Sunday by 10 am. Our volunteers will transport your donations to Paterson. Many Thanks!!

MEN'S RETREAT

Start the New Year off right with some quiet time for prayer, rest and reflection. St. Patrick Parish will hold it's annual Men's Retreat at the Loyola House of Retreats in Morristown.

The weekend retreat will begin with dinner Friday night, Jan. 8th and conclude with the celebration of the Eucharist mid-day on Sunday, January 10. Held in conjunction with St. Vincent Martyr and Corpus Christi parishes, this prayerful weekend offers the opportunity for spiritual enrichment, quiet reflection and consultation under the guidance and leadership of the Jesuit staff in the warm surroundings and beautiful grounds of the comfortable Loyola mansion.

For more information and to make your reservation, please call Mo Ryan 973-635-2337.

In need of Care and/or Prayers?

Please remember that in accordance with HIPPA laws, hospitals cannot contact the parish with the names of our parishioners who have been admitted. If you know of someone in a hospital or nursing home who would like to be contacted or prayed for, please call the parish office. This information is confidential and can be passed on, if requested, to our Nurses, Caring Ministry, Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and included in our prayer intentions.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

CHRISTMAS—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Thursday, December 24, 2015-Christmas Eve

3:30 pm Children's Nativity Reenactment

4:00 pm Mass in the Parish Center

4:00 pm Mass in the Church

6:00 pm Mass in the Church

10:30 pm Lessons & Carols in the Church

11:00 pm Mass in the Church

Friday, December 25, 2015-Christmas Day

9:00 am Mass in the Church

11:00 am Mass in the Church

NEW YEAR'S-SOLEMNNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31, 2015-New Year's Eve

5:00 pm Mass in the Church

Friday, January 1, 2016-New Year's Day

11:00 am Mass in the Church



Have you visited our Facebook page? We have recently posted pictures from our Advent and Christmas **Gloria** Concert held in conjunction with Christ the King Parish with photos featuring our choirs and instrumentalists. See our social outreach ministry in action with pictures from *Christmas in a Box*. Check it out!



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AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support St. Patrick's every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to St. Patrick Parish. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Type *St. Patrick's Chatham* in the search box. Select St. Patrick Church in Chatham from the list and that's it!



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

Traveling this Christmas? Not sure how to find the nearest Roman Catholic Church from your vacation destination? Visit masstimes.org for listings of locations and mass times for Roman Catholic Churches.



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation classes will resume on January 10th & 11th after the Christmas break.

YOUTH MINISTRY

This Week in Youth Ministry

Winter Antioch Team Meeting: Tues., Dec. 22;
7-9:30 pm; YMC



Service Opportunities

Cooking Chili for Eva's Village: Sat., Jan. 16; 9 am-12 pm
Parish Center Kitchen



MUSIC MINISTRY

Music for Christmas Eve

Living Nativity and Mass: 3:40 pm, Parish Center

Living Nativity with costumes, presented by elementary-age parishioners and members of the Morning Song Choir.

Mass begins after the Nativity at 4:00 pm. Music led by the St. Patrick Girls' Choir with Anna Ivashko, cantor; and Mark Nixon, pianist.

Mass, 4:00 pm, Church

Music led by the Boys' Choir with select members of the Girls' Choir, Doyle Keane, 6th grade cantor, harp, and Maggie Hanson, Director/organist.

Mass, 6:00 pm, Church

Music led by members of God Unplugged and Saturday Sound, Catherine Brough, cantor; harp, guitar, instrumental ensemble; and Maggie Hanson, Director/organist.

Lessons and Carols, 10:30 pm, Church

Carols and Christmas readings. Enjoy the peace, or join in the nostalgic singing. Music led by the St. Patrick Choir, brass and woodwinds; and Maggie Hanson, Director/organist.

Music for Christmas Day

Mass, 9:00 am, Church

Music led by Chelsea Vaughan, cantor; Kristy Chmura, harpist; and Maggie Hanson, Director/organist.

Mass 11:00 am, Church

Music led by William Brockman, cantor; Liam Driscoll, alto-tenor; Kristy Chmura, harpist; and Maggie Hanson, Director/organist.



Please help *Catholic Charities* continue its mission by donating clothing, shoes, and household items in the donation bin located in the parking lot. Your generosity is appreciated. If you have a large pick up, need a receipt, or have a question, please call their toll free number, 877-343-3651. Thank you!

St. Patrick Parish utilizes ParishSoft's *ConnectNow Family Directory* to maintain our parish census. All active, registered parish families have been contacted to register. Registered families can directly maintain their contact information including email, phone, and address information. To create a username and password, visit <https://connectnow.parishsoft.com/paterson/>. Only parish staff and your family will be able to view your contact information.



SAINT PATRICK SCHOOL

Working Together to Challenge Minds and Foster Faith

Christmas in a Box: Thank you to all of the generous families of St. Patrick School who participated in the Christmas in a Box program. Our school served twenty families in need:

- 2 families of 9 people
- 12 families of 8 people
- 5 families of 7 people
- 1 family of 6 people

Our Dress Down for \$1 raised \$425 in ShopRite gift cards, which we were able to use to supplement the largest families. What a beautiful lesson in giving we have taught our students!

Monday, December 21

9:00 am: PK3-PK4 Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 23—Dress UP day

8:30 am: Christmas Fair with Big Buddies

11:15 am: School Christmas Liturgy

12:15 pm: Dismissal

December 24-January 3—Christmas Vacation

Monday, January 4

9:00 am: School re-opens

No home basketball games this week.

Merry Christmas!



Save the date: *March for Life*

Friday, January 22, 2016



Please join your fellow parishioners standing up for life at the annual national March for Life in Washington DC on Friday, Jan. 22. There are more and more young people every year, so bring your children! It is a great civics lesson. Please contact Brian McAuliffe at 7mcaul@gmail.com or 973-634-7384 for more information.



RCIA is for anyone who wants to learn more about their faith, those who want to become Catholic, those who want to try to understand the teachings of the Catholic Church or those who simply want to deepen their faith if they are already Catholic.

Please contact Deb Kuzma at dkuzma@st-pats.org for more information.

Missing and Needed-Please Return!

Over the past year or two, parish furniture has been 'borrowed' and never returned. PLEASE check your garages and/or homes. We are missing round AND rectangular tables as well as folding chairs. Contact Mike Bunero at the Parish Office with information: 973-635-0625. Thank you!

Marian Prayer Group

The St. Patrick Parish Marian Prayer Group offer prayers honoring Mary, the Mother of Jesus and gather in the North Room of the Parish Office building at 41 Oliver Street every Thursday at 10 am. We pray for peace in the world, for the sick and homebound, for deceased members and friends of our Parish and more. Everyone is welcome to join us; come every Thursday or as often as you can. For more information, please call Barbara at 973-635-8869.